



North Dallas Gazette

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Black-owned newspapers and media companies are small businesses too!

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior Correspondent

Publishers of Black-owned community newspapers, including Janis Ware of the *Atlanta Voice*, Cheryl Smith of *Texas Metro News*, Chris Bennett of the *Seattle Medium*, Denise Rolark Barnes of the *Washington Informer*, and Brenda Andrews of the *New Journal & Guide in Virginia*, are desperately trying to avoid shuttering operations.

On Wednesday, April 29, Rolark Barnes, Andrews, Bennett, and Ware participated in a special livestream broadcast to discuss how their publications are enduring as the pandemic rages on.

In a heartfelt and straight-to-the-point op-ed published recently, Ware explained to her tens of thousands of readers that *The Atlanta Voice* has boldly covered the issues that affect the African American community.

"Our founders, Mr. J. Lowell Ware and Mr. Ed Clayton, were committed to the mission of being a voice to the voiceless with the motto of, 'honesty, integrity and truth,'" Ware wrote in an article that underscores the urgency and importance of African American-owned newspapers during the coronavirus pandemic. Ware has established a COVID-19 news fund and ag-



The Black Press continues to tackle domestic and global issues, including the novel coronavirus pandemic and its effects on all citizens – particularly African Americans. (Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA)

gregated the *Atlanta Voice*'s novel coronavirus coverage into a special landing page within its website.

To remain afloat, Ware and her fellow publishers know that financial backing and support will be necessary. Following the spread of the pandemic, many advertisers have either paused their ad spending or halted it altogether. And other streams of revenue have also dried up, forcing Black-owned publications to find ways to reduce spending and restructure what were already historically tight budgets.

With major companies like Ruth Chris Steakhouse and Pot Belly Sandwiches swooping in and hijacking stimulus money aimed at small businesses, the Black Press — and community-based publishing in general — has been largely left out of the \$350 billion stimulus and Paycheck Protection Program packages.

To make matters worse, there are no guarantees that a second package, specifically focused on small

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Now more than ever, Texas must expand Medicaid

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Signs and symptoms of Parkinsons

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Reopening plan overlooks serious issues

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READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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People In The News...



Shaquille O'Neal



Dr. Valda Crowder

NDG Quote of the Week: "For I am my mother's daughter, and the drums of Africa still beat in my heart."
— Mary McLeod Bethune

Shaquille O'Neal

ATLANTA (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) — Steady, a platform solely focused on advising and advocating for workers seeking stable income in America, is launching its biggest initiative yet to all members known as Steady Together. The initiative is focused on providing new programs to address the massive challenges facing tens of millions of American workers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis that has had an overwhelmingly negative impact on the hourly and gig economies.

“Although Steady was



T/Sgt. Angela Walz / US Army

founded on the singular mission of helping to improve the increasingly challenging lives of American workers, we could have never imagined the challenges that have been thrust upon millions of American

workers in only a few short weeks,” said Steady Co-Founder and CEO Adam Roseman. “Our immediate response is to develop tangible relief and resources that give a growing base of Steady members a fighting chance to improve their financial lives in these trying times.”

Joining CEO Roseman is Shaquille O'Neal, NBA legend, businessman and Steady advisor, who is committed to getting the word out to as many of those impacted as possible. Concern for Steady Members who experienced median monthly income volatility of >30% even before the

economic and health crisis began in March 2020, is quickly escalating and puts a large multitude of middle-income earners at risk of falling below the poverty line.

The four key components of Steady Together are:

- Steady high demand jobs – Most job listings on job boards will now remain unfilled and frozen for the foreseeable future. When members take the time to apply for a job they need accurate guidance on those jobs where there is a hiring need, even during the COVID-19 epidemic.

- Emergency cash grants to thousands of Steady

members experiencing large income drops – Steady is partnering with The Workers Lab to distribute through The Workers Fund emergency cash grants of \$100 to \$1,000 to thousands of select Steady Members over the coming weeks who have experienced large drops in income due to COVID-19. Members must have linked their account to Steady's free Income Tracker to have a chance to qualify.

- Medical support – This is crucial for gig workers: Beginning in May, all Steady members who have set up their Income Tracker in the Steady mobile app will have their telemedi-

cine subscription paid for by Steady and accessible within the Steady mobile app for the member, their spouse and any children in the household up to 24 years of age.

- Rapid ACH cash deposit of completed Steady Income Boosters – It is more important than ever to receive cash as quickly as possible. Steady is now able to deposit cash into the Member's account connected to the Steady income tracker as soon as it receives notice from an Income Booster partner that a Steady Member has completed their Steady Income Booster.

Dr. Valda Crowder

By Dr. Valda Crowder, M.D., MBA

According to the American Hospital Association Annual Survey, over 1,000 hospitals in our country have closed since 1975. As a result, communities from coast to coast have populations in which residents must drive more than 60 minutes to reach an acute care hospital. These places are called “medical deserts.” They exist in every state.

Now is the time to strengthen known weaknesses in our healthcare



safety net. We desperately need new investment in our healthcare infrastructure. A recent study by the UK Imperial College COVID-19 Response Team anticipates the “capacity limits of the UK and US health system

being exceeded many times over.” It warns that “even if all patients are able to be treated, we predict there would still be in the order of 250,000 deaths in Great Britain and 1.1-1.2 million deaths in the US.”

As an Emergency Medicine Physician and Chair of the Health Committee of Black Women for Positive Change, I call on the nation's leaders to immediately implement three recommendations to improve access to medical care and thereby save lives before it is too late.

(1) The U.S. Congress Should Pass Legislation to Create Free Standing

Emergency Departments (FSEDs). FSEDs are 24-hour, 7 day a week, emergency departments established in communities that lack immediate healthcare services. Stand-alone emergency departments are physically separate from hospitals. They can be independently owned, hospital owned or, government owned, and are staffed by emergency medicine physicians. FSEDs are available for walk-in patients and accept patients arriving by ambulance. These facilities treat and discharge patients while also transporting admitted cases to full-service hospitals by ambulance or

helicopter. FSEDs can be quickly built and maintained at a fraction of the cost of large hospitals. FSEDs are just as effective at providing time-sensitive critical medical care services as hospital-associated emergency departments. FSEDs can be a vital safety net for people who live in medical deserts.

(2) Convert Unused Spaces into Temporary COVID Hospitals

Health care facilities and providers can quickly become accelerating vectors for the transmission of COVID-19. It is important for that reason to not only increase the number

of critical beds with ventilator capability but also to physically separate COVID and non-COVID patients. We need to immediately convert unused spaces into dedicated Temporary COVID Hospitals. If that is not done immediately, patients that are ill from non-COVID medical diseases can be infected by providers and other patients increasing their morbidity and mortality. Since every State in the U.S. now has empty conference centers, cruise ships, coliseums, concert halls and other large venues those unused spaces can be

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NDG Readers Sound Off...

Making COVID-19 a 'Black Man's Disease'

The Democrats are the ones who blew off the seriousness of CV. The media routinely takes out of context things said, in order to make President Trump look bad. He has been doing a remarkably good job. Even Adams was misconstrued ny the media. He was talking to his own people using terms that he grew up with. It is shameful to cast shade just because he agrees with GOP. The real danger lies from people not being able to work or feed their families. A worldwide famine

is at our doorstep because farmers and producers cannot get their crops in or out. They can't feed their livestock. We need to stop living in fear and start living in faith that we will make it through. If the CV is affecting more people of color, it is not racist to draw attention to the fact. We need to determine if there are preventable reasons

- Kareb Dunning

Editor's Question: Governor Abbott has released Phase One of his plan to reopen Texas. Do you plan to venture

out this weekend?

Non-interactive museum such as the DMA but what about the Perot, it is an interactive Museum

- Margaret S. Freelon

real excited for the museum's, libraries to reopen, and the stores- ross, t.j. maxx etc.

- Nneka Esedebe

No, the numbers are still going up

- Amy Buckley

Government offices are not on the list.

- Joyce Hamilton

Dallas County Residents Required to Wear Masks at Essential Businesses

This is stupid and paranoid!!!!!!

- Anna

Collin County needs to do the same, a lot people are going around wearing no mask or gloves in Plano.

- Luis

Where can we get them from is the city of Dallas giving them away.

- Shanequa

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Now more than ever, Texas must expand Medicaid to save lives

By Rep. Colin Allred

Despite what you might hear coming out of Washington, D.C., affordable access to quality health care is not a partisan issue for regular Americans. That basic fact is even more pronounced as people struggle to survive the coronavirus pandemic.

I was born here in North Texas and raised by a single mother who was a public school teacher, so I know the struggles working families face when it comes to obtaining a quality, affordable health care. One in four people in Texas lack health care coverage. Many of the most vulnerable folks among us were in a health crisis long before the coronavirus. We need action from our leaders to remedy this situation right away.

April marks Medicaid Awareness Month, and I'm working in Congress to promote the expansion of Medicaid here in Texas to cover more people and improve public health for all Texans. This pandemic shines a spotlight on the

disparities that have left rural areas, the underserved, and people of color most exposed to this deadly virus. Coronavirus has shown in stark terms that too many people are falling through the cracks in our health care system. These are hard-working folks who deserve better from their leaders in Austin and in Washington, D.C. Medicaid expansion is critical to addressing these disparities, and improving health care for everyone.

