



# North Dallas Gazette

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## Congressional Black Caucus Members Talk Impeachment, HBCU Funding

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior Correspondent

Shortly after the House Judiciary Committee voted along party lines to impeach President Donald Trump on Friday, December 13, members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) held a conference call with publishers of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), the trade association of Black Press publications from around the country.

While CBC members addressed the impeachment proceedings, the call was a reminder that Congress continues to work on other pressing issues.

The call included CBC Chair Karen Bass (D-Calif.), and Reps. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Texas), Val Demings (D-Fla.), Alma Adams (D-North Carolina), and Bobby Scott (D-Virginia).

The members discussed the passage of the FUTURE Act, legislation that provides needed funding to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other educational institutions.

"Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribally Controlled Colleges or Universities, and other Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) play a significant role in expanding access to higher education for low-income students and students of color," said Scott, the Chair of the House Committee on



*The FUTURE Act, which stands for Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education, unanimously passed the Senate. (Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA)*

Education and Labor.

"Unfortunately, despite their outsized role in serving our nation's most underserved students, these schools have historically been under-resourced compared to other institutions of higher education," Scott stated.

"The FUTURE Act won't only guarantee at least \$250 million per year for HBCUs and MSIs; it will simplify the Free Application for Student Aid (FASFA) and makes it easier for students to access student aid and repay their loans," Scott continued.

The FUTURE Act, which stands for Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education, unanimously passed the

Senate.

The bill has been sent to the president for his signature.

Through the FUTURE Act, HBCUs will receive \$85 million per year – about \$1 million per school. American Indian Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities will receive \$30 million annually, while Hispanic-serving institutions will get \$100 million per year.

Also, predominately Black institutions will continue to reap an annual payment of \$15 million, and Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions will receive \$15 million each year. Asian American and Native American

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### READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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Robert Horton



Sadada Jackson

### People In The News...

**NDG Quote of the Week:** "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins."  
– Matthew 1:21



## Robert Horton

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Robert Horton is at the helm of the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport's (DFW Airport) sustainability, future mobility and disruptive technology initiatives. On Dec. 14, Horton was recognized as a distinguished alumnus of the University of Florida during a commencement ceremony.

"Robert is truly an outstanding alumnus of the University of Florida. Not only has he used his knowledge and skills to implement practices for a more sustainable world, he is humble and genuine in his interest to help others," said Kati Mi-



giaccio, professor and chair of the UF/IFAS Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department. "Through Robert's work with various entities, he has turned vision into reality by seeking unique opportunities to

aggregate information into more useful on-the-ground products."

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is one of the highest honors bestowed upon a graduate of the university and recognizes recipients who have excelled in their chosen field or have performed outstanding service for the university.

The UF alumnus graduated with bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural and biological engineering, a department in the UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS).

In Horton's current role as DFW Airport's vice president of environmental affairs, he has led the

airport to become the first carbon-neutral airport in North America, and the largest airport in the world to achieve carbon neutrality to date. His efforts helped the airport become the 2019 Global Airport of the Year by Air Transport World.

Through regular collaborations with local and federal agencies, Horton creates strategic goals that foster environmental stewardship and sustainable development. In 2018, Horton was named commissioner for the U.S. Commission on Transportation Sector Efficiency where he leads the development of policy recommendations to transform the U.S. transportation

system.

Horton played an instrumental role in the creation of a partnership between the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Oak Ridge National Laboratory to conduct a study that led to a \$5 million award from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Technology Integration. The award supports the Advancing Transportation Hubs' Efficiency using Novel Analytics (ATHE-NA) program at the DFW Airport. This project will be used by DOE to improve transportation hubs across the U.S. by identifying new technology to improve energy use, convenience, and affordability.

Prior to his time as a UF student, Horton served in Saudi Arabia with the U.S. Marines during Desert Storm. After graduating with his master's degree in 1997, Horton worked as an environmental engineer on a variety of emerging environmental issues in the Orlando area.

"Robert Horton is a very complete systems thinker, who thrived on the challenges he faced as a student and has parlayed his skills into making significant contributions nationally," said Horton's former professor Pierce Jones, director of the UF/IFAS Program for Resource Efficient Communities.

## Sadada Jackson

(Harvard Gazette) While sorting indigenous-language materials as a graduate research assistant at Tozzer Library, Sadada Jackson came across a 1903 English-Ojibway dictionary printed by Canadian missionaries, an 1832 spelling book in the Seneca language with English definitions, and an 1857 journal handwritten in Cherokee.

Jackson, who earned a master's of theological studies at the Harvard Divinity School this past May, was so struck by her findings that when officials at the library, which houses



anthropology and archaeology collections, asked her to do a public exhibit based on her work, she accepted with enthusiasm.

"It was an opportunity to give back and leave an offering for inspiration; a way

to honor the past and take heed of the future," said Jackson, who dedicated the exhibit to the speakers of indigenous languages and to "all who are listening."

Curated by Jackson, "Our Land Our Language: Reflecting on North American Indigenous Language Materials" will be on display at the front entrance of Tozzer until June. It includes two maps of the U.S. and Canada with the precise areas where indigenous languages were spoken in 1903 and 1915 highlighted and overlay indigenous-language texts. The maps were created by J.W. Powell, who was head of the Bureau of

Ethnology from 1879 until 1902.

For Jackson, an African American and a member of the Natick Nipmuc tribe, the exhibit gave her the chance to curate a display intended to help visitors deepen their understanding of native cultures. She also aimed to give people of indigenous descent a place to find a piece of their history.

"I wanted to create a space for people who are indigenous, whether they speak or not their indigenous languages, where not only they can be themselves, but also inquire about themselves," said Jackson. "It's important for all marginalized people,

especially black and native people, who often were not seen or were gazed upon, to have a space where they can see themselves reflected."

Jackson, who spent a year surveying part of the indigenous language materials at Tozzer, helped organize part of its North American collection, which now features 122 items in 24 languages, including Apache, Inuit, Mohawk, and Zuni. Among them are dictionaries, manuals of grammar and vocabulary, spelling books, catechisms, hymns, and gospels translated into different native languages. They can be viewed online at Zotero Library.

But the work is not finished. Tozzer, which has one of the world's largest anthropology collections, with an emphasis on the indigenous peoples of the Americas, continues to grow its North American collection. It is also in the process of surveying indigenous materials of South America and Mesoamerica.

Making materials available to the broader community remains a goal for library officials. Susan Gilman, the Tozzer's librarian, recalled the powerful impression left by the visit of a Navajo elder who ex-

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## NDG Readers Sound Off...

### A fired-up Dallas Cowboys overpower the Rams

Not surprised at all. After they lost 3 in a row, and the world was cruzifying them, I knew they come back.

- Maritza Rodriguez

### West believes African Americans locked out again by Democratic Party

Endorsements like this, just like the DNC rules pushing presidential candidates out of the debates, are designed by party leadership to control the

process. This effectively undermines the people's free and fair vote. All very undemocratic.

- Mark Weynand

Libs be libbing. TBH don't think anyone wants a DSCC endorsement, the money and support is great, but it can be a death nail label of establishment to an active base. We will see

- Lee Daugherty

### Mattis calls for a return to civility in DCC guest appearance

How about a return to

TRUTH, basic human decency, and the rule of law.

- Linda Parsel

...and people listen to this psychopathic murderer

- Kutafuta Maarifa Oware

General Mattis fought hard for Civility by quitting.

- Joe Flynn

It is so hurtful to see the President, so hateful with anyone who doesn't agree with him. It seems all he want's to do is take, take from us all. He won't listen to advice he thinks he knows it all, and we

know, he does not

- Ann Carey-Faulconer

Just once I'd like to hear a republican call for a return to \*character and doing the right thing in spite of personal cost\* instead of their lame calls for everyone to just ignore their disgusting and often criminal behavior.

