



# North Dallas Gazette

"Most respected Voice of the Minority Community"

Visit us online at [www.northdallasgazette.com](http://www.northdallasgazette.com)

## Black Press of America awards courageous leaders

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Correspondent

With a lively and capacity crowd inside the Renaissance DC Downtown Hotel in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, Sept. 12, National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., and NNPA Chair Karen Carter Richards presented the annual National Leadership Awards.

The 2019 honorees are the Honorable Karen Bass, U.S. Representative (D-CA); the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, U.S. Representative (D-MD); the Honorable Bobby Scott, U.S. Representative (D-VA); the Honorable Bennie Thompson, U.S. Representative (D-MS); Ray Curry, Secretary-Treasurer of the International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agriculture (UAW); Shani W. Hosten, Vice President Multicultural Leadership, AARP; Dr. Kim Smith-Whitley, Clinical Director of Hematology and Director of the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP); and Crystal Windham, Director, Cadillac Interior Design, General Motors.

Each of the recipients joined NNPA corporate partners and sponsors to reflect on the importance of the Black Press.



*We are delighted to celebrate this year's honorees," said NNPA Chair and Houston Forward Times Publisher Karen Carter Richards (center). Pictured with NNPA President and CEO, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. (left) and Cuban Ambassador to the United States, José Ramón Cabañas (right).*

"I'd like to particularly thank the Black Press for keeping sickle cell disease in the light," said Dr. Kim Smith Whitley, the clinical director of Hematology and Director of the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Whitley praised the Black Press for helping to shed light on the fact that one in 12 African Americans have the sickle cell trait, and the blood disorder disproportionately affects black people.

Another award recipient, Crystal Windham, also applauded the Black Press for its work.

Crystal Windham, Director, Ca-

dillac Interior Design, General Motors

Windham, the director of Cadillac Interior Design, and the first African American woman director in General Motors Design history said it was remarkable that the Black Press of America will celebrate 192 years.

The NNPA observes its 80th anniversary in 2020.

"Do not stop doing what you do," she said, before encouraging others to follow her historical path.

"I owe it to the individuals that paved the way for me. I'm just an

See PRESS, Page 6



### Will Justice knock at the door?

- See Page 3



### Testing for blood pressure issues at home

- See Page 4



### Former Cowboy accused of fake hate crime

- See Page 5



### DCCCD scholars are role models and leaders

- See Page 6



### New weapons cover Cowboys' injuries

- See Page 9



### Dallas film is showcased at Arlington fest

- See Page 10



### Dallas' active Muslim Youth Group

- See Page 12



### Sister Tarpley: The Perfectionist

- See Page 15

### Inside...

|                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| People In the News .....          | 2     |
| Op/Ed .....                       | 3     |
| Health .....                      | 4     |
| Community .....                   | 5     |
| Legal Notice .....                | 6     |
| Irving / Carrollton / Plano ..... | 7     |
| City Briefs .....                 | 8     |
| Entertainment .....               | 9-10  |
| Marketplace .....                 | 11    |
| Muslim Community News .....       | 12    |
| Career Opportunity .....          | 13    |
| Church Directory .....            | 14-15 |
| NDG Book Review .....             | 16    |

### See Page 2

### READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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



Ray B. Shackelford



Karen Boykins-Towns

### People In The News...

NDG Quote of the Week: "Freedom is never given; it is won."

- A. Philip Randolph



## Ray B. Shackelford

By Jeffrey L. Boney  
NNPA Contributor

When it comes to voting, it is often said that “every vote counts” and that adage really rang true for Houston native Ray B. Shackelford, as he was recently elected as the 10th National President of the National Urban League Young Professionals (NULYP) by a narrow ONE vote margin at the National Urban League (NUL) Annual Convention in Indianapolis. Again, every vote counts!

NULYP is a National Urban League volunteer



auxiliary that targets young professionals from the ages of 21 to 40, who seek to empower their communities and change lives through the Urban League Movement. NULYP’s mission is to support the Urban League

Movement through volunteerism, philanthropy and membership development.

Since its inception, NULYP has worked to support their Affiliates and to develop a leadership pipeline for the NUL. Over the years, the NULYP’s role has expanded to a point where they have provided leadership in every space, while helping to bridge generational gaps and solve problems that have plagued the African American community for decades.

Shackelford was elected to serve as the new leader of NULYP, which was ironically unveiled at the NUL Annual Conference in

Houston back in 1999.

Fast forward to 2019, and we find a Houstonian at the helm of the very organization that was launched in his home city of Houston exactly twenty years ago.

“This all still seems surreal,” said Shackelford. “I am humbled and thankful for this awesome responsibility.”

It is also fitting that Shackelford will be at the helm of leading the organization, as the NUL Annual Conference will be returning to his hometown of Houston in 2020.

Shackelford was born and raised in Houston’s Third Ward, where he spent his

entire childhood attending Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church. After graduating from Lamar High School, he left Houston to attend Morehouse College, where he graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration, concentrating in Finance.

Upon returning to Houston, Shackelford became a member of the Houston Area Urban League for Young Professionals (HAULYP) and was eventually elected to serve as its President.

As President, he steered HAULYP to an intense focus on service program-

ming and connecting with the community. His impact in that role led to him being named as the National President of the Year. Shackelford went on to serve as Southern Region Vice President of NULYP before recently being elected to serve as the 10th National President.

Recognized as a leader in his community, Shackelford was nominated by the Mayor of Houston and confirmed by the Houston City Council to serve on the city’s Independent Police Oversight Board (IPOB), making him one of the youngest members to serve

**See SHACKELFORD, Page 5**

## Karen Boykin-Towns

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Correspondent

Ask Karen Boykin-Towns what motivates her, and you’re sure to get an earful because her list is extensive.

After 22 years at Pfizer, and a lifetime of community and social activism, Boykin-Towns has taken her talents to Sard Verbinen & Co. (SVC).

SVC is a global strategic communications firm based in New York with offices in Chicago, Washington, Houston, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston, London, and Hong Kong.



As a Senior Counselor, Boykin-Towns will advise clients on a wide range of issues, including public affairs, healthcare, diversity, crises, and environment, social and governance matters. She will also contrib-

ute to SVC’s continued growth through business development and strategic counsel across the firm’s practice areas, according to company officials.

“I think there are a lot of things that motivate me,” Boykin-Towns told NNPA Newswire.

“Growing up in Harlem with a mother who was a nurse’s aide and not really being clear in terms of what path I would take, but having great people around me who came into my life at different points and added direction, really helped to get me focused,” she said.

A graduate of The College of Mount Saint Vincent and Baruch College,

Boykin-Towns is revered for her work as vice chairman of the NAACP National Board of Directors.

Boykin-Towns leverages her talent as a coalition-builder and social change agent through her active participation in various organizations, according to her bio on the NAACP’s website.

For 12 years, Boykin-Towns served as a member of the NAACP National Board of Directors.

In 2018, she was elected Vice-Chairman of the Board.

Boykin-Towns also serves as chair of the NAACP’s National Health Committee.

*Savoy Magazine* named Boykin-Towns a “Top Influential Woman in Corporate America” in 2016, and she earned features in *Black Enterprise*, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, *Ebony*, *Crain’s*, *African American Career World*, *Network Journal*, and *Crisis Magazine*.

“Karen Boykin-Towns is an amazing talent that the NAACP is honored to have as its Board Vice-Chair,” Leon W. Russell, the NAACP Board Chairman, said in a statement.

“She brings a level of accomplishment in the public and private sector, breaking glass ceilings and serving as a model for women of

color everywhere,” Russell said.

Boykin-Towns said she accepted the new position at SVC for various reasons, including that she liked the direction of the firm.

“I thought it was an opportunity to make a shift. My oldest daughter is an engineer at Microsoft, and my youngest daughter was going off to college, and I decided to try something different,” Boykin-Towns said.

“I was blessed to have had a lot of experiences that could be deployed in other places,” she said.

At Pfizer and through her

**See BOYKIN-TOWNS, Page 11**

## NDG Readers Sound Off...

### Dallas and Garland ISDs Offering Elective Courses in Ethnic Studies

These are constantly improving times in education. As students study their ethnic and racial heritage some are also writing letters to their parents, grandparents, and other elderly relatives asking for a letter back with a story from that elderly relative’s life history that they would like the student to know and pass on to their own children someday.

Such letter writing will help students experience the power of writing, and

the potential value of the written word. Should they receive such letters each year from these elderly relatives, and then one should die, they will experience how priceless the letters they received have become.

Such annual letter writing is one part of the School Time Capsule Project. Google “School Time Capsule Postmaster” with the quotes to see how you can start such a project in a school you love. This is an open source project which is free to use.

We must help our students see the power of writing.

### - Bill R Betzen Cowboys handle Washington despite a slow start

(About if they were nervous about slow Dallas Cowboys start) Not really. Dak has some getting used to of having receiver who can create separation while running routes. He’s now getting used to the timing of the lanes opening up mixed with ball delivery. What I like is he is faithful to the passing lane even though it causes him to be late on some passes. Which is the reason the ball is behind the receiver in some cases. He is a first year QB in this regard. The difference in game

speed and practice speed is on display.

- Christopher Clayton Matchett

### 18-year-old North Texas man sentenced to 20 years for supporting a foreign terrorist group

Maybe prisons need to isolate these terrorists from one another and enforce intensive “reeducation” programs. No soft-peddling these criminals who are such a danger to so many.

- Cheryl McCall

To share your opinion visit  
[NorthDallasGazette.com](http://NorthDallasGazette.com)

## \$69\* DIVORCE

### Criminal Defense

- DWI / Suspended License
- WARRANTS Removed\*
- 24 Hour Jail Release\*
- Occupational license, felonies
- Protective Order
- Misdemeanor/Felonies\*

### Family Cases

- Divorce / Annulment
- Child Support / Paternity
- Custody Modification
- Restraining Order
- Protective Order
- Name Change / Adoption
- Domestic Violence

### Easy Payment Plans

**Law Offices Of Vincent Ndukwe**

**214-638-5930**

**817-277-0196 (Metro)**

2730 N. Stemmons Frwy, Suite 409 • Dallas, TX 75207

Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization  
\*If you qualify. \*Fees quoted above are minimum down payment needed to begin processing your case.