The numbers don't lie. If Texas expands Medicaid, more than 2 million Texans could gain coverage. Research has shown that the states that have already adopted Medicaid expansion have seen better health outcomes for children and families, stronger funding for rural hospitals, and reduced racial disparities in health care. Medicaid expansion also improves financial security for families, making them less likely to accrue medical debt while ensuring they get the care they need. This would help real people living in our Texas communities.

Multiple studies have shown that Medicaid expansion reduces uncompensated care costs, improving the overall financial stability of hospitals. Already, 26 rural hospitals in Texas have closed in recent years, but Medicaid expansion can help: research shows that rural hospitals are 62 percent less likely to close in states that expanded Medicaid.

I'm only in my first term in Congress, but I'm working hard to provide support for Medicaid expansion. I've teamed up with my fellow North Texan, Congressman Marc Veasey, to support legislation that would incentivize states like Texas to expand their Medicaid programs by giving the same level of federal matching funds as states that expanded Medicaid earlier. This means that the federal government will fully cover the costs of expansion for three years. After that, the federal government will pay 95 percent in year four, 94 percent in year five, 93 percent in year six, and 90 percent for each year

thereafter.

Texas economists estimate that expansion would bring in billions per year to the state's economy and would create hundreds of thousands of jobs.

We have an obligation to use the tools we have to protect as many people as possible from succumbing to this deadly virus. Medicaid expansion is the best tool we have. It's high time we picked up that tool and used it to help Texans.

I first sought this office because I believe that we need leadership that stands up for everyone, not just the special interests that rigged the system against ordinary people in the first place.

I'm fighting to empower the community I grew up in here in North Texas, and Medicaid expansion will make a real difference for us all. It's in the interest of every Texan, and it's time to get it done.

Rep. Colin Allred represents the 32nd Congressional District of Texas. He is a Dallas native and was a former NFL player and voting rights attorney.

Texas reopening - proceed with caution

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

This week Texas Governor Greg Abbott issued an executive order allowing specific businesses to reopen May 1. However, just because you can, should you rush to the movie theaters, restaurants, malls (not the food courts), non-interactive museums and libraries? Yes, many are anxious to get out and be among friends and loved ones, but is it the right time?

Even as the governor's plan was announced, several critics pointed to flaws in Phase One. The most critical element of concern is the lack of testing in Texas. Yes, our numbers seem relatively low. However,

on Monday Texas ranked last in testing, according to Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins. Do we really know how widespread the virus is in Texas?

Several NDG readers responded with a resounding "no thanks" via a recent Facebook post we shared.

Amy Buckley said, "No, the numbers are still going up," which would seem to rule out the area's eligibility to reopen according to the guidelines.

Indeed they are rising, with Tuesday's report being the highest one-day totals for new cases and deaths.

"Dallas County Health and Human Services reports 135 new cases and 10 deaths. Today ties for our deadliest day thus far in the COVID-19 pandemic

in Dallas County," Judge Jenkins stated. Those who passed away ranged from a teenager in Lancaster with no known underlying health conditions to a 90-year old man in a nursing home.

Several restaurants are proceeding with their reopening plans, others are saying "thank you, but no thanks." They do not believe it makes fiscal sense when they are limited to 25 percent capacity.

Other local venues are not rushing to open, either.

"The health and well-being of our guests, staff, and community is our highest priority," said Becky Mayad, a representative for the Perot Museum. "While we support the eventual reopening of certain sectors

of the economy - and appreciate that the plan recognizes the unique nature of each institution - the Perot Museum of Nature and Science will not reopen May 1. Our leadership team will thoughtfully consider the ongoing social-distancing mandates and other compliance factors as we determine when to reopen."

In the end, the only one who can and should make that decision is you. Several factors must be considered. First, your health, your loved ones, and those who you will come into contact with - is a trip to your favorite restaurant worth the health risk? Do we have enough data to make an informed decision?

I will see you in a few weeks.

"A Fitting Memorial"
NDG Obituaries

North Dallas Gazette now offers Obituaries and Death Notices specific to our community. Contact ndgobits@northdallasgazette.com for more info.

Parkinson's Awareness Month: Symptoms and signs

By Dr. Sarah E. Laibstain

Showers and flowers are a sure sign a new season has begun! It also marks shifting our clocks forward, an increase in seasonal allergies, and Parkinson's Awareness Month in April. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that Parkinson's Awareness Month is represented by a red tulip. The tulip is a reminder that regardless of affiliation, a community can work towards a common goal: helping people with Parkinson's live better longer and discovering greater treatments and striving for a cure. In order to do so, it is important to understand more about the disease by knowing its symptoms and signs.

Parkinson's disease is



Neurologist Maj. (Dr.) Maria Alvarez adjusts the settings on retired Tech. Sgt. Jewel Yarber's neurostimulator at Wilford Hall Medical Center on Dec. 2. Sergeant Yarber received a brain stimulator earlier this year which sends electrical impulses to specific parts of his brain to reduce Parkinson's disease symptoms.

(U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Robert Barnett)

a slow-developing disorder that degenerates the dopamine-producing neurons in the brain. The disease, which affects around 500,000 people per year, has no known cause or cure. Although Parkinson's is not fatal, symptoms can

decrease quality of life and reduce longevity. Keeping these signs in mind can help you monitor your health and identify warnings for those you care about.

Parkinson's affects motor skills causing daily activities such as writing

to become more difficult as the disease progresses. The first early indicator of Parkinson's is a change in the size of your handwriting. It's common for people with the disease to write in small letters with close spaces between each word. Stay alert on the presentation of your handwriting in comparison to the past.

Other motor movements such as walking, running, reaching, or leaning are all gradually affected by the disease. As we get older, it's normal to be slower than we used to be. However, people with Parkinson's, develop stiffness and slowness that doesn't go away as the day continues. The body becomes jerkier with common motions and can become hard to control. Noticing the speed and rigidity of your movements

are important signs to track.

Third, your facial expressions can indicate if you're developing Parkinson's. Often a blank stare also known as "masked facies" is a common sign. This symptom is related to change in control of facial muscles. Those with Parkinson's also blink less often. Observing yourself in a mirror can help determine if you are retaining regular control of your facial muscles.

There are treatments that can help with each of these Parkinson's symptoms, allowing patients to maintain

as normal a life as possible. These early signs are helpful indicators to help you stay alert of any developing symptoms, but to also keep a pulse on your overall health and well-being. Carry these checks beyond the month of April as you promote being mindful of your bodies year-round.

Dr. Sarah E. Laibstain is a general family medicine practitioner at Family Medicine Associates of Texas in Carrollton. She thoroughly enjoys improving the health and lives of individuals ranging from young children to adulthood.

BeyGOOD, an initiative founded by Beyoncé, and UCLA offer COVID-19 online toolkit for mental wellness

By Alison Hewitt
UCLA Newsroom

UCLA, in partnership with Beyoncé's BeyGOOD initiative, has created an online COVID-19 Care Package to help people struggling with stress and anxiety brought on or worsened by the novel coronavirus pandemic.

This is the first offering of UCLA's new STAND Together During COVID-19 website, which will help people cope during this stressful time by providing self-care strategies and exercises based on research-backed cognitive behavioral therapy principles.

BeyGOOD recognizes how important it is to alleviate the immense mental health burden placed on essential employees who continue to work outside their homes in health care, the food industry, and as delivery workers, sanitation employees and in other roles.

"We are living through an inflection point in human history, and across the globe people are naturally

experiencing increased stress, anxiety and depression," said UCLA Chancellor Gene Block. "Creating the STAND Together During COVID-19 website builds naturally on UCLA's ongoing relationship with Beyoncé and her charitable work. UCLA is bringing all its research and expertise to bear in order to serve the greater community during this uncertain time, and one of the many ways we are doing that now is by providing mental wellness guidance."

The first installment of the self-guided website features five strategies for coping with anxiety and depression, and an introductory video by UCLA's Michelle Craske, a world-renowned expert in treatments for anxiety and stress and distinguished professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences in the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior. New materials will be posted weekly over the next month, and BeyGOOD's influence will amplify the reach of UCLA's mental

health support to people nationwide.

The new UCLA website melds BeyGOOD's philosophy of uplifting others with the ongoing UCLA Depression Grand Challenge. Launched in 2015, the Depression Grand Challenge takes aim at one of the world's biggest health problems to cut depression's burden on health and well-being in half by 2050. While UCLA's hospitals treat coronavirus patients and the university's researchers uncover details about the virus and search for a vaccine, UCLA can also help by addressing mental health.

In addition to the strategies for coping with anxiety and stress already available, STAND Together During COVID-19 will soon include additional videos and more self-guided modules, including tips for keeping worries manageable, ways to stop feeling overwhelmed, tools for reducing loneliness and eventually tools for managing depression. People without internet access can call

1-888-UC-STAND (1-888-827-8263) to reach a corps of "helping hands" trained to guide callers through the advice provided online.

"It is completely normal to feel stressed, anxious and sad right now," said Craske, co-director of the UCLA Depression Grand Challenge and distinguished professor of psychology in the UCLA College.

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Gov. Abbott's Texas reopening plan does not include more COVID-19 testing or discuss upcoming elections

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

Governor Gregg Abbott rolled out his plan to reopen Texas on May 1 at a press conference on Monday. Referring to his plan as Phase One did not prevent critics from pointing out what they see as shortfalls. His lack of proposals regarding the upcoming elections scheduled for July and November. Also, no stated plan to increase testing for COVID-19 is another concern expressed.

