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The Forgotten Struggle and The Obligation to Better America

By Allen R. Gray
Dallas Area African American
Newspaper Publishers

On that Bloody Sunday of March 7, 1965, local and state law enforcement officers joined forces in violent opposition of a civil rights march in Selma, Alabama. What transpired that day drew a line of demarcation between good and evil and is viewed as a watershed moment in the civil rights movement.

Whenever I think of the late Honorable John Lewis, I picture how courageous he was at the head of that march; then I picture him lying there at the foot of the Edmund Pettis bridge with his skull cracked wide open, while hundreds of other peaceful protestors fled for their lives. Lewis continued his fight against racial injustice and inequality for the next 60 years as he toiled to gain Blacks the right to vote. Lewis' slogan was, "Never ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble."

That slogan has been lost to too many Blacks in these trying times we are facing in contemporary America. The right to vote is now available to most African Americans, but too many are not exercising that right, while others are misled into voting for causes that are detrimental to African American communities.

I recently made the acquaintance



President Barack Obama hugs Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga. during the event to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Bloody Sunday (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)

of an older Black gentleman, who reminded me why one should never talk about religion or politics. Based on his appearance alone, one would assume he had an enlightened view of the world, but then he opened his mouth and begin to speak about subjects best left unsaid.

The gentleman spoke of his excursions to faraway lands, how efficient he was at golf ... and then how the Devil is the god of the earth. Then the gentleman made a swift and unforeseen transition to politics, unleashing a salvo of criticisms about former president Barack Obama.

"Obama cost me a six-figure job," he said with venom. A rancorous debate ensued between he and a very opinionated Black woman,

who happened to be in that room and who couldn't tolerate it any longer. Yet, the gentleman remained unrelenting in his views, as if the problems of African Americans didn't exist until a Black man was elected into the Whitehouse.

By the end of the debate between he and the woman, the gentleman left no doubt that he was a committed yet misinformed Republican. The major flaw in the gentleman's stance was his failure to recall what a myriad of days like Bloody Sunday were all about, and to honor the long and violent history his predecessors have suffered through, just so he could have the right to have a

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Blacks in COVID-19 clinical trials

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Antigen test may be key against COVID-19

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Events planned for increased voter turnout

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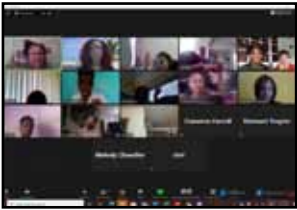
Black History moves forward in VA public schools

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Irving police take pledge on mental illness

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Leaders are Learners slows the summer slide

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Oprah plans new special on history, now

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Melissa Bradford



Chadwick Boseman

People In The News...



John Thompson

NDG Quote of the Week: "There comes a time when people get tired of being plunged into the abyss of exploitation and nagging injustice."
— Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Melissa Bradford

State Rep. Carl Sherman named his new Chief of Staff last week. Melissa Bradford, a District 109 resident took the key role on the Representative's staff.

Ms. Bradford stepped into the Chief of Staff position, which has officially been vacant since the beginning of the year, coming from 15 years with the SBA – Small Business Administration Office of Disaster Assistance. Her job in that position involved training the Office Staff for ODA (Office of Disaster Assistance) at the Process-



ing Disbursement Center in Ft. Worth. She was also key in spearheading virtual training during COVID 19 and assisted in managing the SBA Surge Office in Washington DC.

"I am excited to have

Ms. Bradford as my new Chief of Staff because she naturally has a heart for serving" Rep. Sherman said. "Her experience at the SBA is relevant with the effects of COVID-19 on our community and is timely for small business owners in district 109, which have been hit especially hard. Additionally, she understands banking and I believe she will help to serve the needs of the largest employers in our community.

Ms. Bradford brings to Representative Sherman's team professional lending experience from prestigious financial intuitions

around the City of Dallas.

In addition, the new Chief of Staff will be working on aiding constituents and their families who have been impacted by the disease of Alzheimer's.

Rep. Sherman's work will continue through Bradford's leadership in CJR and prison reform. The team will also be working on a means to eliminate food deserts in communities and improve the quality of life in district 109 overall.

Born in Dallas to a career-military father, Ms. Bradford comments "I am considered a military brat growing up all over the

world."