P.O. Box 763866 - Dallas, Texas 75736-3866

Phone: 972-432-5219 - Fax: 972-509-9058

***“Do what you say you are going to do ... when you say you are going to do it.”***

**Publisher's Office:**

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

**Sales Department:**marketing@northdallasgazette.com  
972-509-9049**Editorial Department:**

editor@northdallasgazette.com

**Online:**

www.NorthDallasGazette.com  
www.twitter.com/NDGEditor  
www.facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette  
www.pinterest.com/NDallasGazette  
www.instagram.com/NorthDallasGazette

**STAFF****Chairman Emeritus**Jim Bochum  
1933-2009**Religious / Marketing Editor**Shirley Demus Tarpley  
("Sister Tarpley")**Published by**

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

**NDG Senior Columnist**

Ed Gray

**Editor**

Ruth Ferguson

**Community Marketing**

Nadina Davis

**Account Executive**

Elle Avery

**Production**

David Wilfong

**Contributing Writers**

Tiffany Gilbert  
Jackie Hardy  
Angela Loston  
Jacqueline Murphy  
Badees Nouiouat  
Dwain Price  
Terri Schlichenmeyer  
Nicole Scott  
David Wilfong

**Visit North Dallas Gazette Archives**

Go to northdallasgazette.com and click on the navigation tab at the top of the page that says "ARCHIVE"

*"Dallas' most respected publication in the minority community"*  
North Dallas Gazette assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.

The North Dallas Gazette, formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded in July 1991, by Mr. Jim Bochum and Mr. Thurman R. Jones. North Dallas Gazette is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

# Will Justice knock at the door?



**NDG Senior Columnist**  
**Ed Gray**  
**Straight Talk**

During the recent six years, Dallasites have had the opportunity to witness firsthand social justice battles throughout the city involving police interactions. Most of these interactions have had tragic endings where innocents have been harmed.

Whether it was harmful, such as the body-slaming of teenaged girls by the McKinney Police Department, or life-ending as in the Jordan Edwards killing by Balch Springs Police Department, we as black people have exercised our constitutional rights as Americans, and the state has exercised its right to police. This policing sometimes is to our detriment, the police seem more interested in policing than serving when it comes to African-Americans.

For Botham Jean, it was not the right to assemble publicly, it was his right to live and enjoy a peaceful quiet night at home. Sud-

denly he was surprised by someone at his door. The visitor was in the guise of justice, a police officer in uniform. An all too short fatal encounter occurred, leaving another dead body.

These police actions generally have resulted in "not guilty" verdicts, except for

Guyger has leaned on the shield as a symbol of police privilege. This is more than the occasional free coffee and donut. It is a pass to kill with no consequence. This privilege generally protects and shields police officers while exposing others. The attempts to demonize

police inspired media spin. Initial media reports did not portray him as what we all know him to be now.

Botham was an innocent man, resting in his living room, enjoying what he did not know was the last moments of his life. The police officer's confused, and chaotic behavior is symbolic of police privilege. Perhaps Amber Guyger is not guilty of anything insidious. However, this non-consequential behavior, of which police do not answer, is not justice.

Sooner or later, we all must answer the door to the knock of justice. When the police came to the door of Botham Jean, they killed him. Justice should be administered equally, regardless of who is on either side of the door. I am Ed Gray, and this is Straight Talk.

*Ed Gray is a presidential scholar at Southern Methodist University. He is the host of The Commish Radio Show airing Saturdays 3-5 p.m. on FBRN.net, can be reached at egray62@att.net. NDG was awarded NNPA's 2018 Robert S. Abbott Best Editorial for Gray's "Confederate Statues: The White Man's Burden" column.*

***“Guyger has leaned on the shield as a symbol of police privilege. This is more than the occasional free coffee and donut. It is a pass to kill with no consequence.”***

Roy Oliver who received 15 years in the shooting death of Jordan Edwards. However, one act of justice cannot even the playing field. Amber Guyger will now exercise her privilege and protection as a former police officer. This protection has resulted in numerous "no bills" or "not guilty."

Fired Police Officer

young Jordan Edwards, and Botham Jean failed as they were above reproach.

Jordan Edwards and Botham Jean are symbolic of "Black excellence." Many activists, recall the failed attempt to besmirch, Edwards character based on errant, misleading, non-factual, police representation. Botham Jean likewise became a victim as well of

## The time is now to help prevent gun violence in urban neighborhoods

By Russell Simmons  
Exclusive to NNPA

At the beginning of this summer, I wrote an Op-Ed for the National Newspaper Publishers Association. I asked for support for the anti-violence programs around the country and many of you responded. For that, I am grateful.

One of the things that I have done over the last 10 years – with the exception of 2018 – is host a dinner for the mothers of deceased children in my old hood in Queens, New York.

The deceased children all died because of senseless gun violence.

The recent dinners have had mostly the same mothers because Life Camp, the program that I support, and the residents have held the violence to a minimum.

This year was very, very different.

Instead of going directly to the dinner, I was asked to stop at a church for a wake.

My brother who I grew up with, Marcellus, lost his son, Marcellus, Jr., who was on his way to college in just two days.

Marcellus Jr. was one of the 13 that were shot, and of the nine who were murdered, in last 10 days. I went to the church and saw Marcellus Sr. and I thought

of images of him in our childhood.

We hugged the same way I hugged the brothers, the sisters, and the mother of his son.

Only with him, I started to cry. I was home. It was my Hollis family and we were hurting.

They, especially the father and the uncle, helped the whole thing to hit home harder. The way it should.

It reminded me that this wake was not business as usual, but instead it was critical for my own spiritual survival and growth.

We had planned the dinner over a month ago, but the murders and the funer-

als we couldn't have predicted.

At the dinner, we committed to work on lifting our community.

We reaffirmed our love for each other and our work.

Today, I am asking for all my Queens Congress members, City Council members, rappers, and hip-hop success stories to join me in helping Life Camp expand their good work.

I promise to donate more and support more than I have in the past. The time is now what will you do?

With great love, all things are possible.

# At-home blood pressure tests more accurate for African Americans

Cardiologists know that when patients use a blood pressure cuff at home, they have a significant head start on managing their heart health risk. Now, researchers have learned the added value for African Americans.

According to the American Heart Association, African Americans have the highest rates of disability and death related to high blood pressure of any group in the United States.

Researchers at UT Southwestern Medical Center studied data from the Dallas Heart Study and learned that at-home measurements are more accurate, less expensive, and easier to obtain than blood pressure screenings done in medical set-



*It is important for the doctor to know what your blood pressure is at home. If they rely only on the pressure readings in the office, it is possible to overtreat the patient. (Image: PexSnap CC0)*

tings. Patients' readings tend to be higher in the clinic due to stress or anxiety.

"Our study shows that African American men and women who are taking medications to control their hypertension should monitor their blood pressure at

home on a regular basis. These home-taken readings are a more accurate measure of how healthy the heart is than clinic readings when compared to other ethnic groups," said Dr. Wanpen Vongpatanasin, Professor of Internal Medicine, at UT

Southwestern and Director of the Hypertension Section and its Hypertension Fellowship Program.

Checking blood pressure in the clinic alone may miss the opportunity to prevent heart disease, especially in high-risk hypertensive black patients, she added.

The risks are substantial. Having hypertension can potentially lead to heart failure, stroke, kidney failure, and premature death.

"The debate among cardiologists has been whether measuring blood pressure in the clinic can lead to undertreatment or over-treatment of hypertension," said Dr. Vongpatanasin. "We wanted to see if measuring blood pressure at home would give

us a more accurate picture of heart health."

The research team assessed 1,262 black and 927 white participants ages 30-64 years. At-home blood pressure measurements were found to be more likely to predict potentially dangerous thickening of the left heart chamber than blood pressure taken at the doctor's office.

The study, published in the journal *Hypertension*, is one of the few to examine an at-home approach to blood pressure monitoring in African Americans.

It was led by prominent hypertension expert and former UT Southwestern Cardiologist Dr. Ron Victor, who lost his battle with pan-

creatic cancer in 2018. Dr. Victor was a co-founder of the Dallas Heart Study who became widely known for his heart disease outreach to African American men through community barber-shop visits.

"The Dallas Heart Study is one of the nation's first major population studies designed to focus on the specific heart disease issues of African Americans," Dr. Haley said. "The idea arose from Dr. Victor's concerns over the disproportionate numbers of young black men and women with advanced heart disease that he treated over the years. Although long recognized, he felt the causes and solutions of their disease were not being addressed."

## Garland child receives life-saving pancreas transplant, more help needed

With the cost of a life-saving transplant often exceeding \$800,000, most transplant families are unable to shoulder that financial burden. The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) is a national 501(c)3 charity dedicated to organizing and guiding communities in raising

funds for transplant-related expenses. In Garland, volunteers are raising funds for COTA in honor of transplant patients like a local child from Garland, Sophieya Grant.

Sophieya is the daughter of Shirlane and Shane Grant. Born in 2009, Sophieya was diagnosed with

Chronic Pancreatitis. Because of the severity of Sophieya's pancreatitis, the family was required to travel to Cincinnati so the surgery could be performed quickly. The transplant team at Cincinnati Children's Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio, performed a total pancreatectomy and

islet autotransplantation on Sept. 12. Garland volunteers are raising \$25,000 for COTA to assist with transplant-related expenses.

Additional volunteers are needed for this COTA community campaign. Individuals and groups interested in more information should contact Community Coor-

dinator Rhonda Smith at 214-616-2530 or [nickrhondasmith@yahoo.com](mailto:nickrhondasmith@yahoo.com).

COTA helps transplant families to avoid financial devastation. Transplant procedure costs range from \$100,000 to more than \$800,000. Once the transplant is complete, families face significant transplant-

related expenses, including medication; transportation to and from the transplant center; lodging; and expenses while parents are out of work and often living with the hospitalized child far from home.

These out-of-pocket ex-

**See TRANSPLANT, Page 12**

## A promising treatment for an incurable, deadly kidney disease

A potential treatment for polycystic kidney disease – a genetic disorder that causes the kidneys to swell with multiple cysts and can eventually lead to organ failure – has shown promising results in animal testing.

A study describing the drug's development and testing appears today in *Nature Communications*. The study shows an approxi-

mately 50 percent reduction in kidney size in afflicted mice following treatment. The drug is now in early clinical trials in human subjects, said Dr. Vishal Patel, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine at UT Southwestern and senior author of the study.

Autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD) affects about 12

million people worldwide, with half developing end-stage kidney disease by age 60, according to the study. "Once the kidneys have failed, the only options for survival are dialysis or a kidney transplant," Dr. Patel said. "A large percentage of ADPKD patients on dialysis die each year while waiting for a donated kidney."

The only drug currently

approved to treat ADPKD, called Jynarque (generic name tolvaptan), carries the FDA's highest warning in its prescribing information, a box notifying prescribers and users of the possibility of "serious and potentially fatal liver injury."

The new treatment cooperatively developed at UT Southwestern and Regulus Therapeutics Inc., a bio-

pharmaceutical company based in California, showed no evidence of toxicity in animals or in human cell tests, according to the study.

It is preferentially delivered to kidneys rather than the liver after being administered, according to the *Nature Communications* study.

## Scam Alert: Social Security is not trying to take your benefits

We've seen a new twist on the Social Security Administration (SSA) scam recently. There is a SSA imposter robocall, which says your benefits will end. (That's not true, by the way.)

If you get a call like this, do not press 1. Instead, just hang up and remember:

- Your Social Security number is not about to be suspended.

- The real Social Security Administration will never call to threaten your benefits.

- The real SSA will never tell you to wire money, send cash, or put money on a gift

card.

The Social Security Administration scam is the number one scam reported to the FTC right now. People filed nearly 73,000 reports about Social Security imposters in the first six months of 2019, with reported losses of \$17 million. (You can ex-

plore the data about imposter scams and losses at [ftc.gov/exploredata](http://ftc.gov/exploredata).)

So if you're getting these calls, you're not alone. Tell your friends and neighbors about this scam. Tell them to hang up the phone. And then to report it to the Federal Trade Commission.

### CASH TODAY!!!

Fair Price Offer For Oil and/or Gas Royalty  
Small "NET" Revenue Interest



**No Matter How Small**

Fax Information To:

**972-509-9058**

Call:

**972-665-0170**

(Leave Message)

Email:

[inquiries1909@gmail.com](mailto:inquiries1909@gmail.com)





## Former Dallas Cowboy accused of staging a hate crime in a faked burglary

A former NFL journeyman player for the Dallas Cowboys and Washington Redskins and four other teams, Edawn Louis Coughman, is facing charges after being accused of faking a hate crime and robbing his own business.

The police received a phone tip of a possible burglary in progress on Wednesday, Sept. 11. When they arrived in the area, they pulled over a black truck

which did not have a license plate and discovered Coughman was the driver. A search of his truck uncovered several flat-screen TVs.

Then when the police visited his restaurant, walls were painted with graffiti which included racial slurs such as “monkey” and the N-word. Of course for good measure MAGA was thrown in. The paint appeared to be fresh to them, and Coughman’s hands contained fresh

black spray paint.

TheRoot quoted the Gwinnett County Police’s statement, “It appears as though Edawn conjured a premeditated plan to damage his own property, attempt to make it appear as a hate crime, file a claim with his insurance company, and sell off the undamaged appliances and electronics.”

Like us on Facebook for the latest news

Supposedly, although he

had not called the police, Coughman had already reported the incident to the insurance company. His vehicle was impounded and Thursday Coughman was arrested. Not a new experience for him as he apparently has a long rap sheet.

Released on bond, Coughman is now facing three charges: insurance fraud, making a false report and for removing his license plate.

## Fellowship workshop hosted for Bloomberg American Health Initiative

On Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 6:30 p.m., the Southern Black Policy and Advocacy Network and DFW Affiliate of Black Ladies in Public Health are hosting representatives from the Bloomberg American Health Initiative to share information on

their work and opportunities for individuals working to improve their community through their unique fellowship program.

Michelle Spencer, Associate Director of the Bloomberg American Health Initiative and Shane Bryan,

Partnership and Engagement Officer will visit Dallas, TX and present at a reception on the innovative work of the Initiative at 6:30pm at Dallas Tower Club - Victory Park II Room, 1601 Elm St 48th Floor, Dallas, TX 75201.

The Bloomberg Ameri-

can Health Initiative, a project of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, works to tackle some of the most pressing challenges to public health in the United States: Addiction and Overdose, Environmental Challenges, Obesity

and the Food System, Risks to Adolescent Health and Violence.

A core component of the initiative is the Bloomberg Fellows Program. The Bloomberg Fellows Program offers a full scholarship for the Master of Public

Health (MPH) program at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health to individuals who are working on the front lines of change in their communities.

To Register to attend, please visit [bit.ly/SBPAN-Dallas](http://bit.ly/SBPAN-Dallas)

## SHACKELFORD, from Page 2

on that board in the city’s history.

In this role, Shackelford reviews investigations conducted by the Houston Police Department’s Internal Affairs Division when officers use force on civilians or discharge their firearms.

After reviewing those cases, Shackelford and his peers make recommendations to the Mayor, Chief of Police, and the Public Safety representative for City Council.

Not only is Shackelford an Eagle Scout, he is also a proud member of the Rho Beta Beta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., as well as a graduate of the Houston Black Leadership Institute Class II, National Urban League Emerging Leaders Class VII, National Urban League Advocacy Certificate Program, Acceler8 Cohort 3, United Way Project Blueprint Class XXXV, and Leadership Houston Class XXXVII.

He is also the proud father of a nine-year old daughter, Jordan. While maintaining significant commitment to his community, Shackel-

ford has also excelled in his professional life. He holds a Master of Business Administration from the University of Houston and previously worked for the Houston Area Urban League in its Housing Programs department and as a certified housing counselor for the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program.

In both roles, Shackelford worked to solve housing issues facing disadvantaged communities. He is currently working on a major Census 2020 project to ensure an accurate count for African Americans in the upcoming year.

Shackelford understands that he must gain the trust and respect of all members, especially those who did not vote for him, but he is overly optimistic that the organization can thrive with collective unity and focus on advancing the movement.

“Just like I didn’t get here on my own, moving forward the same will be true,” said Shackelford. “In the coming months my team and I look forward to meeting with the members across the country

and hearing their ideas of how we can work together to advance the movement. It will take all of us to create the impact that we want to see, and our communities desperately need.”

Shackelford ran on a presidential platform that focused on the following:

- Connecting with the community on a more grassroots level and bringing together corporations, elected officials, entrepreneurs, unions, the faith community and all other concerned parties for the benefit of the people they serve.

- Creating a “family-feel” environment that with an emphasis on support and accountability as the organization moves toward the common goal of positive impact in our communities, in that wherever a YP member travels to a place where they have a presence in that city they should be able to connect with other YPs.

- Ensuring that the NULYP Executive Leadership Team (ELT) sets the tone and the example for chapters across the country, by modeling the same expectations they have of the leaders and chapters they sup-

port.

- Being open to receive feedback and listening intently to collect and consider all recommendations.

- Setting clear expectations for how they will operate internally and being transparent by sharing that information with the overall body.

- Responding to communications and requests within 48 hours.

- Strongly encouraging all ELT members to remain active in the movement by participating in local chapter events and supporting NULYP Programming.

- Working with each chapter on how to best align efforts with Affiliate programming

- Having a year-round fundraising focus, targeting national corporate partners that will provide funding to local chapters.

- Instituting a National Giving Tuesday Effort

- YPNext – Urban League College Program or Auxiliary, which will give the organization an opportunity to reestablish their presence on college campuses across the country.

- The Whitney Initiative

– Part One: Work with corporate partners to encourage existing Black employee resource groups (BERG) to join NULYP and the development of BERG’s where applicable. Part Two: Have conversations with corporations about diversity within their recruitment efforts. Part Three: Encourage Tech and high skill companies to invest in low-income neighborhoods to help close the skill gap.

- National Black Leadership Forum – Organize an annual meeting to discuss issues facing our community in conjunction with other national organizations to identify areas for collaboration and action plans.

- Develop a solid Strategic Plan to continually assess their trajectory and adjust course where needed for the betterment of NULYP and the communities they serve.

Shackelford knows it will take a lot of hard work to accomplish those goals, but he believes the current climate in this country as it relates to African Americans won’t allow him to be deterred from his mission to better the organization.

“Today we live in a nation where Black lives have little to no value, mass shootings have become the norm, children are being stripped from their families, women cannot receive equal pay, and a host of other issues. So, what does that mean for you and I?” asks Shackelford. “We must achieve record voter turnout in both presidential and local elections. We must ensure that every soul is counted in the census. We must become the best version of ourselves and we must come together as a family. We are necessary. We are needed and we must all step up to lead now. The time is now, and this is too important of a time to have a seat on the sidelines.”

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

## DCCCD student leaders are student role models, Myers-LeCroy Scholars

Responsible, focused and motivated. Those are some of the traits that describe this year's Myers-LeCroy Scholars.

These eight students are leaders and role models for their peers, and they represent the best of Dallas County Community College District through personal achievement and community contributions.

These students not only fight injustice and serve those less fortunate, their scholastic goals exemplify their determination to remain engaged in their communities.

The Myers-LeCroy Scholarship, administered by the Dallas County Community Foundation, was established in 1988 by Dallas business leader Mike A. Myers to honor friend and former DCCCD Chancellor



2019 Myers-LeCroy Scholars are (back row L-R) Chalieta Audreyia, Jennifer Hernandez Benitez, Connie Bronner, William Onyedionu, and Mimi Mbaakanyi; (front row L to R) Jaiyeola Johnson, Usra Qureshi, Lizet Velasquez, Zaray Enriquez, and Salma Suarez. (Courtesy photo)

Jan LeCroy. After the passing of Dr. LeCroy, his wife, Nancy LeCroy, partnered with Mr. Myers to mentor recipients. They have championed dozens of students, propelling them to academic and personal success.

Students selected to receive the scholarship receive books and full tuition

for up to six semesters.

The 2019-2020 scholarship recipients are:

- Chalieta Audreyia, North Lake College, computer science;
- Jennifer Hernandez Benitez, Brookhaven College, accounting;
- Zaray Enriquez, Richland College, biology;
- Jaiyeola Johnson, El

Centro College, nursing;

- Mimi Mbaakanyi, Richland College; liberal sciences;

- William Onyedionu, North Lake College, biology;

- Usra Qureshi, Richland College, accounting; and

- Salma Suarez, El Centro College, respiratory therapy.

Two returning LeCroy Scholars for the fall 2019 semester are Connie Bronner and Lizet Velasquez.