"We all want businesses to safely reopen as soon as possible and that's why I'm disappointed we did not hear



Not everyone is on board with Gov. Abbott's plan to launch Phase One of the plan to reopen Texas. (Photo: Gage Skidmore / Flickr)

more details on how Texas' COVID-19 testing would increase," Rep. Chris Turner (D-Grand Prairie), Chair of the House Democratic Caucus stated. "We're near last in the nation on per capita

testing, and Gov. Abbott didn't present a clear plan how that's going to change, even though experts agree that widespread testing is essential to any reopening plan.

This weekend nearly 1,000 new cases were announced, locally Tarrant County reported their highest numbers last week with 800 new cases.

"Finally, the Governor said very little about what workers can do when they go back to work. For example – will they get sick days or workers compensation if they contract COVID-19? Do we have enough PPE supplies for everyone go-

ing back to work?" Turner added.

Maintaining the safety of first responders and healthcare workers cannot be overlooked as the state reopens according to AARP Texas.

"Texas policymakers must continue to do everything they can to ensure there is adequate testing for anyone who needs it, including accurate antibody testing; transparency about new and active cases in communities; sufficient contact tracing capacity; and enough PPEs, ventilators, hospital capacity, and support for those healthcare professionals and first responders on the front lines of this crisis,"

AARP Texas Director Tina Tran stated. "Without these and other key protections in place the virus will keep spreading, risking people's lives and health, and our economy."

Safe Elections

Last week voting rights advocates gained a victory in court with a judge ruling voting by mail should be an option for those concerned about COVID-19. However, the state is appealing this ruling. Also, the attorney general has threatened to prosecute anyone who tries to use the disability clause, as well, any organizations that instruct people to do so.

"Under the Governor's

plan, it is entirely possible that multiple Texas counties will still be restricting businesses to 25% capacity when our July runoff elections come around," Anthony Gutierrez, Executive Director of Common Cause Texas, stated. "Unless everyone is allowed to vote by mail, it's difficult to see how counties would be able to administer elections safely and without violating the conditions the Governor laid out today.

Potentially retail poll locations would have to decide between turning away either voters or customers to remain within the guidelines Gutierrez said.

South Dallas Club to host 57th V. Alyce Foster Trailblazer Awards Luncheon

The historic South Dallas Business and Professional Women's Club is set to host its 57th Annual V. Alyce Foster Trailblazer Awards Luncheon on Saturday, July 25, 2020 at the Hilton Anatole Hotel in Dallas, Texas.

Club President, Dr. Lindy Perkins is working diligently

with Trailblazer Chair Patricia Carroll and her committee in planning this upcoming signature event.

Members of the club have chosen the following outstanding individuals to recognize as 2020 luncheon honorees.

- Stephen Mason – Trail-

blazer Award

- Gwendolyn McMillan Lawe – Trailblazer Award

- Cynthia Marshall – Trailblazer Award

- Debra Peek-Haynes – Sojourner Truth Award

- Judge Domonique Collins – Ombudswoman Award

- Oscar Epps – Humanitarian Award

tarian Award

- Mary Jo Evans – Community Service Award

- Minister Clara Crear – Volunteer Service Award

- Dana M. Franklin – Woman of the Year Award

- Xavier Coleman – Man of the Year

- Staff Sgt. Homer Hogues

– Meritorious Service Award

- Camryn Makenna Upshaw – Youth Achiever Award

- Montanna Mitchum – Mabel Meshach White Business Woman Award

- Cheryl Wyatt – Professional Woman Award

For tickets to the 57th

Annual V. Alyce Foster Trailblazer Awards Luncheon, go to the South Dallas Business and Professional Women's Club website at: southdallasbpwc.org, select the Donations Tab, and specify Trailblazer Luncheon Ticket under the Any Available Programs drop-down tab.

Catholic Charities of Dallas awarded Dallas Emergency Assistance Fund Grant

The Dallas Emergency Assistance Fund will award a grant of approximately \$47,900 to Catholic Charities of Dallas for the ongoing support of relief efforts following the October 20, 2019, EF-3 tornado that tore through the city.

In the aftermath of the tornado, Catholic Charities of Dallas paid for hotel stays and personal item gift cards for affected residents. Catholic Charities is still providing ongoing support

for tornado relief, including long-term case management, rent and utility assistance, home repairs, rent and application assistance, and other aid. The organization is still handling 96 cases -- a total of 388 people -- affected by the tornado.

"A major service of Catholic Charities Dallas' mission is our Disaster Relief program – from Hurricane Harvey to the October Dallas tornadoes to the COVID crisis -- we are positioned

to meaningfully respond to local disasters. We are the 'third responders' who work with victims of catastrophic events for months or longer to reestablish their lives," Mike Murray, Chief Development Officer, Catholic Charities Dallas. "With the help of this grant, Catholic Charities can continue to be there for all Dallas tornado victims in need."

The fund committee unanimously supported the

decision to disburse the funds to Catholic Charities. The committee's members are Mayor Eric Johnson, City Manager T.C. Broadnax, Office of Community Care Director Jessica Galleshaw, Dallas Foundation Senior Vice President & Chief Impact Officer Helen Holman, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas CEO Jennifer Sampson, and Hamilton Park community leader Thomas Jefferson. The mayor serves as

chair.

"The people of our city demonstrated strength, generosity, and resolve after the incredibly destructive EF-3 tornado ripped through North Dallas in October," Mayor Johnson said. "We know that we have families that are still dealing with the tornado's effects even as our city is now focused on our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We haven't forgotten about them, and we believe this

money, combined with Catholic Charities' expertise in providing assistance, will be a boon to those who remain in need during these challenging times."

The fund, which was first activated after the tornado and is sponsored by The Dallas Foundation, is now accepting donations for COVID-19 relief efforts.

And for more information on COVID-19, visit dallascityhall.com/coronavirus.

Lewisville parks to become tobacco-free sites with new ordinances

City parks in Lewisville will become tobacco-free sites in early May as part of a comprehensive overhaul of the Code of Ordinances for administration and operation of the parks and recreation system. The changes were unanimously approved by Lewisville

City Council on Monday, April 20.

The use of tobacco or electronic nicotine devices will be prohibited at any city park. Director of Parks and Recreation Stacie Anaya told councilmembers the need to make city parks tobacco-free was primar-

ily a matter of health and safety for visitors, but also would have other benefits related to park maintenance because cigarette butts are the most common piece of litter found in the parks.

"Ensuring park users have a smoke-free park system is an incredible ac-

complishment for Lewisville," Anaya said. "Prohibiting the use of tobacco and electronic nicotine devices in our parks system will enhance visitors' experience as well as help us protect the environment."

Anaya said going tobacco-free also provides gen-

eral safety benefits, noting that heavily wooded areas such as Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area (LLELA), Central Park, and public trails along greenbelts and creeks can easily catch fire when cigarettes are discarded.

The switch to all parks

becoming tobacco-free sites was one significant part of the full overhaul of Chapter 10 of the Code of Ordinances. This was the first substantial review and overhaul of that code in more than 20 years. The

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El Centro's Culinary Program sees a bright future ahead, despite COVID-19 impact on Dallas food scene

2020 was promising to be the year of new beginnings for El Centro College's recently rebranded Culinary, Pastry, and Hospitality (CPH) program. There was the new name, the new 50,000 square foot facility, even a star-studded celebrity chef kickoff series — all part of a reignited push to train the world's next batch of cuisine aficionados.

Then came the unforeseen: a global pandemic that brought the world to a standstill and subsequently forced CPH to temporarily pause operations.

"We had been working extremely hard building this team, we had hit the enrollment deadline and then, bam! All of a sudden, around March 12, everybody realized that wow, we may not come back from spring break," said Steve DeShazo, CPH's senior director.

In the blink of an eye, a program lauded for its ability to offer hands-on instruction was forced to rethink the way it offered classes to students. The task: providing the same



Steve DeShazo, culinary students in class prior to shift to online instruction. (Image courtesy of El Centro)

level of top-notch instruction synonymous with the program's reputation while also ensuring the health and safety of its students and staff — a tremendous undertaking for all involved, including CPH's new instructional dean, Brian Hay. His first day on the job was March 23, the same day El Centro began an extended spring break due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"It's been an experience. If you told me six months ago that we would have to

switch to online in a week, I would have said that it can't be done," Hay said. "But that's something amazing about our program. We've all decided that we're here for our students."

Hay, who says he's met about half of his new colleagues via video conference, has the main responsibility of supporting instructors' needs while also ensuring compliance with the program's accrediting agency, American Culinary Federation.

In this new, perhaps unorthodox way of culinary instruction, students are evaluated not solely on their cooking skills, but more so on their ability to analyze, problem-solve, research and communicate, all in virtual reality. With no instructor at the front of the room to guide, students are forced to take control of and accountability for their learning.

"Everyone thinks it's hands-on, and part of it is. But I like to say, 'I'm not here to teach you how to cook; I'm here to tweak you,'" Hay said.

DeShazo added, "It's not like the Food Network, where instructors are cooking on camera and students are at home trying to keep up. That's not the way it works."

Using the Blackboard program to facilitate online learning, the emphasis is placed on teaching repetition and consistency. From kitchen and food prep management to recipe conversion and cost, the program is working to train the "whole chef" for a career in

the culinary industry.

Take preparing risotto, for example. Traditionally, students would show up to class and follow along with the instructor, the "see and repeat method" as DeShazo calls it. In this virtual reality, students prepare their own workstations at home — cleaning, cutting and measuring included — and upload pictures or videos for evaluation. An assignment may call for students to search online and find varying videos of risotto being prepared and compare them with the classic recipe in their textbook.