- Mark Waggy

When people are being lied to you they kind a get pissed off

- Chris Cameron

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# Pots and Kettles – Republican Hypocrisy and Double-Talk

By Julianne Malveaux  
NNPA Contributor

When you elect a clown, expect a circus, and this month's impeachment hearings have been precisely that. Yelling, shouting, and disrespectful accusing seem more the rule than the exception. The increased volume of Mr. Trump's tweets echoes his fear and discomfort because he has been called out. Republican histrionics and obsession with "process" suggest that Mr. Trump's party is not especially interested in facts. Even the falsehood that Democrats have been "out to get" this President since he was elected is outright wrong. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi came to the impeachment conclusion only reluctantly. And Democrats have been very measured in their accusations. While Mr. Trump has only been charged with two "high crimes and misdemeanors," if Democrats wanted to throw the book at the Criminal-in-Chief, they could have detailed multiple "high crimes and misdemeanors." Instead, they've kept it narrowly focused on Mr. Trump's behavior regarding Ukraine. Democrats have shown admirable restraint, while Republican shouting

and deflecting could be the basis of a comedy show if the matter weren't so serious.

And every time some of these folks speak, they illustrate their hypocrisy. Thus, Florida Congressman Matt Goetz launched into a tirade about Hunter Biden's very candid disclosure of his substance abuse challenges, some of which are detailed in a New Yorker article this summer. But Georgia Congressman Hank Johnson had no time for Goetz, saying that Goetz's attack on Biden was like "the pot calling the kettle black). Goetz was charged with a DUI some years ago. The charges were mysteriously dropped, but there is evidence that Goetz was impaired.

Meanwhile, Hunter Biden has never been arrested or charged with any of his substance abuse challenges. Goetz's attack on Hunter Biden is not the only example of Republican hypocrisy and improper behavior. These impeachment hearings show how far Republicans will go to obfuscate Mr. Trump's behavior and to throw mud at Democrats.

While Republicans are throwing mud at Hunter Biden, no one has asked for any investigation of the

Trump family. Ivanka has used her father's influence to gain coveted trademarks in China. Her brothers have used government resources and their father's influence to feather their nest in establishing new Trump properties all over the world. While I'm not condoning Hunter Biden's possible pecuniary use of his father's status, none of us should be happy about the way our government has subsidized the Trump Empire.

In another example, Melania Trump got outraged and agitated because one of the Democratic legal witnesses, Stanford Law Professor Pamela Karlan, made an inappropriate joke about her son, Barron Trump. The professor said that while Trump could name his son Barron, he could not make him a baron, an attack on the autocratic power that Mr. Trump attempts to wield. One might have thought that the professor had attacked the child or ridiculed him. She didn't. She made a clumsy joke and was so roundly criticized for it. And she apologized. Melania "Be Best" Trump played mama bear for her teenaged son. Yet, she seemed to have no words for another teen, Greta Thunberg, who was Time Magazine's Person

of the Year. Thunberg, who describes herself as "on the autism spectrum" with Asperger's syndrome, was lifted because of her advocacy for the planet. Time says the young lady won the award "for sounding the alarm about humanity's predatory relationship with the only home we have, for bringing to a fragmented world a voice that transcends backgrounds and borders, for showing us all what it might look like when a new generation leads." But Mr. Trump doesn't believe in global warming or climate change, so he ridiculed the young woman in one of his many rude and bullying tweets. And Melania thinks that only her son should be protected from bullying. The pot and the kettle. If she wants to call bullies out, she might start with her husband.

There have been accusations, finger-pointing, anger, and deflection during these impeachment hearings. Republicans have shown that they have taken an oath, not to protect the Constitution, but to protect Mr. Trump. As Republicans march lockstep behind a corrupt President, Congressman Hank Johnson has it right. The "pot really can't call the kettle black."

## Christmas - Hold Tight

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Make a mental decision that Christmas is going to be great. Our world exists in the space between our ears known as our brains. We can dread or hate something or just decide it's going to be wonderful.

Faking it is not always easy. We can fool people some of the time but we can't fool everyone all the time. The hardest person you actually have to fool is yourself. Sometimes we can fool ourselves for awhile and it's never fun fooling ourselves for a long period of time. Sometimes it's

necessary to fool ourselves briefly if we need to convince ourselves of something in order to survive.

For example if you are going to be in a big gathering for Christmas there is probably going to be one or two obnoxious or ridiculous people in the crowd. You may already dread seeing them. Just convince yourself it is okay and that people are different and no one is perfect. Just decide to let ungratefulness, weird or negative comments roll off your back. You can override stupidity with Christmas cheer for a day. Just remember this is only for a day or

two.

Also, this Christmas will not bring back any past Christmases. There will be an empty chair or maybe several empty chairs. It may be tough and depressing when we think about how Christmas was a few years back. Christmas will never be the same for those of us missing loved ones and tears often come. Go ahead and cry but determine you won't spend all Christmas day crying. As you remember the past remember what it is about that person or Christmas you miss and hold tight to that joyful re-

membrance.

Keep in mind that this Christmas is still special because you are here in the world to celebrate the occasion. Whoever the people are in your life today hold them close and be merry together.

From the Old Testament the people of God were instructed by Joshua to "Hold tight to God, your God, just as you've done up to now." (Joshua 23:8) For all of us holding tight to our faith, our family, our friends and our life's focus is important any day and especially Christmas.

# For some, holidays aren't all merry and bright

'Tis that most wonderful time of the year – the season of holly, mistletoe and holiday music, shopping for gifts and gathering with friends and family. But not everyone feels the joy.

For some, the holidays are distressing or stressful, a dark time of year clouded by feelings of loneliness, loss, depression or anxiety.

Jose Alvarez, 24, of Seagoville, is approaching the first Christmas without his beloved father, Jose Luis Alvarez, 59, who passed away on May 24 at Parkland Memorial Hospital. Jose's father was a cancer patient in the Palliative Care program at Parkland during his final months, a service that extends beyond the patient to meet the needs of the entire family of those who are seriously ill. Since his father's death, Alvarez has struggled with his grief and is receiving counseling with Flor Leal, PhD, palliative care psychologist, at Parkland.

"Anticipating that empty chair during the holidays is very hard," Alvarez said of



Parkland

his sadness. "Although it's been several months since my father died, that is just a number. It doesn't feel different."

What has helped is talking about it. "I would advise anyone experiencing grief, especially during the holidays, to get help. Make that call. You can't do it on your own. Talking through my feelings doesn't mean I'm letting go of him – it means that I'm just starting to let go of all the sadness of missing him," he said.

"I tell my patients that you can't rush the healing process," Leal said. "Grief doesn't stop for holidays, and is often a reminder of their loss. Accepting the emotion, experiencing it

and talking about it can be healing."

In addition to emotional distress, the 'holiday blues' can cause physical symptoms, including headaches, insomnia and intestinal problems, according to Rebecca Corona, PhD, lead psychologist at Parkland Health & Hospital System.

"There are many reasons for depression and stress during the holidays," Dr. Corona said. "Financial pressure, particularly for households with children, is a leading source of stress. For people without close family or those who have lost a loved one or are alone, the holidays can trigger grief and loneliness. It's also very common to

just feel overwhelmed, with way too much to do."

According to the American Psychological Association (APA), nearly half of all Americans report that stress has a negative impact on their lives. A 2011 study by the APA found that 75 percent of Americans report money as a significant source of stress.

"The pressure to spend too much at this time of year is intense, so it's important for us to talk to our children and family to set realistic expectations," Dr. Corona advised. "For children, this can be used as an opportunity to teach them about the value of money and spending responsibly."

Coping with negative feelings during the holidays can be painful, but there are things you can do to feel more relaxed and positive, Dr. Corona added. "Finding ways to manage different personalities at holiday gatherings can be another challenge if old tensions and feuds reignite," she said.

Following are some tips for relieving stress and mak-

ing your holidays healthier and happier:

- Find meaning and purpose in the season by reaching out to help others. Do volunteer work or help a neighbor in need.

- Seek emotional support if you feel isolated. Talk to a professional counselor, or find help through social services, religious or community support systems.

- Focus on family experiences rather than things. Start a new tradition or revive an old one from your childhood.

- Keep your cool, especially when someone gets on your nerves. Take a walk if you need a break from irritating relatives. Try to accept people as they are and set aside grievances.

- Feeling anxious? Listen to your favorite music. Research shows it can relax muscle tension and increase blood flow, helping to calm you down.