That knowledge of cultures outside the United States has given her, over the years, a chance to develop hobbies and passion that have served her well. She loves to travel with her family, and coordinating and designing events. Ms. Bradford also regularly volunteers her services – connecting with her community through ongoing projects.

Ms. Bradford has lived in the Dallas area 33 years and has been married to her husband Byron K. Bradford that same number of years. She has one daughter and two sons.

The District 109 Chief of Staff attended the Art Institute in Houston, studying Business and Art Design. She has a PMP Certification from Office of Personal Management, Salesforce Subject Matter Expert; she partners as a Community Coordinator for Parkland Hospital, Mammogram Services and is the Community Coordinator for Marsalis Avenue Church of Christ, Girl Scout Leadership Awards.

Ms. Bradford says she is looking forward to her Chief of Staff position for many reasons and names relationship as of the utmost importance.

Chadwick Boseman

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

The world is reeling from the loss of iconic actor Chadwick Boseman, who died Friday, August 28, after losing a private battle to colon cancer. Boseman died at home surrounded by his family.

A statement released by his family said Boseman was diagnosed with stage three colon cancer in 2016 and the disease progressed to stage 4. Boseman endured countless surgeries



Gage Skidmore / Wikimedia

and treatments as he continued to make films from Marshall (directed by Reginald Hudlin), Da 5 Bloods (directed by Spike Lee) and August Wilson's Ma Rainey's Black Bottom (directed

by George C. Wolfe and produced by Denzel Washington).

Washington and Boseman were first introduced when Washington paid for Boseman and several other Howard University students to continue their theater studies by taking a theater course in Oxford.

The Howard University-educated thespian was the star of Marvel's Black Panther franchise, bringing to life one of the most important and revered superheroes in American film history.

Directed by Ryan Coogler, Black Panther was the first superhero movie

to be nominated for a best picture Oscar and one of the highest-grossing films of all time, bringing in over \$1 billion.

Black Panther became more than a movie, morphing into a celebration of Black culture, art, history, achievement and intellect in addition to highlighting the Black cultural presence and influence in comic book culture.

Boseman was no stranger to playing iconic characters, bursting onto the big screen in 2013's 42 as baseball legend Jackie Robinson, who broke the color barrier in major league baseball.

Boseman went on to star as Soul legend James Brown in 2014's Get On Up and Thurgood Marshall in Marshall in 2017. Boseman brought a quiet dignity and powerful presence to these characters, with performances reflective of the weight they hold in world culture.

Prior to breaking into film, Boseman lived in New York, teaching at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture while cutting his teeth on small roles on shows like Law & Order, Third Watch, ER and Lie to Me, eventually landing recurring roles on Lincoln Heights and Per-

sons Unknown.

It was Boseman's turn as Jackie Robinson that cemented his film star status and his performance as T'Challa in Marvel's Black Panther, that catapulted him to superstardom. Black Panther grew beyond the big screen and became a cultural phenomenon. Boseman, who hails from Anderson South Carolina, gave moviegoers a king who was stoic, powerful and captivating as he led warriors with love, intellect and strategy as they fought to maintain control of their powerful,

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John Thompson

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Contributor

John Thompson was the first Black coach to win the NCAA Championship. In 1984, he led the Georgetown Hoyas to victory over the Houston Cougars. In 1985 Thompson was named Coach of the Year. He coached at Georgetown University from 1972 to 1999.

Thompson was a coach who set the bar high for his players on and off the basketball court. He coached Patrick Ewing, Allen Iverson, Alonzo Mourning and Dikembe Mutumbo. He became a mentor to many



long after they left Georgetown and competitive basketball.

Thompson had a preference for players that had a passion for the game on the court.

He once said, "you can calm down a fool before you can resurrect a corpse."

He emphasized the power of habit, attitude and state of mind with his players. "If you think you are beaten you are. If you think you dare not, you won't," he once said.

"Big John Thompson is the single most important African American man in the history of D.C. sports," Said writer Clinton Yeats. In 1999 he was selected to be in the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame.

In 27 seasons, Thompson compiled a coaching record of 596-239. Most importantly to Thompson, 97 percent of his players stayed four years and left Georgetown University with a college degree.

Thompson was born in Washington, D.C. and went on to play in the NBA for the Boston Celtics.