And the focus is on more than just the classroom. CPH instructors are considering the impact the pandemic is having on their students. They're encouraged to be flexible with recipes and ingredients, understanding that students may not have certain items in their own kitchens or the money to purchase them.

While it's a call to serve that all involved have honorably answered, both DeShazo and Hay agree that the students have been the

true stars throughout this transition.

"Culinary students are visual learners. If you show them things, they get it. So [with the transition to online instruction], I expected the learning curve would be greater for students, and it's not," Hay said. "They have adapted tremendously. They're used to three, four, five hours in a classroom. They've had to learn new technology, stay accountable, all while dealing with whatever is happening in their own lives. It's amazing."

The two insist the program is proving that this pandemic will not spell the end of Dallas' restaurant scene. A rebirth, perhaps, but certainly not the end.

"A workforce program should mirror the industry it serves," DeShazo said. "The experience we're going through to pivot our program from in-person to online absolutely mirrors the innovation every food service operation is experiencing. This industry is resilient, and we will come back."

Big Thought and Dallas City of Learning offer free online learning hub

Big Thought and Dallas City of Learning together launched an online learning hub featuring hundreds of free, quality educational programs for families to access while learning from home. Featured educational content partners include Boeing, the Perot Museum, the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, Dallas ISD, and the State Fair of Texas.

"We wanted to find a way to share our educational content for virtual learning while families are managing school at home and add value by saving them time, too," says Byron Sanders, president and

chief executive officer of Big Thought. "Now parents and their learners have access to hundreds of free programs on one easy-to-search platform where they can search by age and area of interest including art, science, design, media, numbers and even zoology. No more searching across multiple sites to find trusted, educational content for your learners."

A typical parent may spend two to three hours a day searching for educational content to keep their learners' minds engaged and active. With Dallas City of Learning Digital Explora-

tions search options, parents can find trusted, educational enrichment activities in minutes.

"The Dallas ISD's Extended Learning Opportunities department is excited to be a partner in providing content to the Dallas City of Learning's Digital Explorations platform," shares Lori Griffin Mangrum, director, Dallas ISD Extended Learning Opportunities. "The platform allows students to receive access to high-quality programs from trusted resources. There is a very diverse set of experiences available, helping students have a more

well-rounded home learning experience."

Organizations interested in contributing content to the Dallas City of Learning Digital Explorations platform can apply to become a partner by registering through the Dallas City of Learning partner page.

Families interested in accessing Dallas City of Learning Digital Explorations programs can go to the Dallas City of Learning website and search activities by age and topic. A video with brief instructions is available as well: <https://vimeo.com/411039209>.



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S. Broadway in downtown Carrollton to reopen nightly and on Sundays

Starting Tuesday, April 21, S. Broadway in Downtown Carrollton will reopen from 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. Monday through Saturday and all day on Sundays, providing residents and visitors direct access to the Square and making it even easier to support local businesses Downtown through to-go orders.

Downtown Carrollton will also be accessible via a slight detour from the section of S. Broadway between Vandergriff Drive and Roberts Drive and Crosby Road, which was previously closed but is now permanently open. Visitors

can access Downtown Carrollton by heading north on S. Broadway; turning left on Roberts Drive; turning right on Elm Street; and then turning right on Vandergriff Drive before turning left back onto S. Broadway.

Reconstruction of S. Broadway is now complete, but work continues on the Olympus on Broadway development, requiring the closure of the roadway between Vandergriff Drive and Roberts Drive from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, to ensure public safety. The buildings

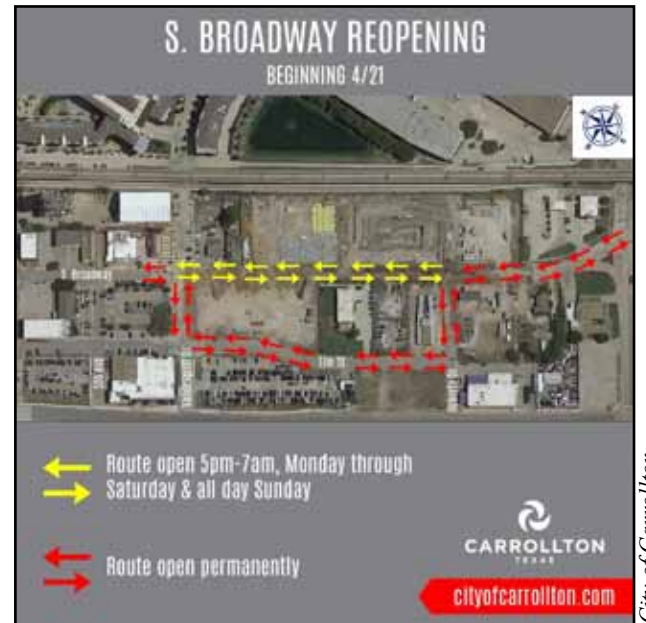
on both sides of S. Broadway under construction are within just a few feet of the through lanes, and ongoing heavy equipment traffic and hoisting operations are expected to continue on schedule.

S. Broadway is anticipated to fully reopen in a few months.

Olympus on Broadway is a mixed-use and transit-oriented residential community that will include approximately 400 residential units in multiple mid-rise buildings connected by a pedestrian bridge, as well as

10,000 square feet of street level retail space. Pre-leasing is anticipated to begin in September 2020. The addition of the development to the Square will bring the total of high-end residential units in Downtown Carrollton to approximately 1,200 by 2021.

For more information on exciting development news, visit carrolltontxdevelopment.com. For more information on street and intersection enhancements throughout the City, visit cityofcarrollton.com/engineering.



City of Irving

City of Irving urges residents to review their electrical safety practices in the home

The Irving Fire Department asks that everyone please keep these electrical safety tips in mind.

Check your electrical cords. If they are cracked or damaged, replace them. Don't try to repair them. Have all electrical work

done by a qualified electrician.

Avoid running extension cords across doorways or under carpets. Extension cords are intended for temporary use only.

In homes with small children, make sure your home

has tamper-resistant (TR) receptacles.

Avoid overloading outlets. Plug only one high-wattage appliance into each receptacle outlet at a time.

Major appliances should be plugged directly into

a wall receptacle outlet. Extension cords and plug strips should not be used.

Place lamps on level surfaces, away from things that can burn and use bulbs that match the lamp's recommended wattage.



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COLIN ALLRED
REPRESENTING THE 32ND DISTRICT OF TEXAS



As your Congressman, I am here to help you navigate the coronavirus crisis and assist North Texans.

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- Connecting you with local resources;
- And resolving issues with federal agencies, like the IRS, and ensuring you get your stimulus check.

Please call my office at 972-972-7949 or visit allred.house.gov/coronavirus if you need help.

Remember, it will take all of us to beat this virus so stay home, and stay safe.



@RepColinAllred 

Garland

635 East Project Set to Begin - A \$1.7 billion upgrade will soon break ground to bring relief to Garland's busiest traffic corridor. The 635 East project will widen and improve Interstate 635 between Central Expressway and Interstate 30. Most of the project's 11 miles are in Garland.



uled to begin in the upcoming months.

GISD counselors virtually connecting students to universities - Although Garland ISD schools are physically closed, learning and counseling are still going strong. GISD's Guidance and Counseling

Department hosts Money Monday virtual seminars every week, allowing families to learn about FAFSA/TASFA, enrollment, scholarships, and much more during video interviews with higher education representatives.

Upcoming Money Monday seminars will be with the University of North Texas at Dallas and Dallas County Promise. And if families miss a seminar, they can visit the district website to find archived interviews.

Plano

The City of Plano is working with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to improve the **intersection at Preston Road and the President George Bush Turnpike (PGBT)**. Construction is expected to begin this week and will continue through 2021.

Stay in and stay safe, watch or **participate in City Council Meetings virtually**.

Meetings are the second and fourth Mondays of

each month.

Comment on an item one of these ways:

Register to speak online by 5 p.m. on the meeting day and attend the meeting through the link provided in your confirmation email. The registration link is on the agenda for that specific meeting.

Submit comments before the meeting to councilcomments@plano.gov by 5 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Watch the meeting live on Facebook or planotv.org.

Richardson

The Health Department plans to begin its annual mosquito collection and testing next week, with traps set out in 12 areas of the City each Sunday and collected Monday, a schedule that will be repeated through October.

Nighttime spraying to control the adult population of mosquitoes is conducted by the City in designated areas only when area samples test positive for the West Nile virus, or if a resident contracts West Nile virus.

Virtual Cutting Edge Youth Summit 2020 a success

Earlier this month, students had an opportunity to participate in the Virtual Cutting Edge Youth Summit 2020 hosted by SMU's Dr. Candice Bledsoe. She also serves as the Executive Director of the Action Research Center. The in-person events held last year were a success, but with the on-going pandemic, the 2020 event was moved to a virtual format.

Following an introduction from Dr. Bledsoe, the participants viewed videos from a range of local

leaders offering words of wisdom. The first one was from Dr. Shelli Turner, Executive Director of the USC Black Alumni. Dr. Turner is a higher education administrator with extensive entrepreneurial, corporate executive, and academic experience.

"We can think about an idea, we can define an idea. Therefore we can bring an idea into existence," Dr. Turner shared with the students. She challenged them to consider what does the world, the community,

and an individual need when they are developing their ideas as they prepare to execute their plan. She encouraged them to serve well.

Students also had a voice on the program including Jazmine Goode 16, Sophomore at Naaman Forest High School in Garland. Former students offered words of encouragement, including a discussion on The Importance of Mentoring by Victoria Moore, a Howard University '15, and SMU '17 graduate.