- Exercise is also a great stress-reliever. Studies have found that your mood can be lifted for up to 12 hours after a good workout.

- Acknowledge your feelings. It's normal to feel sad if you're missing a loved one. It's okay to express your sadness to a friend or counselor.

- Stick to your budget. Overspending will only make you feel bluer. Set up a family tradition of drawing names for gift giving rather than buying for everyone or donate to a favorite charity to help control expenses.

- Plan ahead to eliminate last-minute frenzy. Make shopping lists, set aside time for cooking and cleaning. Ask your family to help.

- Prioritize your health. Eat holiday treats in moderation and avoid over-indulging in alcohol.

- Use techniques like meditation, breathing or muscle relaxation to alleviate stress and anxiety.

Parkland offers behavioral health services through the Community Oriented Primary Care health centers. For more information, visit [www.parklandhospital.com](http://www.parklandhospital.com)

## Telehealth has established its place in 21st century healthcare, but be careful how you use it, warns AMAC

WASHINGTON, DC -- Telemedicine has become a growth industry worth tens of billions of dollars. By 2025 the market for virtual doctors is expected to exceed \$130 billion, reports the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC].

Researchers at Global Market Insights say telehealth is "transforming the healthcare industry, and in the next few years, it is expected to become the most accepted and used method of diagnosis and prescription."

The first use of remote medicine technology took place more than 50 years ago between hospitals using closed-circuit television links. Today, patients can visit with medical professionals by using their

smartphones via the more than 275 companies such as Dr. Phil's Doctor On Demand service. They enable access to so-called teledocors.

The numbers of remote doctor-patient visits have been increasing at extraordinarily high rates over the past several years. A Journal of the American Medical Association [JAMA] study, for example, showed that between 2015 and 2017 phone-based virtual doctor visits increased by some 262% annually.

AMAC president Dan Weber notes that, while there is no substitute for in-person doctor visits, telehealth services can be particularly attractive for the growing population of senior citizens with non-urgent symptoms such as sore

throats and earaches.

He cites an analysis published by the National Center for Biotechnology Information. It concludes that "the global population of elderly people is increasing at a remarkable rate, which may be expected to continue for some time. Older patients require more care, and with the current model of care delivery, the costs may be expected to rise, although higher cost is unsustainable. For this reason, a new pattern of practice is needed. Telemedicine will be presented as a highly effective and necessary tool in geriatrics."

However, Weber warns that "there is a dark side" to the evolution of telemedicine. The technology has already enabled fraudsters to take their pound of flesh

using telemedicine scams. Last spring, the FBI busted an international ring allegedly responsible for one of the biggest Medicare scams in U.S. history. The ring of 24 individuals, including three medical professionals, conned Medicare out of more than a billion dollars using fake telehealth scams.

"It is definitely a good new way to access healthcare in the age of technology. But be careful how you use it. If you see a potential benefit to connecting with a telehealth Internet site take precautions. Check the site's credentials and reviews. Be aware that legitimate teledocors tend to work in concert with your personal physicians. So, consider it a red flag if the Web doctor tells you that's not necessary. And, it is a

sure sign that the site is not legit if the online doctor offers to write a prescrip-

tion. Real physicians do not write scripts without physically meeting a patient."

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# West believes African Americans locked out again by Democratic Party

Sen. Royce West's campaign for United States Senate on Monday called the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee's (DSCC) endorsement "a very sad day for the Democratic Party," and lambasted the DSCC for locking African American candidates out of their process.

Monday Texas Tribune reported the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee awarded their endorsement to MJ Hegar to unseat U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas.

"The DSCC is trying to lock African American candidates out of the pro-



Royce West speaking earlier this fall on the campaign trail. (Image: Royce West Facebook Page)

cess without sitting down and visiting with them to make a determination of whether or not they are the

best candidate," said Vince Leibowitz, Communications Director for West's campaign for U.S. Senate. "They did not even offer Senator West an opportunity to interview for their endorsement," Leibowitz continued.

"That is a slap in the face to 11.6 percent of our state's population that identifies as African American," said Sen. Royce West (D-Dallas). However, we will not be locked out of this process," West said. "African Americans will turn out in large numbers and they will vote their conscience, and not the DSCC's choice,"

West said. "Of that, I am confident," he continued.

His campaign is seeking an explanation regarding why he was not even granted an interview.

"This is a very sad day for the Democratic Party," said Leibowitz. "The DSCC knows we need an energized base to win Texas this cycle, and their decision today is very puzzling," Leibowitz said.

## Is the progressive wing being pushed aside?

Cristina Tzintzun Ramirez's campaign swiftly lashed out about the DSCC's decision. She is one of the Democratic can-

didates seeking to replace Coryn, touting herself as a progressive alternative.

"It is disappointing that the national Democratic establishment is so afraid of progressive ideas that it will not even give Texas voters a chance to hear them," shared via Twitter by Ramirez's campaign manager, David Sanchez.

Hegar is generally viewed as a more moderate establishment type candidate.

"They have decided to ignore several more qualified and experienced candidates of color, who have done the work to transform

the politics of our state, in favor of a former Republican," according to Sanchez.

West's team suggests the DSCC appears to not have learned a valuable lesson from the last presidential election when it was suggested the party attempted to take control from the voters on who would eventually end up on the final ballot.

"The DSCC can not give the impression they are trying to rig our elections and diminish minority voices," Leibowitz said. "Remember what happened in 2016," he continued.

## Garland welcomes Munoz as new Animal Services Director

Art Munoz will officially join the City as the Animal Services Director on Monday, Jan. 6, 2020. Art has spent the last 15 years with the SPCA of Texas Animal Cruelty Unit managing criminal investigations. As Chief Investigator, he acted as the advocate for abused

or neglected animals. During his time with SPCA, Art gained broad animal welfare experience including shelter operations, animal care and rehabilitation, animal placement and public outreach.

His collaboration with regional animal services or-

ganizations has provided a unique perspective of common problems and solutions in the field of animal welfare. Art has numerous specialized certifications involving animal welfare and law enforcement, and has assisted Garland Animal Services with animal

welfare investigations.

"We are looking forward to benefiting from Art's experience," said City Manager Bryan Bradford. "It's going to be an especially exciting opportunity for him to lend his expertise to the design and construction of our new animal shelter,

approved by voters in the 2019 Bond Program."

Art grew up in Garland, attended Garland Independent School District schools and graduated from North Garland High School. He even represented Garland in the Pony League World Series tournament in 1996.



Art Munoz (City of Garland)

## DART moves forward with development for SMU/Mockingbird Station

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) board members reviewed plans for transit-oriented development on their property at SMU/Mockingbird Station ear-

lier this week.

Members then voted to approve a resolution authorizing the agency to execute the Master Development agreement, ground

lease and related agreements with Dallas Trammel Crow Company.

The Master Development agreement includes a 99-year lease to be estab-

lished at fair market value.

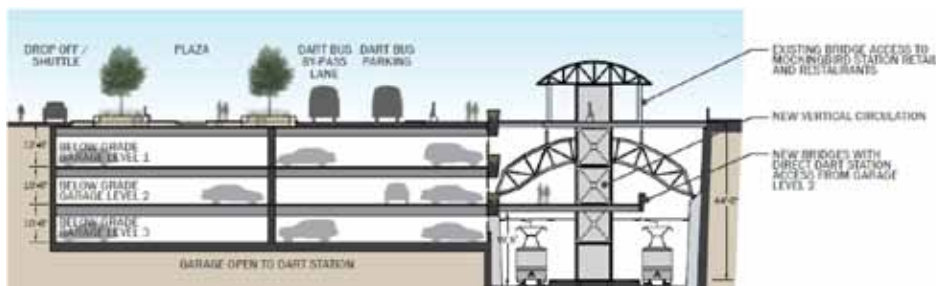
DART selected the developer in January 2018 after reviewing proposals from multiple developers. Trammel Crow's plan is to construct an underground parking garage and residential and commercial towers on surface parking lots at

the station.

SMU/Mockingbird is one of DART's busiest locations and serves Dallas' first transit-oriented development of retail, restaurant and an apartment complex that opened in 2001.