Jaiyeola Johnson is embarking on a new career: nursing. She holds a degree in real estate – a pursuit pushed by her father, but she never felt the passion for the profession. Now, six years after obtaining her degree, she is pursuing her long-held dream of becoming a pediatric nurse.

"From a very young age,

I had an affinity for children and I wanted a career that would allow me to take care of them," Johnson said.

She is enrolled in El Centro College's nursing program and is an honor student who enjoys helping others. Johnson is a part-time writing tutor in El Centro College's Learning Center, and volunteers with the North Texas Food Bank and Vogel Alcove – a group that helps children overcome the harmful effects brought on by homelessness.

William Onyedionu is biology major at North Lake College, Onyedionu dreams of becoming a physician's assistant.

"I want to be a Myers-LeCroy scholar because I appreciate the philosophy about varying and expand-

ing approaches to education," Onyedionu said. "I want to demonstrate the kind of leadership and passion for learning that Myers and LeCroy had."

Mimi Mbaakanyi wants to become a neurologist and find measures to prevent Alzheimer's disease. She came to the United States after volunteering with "Stepping Stones" an organization that assists students in rural area of Botswana with tuition. As a volunteer, Mbaakanyi taught children how to read.

"Having grown up in Botswana, I knew nothing about American history. I worked hard at understanding everything we discussed during the lectures. By the end of the semester, my professor was asking me to assist my peers in catching up."

## Dallas ISD students, staff taking bond construction in stride

As the captain of the girls volleyball team, Hillcrest High School senior Skyy Owens was ecstatic to see the school's newly completed competition gym when she returned from summer break.

The new gym was fi-

nanced by the 2015 bond, which voters approved and is bringing \$1.6 billion in facility improvements to district schools.

"Before we didn't have the right equipment or space to help us meet our full potential," Owens said.

"This makes us students feel like we are worth it and matter to other people."

Parts of Hillcrest High School are still under construction as crews work on other campus improvements and upgrades. Hillcrest is one of 24 Dallas

ISD campuses serving students while construction is underway.

Dallas ISD Construction Director Don Smith said that safety is the top priority when making facility improvements at a campus.

"We go the extra mile to

ensure all students and staff are safe any time we have a construction project on a campus," Smith said. "We are proud to be working to provide our families and staff with the outstanding facilities they deserve."

Back at Hillcrest High

School, teacher Angela Uno is watching through the library window at her own classroom being built.

"I am beyond excited to get to decorate my new classroom once it's ready," Uno said. "It's an exciting time to be here."

## PRESS, from Page 1

ordinary girl from Detroit," Windham said. "If I can do it, you can do it too."

The UAW's Ray Curry addressed attendees, applauding the Black Press and reminding the audience of the role that unions have played in America's civil rights struggles. He also shared some of his own history as a beneficiary of benefits gained through the labor negotiation process.

An NNPA and UAW resolution reads, "Whether it was hosting Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as he wrote his historic 'I Have a Dream' speech in Solidarity House, or providing bail for Dr. King's 1963 release from Birmingham City Jail, the women and men of the UAW have and continue to play a historic role in our

nation's civil rights movement.

"I'm truly honored and humbled to be recognized with such a distinguished award," said Shani W. Hosten, Vice President Multicultural Leadership with AARP. "I also want to recognize the outstanding legacy of the Black Press; I grew up reading the Richmond Free Press and the Richmond Afro; they were staples in our home, around our community, and in our church. Those stories told our stories, and I thank the Black Press for the continued partnership with AARP, and for 192 years of telling our story in our community which is so critical now more than ever," Hosten said.

The festive gathering

also included appearances by the Rev. Jesse Jackson, NAACP President, and CEO Derrick Johnson, NAACP Chairman Leon Russell, Cuban Ambassador to the United States José Ramón Cabañas, and famed film producer and MIT Media Lab research scholar Topper Carew.

The awards honor individuals who are national leaders in their specific fields and whose actions have helped to improve the quality of life for African Americans and others.

The NNPA, the trade organization representing African American-owned newspapers and media companies throughout the country, began the Leadership Awards in 2014 when it was decided that the optimal time to host such an event would be during the Congressional Black Cau-

cus Foundation's (CBCF) Annual Legislative Conference (ALC) a week-long gathering that's held each September.

The CBCF ALC is the largest annual gathering in the United States. The shared objective of the conference and the NNPA National Leadership Awards is to network, collaborate, and strategize collectively for the advancement and empowerment of Black America.

"We are delighted to celebrate this year's honorees," said NNPA Chair and Houston Forward Times Publisher Karen Carter Richards.

"We salute them for the leadership they have displayed in the Black community and for their overall support of the Black Press," Richards said.

"The Black Press is need-

ed now more than ever. We are the daily recorders of our history. We are, and forever will be, The Original Black Press of America," Richards said.

NNPA's corporate partners include General Motors; RAI Services Company; Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; and Pfizer, Inc.

NNPA corporate sponsors include Toyota; Ford Motor Co.; AARP; Northrop Grumman; Eli Lilly; Wells Fargo; Volkswagen; UAW; API; Walt Disney World Parks & Resorts; Comcast; U.S. Census; CBCF; Koch Industries; Ascension; and AmeriHealth.

Scott, who accepted the award for his national leadership in education, thanked Dr. Chavis and Carter Richards for their guidance of the Black Press. "The Black Press tells news that needs to be told," Scott said.

Bass said, "We look to [The Black Press] for news. America knows the work you do, and we look to you to help tell our story," she said.

The ceremony also served as a reminder of the all-important 2020 Census count. Tasha Boone, a long-time public servant who now serves as a senior advisor to the Deputy Director at the U.S. Census, addressed the audience.

"We are working tirelessly with partners like the Black Press to get the word out," Boone said. "2020 is a big year for us. It's an election year and, just as important is the Census. In March, you will all get an opportunity to participate in the Census. Fill out the survey either online, by mail or by telephone. It's extremely important, and it's safe," Boone said.



# Cancer patient gets a princess' send-off for Disney cruise

North Dallas Bank & Trust Co. (NDBT), a 58-year-old community bank with five banking centers located throughout North Texas, surprised nine-year-old cancer patient, Sha'Khia, with her ultimate wish – to go on a vacation cruise with her family.

On August 5, NDBT partnered with Make-A-Wish® North Texas to host a surprise “princess send-off party” for Sha'Khia at NDBT's headquarters, located at 12900 Preston Road in Dallas. Thinking she was going on a bank



tour with her family, more than 50 friends, family members, NDBT employees, Make-A-Wish representatives, and famous fairytale princesses were

waiting for her to grant her wish.

“We were honored to partner with Make-A-Wish North Texas to make Sha'Khia's once-in-a-life-

time wish come true,” said Larry Miller, president of North Dallas Bank & Trust Co. “Surprising Sha'Khia with a send-off party and vacation cruise was a rewarding experience for all of us at North Dallas Bank, and it's a true testimony to our longstanding commitment to making a difference and supporting our local communities.”

This month, Sha'Khia and her family will sail from Port Canaveral, Florida, to The Bahamas. While on their way, they will make a stop at a private island, Castaway Cay.



Courtesy photos (2)

## City Briefs

### Dallas

Come out and find that one thing that you cannot live without at the Parking Lot Sale at the Samuell Grand Rec. Center on Sept. 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you want to sell your items in the parking lot sale, contact the recreation center to

reserve your spot.

### Garland

The Community Multicultural Commission will co-host the free Literacy for Life event from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21. The event at the Curtis Culwell Center, 4999 Naa-

man Forest Blvd., will feature free food, prizes, and giveaways for all ages.

### Grand Prairie

The Parkinson's Foundation will host its annual Moving Day, DFW, A Walk for Parkinson's to unite the community in the fight

against Parkinson's on Oct. 5 at Lone Star Park.

Funds raised through Moving Day will support cutting-edge research and community programs to improve the lives of people with Parkinson's disease and their families.

### Lewisville

City of Lewisville Neighborhood Services invites residents to free Home Repair Grants Workshops on Thursday, Sept. 19, 6:30 p.m., Crawford Room in the Lewisville Public Library, 1197 W. Main Street. The purpose of these work-

shops is for Lewisville residents to learn more about home repair resources and grant opportunities. City staff members will describe the process for applying for the Property Enhancement Program and will provide additional information on countywide resources.




**SEPT 28**

**STATE FAIR 2019 Classic**

**THE GAME THAT DECIDES IT ALL!**

**PRAIRIE VIEW A&M**

**VS**

**GRAMBLING STATE**



**JACQUEES 2:00 PM**



**CAMEO 8:00PM**





FOR TICKETS

**STATEFAIRCLASSICFOOTBALL.COM**

**COTTON BOWL | DALLAS, TX**

**4:00PM KICK OFF**



# CHEVY. MORE J.D. POWER QUALITY AWARDS ACROSS CARS, TRUCKS AND SUVS THAN ANY OTHER BRAND OVER THE LAST FOUR YEARS.



More than 448,000 owners were asked to rate the quality of their vehicles. And over the last four years, Chevy rose to the top across cars, trucks and SUVs. So over the long haul, driving a Chevy is a quality decision.

## FIND NEW ROADS™

CHEVROLET 

Chevy received the highest number of awards among the car, truck and SUV automotive segments over the last four years as compared to all other brands in the J.D. Power 2016-2019 U.S. Initial Quality (IQS) and Vehicle Dependability (VDS) Studies. IQS measures new vehicle owners' experience with their vehicle after 90 days of ownership. VDS measures long-term quality for the original owners' experience with their 3-year-old vehicles during the 12 months prior to the survey. For J.D. Power 2019 award information, visit [jdpower.com/awards](http://jdpower.com/awards) for more details.



# With injuries, Cowboys rely on new weapons against Dolphins

By Dwain Price  
NDG Sports

FRISCO — Now that they've built a 2-0 record and appear invincible each time they take the field, the Dallas Cowboys' world has been infiltrated by the injury bug.

Four of the Cowboys' starters are currently on the mend, and two of them may miss Sunday's 12 noon home game against the Miami Dolphins at AT&T Stadium. The injuries involve wide receiver Michael Gallup, safety Xavier Woods, defensive tackle Tyrone Crawford and nose tackle Antwaun Woods.

Gallup, who leads the team with 13 receptions, will be sidelined two-to-four weeks after undergoing arthroscopic surgery on Tuesday to repair a torn left meniscus. Xavier Woods is



Keith Allison / Wikimedia

out four-to-six weeks while dealing with a high ankle sprain.