Local community leaders who shared inspiring words to the students included NDG's Senior Columnist, Ed Gray, and Judge Tonya Parker discussed what makes a great leader. She retold a story of a conversation with her mother as a child who encouraged her to not focus on wanting to be great. Instead, to do things that great people do. Also, be able to step away from the group to assess what lies ahead for the team.



Dr. Candice Bledsoe spearheaded a successful Virtual Cutting Edge Youth Summit this month. (Courtesy photo)

NEWS, from Page 1

business, will benefit Black publishers or other businesses owned by people of color.

Publications like the New Journal and Guide, Washington Informer (which recently celebrated its 55th anniversary) and the Atlanta Voice have been essential to the communities they serve — and the world at large for 193 years.

Unfortunately for some publishers, the impact of COVID-19 has brought business operations to a near halt. While none are thriving, some publishers have developed ingenious and innovative ways to continue operations.

"Dear World, the entire planet is feeling the devastation of the coronavirus pandemic," Cheryl Smith of Texas Metro News wrote to her readers. "We must be concerned about ourselves, as well as others. You may

be aware that the media is considered 'essential.' So, guess what? We have a responsibility, a moral obligation to use this status to be a source of information, support, and inspiration, just as we are at all other times," Smith wrote.

Smith's statements echo the more than 200 African American-owned newspapers in the NNPA family. The majority of the publications are owned and operated by women, and virtually all are family dynasties so rarely seen in the black community.

The contributions of the Black Press remain indelibly associated with the fearlessness, determination, and success of Black America.

Those contributions include the works of Frederick Douglass, WEB DuBois, Patrice Lumumba, Kwame Nkrumah, and former NNPA Chairman Dr.

Carlton Goodlett.

Douglas, who helped slaves escape to the North while working with the Underground Railroad, established the abolitionist paper, "The North Star," in Rochester, New York.

He developed it into the most influential black anti-slavery newspaper published during the Antebellum era.

The North Star denounced slavery and fought for the emancipation of women and other oppressed groups with a motto of "Right is of no Sex — Truth is of no Color; God is the Father of us all, and we are all brethren."

DuBois, known as the father of modern Pan Africanism, demanded civil rights for Blacks but freedom for Africa and an end to capitalism, which he called the cause of racism and all human misery.

Many large news organizations have begun targeting

African Americans and other audiences of color by either acquiring Black-owned news startups or adding the moniker "Black" to the end of their brand. However, it was Black-owned and operated news organizations that were on the front lines for voting rights, civil rights, ending apartheid, fair pay for all, unionization, education equity, healthcare disparities and many other issues that disproportionately negatively impact African Americans.

Today, the Black Press continues to reach across the ocean where possible to forge coalitions with the growing number of websites and special publications that cover Africa daily from on the continent, Tennessee Tribune Publisher Rosetta Perry noted.

The evolution of the Black Press, the oldest Black business in America, had proprietors take on issues of chattel slavery in the

19th century, Jim Crow segregation and lynching, the great northern migration, the Civil Rights Movement, the transformation from the printing press to the digital age and computerized communication.

With the Plessy vs. Ferguson Supreme Court ruling that said no black man has any rights that a white man must honor, there came a flood of Black publications to advocate for Black rights and to protest the wrongs done to Blacks.

An expose in Ebony Magazine in 1965 alerted the world to a Black female engineer, Bonnie Bianchi, who was the first woman to graduate from Howard University in Electrical Engineering.

It was through the pages of the Black Press that the world learned the horrors of what happened to Emmett Till.

The Black Press continues to tackle domestic and

global issues, including the novel coronavirus pandemic and its effects on all citizens — particularly African Americans.

It was through the pages of the Black Press that the world learned that COVID-19 was indeed airborne and that earlier estimates by health experts were wrong when they said the virus could last only up to 20 to 30 minutes on a surface.

Now, it's universally recognized that the virus can last for hours on a surface and in the air.

"A few short weeks ago, life as we know it, was pretty different," Ware told her readers. "These are unprecedented times, and we are working around the clock to provide the best possible coverage, sometimes taking risks to keep Metro Atlanta informed."

Tune in to the livestream at www.facebook.com/BlackPressUSA.

Dallas Cowboys score big in the draft

By Dwain Price
NDG Sports Reporter

FRISCO – With the NFL shifting gears and holding a virtual draft for the first time due to the coronavirus pandemic, Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones described it as the best draft his team has assembled since 2005.

This past weekend the Cowboys were able to grab the No. 1 receiver in this year's NFL Draft in Oklahoma's CeeDee Lamb and followed that impressive acquisition by grabbing two top tier defensive players in cornerback Trevon Diggs and defensive lineman Neville Gallimore. They also used a pair of fourth-round picks to draft Tulsa cornerback Reggie Robinson II and Wisconsin center Tyler Biadasz.

In addition, in the fifth round, the Cowboys selected Utah defensive end Bradley Anae. And the Cowboys used their final pick – a seventh-rounder – to nab James Madison quarterback Ben DiNucci as a backup to Dak Prescott.

All of this came as Jones hunkered down and orchestrated the Cowboys' draft proceedings from his massive \$250 million yacht.

"I don't know why, but this situation may bring out the best in me," said Jones, while speaking from his yacht. "The old Moby Dick out there to the right and all of those added nuances just clears your head."

As Jones cleared his head and got down to the important task at hand, he was overly shocked that Lamb was still on the board when it was the Cowboys' turn to draft with the No. 17 overall selection. In three seasons at Oklahoma, the 6-2, 195-pounder had 173 receptions for 3,292 yards and 32 touchdowns.



The Cowboys receiving corps got a boost with the draft of Oklahoma's CeeDee Lamb from Oklahoma. (Photo: Brett Elliott / Flickr)

"That was really surprising to us to see CeeDee sitting there," Cowboys executive vice-president Stephen Jones said. "We went through a lot of mock drafts, and I can tell you he wasn't a part of any of them just because we felt like he was a top-10 player in this draft and we would never see him."

Considered a serious game-breaker, Lamb had 24 career catches of at least 40 yards and six games with at least 160 receiving yards. The consensus All-American also averaged a school-record 19 yards per catch.

Like the Cowboys, Lamb thought he would be long gone by the time the Cowboys had their turn at the draft board.

"But I'm happy that's where I ended up," Lamb said. "I'm excited and everything — I'm thrilled."

"I'm surprised at where I ended up, but I'm thankful."

A multi-purpose receiver who can play in the slot or on the outside, Lamb is anxious about playing alongside receivers Amari Cooper and Michael Gallup, in addition to working with Prescott.

"Just help him help me, honestly, and me help him," Lamb said of Prescott. "Making sure we look good

and going out there and doing what we love.

"I'm very comfortable in the slot. I'm very versatile, and I can't wait to be out there. I feel comfortable at all positions of the field. I can't wait."

The 6-2, 207-pound Diggs also can't wait to get to the Cowboys' practice facilities in Frisco and start working out with the team. The All-American revealed what it was like talking with Jerry Jones after the Cowboys used the 51st overall draft pick to select him.

"I was kind of starstruck, you know," Diggs said. "That's Jerry Jones, man. It's just amazing that I'm playing for him."

"I'm thankful and I'm happy to be part of the Dallas Cowboys. Words can't explain how I was feeling."

So, how was Diggs feeling when the Cowboys drafted him?

"My heart kind of dropped," said the brother of Buffalo Bills wide receiver Stefon Diggs. "I was just saying to him that I couldn't thank him enough."

"I didn't go as high as I wanted to, but I ended up where I wanted to go."

In the third round, the Cowboys drafted Gallimore, who was a teammate of Lamb's at OU. A first-team all-Big 12 selection,

Gallimore (6-2, 305) is excited about also becoming a teammate of ex-OU defensive lineman Gerald McCoy, who signed a three-year contract the Cowboys less than a month ago.

"When you go to the University of Oklahoma to play on the defensive line, that's one of the main guys that gets brought up in terms of how you want to compare yourself and be the best," Gallimore said.

"Just studying and being a fan of his game, I knew where he could be."

"I thought if I wanted that opportunity to play at the next level, he was one of the guys I would really have to just look at it and see how his approach was and everything."

Meanwhile, the Cowboys were also in desperate need of a center after All-Pro Travis Frederick recently announced his retirement. And the fact that the Cowboys were able to execute a trade with the divisional rival Philadelphia Eagles in order to move up and obtain Biadasz was all the more pleasing.

"I felt like it was worth

giving up a future pick to move up there and get him," Stephen Jones said. "He was the guy who was at the very top of our board by quite a bit, and obviously the position with Travis retiring you want to have great competition to get to see who earns and who deserves that spot."

Mike McCarthy, who is in his first year as the Cowboys' head coach, acknowledged that this year's draft was different in so many ways.

"First, just because of what we are doing from a virtual standpoint, I can't say enough about all the departments involved and the way everybody came together," he said. "The communication, the patience, and the collaboration that went into this was definitely unique. This is something I've never experienced, just from that perspective."

"As far as comparing this draft and the process, it is always different from the last place you've worked, and so forth. I think it is like anything in life — the communication and the in-

dividuals being on the same page. We had some fortune with the players that were available when it was our opportunity to pick, and we are ecstatic about the class we put together."

It's a formidable class the Cowboys hope will help them improve on last season's 8-8 record and possibly get them headed towards a berth in the Super Bowl.