Thompson is survived by his three children, John Thompson III, who also coached basketball at Georgetown, Ronny Thompson and Tiffany Thompson. Thompson's autobiography is due out in January 2021.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist for NNPA and the host of the podcast BURKEFILE. She is also a political strategist as Principal of Win Digital Media LLC. She may be contacted at LBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at [@LVBurke](https://twitter.com/LVBurke).

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Black Americans and COVID-19 clinical trials

By Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.
President and CEO
National Newspaper
Publishers Association

The unrelenting spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) throughout the United States of America in 2020, continues to pose an unprecedented public health crisis for all Americans, but in particular for Black Americans and other people of color who are disproportionately negatively impacted by COVID-19.

As the trusted voice of Black America, the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) in March of 2020 established the NNPA Coronavirus Task Force as a means of increasing public awareness about the overall preexisting health disparities in Black America and the disproportionately fatal consequences of COVID-19 for Black Americans and other people of color.

In fact, the NNPA and our Coronavirus Task Force were the first to issue a national "State of Emergency" declaration on April 3, 2020 to warn Black Americans and others about the evolving dangers and public health risks of COVID-19.

Earlier this year, there were just too many myths

and other misinformation circulating primarily via social media falsely asserting that "Black people and people of African descent were immune to COVID-19 because of the presence of melanin." Of course, that assertion is not true. Yet, unfortunately, too many people in our communities began to risk infection to COVID-19 because of falsehoods and misinformation.

The media has a responsibility to research and report the truth.

This year marks the 193rd year of the Black Press of America. Since Freedom's Journal was first published in March of 1827, the Black Press has remained on the front lines of publishing and speaking truth to power by demanding freedom, justice and equality.

All of this brings me to state categorically, "Black Americans have to be involved at all levels of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. We cannot afford to be silent, detached, denied, or prevented from being at the decision-making tables in terms of COVID-19-based public health policies, research, clinical trials, remedies, and vaccine development. Our lives and future are at stake."

The good news is that to-

day there are many Black American physicians, infectious disease scholars, clinicians, medical researchers, nurses and others on the front lines as first responders and as leaders inside the major pharmaceutical companies that are striving to develop a safe and effective vaccine for COVID-19.

We are profoundly aware that within our communities there has been a historical and contemporary distrust of medical research. However, the challenge today is for more Black Americans to be involved at every point of the development of a COVID-19 vaccine to ensure that the medical rights and interests of Black Americans are thoroughly protected, respected, and addressed effectively and truthfully.

In other words, Black American engagement is crucial and critical in the development of a COVID-19 vaccine — including participation in clinical trials — to make sure that the new vaccine is effective to prevent Blacks and others from COVID-19 infections.

Three years ago, the NNPA, Howard University and Pfizer collaborated to do a national landmark poll and study of awareness of Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) among Black Americans.

This was important because Black Americans are disproportionately impacted by SCD across the nation.

Included in that NNPA-Howard University-Pfizer poll was the issue of Black Americans' willingness to participate in clinical trials with respect to SCD. We were pleased to learn and to document that 76% of the Black American poll respondents had positive or neutral attitudes toward SCD clinical trials, and a majority indicated a willingness to participate in future clinical trials for SCD, given appropriate knowledge and recommendations from health care professionals.

It is urgent that in the strategic rush to develop an effective COVID-19 vaccine for all people, that Black Americans are not left out of the process. The health of our families and communities necessitates our involvement to raise all the questions that need to be raised, and at the same time to participate responsibly in the COVID-19 clinical trials.

Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. is the President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and can be reached at dr.bchavis@nnpa.org.

COVID-19 now is the third leading cause of death among Black people

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

America's economic situation has substantially deteriorated since the onset of the COVID-19 crisis, and families across race and ethnicity feel the pain, according to a new report from the Brookings Institution, which notes that the coronavirus now stands as the third leading cause of death among African Americans.

"If I told you on January 1

that a new virus that we did not even know about would, in August, be the third leading cause of death for Black Americans, our hair should have been set on fire and we would have an extensive public policy response to this unprecedented pandemic," noted Trevon Logan, professor of economics at the Ohio State University.

Logan co-authored the report titled, "The Hamilton Project, Racial Economic Inequality Amid the COVID-19 Crisis," with Bradley

L. Hardy of the American University in Northwest, Washington D.C.

"In 2020, more Black Americans will die of COVID-19 than will succumb to diabetes, strokes, accidents, or pneumonia. In fact, COVID-19 is currently the third leading cause of death for African Americans," Logan and Hardy concluded.