The station itself opened in 1997 and quickly be-

come an important transportation resource for SMU students, faculty, staff and visitors. A shuttle service, the SMU Express, connects the DART station to the university campus and the President George W. Bush Presidential Center a short distance away.



DART

## The Source Dallas now part of expanded Texas Women's Healthcare Group

Originally launched as a pregnancy resource center many years ago, the women's healthcare clinic now known as The Source Dallas expanded its capabilities over the years to provide quality medical care for women in need. Now, as part of the newly-launched statewide women's healthcare group The Source, it will be able to do even more.

"While we've been committed to women's health

for 25 years now in North Texas, we are excited about the opportunity to provide even broader health services and care for even more women and their families as part of The Source," said Dallas executive director Carolyn Cline. "We want to meet more than women's physical needs, but also support their emotional, mental and relational health, helping them to live their best life!"

Services currently provided at The Source Dallas include: pregnancy testing; STD screening and treatment; ultrasound; pregnancy options counseling; post-abortion recovery; abortion pill reversal; Medicaid pregnancy verification; referrals for housing/education/transportation/food; and enrollment services for Medicaid, WIC, etc. Within the next

See SOURCE, Page 10

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## Planning for the New Year in DISD District 6



**Joyce Foreman**  
Dallas ISD  
District 6

The holidays are here, and I want to send my best wishes and good tidings for a very, merry holiday to you all!

Thanks to all who attended the 34th annual A. Maceo Smith Community Service Award Brunch on Saturday,

Dec. 14, hosted by the African American Museum. I was honored to be the award recipient for outstanding service to the African American community in the area of Education.

Others receiving the award, and their specific areas, were Vicki Meek, Arts and Culture; Terry Allen, Business; Paulette Johnson, Civic Engagement and Human Services; Alyson Rae Lawson, Under 40 Community Servant; and Lydia

Howland and Earl Thompson, Youth Involvement. It is always an honor to be recognized for working in one's community, and I am grateful.

In other topics, the Dallas ISD Transportation Department will be sharing new bus stop recommendations for choice school students who ride buses to our magnet, all-boys, all-girls single-gender, Montessori, and other choice schools.

The recommendations be-

ing considered are the results of several meetings and focus groups with parents. Parent feedback will be needed and greatly appreciated in order to finalize the new bus stops for choice school students.

You can find more information about these meetings and the recommendations at [www.dallasisd.org/transportation](http://www.dallasisd.org/transportation).

### Mark your 2020 calendars

Remember that all schools

and district offices will be closed for the Winter Break starting Friday, Dec. 20. Students will resume classes on Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020.

### Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place as follows:

- Monday, Jan. 13 – High School
- Tuesday, Jan. 14 – Middle School
- Thursday, Jan. 16 – Elementary School

Also coming up on Saturday, January 18, 2020, from

9 a.m.-3 p.m. the district is hosting Dallas's FREE ISD STEM Expo at the Kay Bailey Hutchinson Convention Center located at 650 S. Griffin St. in Dallas. This is the largest STEM Expo in Texas. Register today at [dallasisd.org/stem](http://dallasisd.org/stem).

Then on Saturday, January 25, 2020, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. the district is hosting their Choose Dallas ISD Last Chance Application Workshop at 1700 E Camp Wisdom Rd. in Dallas.

## Dallas ISD senior starts Songbirds of Service to spread a love of music with younger students

After visiting the orphanage she was adopted from as a child, Sanaya, a senior at the Booker T. Washington High School for the Visual and Performing Arts, was inspired to make a positive impact.

With her friend who attends Hockaday, Sanaya started Songbirds of Service, which spreads the love of music and singing with younger Dallas ISD students.

"When I visited the orphanage, I saw myself in

the kids who were still there," Sanaya said. "I knew I couldn't just go home from visiting the orphanage and do nothing. Singing has always brought me joy, so I decided to start Songbirds of Service to help other kids find happiness through music."

Today, Sanaya operates Songbirds of Service at the Martin Luther King Jr. Learning Center, which is under discussion to become an arts-focused transformation school. MLK Jr. Learn-

ing Center could become an arts-focused campus as part of a district effort to increase school choice opportunities for underserved areas in South Dallas.

Meanwhile, Sanaya is happy working with the students and making a positive impact on their lives.

"I'm kind of like their older sister who provides guidance and help," Sanaya said. "It brings me such joy to see that these kids love music just as much as I do."



Young MLK, Jr. Center students listen intently as Sanaya shares musical instruction through the Songbirds of Service program the Dallas ISD senior co-founded. (Image: Dallas ISD)

## CAUCUS, from Page 1

Pacific Islander-serving institutions and Native American-serving non-tribal institutions each will continue to receive \$5 million annually.

"HBCUs and MSIs provide pathways of opportunities for millions of Americans who come from low-income families. As a two-time graduate of North Carolina A&T State University, and a retired professor of 40 years at Bennett College for Women, I as well as all the pupils that I had the pleasure of teaching, are a testament to the power of these schools which mold their students into the leaders of tomorrow," said Adams, the Chair of the House Higher Education and Labor subcommittee on Workforce Protections

"This agreement will secure \$255 million a year for these institutions to serve over eight million students of color, preparing them for careers in our STEM professions," Adams stated.

The legislation also reduces FAFSA by 22 questions and allows the Internal Revenue Service to directly share applicants' tax information with the U.S. Department of Education.

"The simplification in the provision was to get information from the IRS to make the applications more accurate," Scott stated. "If you can get the necessary information from the IRS, there would be more accuracy."

Meanwhile, Jackson-Lee addressed the im-

peachment vote against Trump.

"Abuse of power and obstruction of Congress," she said of the two articles of impeachment that the House Judiciary Committee voted in favor of on Friday, December 13.

"What the president was essentially caught doing was attempting to interfere in the 2020 election. So, in terms of the significance of this for our community, the idea that the president would cheat on the election and attempt to get himself re-elected, I think, would change our lives for generations," Jackson-Lee stated.

She continued:

"If you think about the fact that [re-election] would mean there will be one if not more appointments to the Supreme Court. He has already ap-

pointed over 100 judges, and I am sure 99 percent of them would be horrible when it comes to our issues.

"When you think of the dismantling of so much as what we have fought for over these years, the idea that our people would have to endure another term of this President is almost beyond our comprehension."

Jackson-Lee conceded that the Senate in all probability would not remove Trump, but impeachment in the House was still necessary.

Andrew Johnson, Richard Nixon, and Bill Clinton are the only presidents in American history to have faced impeachment. Nixon resigned before the House could vote. Johnson and Clinton were impeached in the House, but both were acquitted in the Senate.

## DART approves student pass contract with DCCCD

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) has agreed to enter into a three-year student pass contract with Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD).

The DART board approved to continue offering transportation to more than 100,000 students for \$2.7 million in annual revenue.

In 2016, the DART board authorized a pilot program to provide DART GoPass to all eligible DCCCD students after transportation was identified as one of the top enrollment barriers. The pilot program began in January 2017 and was set to expire next month.

Similar to existing partnerships with other colleges in

the service area, such as SMU, UT Dallas and El Centro College, the new agreement:

- Combines El Centro and all other DCCCD colleges into a single contract for greater efficiency and simplicity in administration;
- Provides DART with a multi-year contract and additional revenue without additional costs;
- Delivers the passes through DART's nationally award-winning GoPass app;
- Promotes partnering through DART's Employer Pass program.

Since 2017, DCCCD saw a seven percent increase in campus enrollment and a 263 percent increase in DART passes issued, or more than 23,900.





Courtesy photo

## Norma's Cafe diners sign 5,000 postcards for soldiers

Being away from home for the holidays is very hard for soldiers and their families. Locally, residents want members of the military to know their sacrifice is appreciated.

For more than a month

Norma's Cafe guests have created and signed 5,000 postcards to send nonprofit America's Adopt A Soldier during their 9th Annual Post Cards for the Troops drive. The organization encourages individuals and

local groups to help keep the needs of the service members visible to the public to help the service members, veterans, and their families.

The goal is to ensure every deployed service

member, a veteran in a VA hospital or home receives a postcard.