In the meantime, Stephen Jones said the Cowboys will look to free agency to fill the necessary needs they were unable to fill via the draft.

"We've certainly got our eye on a few guys that we'll look at, but the good news is that going into the draft you felt good about our football team," Stephen Jones said. "Coming out of the draft we feel great about our football team."

"If we can improve it, we'll feel even better about our team and that's the way we'll look at it as we move forward. We think we've done a really good job here with our selections, Jones added"

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Mother Day ideas to thank mom

Mama has been working overtime during this pandemic. She is now not only the cook, housekeeper, in-house healthcare worker but she is also the homeschool teacher and principal. So round up all your pennies, dimes, and quarters and make this Mother's Day special for her. We have assembled a list of possible gifts or dining ideas for your consideration.

• **Volto Urbano**, a new approach to skincare where skin type, environment, and seasons matter equally. Made in the USA, the brand's range protects the skin from man-made and natural climate irritants while supercharging natural repair and healing. The brand's website also features a Remigen Builder, which will customize a tai-



Treat mom like a queen with breakfast in bed. Can't cook? No worries – Central Market is ready to save the day. (Courtesy photo)

lored skincare routine for you featuring products that clear toxins, protect against irritants, and heal your skin over time. I received samples of the Gentle Exfoliating Toner (\$48) and Face Cream (\$65) which lives up to its description of a velvety, intensive moisturizer that deeply hydrates moisture-depleted skin. It takes just a dab on your finger

and your skin truly feels refreshed. Occasionally these products go missing from my bathroom and I have to haggle with my roommate for their safe return.

• The online art supply store, **MisterArt.com** has a myriad of products for the crafting mom, scrapbooking mom, or artist mom. You can use the CraftAtHome code for \$15-off purchases

of \$85.

• **Central Market** is offering new pre-order curbside Mother's Day meal and gift options. Breakfast in Bed serves 1-2, \$15.99 features a small cheese quiche; small mixed berries; mini scones and strawberry jam; orange juice. If she prefers chocolate, Kate Weiser, a six-piece box, \$12.99. Don't forget the flowers, Forever gorgeous bouquet (pink), \$45.

• **Essentials Shower Kit** (\$50.00) – If you are serious about incorporating Zero Waste into your life this is the perfect start! With this shower kit, you receive all the basic products you need, and with the scent of your choice. This kit includes the Daily Shampoo & Conditioner, Body Wash & After Shower Oil. It comes in 4

different scents: Cedarwood Musk, Citrus Supreme, Eucalyptus Energy, and Luxe Lavender. I received a sample kit and it smells wonderful. Great way to pamper mom.

• **Dickey's Barbecue Pit** is hosting a social media giveaway in honor of Mother's Day. From May 1-31, guests are invited to post on their social media tagging Dickey's and using the hashtag #motherlyadvice to share the best advice their mom ever gave them. A random winner will be chosen to win Free Barbecue for a Year.

• **UP Inspired Kitchen** is offering DIY Upcake Board – For \$48, guests can get everything they need to make a gorgeous pancake

breakfast board for Mom. This DIY kit includes UPCakes, bacon, blueberries, raspberries, whipped cream or creme fraiche, butter, maple syrup, bananas, almond butter, yogurt, and honey. It serves four to six.

• With kids at home, finding fun new crafts is always a welcome distraction. The **Xyron Glaminator** is a 3-in-1 crafting tool that applies foil to projects and adds that extra sparkle that everyone could use right now. Available on Xyron.com and Amazon.

• **The Rustic's Mother's Day Meal Kit** will feed two to three people for \$49.95 with choices of Game Hens or Pork Loin. Guests can upgrade to Prime Rib for \$64.95.

Dallas Children's Theater is making mouse calls

Master Puppeteers Sally Fiorello and Trish Long of Dallas Children's Theater (DCT) are not sitting idle during this stay-at-home time – they are doing what they do best – creating and performing with puppets.

A video featuring Trish Long and Milo the Mouse (puppeteer: Sally Fiorello) as they make cat and fox puppets out of common household materials, including construction paper and toilet paper tubes is available on the DCT website. Families at home can print or copy their templates, as well as view a list of materials.

As longtime members of Kathy Burks Theatre of Puppetry Arts troupe AND full-time members of the DCT staff, Sally and Trish wanted to share with families the ways their initial creativity was sparked in the early years.

According to Sally, who has been professionally involved in the arts for over 50 years, "From a very early age, I was so lucky to get to do art projects and make up stories with my mom. And whether we were drawing, sculpting, writing little songs or plays



Milo is making mouse calls. (Image via screenshot from DCT video)

and then performing them with my friends, those special times were some of the most enjoyable and inspirational moments of my young life." They sparked my imagination and opened up my world to all kinds of fantastic possibilities."

Trish agrees that it is important for young people to get away from the screens sometime and just imagine. She said, "Now, more than ever, screens are our main source of entertainment. They are vital to our learning and keeping in touch with the world. But human beings, by nature, require more than virtual experiences to flourish and be healthy. We all, especially children, really need hands-on, in-person experiences

and time to use the very thing that will give us the most joy, the most innovative thoughts and the most freedom – our own wonderful and infinite imaginations." She goes on to say, "Once you watch our Mouse Calls video, which Sally and I had great fun imagining and producing, we hope that you will put aside your screens and use Milo's little art project as a springboard to have some fun with your family and to launch your own imaginations."

Sally Fiorello designed and created Milo in the spirit of the many puppets they have used in professional shows for years. "I actually made Milo for DCT's two previous pro-

ductions of GOODNIGHT MOON. He was a very one-dimensional character in that show, but I thought it would be fun to create a spirited backstory and personality for him that kids and their parents could gradually learn about over time. He just grew out of my imagination. Milo is very charming and positive, and Trish and I both think he will be the perfect

See **MOUSE**, Page 16

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\$349 billion COVID-19 Small Business Program short-changes businesses of color

By Charlene Crowell

A \$349 billion program created to assist America's small businesses was launched on April 3 to provide payroll, utilities, rent, and more for eligible applicants screened by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). On April 16 – less than two weeks later — this national stimulus enacted in the throes of the COVID-19 pandemic, ran out of funds. In separate but related legal actions, federal lawsuits were filed, challenging the lack of equitable access to the stimulus program.

On April 19, four class-action lawsuits challenged banks' use of PPP funds. Filed separately in the U.S. District Court's Central California office, the lawsuits are against Bank of America, JP Morgan Chase, U.S. Bank, and Wells Fargo.

While this legal process unfolds, the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) estimated that as many as 95% of Black-owned businesses stood no chance of securing a program loan. Other communities of color were similarly likely to be shut out as well: 91% of



Courtesy photo

both Latino-owned and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander-owned businesses were financially short-changed.

At the same time, businesses of color together are responsible for employing 8.7 million people and represent 30 percent of all U.S. businesses. Additionally, the combined contributions that these businesses make to the national economy is a noteworthy \$1.38 trillion.

Days later on April 21, an additional \$310 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) was approved by the U.S. Senate and is expected to be quickly passed in the U.S.

House. Even so, some reactions to the new funding suggested that it was still too little and needs to better address how Black and other businesses of color can fully participate.

"This bill distributes most of the funding again to large banks that prioritized wealthier businesses over small ones," said Ashley Harrington, Federal Advocacy Director with the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL). "Businesses of color were locked out of round one of the SBA PPP, and this Congress proposal fails to assure that they will have fair access to the new \$60 billion small

business appropriation. Nor does it ensure equity and transparency by requiring data tracking on borrower demographics and loan amounts to be collected or reported."

"While it is a good and necessary change to include set-asides for community banks to reach more businesses and rural areas, the bill fails to dedicate targeted funds for use by minority depository institutions (MDIs), and community development financial institutions (CDFIs)," added Harrington. "These are the institutions with a strong track record of serving borrowers of color. Both MDIs and CDFIs should have access to this vital small business support."

The set-asides included in the new appropriations bill allocate monies to institutions based on bank size

alone. Since over 98% of banks and credit unions fall into the allocation that includes CDFIs and MDIs, it is highly unlikely that these institutions will be able to access the funds – especially as the monies will have run out before these two types of institutions would be able to secure SBA approval.

The new set-asides included in the new appropriations bill allocates monies to institutions based on bank size alone. This provision places CDFIs and MDIs in direct competition with better-resourced smaller institutions like community banks for loan funds.

PPP was a federal response that was supposed to supply funds through June 30 to small businesses and nonprofit organizations. It was created as part

of a \$2 trillion, national rescue plan authorized through the CARES Act. Instead, it is now no longer accepting applications or approving new lenders in the program. The program's loans were capped to no more than \$10 million and came with explicit exclusion of businesses based outside of the United States. For six months, loan payments would be suspended and under specific and verifiable conditions, the loans also could be completely forgiven.

PPP applicants were required to interact with banks and other existing SBA lenders. For communities of color, this specific condition meant beginning, not continuing or expanding financial relationships. Fees paid by the federal

See PPP, Page 12

← CROWDER, from Page 2

converted into Temporary COVID-only Hospitals. Physically separating patients is a critical step to decreasing mortality and morbidity rates.

(3) Expand Medical Flight and Ground Transportation Capacity.

To strengthen our emergency and intensive care capacity, we need to rapidly put an increased number of ambulances and medical flight helicopters into service. Expanding transportation capacity must include enhanced staffing with medical personnel.

The physical location of patients in medical des-

erts, and their health care resources should not factor into their access to transportation. Since the coronavirus pandemic is straining transportation systems there is a need to establish "Uber-Like" emergency transportation models, that can facilitate transportation to hospitals and emergency medical facilities.