Meanwhile, both Crawford (hip) and Antwaun Woods (sprained knee) are listed as day-to-day. Crawford aggravated his hip during Sunday's 31-21 road win against the Washington Redskins.

While the four injuries are something for the Cowboys to worry about, at least in Gallup's case

they already have someone ready to step in and offer some assistance with the team possibly not missing a beat.

During the win over the Redskins, Devin Smith caught three passes for 74 yards, including a long 51-yard scoring strike from quarterback Dak Prescott. Smith's performance was very meaningful since he has overcome two torn anterior cruciate ligaments and was so beat up that he didn't even play football last season.

"That play -- the big long touchdown -- was a huge play in the game," coach Jason Garrett said. "It kind of shifted the momentum of the game and got us going a little bit on both sides of the ball."

Wide receiver Amari Cooper believes the Cowboys will be in good hands

with Smith, who teamed with Ezekiel Elliott at Ohio State to defeat Cooper's Alabama team en route to capturing the 2015 national title.

"I played him my last year at 'Bama when he was at Ohio State and that's what he was doing to us," Cooper said. "I know what he's capable of and it's nice to see him be able to do that in a Cowboy uniform."

Smith is more than ready and able to fill Gallup's shoes.

"When I got this call to be with this team, I just tried to take advantage of every opportunity that I was given," he said. "And here I am now standing in front of all these cameras."

Smith provides another capable target for Prescott, who threw three touchdown passes against the Redskins and now has seven TD

passes this season. The last Cowboys quarterback with seven touchdown passes in the opening two games of the season was Don Meredith back in 1966.

Prescott was on such an incredible roll against the Redskins that at one point he tossed 18 straight passes without an incompletion.

"You're not really aware of it, but again you kind of take it and say, 'Man, what's the last incompletion,' Prescott said. "But it's not something you think about."

"It's just about being in a groove, the offense working together. The run game is happening, we're able to throw the ball, receivers are making great catches and you just look up and it's like that."

In addition to beating the Redskins with his arm, Prescott also produced a

pivotal 42-yard run that set up another touchdown before he was corralled by Josh Norman.

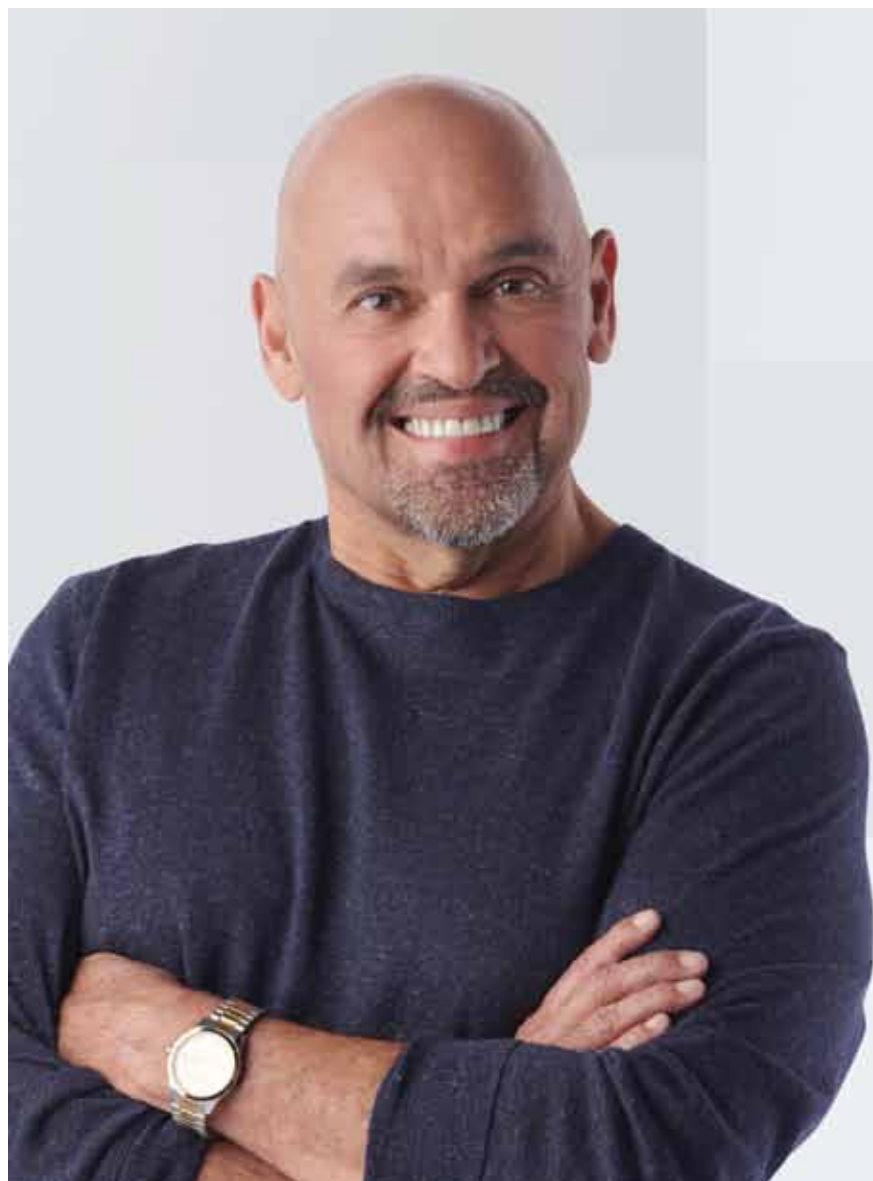
"I told him if he would have just kept running he might have scored," said Elliott, who rushed for 111 yards on 23 carries and scored a TD against Washington. "Dak's always phenomenal with his arms and with his legs."

"That's what so special about him is he can do both."

It was the longest run of his career by Prescott, who was criticized by Norman the week prior to last Sunday's game for not being a very effective quarterback.

"I heard it, but I'm not going to allow him to be a motivation to me," said Prescott, who was 26-of-30 for 269 yards against the

See COWBOYS, Page 10



I want a bank that  
shows they ~~care.~~  
deliver

We know what you mean. Scratch that, we know what you need. Putting customers first, that's table stakes. Putting you in control of your money, that's what really matters.

At LegacyTexas, we look at things from your point of view. Like balancing paying for college with taking your dream vacation. Or running a business while staying on track for retirement. So, no matter what your ambitions are, you can count on LegacyTexas to keep you moving forward.



LEGACYTEXAS.

Change your mind about banks.  
972.578.5000 | LegacyTexas.com

Member FDIC

**Enter to Win!**  
**Ticket Giveaway**

**NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit us on Facebook to win tickets to the the hottest events in Dallas/Fort Worth!!!!**



# Purgatory is a leading film at Frame4Frame

By Ruth Ferguson  
NDG Editor

The film community in Dallas continues to grow and thrive. The Frame 4 Frame Festival in Arlington this weekend, is one of the growing festivals film lovers in the Metroplex support. Kicking off this weekend, Sept. 20-22, this is the fourth edition of the festival which spotlights the diverse creative filmmakers. The festival features not only studio and indie flicks but also a blend of well-known and up and coming musical artists from the Dallas-Fort Worth community.

For several years, the buzz has been about the Austin film community. But Frame4Frame Festival showcases why you just



Isabella, played by, Heather Elaine is interviewed by Det. Gabrielle, portrayed by Melissa Henderson, as a murder suspect in Purgatory. (Courtesy photo by Brittney Bluitt)

need to drive across town instead of down 35 to enjoy quality films.

Musically, fans of Tom Braxton and Joe McBride will be delighted to see them on the schedule. The Soul Patrol Tour ft. Blake Aaron, Larry Braggs, and Tom Braxton are scheduled to perform on Friday, Sept. 20 at 8 p.m. at the Arling-

ton Music Hall. Then on Sunday, Sept. 22 at 8 p.m. Joe McBride and The Texas Rhythm Club will perform at the same venue.

Frame4Frame first and foremost is about movies with several new films and old favorites. One must-see move on the schedule is Purgatory, written and directed by Malcolm Johnson

opens the festival on Friday night at 7 p.m.

Less than 30 minutes long, Purgatory packs solid performances, outstanding camera work, and most importantly, a thought-provoking story. A young woman is accused of murder – who did she kill and why? This is a movie you will want to pay close attention because everything may not be as simple as you first believe. On that note, I won't spoil the experience for you. Just simply say --- SEE IT! Go with a friend, because you will want to compare notes and discuss the issues raised.

"What I attempt to do is foreshadow, but it is not in your face," Johnson shared

**See FILM, Page 15**

## COWBOYS, from Page 9

Redskins. "I have enough things to motivate me and keep me going.

"What someone says, good or bad about me, isn't the case, especially when he's not on this team."

Prescott has already passed for 674 yards in the first two games and appears to be very laser-focused.

"He's a very purposeful guy and he comes to work every day and he wants to get better in all parts of (the game)," Garrett said. "Often times you guys will ask me, 'What's the most important thing he's done or where's the biggest area of improvement,' and what I would say is it's across the board. "He works on all of it.

He works on the technique of footwork and release and how that factors into how well he throws the ball and how accurately he throws the ball. But it's also his understanding of what we're doing, what the defense is doing. He tries to learn from all those experiences."

With that, the Cowboys will try to learn from being 2-0 for just the last time in the last 11 years as they prepare for a Dolphins' team that comes to town as 21-point underdogs.

"We've got Miami next week," defensive end DeMarcus Lawrence said. "That's all that matters.

"Get back in the lab, watch film and get ready for the next one."