Since Veteran's Day last month, all five Norma's Cafe locations including Oak Cliff, Plano, Frisco, and Dallas (Park Lane &

North Dallas) have invited people to stop by and write a positive note to a serviceman or woman to help spread holiday cheer. Norma's is mailing all cards to ensure delivery by Christmas.

## 'Reunion Tower Over The Top NYE 2019' to be championed by SMU

The countdown to 2020 continues, and Dallas' premiere fireworks show Reunion Tower Over The Top NYE 2019 will be championed by Dallas' hometown team and university - Southern Methodist University

(SMU). Starting at 11:59 p.m. CST, the only 360-degree, panoramic fireworks spectacular in the Central Time Zone will light up the Dallas sky.

"SMU is proud to be part of Reunion Tower's

Over the Top New Year's Eve celebration, the perfect symbol for a new decade filled with promise," said Brad Cheves, SMU vice president for Development and External Affairs. "We look forward to a strong

relationship with Dallas in 2020 as we set the stage for the next era of advancement at SMU."

"Reunion Tower is thrilled to be partnering

See NYE, Page 14



## JACKSON, from Page 2

amined some texts housed at the library. When he read the texts aloud, everybody in the room was shaken, she said, as the words came to life.

"We often get requests from people working on

books and dissertations, but less so from the general public, and we're open to the public," said Gilman. "It is wonderful to make these materials more visible to not just scholars but community members."

Having a wider range of individuals engage with library materials will likely yield insights that may shed fresh light on research and scholarship, said Gilman, and is a strong reminder of how personal stories from the past can touch people in the present.

Such was the case with Jackson, whose grandmother, Mildred Selden, was also a black Nipmuc. The exhibit is interwoven with Jackson's personal narrative and includes a video of her reading a letter to her grandmother. In it she recalled that the older

woman, who was paralyzed from the neck down for the last 13 years of her life due to an injury, taught her how to listen and think about language beyond words — a skill she employed while planning the display.

"The exhibit is the beginning of a conversation, and

at the base of that is honest listening," Jackson said. "I hope it inspires people to see beyond the video and the maps and start to make changes they need to make so that this kind of history doesn't repeat itself, so that we don't ever have to have languages that are lost."

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-NATIONAL AVG. DEALER DISCOUNT	\$2,839
-BONUS CASH	\$9,780
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED SAVINGS<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>= \$12,619</b>

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MSRP BEFORE DISCOUNTS	\$54,710
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-BONUS CASH	\$7,500
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED SAVINGS<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>= \$11,613</b>

## WE'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE, SANTA.

\*Modern must be activated within 60 days of purchase through the FordPass<sup>SM</sup> app on a smartphone and remain active for at least 6 months after activation. Eligible on select 2019 MY vehicles. Vehicle must have arrived at dealer at least 61 days prior to the sale date. <sup>2</sup>Savings on 19 MY Escape includes \$2,750 Customer Cash + \$500 Select Inventory Customer Cash + \$1,175 Bonus Cash + \$1,202 National Average Dealer Discount. <sup>3</sup>Savings on 19 MY Expedition includes \$2,000 Customer Cash + \$750 Select Inventory Customer Cash + \$7,030 Bonus Cash + \$2,839 National Average Dealer Discount. <sup>4</sup>Savings on 19 MY F-150 includes \$3,250 Customer Cash + \$750 Select Inventory Customer Cash + \$3,500 Bonus Cash + \$4,113 National Average Dealer Discount. Average dealer discount is based on a sales survey of average discounts offered by Ford Dealers nationally. Discount may vary; dealer determines price. Taxes, title and license fees extra. For all offers, take new retail delivery from an authorized Ford Dealer's stock by 1/2/20. See participating dealer for complete details.



**Dallas**

New home for **Texas A&M College of Dentistry in Dallas**. The school will begin seeing patients in the new Clinic and Education Building on January 8, 2020. The 160,000-square-foot, nine-story building is located at 3000 Gaston Ave. at cross street CBD Fair Park Link. Patient parking also is available in a new garage adjacent to the new

structure.

The North Texas Regional Office of UNICEF USA will host the third annual **UNICEF Gala Dallas** at the Ritz-Carlton on February 7, 2020. Funds raised at the event will support UNICEF's work to save and improve the lives of the world's most vulnerable children.

The evening will honor

UNICEF Germany Ambassador and longtime UNICEF USA supporters Jessica and Dirk Nowitzki with the Spirit of Compassion Award for their years of dedication and advocacy for children around the world.

**Dallas Molina HS is hosting a four-week baseball camp** starting January 5, 2020. Classes are available for players in grades

1-12 and are limited to seven players per coach. Sessions are offered in hitting, pitching, catching, fielding and baserunning. Space is limited. Parents can save up to \$30 through Dec. 24 with HOLIDAY30 code at US-BaseballAcademy.com, or 866-622-4487.

**Garland**

**Community Colorful Christmas at 506 Art** - Add

a bit of cheer and even more color to 506 Art on Main Street in Downtown Garland this holiday season!

Trees not so ordinary in color will be at 506 Art through the end of the year. These trees are fun in color and have plenty of lights, but we need our friends and neighbors in the community to add the ornaments!

You can help decorate the trees in many ways:

- Make an ornament at home and add it to the trees at any time.

- Bring an ornament from home and add it to the trees at any time.

- Make an ornament at 506 Art and add it to the tree any time through the end of the year.

Make Your Mark this holiday season and help spread the cheer!

## DFW holiday entertainment includes unique Cirque Holidays and more

The holiday break from school and work kicks off this weekend. One thing you should not hear the next two weeks is that there is nothing to do. Throughout Dallas and surrounding cities, there are plenty of holiday entertainment options. Several are traditional, if not annual events, others are unique programs new to the line-up this year. These are just a few choices listed below.

**Cirque Holidays at the Water Tower Theatre** in Addison is an enjoyable and entertaining look at a little girl in search of the Christmas spirit. Not only



*Cirque Holiday Cast for the show at Addison's Water Tower Theatre. (Courtesy photo)*

is the performance an event the entire family will enjoy, but the pre-show performance also got members

of the audience involved in the act. Guests are invited to participate in a nostalgic

look back at variety shows.

Then the real fun begins with the ringmaster introducing acrobats, contortionists, clowns, and other artists from around the world to round out the performance. The audience has a chance to see how the circus was before they merged with the carnival that included animal acts. The variety of performances was more than this reviewer expected in such an intimate setting.

The show runs through Dec. 22. watertow theatre.org.

**Black Nativity at Bishop Arts Theatre Center**

– For 16 years, Langston Hughes' story of the birth of Christ has transformed the Bishop Arts Theatre stage into a gathering that unites artists and audiences of different ages, backgrounds, and beliefs through the heart-stirring power of song, story, and dance. With a joyous inspirational score, Black Nativity is an Oak Cliff tradition that shares this unforgettable story of the Nativity through compelling gospel music and the beautiful poetry of Langston Hughes. The show continues until Dec. 22. bishopartstheatre.org

org

Final weekend for **Jubilee Theater's If Scrooge Were A Brother** – It's Christmas Eve and Ebenezer Scrooge is seeking to snuff out the season's cheer by demanding all debts owed before nightfall. Facing imprisonment, a Christmas without presents and a feast, the residents are desperate. In this urban spin of Dickens' A Christmas Carol, the ghosts and characters are icons of Black culture performing holiday songs with a modern twist. jubileetheatre.org

## Recycle your real Christmas Tree and old holiday lights

Don't miss the best holiday recycling opportunity of the year. Live Christmas trees, garland and wreaths can be recycled into Texas Pure Products mulch and compost. Holiday lights also can be recycled through our electronics recycling program.

Before you take trees and greenery to the drop-off locations, remove all ornaments, lights, decorations, tinsel and the tree stand (no plastics or metals). Flocked trees cannot be recycled. Visit one of these Plano locations to drop off your items between Thursday, Dec. 26, 2019 and Thursday, Jan. 2, 2020:

- Jack Carter Park, 2601 Pleasant Valley, 75023 (south parking lot off Pleasant Valley)

ant Valley)

- Old Shepard Place Park, 1301 Winding Hollow Lane, 75093 (northeast corner of the Shepton High School parking lot/baseball field off Plano Parkway)

- Russell Creek Park, 3500 McDermott Road, 75025 (northeastern parking lot directly off McDermott)

- Schell Park, 2100 Laurel Lane, 75074 (southeastern parking lot directly off Laurel)

After Jan. 2, follow the instruction above for preparing your tree for recycling and just place it out with your weekly yard trimmings.