Dr. Stephanie Myers, former Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and National Co-Chair of Black Women for Positive Change comments, "Dr. Crowder's recommendations to address

the Medical Deserts in underserved communities, is timely and urgent. Her vision should be included in the new policies being considered by federal, state, and local governments. We must act fast to reduce the death rates associated with coronavirus. We are only at the beginning of this pandemic and have the opportunity now to put in place the medical capacity Americans will need."

Valda Crowder, MD, MBA, is a Board-Certified Emergency Medicine Physician who serves as Chair of the Health Committee for Black Women for Positive Change.

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



Sunny Ripert / Flickr

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Dallas Is the 9th Least Unionized Large Metro in the U.S.

With the global economy in flux due to the coronavirus outbreak, worker protections have been under increased scrutiny. Massive layoffs, especially in the retail, leisure, and hospitality industries, have left millions of Americans without a steady paycheck or benefits. Unfortunately, some of the hardest-hit industries also report low union membership rates, making workers even more vulner-

able.

The analysis found that the union membership rate in the Dallas metropolitan area is 4.9%, which is below the U.S. average of 10.3%. Of all large metros, Dallas is the 9th least unionized in the U.S. Here is a summary of the data for the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX metropolitan area:

- Union membership rate: 4.9%

- Union representation rate: 6.6%

- Workers who are members of unions: 183,799

- Workers who are represented by unions: 250,742

- Total employment: 3,786,232

Union membership in the U.S. has declined significantly over the past several decades—a result of more states passing “right-to-work” laws and changes in the composition of the

U.S. labor force. Many of the fastest-growing industries have low rates of union participation. In 1979, 24 percent of U.S. employees belonged to a union. By contrast, only 10.3 percent of American workers were union members in 2019. In nominal numbers, union membership accounted for roughly 14.6 million workers in 2019, approximately 6.5 million fewer than the 1979 peak.

Industry sectors with the highest union membership rates include government, transportation, utilities, and construction. In each of these sectors, union membership rates are above the national average of 10.3 per-

cent. By contrast, employees who work in finance, professional services, leisure, and wholesale/retail trade are far less likely to belong to a union. Union membership in each of these industries is below 5 percent.

QuikTrip is hiring throughout DFW

QuikTrip (QT) is looking to fill both full- and part-time positions for Store Clerks and Assistant Managers in the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolplex.

“We are eager to grow our team in the DFW region and are seeking people who are hardworking, dependable,

and service-oriented,” said Jen Harlow, Dallas-Fort Worth Division Personnel Manager. “Our employees are not just the face of our company but are the core of our culture and reason why people love QT. We look forward to expanding our team in the Dallas-Fort

Worth market.”

For more information about QT’s company culture, job benefits or to apply for a position, visit www.quiktrip.com/jobs.

With over 20,000 employees across the country, QT’s company culture and customer service are among

the top reasons workers are attracted to the company. QT has been ranked on People Magazine’s Companies That Care list, on Forbes’ listing of largest privately held companies in the country and has been recognized by media as one of the best companies to work for.

PPP, from Page 11

government to participating financial institutions were based on the size of loans approved for originating program loans. For example, American Banker reported recently that on a \$10 million loan, bank fees would be \$100,000, and fees for a \$350,000 loan would be \$17,500.

Together, these two program requirements gave larger small businesses quicker and greater access to these loans. Instead of providing needed relief for struggling businesses, the PPP is just the latest iteration of federal funding and resources being systematically withheld from individuals and people of color.

A similar reaction to the exhaustion of funding was expressed by Orson Aguilar, director of economic policy for UnidosUS (formerly LaRaza) that champions rights for Latinos.

“We know that many companies did not benefit because they do not have banking relationships and that is a requirement,” said Aguilar.

Through the assistance

of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, 111 organizations across the country, including CRL, jointly told Congress their collective concerns over the exclusion of relief to communities of color in the federal pandemic response.

“Communities that have already been marginalized by structural barriers to equal opportunities and who have low levels of wealth are particularly vulnerable during this current emergency,” wrote the civil rights advocates in an April 16 letter. “While many working people have been sidelined, many others are still providing essential services during the crisis – working at our grocery stores, delivering mail and packages, and providing care to vulnerable people – putting their lives at risk, often at reduced hours and wages, to keep our country running.”

“The ongoing crisis has laid bare the structural racism and barriers to opportunity that are entrenched in our society, and our collective actions now must not

worsen them,” concluded the coalition.

CRL identified specific ways in which the COVID-19 federal response can become more inclusive. Its PPP recommendations include:

- Dedicate 20% of all new funding to businesses of color;

- At least \$25 billion in funding for MDIs and CD-FIs;

- Provide an alternative PPP loan of up to a \$100,000 that can be forgiven and better fits the needs of very small businesses;

- Adjust program rules to serve more small businesses and ensure equity and transparency by requiring all lenders to provide both borrower demographics and loan amounts;

- Expand outreach and enrollment assistant through community development corporations and community-based organizations.

“The Great Recession drained communities of color of a trillion dollars of wealth that they have yet to recover,” concluded Mike Calhoun, CRL President. “They should not be excluded from one of the

largest COVID-19 relief programs. We cannot allow that to happen again.”

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 36-foot Monopole Small Cell Communications Tower at the approx. vicinity of 5910 Central Expressway, Dallas, Dallas County, TX 75206, Lat: [32-50-17.7828], Long: [-96-46-37.1238]. 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, Beth, b.thompson@trileaf.com, 2550 S. IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388 ext. 813.*

Crown Castle is proposing to expand the tower compound area by installing associated equipment on a new 10-ft by 10-ft concrete slab within a 10-ft by 18-ft proposed lease area. The existing compound is located at 4105 Broadway Blvd, Garland, Dallas County, TX 75043, Lat: [32-51-48.2], Long: [-96-36-17.4]. Crown Castle invites comments from any interested party on the impact of the proposed action on any districts, sites, buildings, structures or objects significant in American history, archaeology, engineering or culture that are listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and/or specific reason the proposed action may have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Specific information regarding the project is available by calling Alicia at 512-519-9388 during normal business hours. Comments must be received at 2550 South IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704 ATTN: Alicia, within 30 days of the date of this publication.

JOB FAIRS

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.

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

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- GED/High School Diploma
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- 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 Dal-



las 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://livenationentertainment.com/careers>.

On-going First Fridays Virtual Job Fair

Every month computer professionals can participate in the monthly job fair in the comfort of your PJs. Job Seekers must complete profile on https://tao.ai/p/fff/_dfw

#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 focused 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

Pro Staff in Arlington will be hosting an in office Customer Service Representative Job Fair for a call center located downtown Dallas every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 700 Highlander Blvd. Suite 110. The positions pay between \$12 - \$13.50 per hour plus up to \$1.50 an hour in performance pay. The workdays will vary, must be available 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., with overtime as needed. Must have at least one year of customer service experience.

NOTE: As the recent pandemic has caused many changes to the normal operations of businesses and organizations, double-check any events before attending.

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*

Note: Until further notice, all services at Bethel church will be via Video-Conferencing and perhaps other churches as well; log on individual churches websites for details. See Bethel's website www.bethelbiblefellowship.org for their details because of the coronavirus.

May 3, 2020, 9:45 am

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

May 6, 7 pm

You Are invited to join us via video-conferencing for Prayer from 7 to 8 pm as we pray for the world's coronavirus.

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

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

Check "The Ship's" website for details of their services until further notice because of the coronavirus.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

May 3

You are invited to join us in our Sunday Morning Services as we praise and worship God in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall, followed by our Worship Services; and bring someone with you, you will be blessed. It's for God's glory and honor.

May 6

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
www.visitF3c.org

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

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there will not be room to receive."

- Malachi 3:8-10

Check "IBOC's" website for details of their services until further notice because of the coronavirus.

May 1, 7 pm

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

May 3, 10 a.m.

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.

May 4, 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

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

See CHURCH, Page 14



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CHURCH, from Page 13

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

Check "MOCOP's" website for details of their services until further notice because of the coronavirus.

May 3, 10 a.m.

Join us for Morning Wor-

ship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory. Don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church.

May 6, 7 pm

You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's

plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

Dr. Sam Fenceroy, PhD
Senior Pastor and
Pastor Gloria Fenceroy
300 Chisholm Place
Plano, TX 75075
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IN PLANO
(WHERE COMMUNITY**

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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.

Check "SMBC's" website for details of their services until further notice because of the coronavirus.

May 3, 8 and 11 am

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

May 4, 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).

May 6, 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

Not everything is as it seems

Dr. James L. Snyder

For the last five days, I have not been able to sleep nor close my eyes at night. It's been a nightmare.

We were watching the news and some newscasters, supposedly from their home, had not shaved in quite a while, which was noticeable.

I turned to my wife and said, "I know how I can save a lot of money!"

"How's that?" She asked.

"I can save money," I said as seriously as I could muster at the time, "by not purchasing any toiletry items like aftershave and shaving cream."

She just looked at me as though I was a little bit crazy, but I think she thought I was a whole lot crazier.

"In fact," I said with a sarcastic attitude, "I don't have to shave, I'll just grow a beard." Then I laughed.

I glanced over at my wife, and she was smiling one of those smiles I have not seen in a long time. I could not quite figure out the nature of that smile, but I knew it was not one of her best smiles.

"Would you care to repeat that?" She asked.