**15th Annual**



**PLANO INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL**

**October 12**  
11am - 5pm

**FREE Admission**

**Haggard Park • 15th & Ave. H**

**Art • Food • Music • Dancing • Fun!**

**Special Features**

**Fitness & Wellness Fair**  
FREE Flu shots & health screenings,  
10am - 1pm

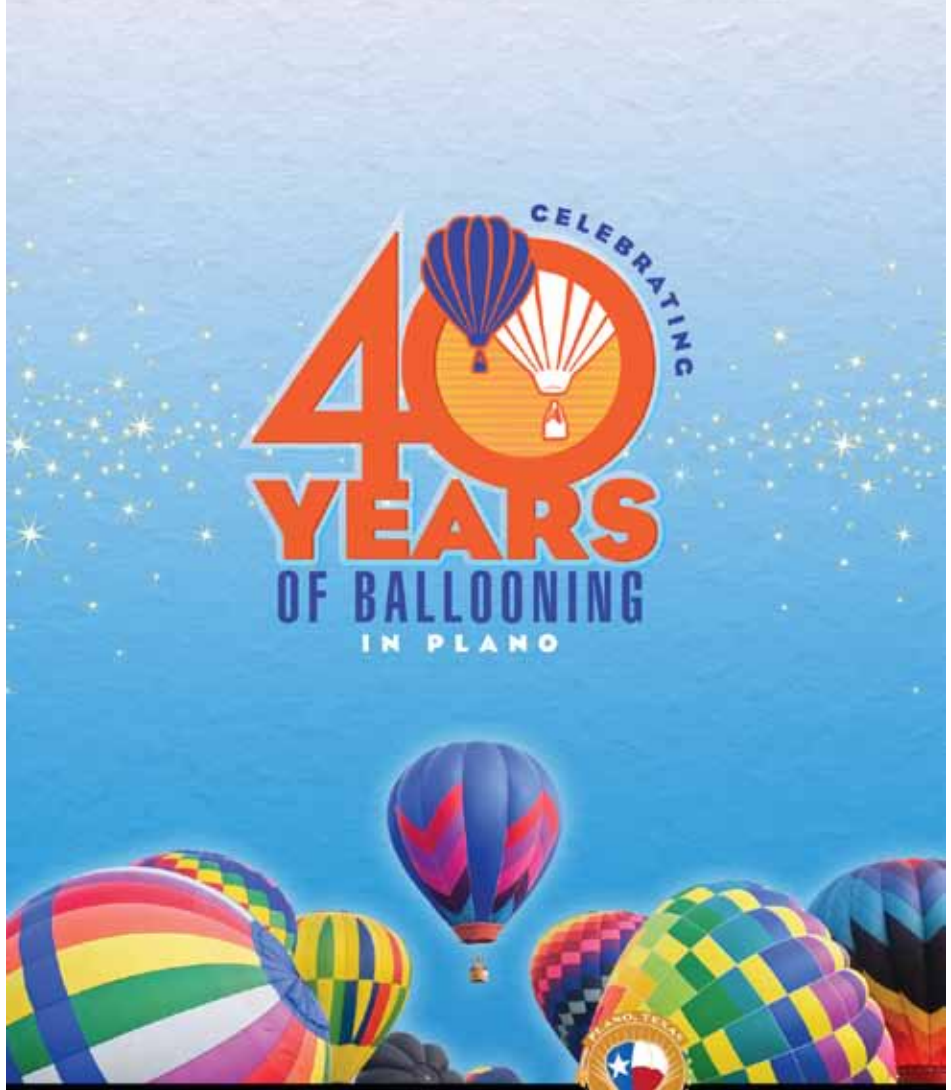
**Dancing with the Symphony**  
Plano Symphony Orchestra strings play LIVE to ballet, Folklorico and Indian dances!  
5pm, Courtyard Theater  
Tickets \$15 at [planosymphony.org](http://planosymphony.org)

**PLUS:** Food Trucks • Fashion Show • Kids' Passports  
Art Exhibit • Hands-on STEM activities • and More!

[www.PlanoInternationalFestival.org](http://www.PlanoInternationalFestival.org)



**CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF BALLOONING IN PLANO**



**INTOUCH CREDIT UNION PLANO BALLOON FESTIVAL & RUN**

September 20, 21, 22, 2019  
Oak Point Park, Plano, TX  
[www.planoballoonfest.org](http://www.planoballoonfest.org)

FRI 4pm - 10pm | SAT 6am - 10pm | SUN 6am - 7pm



# Black Communities a key focus in \$2 million Census grant

AUSTIN — This year, the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health is celebrating 80 years of supporting the mental health and well-being of Texans. As part of their anniversary efforts, the foundation is accepting proposals for the Texas Communities Count initiative, which will support complete count efforts in Texas for the 2020 U.S. Census. The foundation plans to award grants totaling \$2 million.

The primary focus is to aid collaborative approaches that aim to reach traditionally hard-to-count (HTC) populations, communities and geographic areas throughout the state. The goal is to promote active participation in the 2020 Census so that every person in Texas is counted.

Without a complete count during the 2020 Census, Texas will face unprecedented challenges, losing

both resources and representation for at least a decade. An accurate and complete census is necessary to determine fair allocation of federal dollars for resources, services and infrastructure that support our everyday quality of life.

The African American community has been historically undercounted in the census. The Census Bureau estimates that African Americans were un-

dercounted by more than 800,000 in the 2010 U.S. Census, and that approximately 7 percent of young African American children were overlooked by the 2010 Census, roughly twice the rate for young non-Hispanic white children. This legacy of undercounting has had a negative impact on African American communities and furthers inequities.

"An undercount of Texas'

population by even one-percent could result in a \$300 million loss in federal funding, and 25 percent of Texans—over 6 million people—live in hard-to-count neighborhoods," said Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., executive director of the Hogg Foundation and senior associate vice president for diversity and community engagement at The University of Texas at Austin. "So the stakes, particularly

for African Americans and other historically excluded communities, couldn't be higher."

The foundation seeks proposals that support (1) direct, local, on-the-ground complete count efforts or (2) statewide coordination of these local efforts. Preference will be given to strategies that focus on HTC populations and communities or

See CENSUS, Page 16

## BOYKIN-TOWNS, from Page 2

civic work, Boykin-Towns said she was able to leverage her experiences to enhance her ability to add value to various spaces.

At Pfizer, Boykin-Towns held leadership roles in government relations, public affairs, global policy, and human resources. She served as the company's first-ever Chief Diversity Officer.

"I thought I could expand outside of healthcare, so I took a little time off. They say I retired from Pfizer, but my challenges did not reflect someone who was retired because I was busy all of the time," she said.

"Over time I thought [SVC] is a great firm with great people and great clients that have a lot of varying issues for which my background could be a really great fit," Boykin-Towns said.

At SVC, Boykin-Towns said the firm would get exactly what she gave Pfizer each day for 22 years.

"I want people who are going to be able to tell it straight. People who will assess a situation and then be able to give you the realities of what it is," Boykin-Towns said of her expectations in her new role.

"You don't always have to agree, but as long as the message is delivered respectfully and delivered truthfully, that's what matters," Boykin-Towns said.

SVC presents an opportunity for individuals who are open to ideas and those who are ready to do some great work. Boykin-Towns said.

"I pushed myself to try and have more of an impact because that's what's needed today and we need everybody to step up and give a bit more than what they're already doing," she said.

After helping to lead the NAACP's national convention, changing jobs, and some extensive travel, Boykin-Towns said the past several months had provided a time also for reflection.

She said she'll continue to fight the good fight, par-

ticularly with critical issues like the 2020 Census and presidential election ahead.

"One of the things I will be looking at, and with the clients that we work with, is to help people realize the power of the Black Press," Boykin-Towns said.

"I appreciate [National Newspaper Publishers Association President and CEO] Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., and the Black Press of America," she said.

"As we look at issues, whether they are issues of election or education or whatever it may be, we

must know the trusted and credible news vehicle is the Black Press, and that's where the African American community goes to

for information," Boykin-Towns said.

"The Black Press is vitally important more so now than ever before, and so I

continue to appreciate and applaud all that they do and the information that they bring to our communities," she said.

WWW.CBSOLUTIONSPUS.COM  
"CHANGING THE WAY WE LOOK AT LIFE"  
All Insurance Products | Pre-Arranged Funeral Planning  
Funeral Consultation and Planning | Wills | Power of Attorney  
Notary Public | and more.

CombinedBenefitSolutions  
changing the way we look at life

Premier Funeral Consulting  
& Financial Services  
214-238-6855

VICKIE  
RICHARDSON-STEWART  
Owner/Licensed Agent

7125 MARVIN D LOVE FRWY SUITE 302 DALLAS, TEXAS 75237  
Email: cbsolutionsplus@aol.com Fax: 682-228-2093

RIDE DART  
TO THE  
STATE FAIR  
SAVE  
\$2  
on fair admission with the  
GoPass® app

STATE FAIR  
OF  
TEXAS

DART let's go.

DART.ORG/STATEFAIR



## DFW Muslim Community Calendar

**YM Brothers Retreat** - From Oct. 18-20, YM brothers will host a retreat at Camp Ascend on 5218 Kiwanis Rd. in Dallas. Activities include archery, campfires, swimming, sports, and more. Register online at ymsite.com.

**MSA at UT Dallas Event** - On Thursday, Sept. 19 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., the Muslim Students Association at UT Dallas is hosting an event titled, "How My Hispanic Heritage Led Me to Islam." The event is free and will include discussions with Hispanic Muslims, free tacos, drinks, and more. Find more information on their facebook page.

**DFW Halal Food Fest** - The Valley Ranch Islamic Center is hosting a DFW Halal Food Fest on Oct. 5 from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. There will be food vendors representing cuisines from all over the world, as well as carnival rides and a bazaar. The Islamic Center is at 351 Ranchview Drive in Irving.

**Islamic Art Class** - World renowned award winning artist Hina Chaudhry is teaching an Islamic Art Class on Saturday, Sept. 21 at the Valley Ranch Islamic Center from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. This class is for all experience levels. The cost is \$35 (plus applicable fees) via Eventbrite and includes all materials. Fees can be avoided by sending the payment via Venmo to (@hinachaudhy).

# A Grassroots Muslim Youth Group Active in Dallas



**Badees Nouiouat**  
DFW Muslim Community News

For the past five years, hundreds of young Muslim men and women have enjoyed weekly programs every Friday night throughout Dallas. The grassroots organization that started the program, named Young Muslims (YM), originally started in the early '90s. The organization is comprised of two parts, YM brothers and YM sisters.

The nationwide movement is entirely run by youth in the range of 14 to 25 years old. Local chapters are led by a coordinator and a board of typically five members. There is also a national board of nine members overseeing branches all over the country. In total, there are over 40 brothers chapters nationally, and more than 2,000 consistent weekly members.

My first introduction to YM was five years ago when Jawad Karim, a former YM attendee in New Jersey, moved to Irving with his family. As he got to know the youth of the community, Karim decided to start his own chapter in Irving. He would invite 30 to 40 guys to his house every Friday for a spiritual group discussion, known as the halaqa, which was done in the traditional YM style of everyone sitting in a giant circle to leave nobody out. Afterward, everyone carpoled to a nearby res-



taurant and enjoyed a meal together.