Note, yard trimmings are not collected the week between Christmas and New Year's.

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# A fired-up Dallas Cowboys team overpowers the Rams

By Dwain Price  
NDG Sports

ARLINGTON — Apparently a passionate pre-game speech by Dallas Cowboys coach Jason Garrett was the catalyst behind his team's very dominant and very impressive 44-21 not-even-that-close blowout victory over the highly-touted Los Angeles Rams on Sunday afternoon at AT&T Stadium.

The Cowboys ripped through the Rams the way kids rip the paper off presents on Christmas morning. In looking like a well-oiled machine, the Cowboys dominated all three phases of the game.

While running roughshod over the Rams, the Cowboys sent a direct message to the rest of the teams in the NFC that, when they're clicking on all cylinders, they're still one of the most resourceful teams in the entire National Football League.

"Obviously it was a good win for us, but there are plenty of things we've got to address and clean up as we go forward," Garrett said. "We just try to focus on what we need to do each week. The best teams are able to do that."

"They put the wins and losses behind them and prepare for the next challenge, and our team did a good job at that this week."

As far as Garrett's pre-game speech is concerned, quarterback Dak Prescott said: "He gave us the story about him playing baseball and about what it means to be a team and about having each other's backs. Saying (no) matter what happens, I got you, I'll pick you up. That's what it was."

"That's what we did (Sunday) through adversity and success. A bunch



*The Dallas Cowboys, who have been struggling in the past few weeks, showed up in force for the game against the Los Angeles Rams. (Photo: KA Sports Photos / Flickr)â*

of guys voiced it, looked at each other and said, 'I got you, I'm going to pick you up.' We were able to do that (Sunday) and we have to continue to build on it."

Because they were able to snap their three-game losing streak with the lopsided victory over the Rams, the Cowboys are 7-7 and tied with the Philadelphia Eagles for first place in the NFC East. Those two teams will battle for sole possession of the first place in the NFC East — the winner will likely win the division — when they face each other next Sunday at 3:25 p.m. in Philadelphia.

In prevailing over the Rams, the Cowboys went back to the days of smash-mouth football. They battered the Rams for a season-high 263 yards rushing on 45 carries, with running backs Ezekiel Elliott and Tony Pollard both eclipsing the 100-yard barrier.

Elliott rushed 24 times for 117 yards and two touchdowns, and Pollard, added a career-high 131 yards rushing on just 12 carries. In fact, when Pollard dazzled the crowd with a 44-yard touchdown scamper in the fourth quarter, that run alone covered more yards than the Rams' highly-acclaimed running back, Todd Gurley, accumulated for the entire game.

Gurley was held to just 20 yards on 11 carries. And 14 of the Rams' points came in the fourth quarter when the final outcome was never in doubt, and when the Cowboys benchwarmers were on the field for mop-up duty.

In scoring a season-high 44 points, the Cowboys tallied 21 points in the second quarter, led 28-7 at the half and 31-7 after three quarters, and had a pair of scoring drives that consumed 90 and 97 yards, respectively.

Also, the defense sacked Rams quarterback Jared Goff twice, and linebacker Sean Lee had a high-wire interception — his first interception in two years — that set up a 3-yard TD burst by Elliott just before halftime. That was remarkable within itself considering Lee didn't practice last week because he was dealing with thigh and pectoral injuries.

"It's one of those plays where you'd like to help your team and make an impact," Lee said. "I knew defensively we needed to step up and I needed to step up."

"We didn't play like we wanted the last three games. I knew if we wanted to start getting wins, we needed to play right. My high school coach was actually at the

game, so I wanted to give him a little flashback highlight of what I did in high school."

Certainly, the Cowboys gave their fans a flashback to what they accomplished earlier this year when they opened the season by winning their first three games. But this time things were completely different, because the Rams are a defending Super Bowl runners-up who came into the game after thumping Seattle last week, 28-12.

Overall, this is the first triumph of the season by the Cowboys over a team with a winning record. And they did it in emphatic fashion as they scored four touchdowns on four consecutive possessions spanning the first and second quarters.

"Obviously they are a great team, they have a great coaching staff and

they do a hell of a job," Garrett said of the Rams. "I have a great respect for them."

"But this game wasn't going to be about them. It was going to be about us and how we prepare and how we play. We knew the challenges were going to be there for us in all phases, and we needed to play at a high level and we did that (Sunday)."

Even new place-kicker Kai Forbath, who replaced Brett Maher last week, was on point. In his first game with the Cowboys, Forbath made all three of his field goals from 42, 50 and 42 yards.

Meanwhile, 17-year veteran tight end Jason Witten made a miraculous one-handed catch for a 19-yard touchdown.

"It was a great play," Prescott said of Witten's athletic reception. "Not a

great ball necessarily by me, but the defender undercut it."

"Jason did a great job of hauling it in and getting in the end zone. He showed up and did what Jason Witten does."

And the Cowboys showed up and did what their loyal fans expect them to do on a weekly basis.

"I talked about it all week, that we just needed to win one of these things and we could build from there," Prescott said. "But it obviously starts with getting a win, but (Sunday) we played complimentary football, which is something we hadn't done."

"We talked about it this week, about helping each other out, having each other's backs and that's what you saw. The defense made plays and we came and capitalized on it and vice versa."

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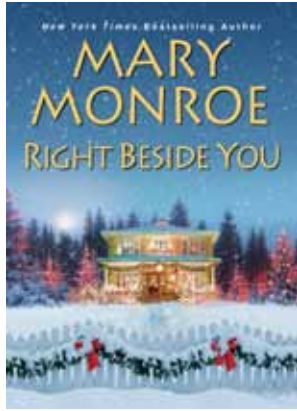
# NDG Book Review: *Right Beside You* is a perfect holiday read

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You're going to just be quiet now.

You have things to say, but you're not going to say them. Nope, not opening your mouth. Not a peep. Not a word. It's not your time to talk, and even if it was, you'll keep your thoughts to yourself. Although, as in the new novel "Right Beside You" by Mary Monroe, staying quiet might mean staying alone.

Thirty-seven-year-old Felicia Hawkins almost never saw anybody she worked with when she stuck around her neigh-



borhood, so she was particularly embarrassed when she ran into her co-worker, Richard, at the market with his maybe-girlfriend, Regina, who was dressed to the nines. It was a Friday night, Felicia was in sweats and a do-rag. She could never

compare to Regina, who was the prettiest woman around.

Felicia'd always gotten along with Richard. They sat on the city bus and chatted on their way to work in downtown Cleveland every morning, and all the way home at night. He was tall and handsome, a widower with two teenage daughters and she liked him... but seeing Richard that Friday, Felicia suddenly realized that she loved him!

There was no way she was going to tell him so.

Richard Grimes could have taken his car to work every morning but he didn't, because he looked

forward to seeing Felicia twice a day. She was beautiful, inside and out, and he couldn't figure out why some other Brother hadn't made her his wife. He knew full well that Regina was trying to get back with him – they'd dated in high school – but she wasn't the kind of woman he wanted to help raise his girls.

Someone like Felicia, though? Yes, that was what Richard really wanted. Seeing Felicia all dressed down like that on a Friday night, he had so many feelings for her but he'd never tell her so. Still, as the Christmas holidays neared and thoughts of it warmed

hearts, Richard could only think of Felicia, and he wondered what she was doing for the holidays.

What Felicia was doing was thinking it was time to move to Atlanta and try to forget Richard. But then a Santa's helper came up with a better plan...

As novels go, "Right Beside You" is nothing thunderous.

It's not exciting or agitating. It won't make your heart pound. It's just a slow, gentle romance, a little like a made-for-TV movie with light drama, lighter humor, and love scenes that never go beyond a chaste kiss or two.