With her strange smile and question, I was completely knocked off my guard. I did not know how to interpret this.

"I don't need to shave," I repeated, "I'll just grow a beard like everybody else."

As I was saying that, I was giggling and having a wonderful time. I did not know at that time that I might be in trouble. That is the problem with husbands. They never know when they are in trouble.

They may be in trouble when the wife is scowling or when she is smiling. There is no way to tell the difference. I was in that position.

"So," she said rather slowly, "you're not going to shave? Is that what I'm hearing?"

I knew I was joking, but I did not know if she knew that I was joking, and therefore I did not know if I was joking.

I was backed in a corner and needed to play this forward. "Yes, I'm not going to shave until all of this is over. I'll grow a nice beard." Then I let out a hearty laugh.

She then laughed. "This is how it will go," she ex-

plained, "if you don't shave during the day, I will shave you at night when you're sleeping."

In the middle of one of my laughs, I stopped and started to process what she said.

I looked at her, she looked at me, and I did not know what in the world to think. Would she shave me while I was sleeping?

All she did was smile one of "those smiles," and started back watching TV.

I have lived long enough to know that there are many things I do not know, and I was in a position where I did not know if what she was telling me was what she was going to do.

In the following silence, I could not help but think of two Bible verses by King Solomon. "Give not sleep to thine eyes, nor slumber to thine eyelids" (Proverbs 6:4). And, "Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread" (Proverbs 20:13).

One thing I have learned in life is never take anything for granted. When you do, things never seem to come out right.

of Engineers' rules and is similar to other campgrounds around Lewisville Lake and the metroplex.

"Reducing the time campers can occupy a site will give more opportunities to new campers to discover Lake Park and all the great things Lewisville has to offer," Anaya said.

PARKS, from Page 5

update was made because a large portion of that chapter was out of date and no longer applied to the current operations of the department or industry trends and program goals.

Another significant change to Chapter 10 is

the reduction of consecutive days campers can stay at the RV campground at Lake Park. The maximum stay at the campground was lowered from 28 days to 14 days. This change brings the city in line with the United States Army Corps

Death Notices - ndgobits@northdallasgazette.com

La'Questter Smith

Born: 07/04/1987

Died: 04/26/2020

Visitation: Sunday,

05/03/2020 (4-6 p.m.) at

Sandra Clark Funeral Home

Service: Monday,

05/04/2020 (2:30 p.m.) at

Sandra Clark Funeral Home

Burial: Lincoln Cemetery

Sandra Clark Funeral

Home

Special Death Announcement Program to Funeral Homes

North Dallas Gazette will publish death announcements "complimentary" on NDG's/Legacy.com Obits Page and in the Newspaper based on space availability.

Funeral Directors send your customers' Death Announcements to:

Vickie Richardson Steward

Senior Executive / NDG's Obits Department

Cell: 682.408.2322

Email: ndgobits@northdallasgazette.com



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Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor

“For David ... served the purpose of God in his own generation.”

(Acts 13:36 NASB)

Imagine for a moment that you have just died and you are about to come before the Judgment Seat of God. And, Jesus is speaking to the angel about you; He then says these words: “My child served the purpose of my Heavenly Father for his/her generation.”

Will Jesus be able to that say that you served your purpose in your generation? Imagine being able to say that. God was able to say this about the life of David, even though David made some incredibly bad choices in his life that led to long term consequences.

However, because David repented each time he erred, his purpose was accomplished on earth as God had designed it.

One prayer that I usually pray for people when I pray

for them is this; “Lord, may You fulfill every purpose for which You made them. May there be no inheritance left on the table that he/she is entitled to.”

As I was seeking prayer for my granddaughter, a young Sister-in-Christ, Denise, from Bethel had to remind me of that, I thanked her for the reminder. That is really the definition of success. Success is fulfilling the complete purpose for which God made you. It has nothing to do with wealth, accomplishments, stature in life, or standard of living.

It has to do with living a life of obedience to our loving Father in heaven. And when we live a life of obedience to the Father, we will fulfill the purposes that God had in mind when He made you and everyone else.

In 1924, Eric Liddell, a Scottish Olympic runner whose life was chronicled in a movie entitled the Chariots of Fire, was challenged by his missionary sister to forego running in the Olympics in lieu of going to China with her as a missionary.

He responded by saying, “When I run I feel God’s pleasure. I was made to run



Mr. & Mrs. Dwight (Bobbie) Hill, members of Bethel Bible Fellowship Church of Carrollton, Texas, they are still serving the elder members at church and in the community; making certain they have food and running errands for them. Mr. Hill also works the sound system for regular church services

and I was made to be a missionary too.” Eric understood his complete purpose for his generation. As a result, he brought glory to the Father through his running and his missionary service.

During our coronavirus quarantine “stay at home period”; remember it maybe a time for spring cleaning! It’s perhaps a wonderful time to start fresh, when things get back to normal, with a clean mind and a clean house. Now is the time to ask God to forgive you where you may have failed Him.

service organization could benefit from those things that you can do and let the Lord, open your eyes that you may see, what you may do to “spruce up” your church also. Is there something you can clean, fix or decorate?

Is there a special project that you can donate your time or money to? Be willing, be open, and be willing to listening. Ask for guidance in the name of Jesus. Seek God to fulfill His purposes for your life in your generation.

NDG to 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

Inspiring Body of Christ Pastor Rickie G. Rush

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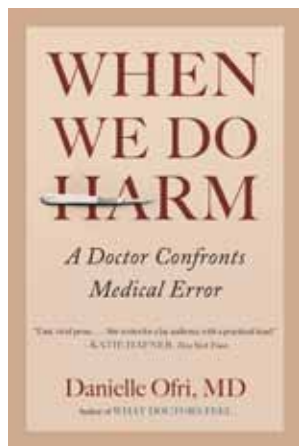
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NDG Book Review: *When We Do Harm* is a check-up on healthcare

By Terri Schlichenmeyer



You felt wonderful. Never better. In the peak of health, fit as a fiddle – until you weren't. Then you were achy, miserable, feverish, nauseous. Blame a virus, but is that the case? Or, as in the new book "When We Do Harm" by Danielle Ofri, is modern medicine the culprit?

In 1999, the Institute of Medicine released a shocking report claiming that up to 98,000 patients die each year in the U.S. from medical errors. Wondering if that's high, low, or spot-on, Ofri, a physician at New York's Bellevue Hospital, decided to "get to the bot-

tom of this."

To begin: how do mistakes happen in the first place?

"Sicker patients have many more treatments... than the average person," she says, and "the

sheer number of moving parts... nearly guarantees that there'll be at least one thing... that doesn't go as planned."

Electronic medical record-keeping can be a reason for mistakes. If medical personnel are not given ample time to think, simple human error can cause missteps. Being too careful and experiencing alarm fatigue can both be surprisingly large problems. Diagnostic tests can give wrong answers or yield too much information; short-staffing can be a big issue; and racism happens, even if someone has no outward bias.

But, there's good news: nurses are empowered now

more than ever before, as are patients. Instituting checklists has also helped in many places, such as operating rooms. Interns and residents are no longer required to work long hours with no sleep, and medical knowledge gets better every day.

So what can the average patient do to lessen the chances of being on the wrong side of an error? Pay attention to your nurses, says Ofri; they are front-line personnel. Know your medical history. Demand your doctor's undivided attention at medical appointments, and know what questions to ask. Bring someone with you, if you can.. And look

overseas at Denmark – they have one key thing figured out.

Admit it: at some time in the past weeks, the thought of illness has entered your mind a time or two. This book will give you a lot more to think about.

Don't think that "When We Do Harm" is a lot of blame-passing, though. By considering all possibilities and holding a mistake of her own up for examination and castigation throughout this book, author Danielle Ofri offers not excuses but reasons for why things go wrong in a medical setting, which could help medically-minded readers to feel better and do better. Don't rest,

either: later chapters dive back into reality by discussing the elephant in the room, which is the possibility of malpractice lawsuits. These two sides balance this book nicely, even before further underscoring drives home the points Ofri makes as she shares two major, dry-mouthed and heartbreaking story-arcs that are illustrative, impactful, relevant, and downright painful.

Not just for medical personnel, "When We Do Harm" is accessible for anyone who is or has ever been a patient. It's neutral, thoughtful, insightful, it reads like a thriller that's narrated, and that's pretty wonderful.

MOUSE, from Page 10

character to virtually visit kids in their homes and introduce them to all kinds of fun and imaginative ways to spend their time."

But who is Milo? He is a

puppet with a surprisingly complex biography. Born backstage at the Theatre Royal Haymarket in the famed West End of London, Milo started acting at a very


early age. Performing in intimate venues throughout the UK, he became known as a versatile thespian who could take on any role. His big break came when he was accepted to the British American Drama Acad-

emy, the first mouse to ever achieve that honor.

Upon graduation, Milo launched a successful international career, performing in theaters from Australia to the US. Dallas audiences will remember him as the

large, excitable rodent in DCT's two productions of GOODNIGHT MOON. Nowadays, he occasionally takes on an acting role, but Milo most enjoys making "Mouse Calls" on all of his friends.

While so many are stuck inside, Milo views it as his mission to bring smiles and creative inspiration to all. Fans can look forward to a series of visits from the wonderful Milo the Mouse!



If I could do one thing, I'd have a daycare closer to work.

If you could do one thing for your community, what would it be? More daycare centers? More funding for Head Start? Completing the 2020 Census is a safe and easy way to inform how billions of dollars in funding flow into your community for hundreds of services.

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