Today, there are five brothers chapters in Irving, Valley Ranch, Carrollton, Frisco, and Richardson, and three sisters chapters in Irving, Frisco, and Coppell. Each chapter meets at their local mosque at a designated time and day.

"I joined YM when I was 18 years old. I only wish that I had found YM while I was younger," Samiur Rahman stated the regional coordinator for the Dallas brothers chapters. "Consistently attending weekly meetings, firstly connects us to the mosque and makes it a place where youth want to be. Secondly, we grow a stronger bond with each other and realize that we don't have to be blood to be family."

"YM has given me a new definition to the word brotherhood," says Ziyad Pida, the coordinator for the Irving chapter. "It's the only organization I've seen that can create a bond between two brothers that is practically impossible to sever."

Consistency is critical for YM. Weekly meetups



Badees Nouiouat (2)

are rarely ever canceled, regardless of the situation. "Whether 50 people show up or two, we are still going to have our halaqa," Karim

says.

Many YM chapters are the only source of activities for Muslim youth in their communities. This makes

it even more impressive than the whole organization is youth-run. Without the efforts of responsible young men and women in leadership, the youth could be spending their Friday nights in a negative environment.

"There are football games, parties, and a lot of other fun things to do on a Friday night. YM has all the fun stuff but in a good environment," says Mariam Abdulla, part of the Texas sisters' regional leadership. "For the past few years, Fridays have been a day I look forward to. I really don't know if I would be the person I am today had it not been for YM guiding me through the ups and downs of life."

To learn more about YM or to find a chapter near you, visit their website at [www.ymsite.com](http://www.ymsite.com) for the brothers wing or [www.ymsisters.com](http://www.ymsisters.com) for the sister's wing.

## TRANSPLANT, from Page 4

penses add up to tens of thousands of dollars annually for transplant families with lifetime totals often exceeding \$1,000,000. In cases where a shortfall exists, COTA helps bridge the financial gap.

The organization's priority is to assure that no child

or young adult is denied a transplant or excluded from a transplant waiting list due to lack of funds. One hundred percent of all funds raised in honor of patients assist with transplant-related expenses for a patient's lifetime.

Contributions may be

sent to the Children's Organ Transplant Association, 2501 West COTA Drive, Bloomington, Indiana, 47403. Checks should be made payable to COTA, with "In Honor of Sophieya" written on the memo line. Secure credit card gifts are accepted online at [www.COTAforSophieya.com](http://www.COTAforSophieya.com).

## 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)

Your Cost: \$2495 (financing available)

**Call Today!**

**972.665.0170**

(leave message if no answer)



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

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

**PART TIME OPPORTUNITIES** - 1 weekend a month, 2 weeks in the early summer. Stay local, Money for school, healthcare, paid drills and skill training, and up to \$20,000 enlistment bonus.

**FULL TIME OPPORTUNITIES** - Full time hours with off time and weekends just like regular jobs. 30 days paid vacation per year. Money for school, free healthcare, paid skill training, and up to \$40,000 enlistment bonus.

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.

### Ongoing City of Dallas

The City of Dallas' HR Dept is currently accepting apps for the Budget and Contract Administrator position. Bachelor's degree in a business/public administration, human resources or healthcare administration field, plus 7 yrs exp.

For more info and to apply, visit: <http://bit.ly/2NcCfVP>.

### Ongoing House of Blues



Want a cool job in live music? House of Blues Dallas is hiring! Spruce up your resume and join us on Monday, August 26th for a Job Fair in our Cambridge Room from 1-5PM. All departments are hiring. View job openings at <http://liveenationentertainment.com/careers>.

### Sept. 20 Veterans Job Fair

Employer Conference | Veteran's Career Fair Sept. 20 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Mountain View College located at 4849 W. Illinois Ave., in Dallas.

### Sept. 26 Dallas Creer Fair

The Dallas Career Fair on Sept. 26 at 6 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn at 7516 Las Colinas Blvd. in Irving. Meet face to face with multiple decision makers hiring business development, sales and sales management professionals across many industries at companies ranging from small local businesses clear on up to Fortune 500 corporations.

Our events are open to executive level experienced professionals as well as entry level and recent college graduates. This is your chance to meet and shake hands with hiring managers!

Job seekers: Register to attend by submitting your resume [www.unitedcareer-fairs.com](http://www.unitedcareer-fairs.com).

### Sept. 27 OSHA Construction Safety

The Regional Hispanic Contractors Association and Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas will be hosting the Fall Protection OSHA Construction Safety Training on Friday Sept. 27 from 12:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. at the Pleasant Grove Work-

force Center located at 1125 S. Buckner Boulevard in Dallas.

The Fall Protection class is offered free and is a one day two- hour course. Upon completion of the two hour course each student will receive a certificate of completion of the OSHA Susan Harwood Training Grant Fall Protection.

For more information or to register prior to attending please contact your local Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas office.

### Sept. 28 Sun & Ski Hiring Event

Sun & Ski Sports is hosting a live hiring event on Sept. 28 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Let the adventure begin by joining the #sunandskiLife team working to educate others about the best gear for any adventure.

Apply in advance at [sunandski.com](http://sunandski.com) to be a Cashier, Sales Associate, Rental Tech, Bike Mechanic, Ski/Snowboard Shop Tech, or choose from other available full-time and part-time positions. Paper applications will be available at the store too.

### Sept. 30 Diversity Job Fair

Meet face to face with Dallas' best companies on

at the Dallas Diversity Job Fair by [Jobertising.com](http://Jobertising.com) Monday, Sept. 30, from 11 AM - 1 PM at the Crowne Plaza Dallas Market Center located at 7050 N. Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, TX 7524. Make sure to bring plenty of resumes and Dress For Success! NOTE: General admission is FREE.

### Oct. 1 Dallas Job Fair

Whether you are a seasoned executive-level professional, just beginning your career, or anywhere in between, our events can connect you with as many valuable employer contacts in three hours as you would make in weeks of job searching on your own.

Dallas Job Fair is scheduled for Oct. 1 at the Hilton Garden Inn Dallas Market Center located at 2325 N. Stemmons Frwy. in Dallas. Open the doors of opportunity when you meet and interview with hiring managers at companies ranging from small local businesses to Fortune 500 corporations. This career fair will allow you to learn about the businesses that are hiring and what their hiring needs are. Tired of sending your resume over the web and not receiving any responses back? By attending the Dallas Job Fair event, you will be able to meet di-

rectly with hiring managers and get instant feedback on your resume and possibly even be hired on the spot.

### Oct. 30 NTX Job Fair

Save the date for this year's NTX Regional Job Fair. This event is an op-

portunity for qualified applicants to connect with the community's top employers. For more information about the NTX Regional Job Fair, contact the Grapevine Chamber office at (817) 481-1522 or [robyn@grapevinechamber.org](mailto:robyn@grapevinechamber.org).



**GARLAND**  
TEXAS MADE HERE

**Attention Suppliers of Goods,  
Services and Construction**

**Review Competitive Opportunities at**  
<https://garlandtx.ionwave.net>

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

**972-205-2415**



**IRVING**  
TEXAS

**DO YOU WANT AN EXCITING AND  
REWARDING CAREER?**

**PURSUE A CAREER AS A POLICE  
OFFICER OR FIREFIGHTER!**

- Competitive wages
- Array of benefits
- Education incentive pay
- ...and more

**REGISTER ONLINE TO TAKE  
THE CITY OF IRVING'S NEXT  
CIVIL SERVICE ENTRANCE EXAM**

[www.cityofirving.org](http://www.cityofirving.org)

*The City of Irving does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.*

AT&T Mobility proposes to build a 38-foot C-RAN communications node support light pole. Anticipated lighting application is medium intensity dual red/white strobes. The Site location is 1853 North Houston Street, Dallas, Dallas County, TX 75202, Lat: 32-46-55.8, Long: -96-48-32.1. Public comments regarding potential effects on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, John, [j.huter@trileaf.com](mailto:j.huter@trileaf.com), 2550 S IH 35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.*

### TISEO PAVING COMPANY

419 E. Hwy. 80, Mesquite, TX 75150

Tel: (972) 289-0723 Fax (972) 216-5637

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

Performing Concrete Street Paving  
in the Metroplex Area

We Accept Subcontracting Bids  
For All Public Works Projects  
in the Dallas Area.

We Are Accepting Applications for Concrete Mixer Drivers and Heavy Equipment Mechanics

**Equal Opportunity Employer**



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

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

**September 22, 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.

**September 25, 7 pm**  
You are invited to join us for Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, Pastor Bernadette and others as we study a new book by Dr. Henry Cloud, *Never Go Back*, to things that didn't work the first time, with supporting chapters and verses. Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you; it's Time to Grow in the Word of God.

Dr. Terrance Woodson,  
Senior Pastor  
1944 E. Hebron Parkway  
Carrollton, TX 75007  
972-492-4300

**Church  
Happenings**  
is a weekly  
calendar of  
religious services  
produced by the  
North Dallas  
Gazette.  
To make  
additions or  
corrections to the  
calendar, contact:  
[religion@north-  
dallasgazette.com](mailto:religion@north-dallasgazette.com)

[www.bethelbiblefellowship.org](http://www.bethelbiblefellowship.org)

**FELLOWSHIP  
CHRISTIAN  
CENTER CHURCH IN  
ALLEN**

**"THE SHIP" We are  
Saving You a Seat!**

**September 22, 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.

**September 25**  
Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study class and/or our Wednesday Night Live, Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all; be prepared to grow.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D.  
Senior Pastor  
2450 K Avenue #300  
Plano, TX 75074  
972-379-3287

[www.theship3c.org](http://www.theship3c.org)  
[www.visitf3c.org](http://www.visitf3c.org)

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

**September 3, 7 pm**  
All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 8 pm, (IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

**September 15, 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.

**September 16, 7 p.m.**  
You are invited to Monday School to see what God has to say to us in His Holy Word.

Pastor Rickie Rush  
7701 S Westmoreland Road  
Dallas, TX 75237  
972-372-4262  
[www.Ibocchurch.org](http://www.Ibocchurch.org)

**MT. OLIVE CHURCH  
OF PLANO (MOCOP)  
Making God's Word  
R.E.A.L.**

**to His People.**

Our mission at MOCOP is to make the Word of God R.E.A.L. (Relevant, Engaging, Authentic, Life-Changing)

**September 22, 10 a.m.**  
Join us for Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory. Don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church.