In short, it's the perfect holiday novel, although readers may note that the holiday itself is far in the background and is almost irrelevant to the tale. Still, though this story is predictable, yet comforting and comfortable and it contains the kinds of situations that make Scrooges scoff, author Mary Monroe makes it work in the most charming of ways.

If you've been waiting for one of these holiday genre novels to arrive, then, wait no more. Put this book "Right Beside You" for a perfect, quiet Christmas evening.

## SOURCE, from Page 5

month, the center will begin providing post-abortion exams, contraception consultation and medical support, well-woman exams and early prenatal care. All of these services are provided at low or no cost.

"There is a huge void in women's healthcare in Texas. Our state is unfortunately among the leaders in both maternal mortality rates and unplanned pregnancies," said Andy Schoonover, CEO of The Source. "We

are creating this network so that every woman in Texas has a safe place to express her healthcare concerns and get the care and attention she deserves."

In addition to healthcare-related services, The Source will provide material and financial assistance for fami-

lies with young children in need. The clinics will assist women who do not have health insurance and will offer mental health support

as well as reproductive and parenting education.

The Source is embarking upon a \$20 million capital campaign to build and/or

merge with 20 additional clinics over the next five years to give every woman in Texas better options for her healthcare needs.

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# Will proposed CRA rule help or hurt Black America?

By Charlene Crowell

Amid the tinsel and garland celebrating the holiday season, two important federal financial regulators are planning how the future financial needs of low-and-moderate income (LMI) communities – including neighborhoods of color – will be met. In an effort to “modernize” the 1977 Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) on Dec. 12 the board of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) endorsed a proposed Notice of Public Rulemaking (NPR) offered by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC).

The rulemaking move has also triggered forceful and diverging views from a host of organizations, lawmakers, and even a member of FDIC’s board. The effects of such a financial regulatory change bring potential impacts on bank branch locations and services, as well as the types and quality of credit and investment that will be conveniently available.

From its enactment, CRA was intended to provide an enforcement provision that supported earlier civil rights laws. The law also made a federal commitment to underserved communities – both urban and rural. Even so, over the years, CRA has been contentious for deposit institutions rated for compliance, and consumers who continued to claim that access and quality financial services were in short supply.

According to OCC’s Joseph Otting, the 2019 proposal is the result of 18 months of work by staff and comments from more than 1,500 stakeholder groups with four improvements:

- Clarifying what counts as CRA credit, requiring agencies to publish a list of qualifying activities;
- Preserving some assessment areas and creating

others to better reflect significant concentrations of deposits;

- Assessing what portion of a bank’s retail lending is targeted to LMI consumers; and

- Improved reporting with transparency and timeliness.

In a recent op-ed, Comptroller Otting also added a sense of urgency.

“Every month this proposal is delayed prevents billions of dollars more from helping reach communities that could benefit from greater economic opportunity. The proposal is an important step in modernizing CRA, but it is not the final one,” wrote Otting for American Banker.

But apparently the large stakeholder groups OCC consulted with has yet to include the U.S. House Financial Services Committee.

“He thinks that he has the authority to do this without having to interact with us and no matter what he thinks, we think we have a responsibility to make sure that CRA is doing what it was intended to do,” said Congresswoman Waters, chair of House Financial Services.

As Chairwoman of the House Financial Services

Committee, Congresswoman Waters sought but has yet to schedule OCC’s Otting to testify before the committee. Additionally, she is one of several House members who want the 60-day comment period doubled to 120 days to better allow public input.

According to OCC, a meeting is still being planned; but no date has yet been finalized.

Additionally, one FDIC board member, Martin Gruenberg issued a statement of opposition to the proposal during its Dec. 12 meeting, criticizing the proposed one-ratio measurement, noting existing “credit deserts”, and the lack of consideration of a bank’s efforts to provide affordable products and services LMI consumers and those without bank accounts could access.

“[T]his is a deeply misconceived proposal,” noted Gruenberg. “It would establish a CRA evaluation framework relying on a single metric approach that would allow a bank to concentrate its CRA activity in as little as 50 percent of its assessment areas, disinvest in the other 50 percent, and still receive a satisfactory or even outstanding CRA rating.”

Similar concerns came from a coalition of civil rights, consumer protection and housing industry advocates that included the NAACP, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., National Fair Housing Alliance, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and others.

“The proposed rules are inconsistent with the law, plain and simple,” said the leaders. “It invites a return to discrimination against communities of color and low-and-moderate income neighborhoods – a destructive, decades-old process known as redlining that the law was designed to end forever.”

“We should be holding banks – especially those rescued during the 2008 housing crash with taxpayers’ dollars – more, not less, accountable for their obligations to the law and our

country,” added the leaders.

Once the proposed rule is published in the Federal Register, interested parties and organizations can file public comments. According to Grovetta Gardineer, Senior OCC Deputy Comptroller, 85 percent of all CRA activity is supervised by OCC and the FDIC.

“We are not trying to undermine the importance of local branches,” said Gardineer. “We’re looking to ensure access to financial services but refocus needs of LMI communities. This is really making sure that banks do more. Constructive comments help us.”

But for Nikitra Bailey, an EVP with the Center for Responsible Lending, the efforts by OCC and FDIC should be to strengthen-not-weaken CRA through modernization.

“CRA was created to undo the injustices created by the horrific practice of

redlining and its modernization effort must center the people, families, and communities most harmed by it. Unfortunately, today far too many underserved LMI communities remain credit-starved,” said Bailey. “The fundamental goal of any new reform must be to ensure that hardworking families, including families of color, have access to sound and affordably priced credit, safe and responsible mortgages, small-dollar consumer credit, and auto loans.”

What happens over the coming months will reveal whether access to sound and affordably priced credit remains a wish or becomes a reality.

*Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending’s communications deputy director. She can be reached at [Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org](mailto:Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org).*

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A local community newspaper is seeking a delivery person, one day per week (Thursday’s only) to complete up to 75 bulk drops of the paper.

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Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 36-foot small cell communications pole at the approx. vicinity of 1598 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX 75201; Lat: 32-47-5.96; Long: 96-48-5.21. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Morgan Rasmussen, [m.rasmussen@trileaf.com](mailto:m.rasmussen@trileaf.com), 1395 S. Marietta Pkwy, Building 400, Suite 209, Marietta, GA 30067; 678-653-8673 ext. 657.*



# Get ready for taxes: What to do before the tax year ends Dec. 31

As tax-filing season approaches, taxpayers should remember there are things they can do before the end of the year. Doing these will help people get ready for the upcoming tax filing season.

Here are a few things taxpayers still have time to do this year:

## Donate to charity

For those who plan to itemize deductions, there is still time to make a 2019 donation. Taxpayers who itemized in the past should remember that the standard deduction has increased. This may limit or eliminate

the itemized deductions for many taxpayers.

## Report an address change

Taxpayers who moved should notify the IRS of their new address. They should also remember to notify the Social Security Administration of any name change.

## Renew expiring ITINs

Certain individual taxpayer-identification numbers expire at the end of this year. Taxpayers can visit the ITIN page on IRS.gov for more information on which numbers need renewal.

## Connect with the IRS

Taxpayers can use social media to get the latest tax and filing tips from the IRS. The IRS shares information on things like tax changes, scam alerts, initiatives, tax products, and taxpayer services. These social media tools are available in different languages, including English, Spanish, and American Sign Language.

## Find information about retirement plans

IRS.gov has end-of-year find tax information about retirement plans. This includes resources for individuals about retirement planning, contributions,

and withdrawals. Taxpayers who are 70½ and over can still take a required minimum distribution from traditional IRA, SIMPLE IRA, SEP IRA, or retirement plan accounts. Taxpayers who reached 70½ in 2019 can wait until April 1, 2020, to receive their first required minimum distribution.

## Contribute salary deferral

Taxpayers can make a deferral to a retirement plan. This helps maximize the tax credit available for eligible contributions. Taxpayers should make sure

their total salary deferral contributions do not exceed the limit for 2019.

## Think about tax refunds

Taxpayers should be careful not to expect to get a refund by a certain date. This is especially true for taxpayers who plan to use

their refund when making major purchases or paying bills. Just as each tax return is unique and individual, so is each taxpayer's refund. Taxpayers can take steps now to make sure the IRS can process their return next year.

# Secretary DeVos offers partial forgiveness for defrauded University of Phoenix borrowers

By Charlene Crowell

The University of Phoenix (UOP), one of the nation's largest for-profit colleges will pay a record \$191 million settlement to resolve charges stemming from a five-year investigation by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). On Dec. 10, Andrew Smith, Director of FTC's Bureau of Consumer Protection noted it was the largest settlement the Commission has obtained in a case against a for-profit school.

Among the multiple charges filed against UOP were deceptive lead generation, false claims of affiliation with government or major employers, misrepresentations about credit transfers and a lack of proof for the job and earnings touted by the university. FTC additionally noted that enforcement actions against bad actors in the for-profit college sphere can also prompt actions related to student debt cancellation, end access to taxpayer-funded higher education programs, and specific protections of military education benefits.

UOP's "Let's Get to Work" marketing campaign claimed nearly 2,000 corporate partnerships that did not exist. Firms such as Staples, Microsoft, Red Cross and Twitter were falsely represented as partners that would fast track

employment opportunities for Phoenix students. The effort was also launched at a time when UOP's enrollment waned over a four-year period.

"In the years after the recession when good jobs were scarce, this message held a lot of appeal for struggling Americans," noted Commissioner Rohit Chopra. "But – as alleged in the complaint – it was false. No such partnerships existed... Today's order returns millions of dollars to students deceived by this campaign."

According to FTC, former students who were enrolled from October 2012

to through December 2016 may be eligible for \$50 million in restitution, and an additional cancellation of \$141 million owed in unpaid tuition balances. This settlement does not address federal loans borrowed during this time period. Apollo Education Group, UOP's parent company, was given 15 days from the settlement date to advise former students who are covered by the agreement. Additionally, Apollo and Phoenix must alert credit reporting agencies within 55 business days to remove related debts from the affected students' credit report.

On the same day as FTC's record enforcement action, Secretary DeVos announced a new plan to limit loan forgiveness to only partial amounts determined by a formula, a different

See LOANS, Page 13

AT&T Mobility proposes to construct a 38.5-foot small cell communications pole at the approx. vicinity of 600 Commerce St., Dallas, Dallas County, Texas 75202, Latitude: 32-46-42.08 N, Longitude: 96-48-20.55 W. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Hannah, h.jordan@trileaf.com, 2550 S IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.*

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 36-foot monopole communications tower at the approx. vicinity of 1696 Commerce St., Dallas, Dallas County, TX, 75201, Lat: [32-46-48.7776], Long: [-96-47-49.0812]. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Alicia, a.santucci@trileaf.com, 2550 S. IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.*

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### Ongoing House of Blues

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#FirstFridayFair (#FFF) is estimated to be largest attended career fair with around 8,000 professionals and 500 recruiting companies. The data science and software development focussed career fair is delivered right at your desktop. No need to travel anywhere, just signup and wait for TAO.ai to organize your interactions.

### On-Going Customer Rep job fairs

"The Department of Education has the clear authority to provide full debt relief to students defrauded by their college. Rather than simply exercising that authority and providing life-changing relief to defrauded borrowers, the Department is inventing another scheme to provide students less relief than the law allows."

"Once again, Secretary DeVos has demonstrated that her goal is to protect predatory for-profit institutions at the expense of bor-

rowers and taxpayers," said Ashley Harrington, also a CRL senior policy counsel. "The Borrower Defense to Repayment rule was created to ensure accountability for the federal investment in higher education. The premise of the rule is that predatory for-profit colleges like ITT Tech and Corinthian Colleges deserve to have their loans fully discharged."

Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending's communications deputy director.

## LOANS, from Page 12

and debatable approach to the Department's Borrower Defense to Repayment rule (BD) adopted under the Obama Administration.

By its own admission, the Department conceded that as of November 12 this year it had received over 290,000 borrower defense applications, and further that more than 225,000 or 77% remained pending. Even so, the Department's official policy statement on the change states, "success-

ful BD applicants whose program earnings were less than the median could be awarded 25, 50, 75 or 100 percent relief, depending upon where their program median earnings fall in the range."

Reactions from student loan advocates seemed opposite to that of DeVos.

In a statement to the Washington Post, Virginia's U.S. Representative Bobby Scott, chair of the House Education Committee said,

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to collocate telecommunications antennas at a top height of 36 feet on a street pole at the approx. vicinity of 1911 California Dr, Dallas, Dallas County, TX, 75204. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Camille Neitzel, c.neitzel@trileaf.com, 1821 Walden Office Sq, Suite 500, Schaumburg, IL 60173, 630-227-0202.*

AT&T Mobility proposes to build a 38-foot Small Cell Communications Pole at the approx. vicinity of 508 South Griffin Street, Dallas, Dallas County, TX 75202, Lat: 32-46-35.68, Long: -96-48-07.05. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, John, j.huter@trileaf.com, 2550 S. IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.*

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- Malachi 3:8-10

**December 20, 7 pm**  
All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 8 pm,

(IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

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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.

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**NYE, from Page 7**

with SMU on this year's fireworks show," said Dusti Groskreutz, President of Reunion Tower.

Additionally, for the second year, beginning at 11:30 p.m. CST, Reunion Tower, Hunt Realty Investments and Downtown Dallas, Inc. have partnered to bring vibrant hues of pink and teal to the skyline, teasing the beginning of the show.

Also new this year, the official watch party of Reunion Tower Over the Top NYE 2019 Championed by SMU will be held at Party on the Plaza on the steps of Dallas City Hall. A free party from 7 p.m. until 12:30 a.m., attendees can enjoy live entertainment, food/beverage for purchase, and the best view of the fireworks show.

Revelers will be able to listen along to the musical score with the simulcast on ALT 103.7 FM anywhere they have a view of the Tower, or watch the live stream on Reunion Tower's YouTube, Facebook or Instagram accounts. As the show's official media partners, NBC 5 and Nexstar Media Group will bring the

heart of Dallas into thousands of homes by celebrating the arrival of 2020 with a live New Year's Eve production.

Visit [www.reuniontower.com/NYE](http://www.reuniontower.com/NYE) for the most up-to-date information.



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# Have you thought about your soul?



**Sister Tarpley**  
NDG  
Religion  
Editor

Have you ever stopped to wonder what this life is all about? Why you're here and where you're going when your lease on time runs out? May you've been far too busy trying hard to reach your goal; would you let me ask you kindly; "Have you thought about your soul?"

You may reach the highest portals, and your dreams may all come true; wealth and fame may be your portion, and success may shine on you. All your friends may sing your praises, not a care on you may roll; what about the great tomorrow, "Have you thought about your soul?"

Don't forget your days are numbered, though you may be riding high, but like all of us poor mortals, someday you'll just up and die. Your success, your fame and your glory won't be worth the bell they toll; let me ask just one question, "Have you thought about your soul?"

If you've never thought it over, spend a little time today, there is nothing more important that will ever come your way, than the joy of sins forgiven, and to know you've been made whole,

in the name of Christ the Savior, "Have you thought about your soul?"

**Things to Ponder:** The best vitamin for a Christian is B-1 (Be One.) We are operating under the same management for over 1900 years. Plenty of "Soul" food served here; come in and try some for your life. Give a liberal offering if you love Jesus – Anyone can honk and most will.

Don't wait for the hearse to bring you to church and thank God that you can walk in on your own power. Life has many choices. Eternity has only two – what's your choice?

The most destructive habit is worry, because worry is interest paid on trouble before it is due. Don't be guilty of paying high interest rates when you don't have to.

Prevent "truth" decay; brush up on your Bible, the Word of God. It's hard to stumble when you are down on your knees. Never give the devil a ride; he will always want to drive.

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Mrs. Sharon White, a tireless worker for God at Bethel Bible Fellowship church in Carrollton, Texas

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Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

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on is the tongue. It is true, God answers knee-mail, try Him.

The greatest advice is, "Try Jesus; if you don't like Him, the devil will always take you back."

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!**



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

## Church Happenings

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



Awards based on 2013-2019 model year vehicles.

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.