**September 25, 7 pm**  
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

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

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

Connect to God through

Shiloh, Grow in Christ through the study of the Word of God, Serve God through service to each other and the world.

**September 22,  
8 and 11 am**

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

**September 23, 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)

**September 25, 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  
920 E. 14th Street  
Plano, TX 75074  
972-423-6695  
[www.smbcplano.org](http://www.smbcplano.org)



**IRS Problems?**  
**Call Kedra**  
**469.449.9833**  
Kedra A. Flowers CPA PC  
[www.IRSsafe.com](http://www.IRSsafe.com)

NDG now has a "Special Advertising Package" for churches and non-profit organizations that need to let the community know about your Special Event.

**Opportunity You Can Measure...**

**Church Events**

- Church Anniversary
- Pastor's Anniversary
- Women's Day
- Men's Day

**Non-Profit Org. Events**

- Fundraisers (Concerts)
- Special Events (Personal or Community)

**Special Rate \$199**

(Black & White, per insertion)  
Ad size - 4.905"x 6"(Quarter Page, B&W)  
(NOTE: Color Ad \$75 extra per insertion)

Production disclaimer - NDG ad meake-ready is not included in promotion. Layout/production of "copy ready" ad will be a nominal extra cost.

E-mail ad copy to:  
[Marketing@NorthDallasGazette.com](mailto:Marketing@NorthDallasGazette.com)  
or call our Marketing Department today!

**972-665-0170**



**Cemetary Space Broker will make you  
offer on your cemetery plot**



Dennis Jarvis / Flickr

- Inherited plot and can't sell it?
- Bought plot years ago and your plans have changed?
- Singles space or Side by Side spaces is okay.

We will make you a "cash offer" on your cemetery plot today! If you get voice mail-leave message phone number and information on cemetery space. We will get back to you

**Call Us Today!!!!!!!  
972.665.0170**



# The Perfectionist



**Sister Tarpley**  
NDG  
Religion  
Editor

*"Moses said to the LORD, 'O Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to Your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.'"*

## Exodus 4:10

One of the greatest affronts you can commit against God is to refuse His calling that He has placed upon you. Imagine arguing with your Creator and telling Him you know better than He does.

That is exactly what Moses did when God called

him to be His spokesperson to Pharaoh.

God and Moses got into an "I know best" competition. "The LORD said to him, 'Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I, the LORD?'"

Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.' But Moses said, 'O Lord, please send someone else to do it.'"

God actually relented in the argument. Can you imagine that? But He's not happy about it. "Then the LORD's anger burned against Moses and He said, 'What about your brother, Aaron the Levite?' "God has to use Aaron as Moses'



Sister Tarpley with Jan and Pete Keenan at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church.

mouthpiece.

Have you ever not pursued something because it had to be perfect? There is a fine line between doing things with excellence and being a perfectionist. Perfectionists become argu-

mentative with God.

They refuse to step out in faith and obedience because they care too much about what others think if the results don't turn out perfectly.

I battled these same de-

mons when God led me into writing my column "Lord, I am weak in grammar and you know me." Then He reminded me "... for my power is made perfect in weakness" 2 Corinthians 12:9.

When God places His anointing on you He uses whatever level of skill you have to fulfill His purposes in your life. This is why you need not fear moving into an unfamiliar area if He calls you there.

What is God waiting for you to do? It may be time to step out. He specializes in "cliff-catching."

Believe that God is using circumstances and events to move you into a place of patient waiting as He is

putting you in the place He desires for you to be.

Ask God to help your soul to mature, your faith to grow, your life to be more pure and dedicated to Him. James 1:2-4 tells us, "Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."

But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."

Praise God in the midst of it all--your special trials and daily challenges--knowing that you must learn to be patient and content as you wait upon Him. Thank God for being with you through every trial, every day, in Jesus' name pray.

## FILM, from Page 10

this week. "The inspiration for my films is all about me having a question or curiosity about something." Redemption was his crucial focus for Purgatory.

There is a standout moment of cinematography when the suspect is being interviewed by the police. The shot is not edited to jump from facial shots of one police detective to the other, it simply glides through the scene seamlessly.

"The camera is a character in every film I do," Johnson stated. Even later in the movie, the camera walks the viewer through the crime scene.

This is his third project with cinematographer Cordell D. Franklin. "I go into every film with a book full of notes, but I also leave room for creativity,"

Johnson added the scene was done in one take.

Sheran Goodspeed Keyton is an associate producer for the film, working with her producing partner Charles W. Bush. A well-known fixture in the Dallas filmmaking community, Bush brought Keyton into this project because they needed, "a really good production scout and other production work," according to Keyton.

As a producer, her role changes from project to project.

"Sometimes it is more administrative, handling contracts, managing budgets, making sure everyone is paid on time," Keyton stated. "When you are a producer on a small indie film, you wear all different kinds of hats," according to Keyton.

She was not always behind the scenes, as an entertainer for more than 20 years, Keyton landed on her first major film set 12 years ago.

"While I enjoyed it as an actor, I was equally intrigued at what they were doing behind the scenes," Keyton stated. She was already directing and producing in the live theater arena, and this felt like a natural progression.

She believes audiences will enjoy Purgatory because it deals with issues

we have all wondered about.

"It is an age-old question, where do we go when we die? Every single person has been faced with that thought, as young as six and seven years old," Keyton stated. Purgatory does not answer the question, but Keyton is confident audiences will see it as a cleverly written piece, which furthers the conversation.

For tickets and schedule information, visit <http://frame4frame.org>.

**Inspiring Body of Christ** IBOC  
Pastor Rickie G. Rush



7701 S. Westmoreland Rd.  
Dallas, TX 75237  
972-572-4262 (IBOC)  
[www.IBOCCHURCH.org](http://www.IBOCCHURCH.org)  
Sunday Service 7:30am & 11am  
Monday School 7pm & Men's Fellowship Friday 8pm



**Jordan Complete Collision**

**AUTO REPAIR**

Wheel Alignment • Inspection • Tires  
Auto Body Paint • Frame Work

3302 W. Shady Grove Rd. 214-850-8649  
Irving, TX 75060 972-457-0242

**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**

**Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church**

*Sewing the Plane Community for 128 Years*  
Founded 1884  
920 E 14th Street Plano, TX

Isiah Joshua, Jr.  
Pastor

**SHILOH**  
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
Where Community Becomes Family

**SMBC: A church Focused on Excellence while Teaching the Word, Preaching the Gospel, Reaching the World**

**Worship Times: 8 and 11 a.m.**  
**Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.**  
**Mid-week: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Youth Church: Every 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sunday at 10:45 a.m.**  
**AWANA: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Contact Information: 972-423-6695**  
[www.smbcplano.org](http://www.smbcplano.org)



# NDG Book Review: *More to Life* is one to share

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

“Keep this to yourself!”

That’s the way big dreams start: don’t tell anyone, because telling makes them more delicate. Sharing makes it hurt more when what you want doesn’t happen. As in the new book “More to Life” by ReShonda Tate Billingsley, it’s even worse when your dreams are ignored.

Even by her own admission, Aja James had everything a woman could want: a handsome husband, Charles, who loved giving gifts. Two wonderful children. A beautiful home, fine



furnishings, a full closet, a new car.

And yet, during an Islands birthday vacation with her three best friends – paid for by Charles, of course – forty-five-year-old Aja realized

that she never had what her soul needed.

Once, she’d showed promise as a painter and it was her passion. She was good at it but, as she realized at the island resort, nobody listened when she said she wanted to paint forever. Her high school guidance counselor and her parents shooed her away from it. Her husband and children called it “a hobby.” When Aja said she wanted to open an art gallery, her friends didn’t take her seriously, either.

So, like the good wife she was expected to be, she put her own needs aside to take care of Charles and the

children. She painted when she could, which was rare because her time was spent looking for lost socks and lost golf clubs and doing what her family demanded of her.

And then Aja met a strange Island woman who told her that she needed to walk her own purpose, words that struck her to the core. Finally, Aja knew what made her feel so unsettled, and she went home to face her future.

But was it with – or without – Charles? Aja’s best friends thought she was crazy to give up a good man for the unknown. And the house

and the lifestyle, too? Insane! Ah, but just thinking about a quiet art gallery and an easel made Aja smile.

Could she really do it?

Dreams deferred. Is that the story of your very existence? If so, then you’ll love having “More to Life”... more or less.

More, because author ReShonda Tate Billingsley offers fans another novel that reads as though she’s spent a month spying on their lives and calendars, and anyone who’s ever lost a dream or shelved one indefinitely will feel a kinship with Aja. That character, as well as the rest of Billingsley’s cast, feels

familiar, almost personal, and mostly likeable, although the situations they’re placed in (here’s the “less”) are really too over-the-top. Suffice it to say that there’s a Big Event inside this tale that abruptly alters the entire course of the story, adding unnecessary drama to a situation that was arguably better and more relatable without embellishment.

Still, if a dream is like a butterfly in your hands, or if you’ve ever moved to seize a what-if, then this book will read like a diary for you. Start “More to Life” and you won’t be able to keep it to yourself.

## CENSUS, from Page 11

geographic regions in Texas that are designated as health professional shortage areas.

Hard-to-count populations are defined as persons who typically do not get captured by census data, ac-

cording to the Census Bureau’s research. Examples are children under the age of five, highly mobile people, racial and ethnic minorities, non-English speakers, low-income and persons expe-

riencing homelessness, and undocumented immigrants. People with mental health conditions are also a HTC population. A useful guide to HTC populations can be found here.

“Due to the fact that many of the hard-to-count popula-

tions live in health professional shortage areas in Texas, federal funding is even more paramount to closing the gap of what health care is available to support well-being and mental health” said Emily Bhandari, strategic learning and evalua-

tion program officer for the Hogg Foundation.

In addition to ensuring an accurate count, this initiative is also an opportunity to promote new forms of community collaboration and civic engagement that yield benefits for Texans over the

long-term.

The deadline for submitting proposals is September 23, 2019. Details about the initiative and how to apply can be found at [hogg.utexas.edu/texas-communities-count](http://hogg.utexas.edu/texas-communities-count).



## SADDLE UP!

★ ★ ★ ★

## IT'S FAIRTIME, Y'ALL!

THIS IS HOW WE TEXAS



JOIN US

SEPT 27—OCT 20

TICKETS, SAVINGS, AND MORE AT

**BIGTEX.COM**