Among the reasons for the disparity is that African Americans are more than twice as likely as the average worker to be employed

in the healthcare support service industry, which has been decimated by COVID-19 in assisted living facilities and nursing homes.

African Americans are also significantly overrepresented in the personal care and service and food preparation industries, which are disproportionately essential worker industries, the authors discovered.

Additionally, on average, African Americans share their living quarters with more people.

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Controversial antigen tests could be key to defeating COVID-19

By Christine Vestal
Stateline, an initiative of
The Pew Charitable Trusts

The day before a planned visit from President Donald Trump earlier this month, a technician swabbed Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine to test him for COVID-19. Within 15 minutes, a plus sign for a positive result appeared on the screen of a desktop device the size of a digital alarm clock.

Later that day, however, the Republican governor was tested using a laboratory analysis, which produced a negative result. DeWine's high-profile testing error raised concerns about the reliability of so-called rapid result antigen tests. But the mishap did little to dampen enthusiasm for the cheap, fast and easy-to-use tests.

Many, including members of the Trump administration's coronavirus task force, say rapid result tests have the potential to cure the nation's COVID-19 testing shortage — a problem that has hobbled public health efforts to control the virus from the beginning.

At the same time, public health officials worry that the less sensitive tests — which are increasingly used in doctor's offices, nursing homes, jails, schools and workplaces — could muddy the surveillance data



Prasesh Shivakoti / Unsplash

epidemiologists rely on to monitor the spread of the virus.

They question whether users of the tests outside medical settings will be able to accurately report re-

sults from what is projected to be millions of antigen tests every day.

"It's a very serious problem," said Dr. Jeff Engel, senior adviser and former executive director of the

Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, which along with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, sets standards for state reporting of infectious disease data.

"Since the industry started scaling up production of antigen tests in June and July," Engel said, "it has changed the entire environment of COVID testing and surveillance."

Engel and other experts acknowledge that antigen tests and a new fast-acting saliva test approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration this month

could allow the nation to get back to more normal life, even before a vaccine is widely available. Ultimately, the tests are expected to become so cheap and plentiful that every American could have a supply of them to use at home.

But individual users still would be expected to report both positive and negative results to their local health authorities.

Earlier this month, Engel's organization and the CDC called on state and local public health agencies to record positive antigen test results as possible COVID-19 cases and convert

the cases to confirmed status only after a more accurate test is performed.

Although an estimated 10 million antigen tests have been performed in the United States since June, only about 500,000 have been recorded in daily test counts, according to Alexis Madrigal, a journalist and founder of The Atlantic's COVID Tracking Project.

Only six states — Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Texas and Utah — appear to be accounting for antigen tests conducted in the state, he

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DFW Metro Justice & Equality plans 'Souls to the Polls' events

In a time when disenfranchisement is once again a threat to democratic rights, DFW Metro Justice & Equality is sponsoring a voter-turnout event called Souls to the Polls to ensure that everyone votes. The exciting event will take place on the Super Sunday voting dates of Oct. 18, 2020, and Oct. 25, 2020, from 1-5 p.m. in neighborhoods throughout North Texas.



participants are encouraged to decorate their cars with signs like "Get Out and Vote," "Your Vote Counts" and "Rock the Vote." During Souls to the Polls, the cars

will ride through communities in a parade to encourage others to make voting a priority. Not only will Souls to the Polls accomplish the important goal of increasing voter turnout, it will also be a cultural event filled with camaraderie and fun.

Churches, community organizations, businesses, sororities, fraternities, car clubs, jeep clubs, trail-riding clubs, motorcycle clubs, residential communities,

barbers and their clients, hairstylists and their clients, high school groups, college groups and more may participate.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, DFW Metro Justice & Equality is requesting that Souls to the Polls participants wear masks and stay in your vehicles until you reach your voting poll locations.

Interested participants may register at <https://bit.ly/2G9MVTE>.

After participants register, they will be contacted with details.

The mission of DFW Metro Justice & Equality is to address disparities resulting from systemic oppression and to advance people of color and the disadvantaged by implementing initiatives that promote equity, equality, and justice for all!

Join DFW Metro Justice & Equality on Facebook at [shorturl.at/ct046](https://bit.ly/2G9MVTE).

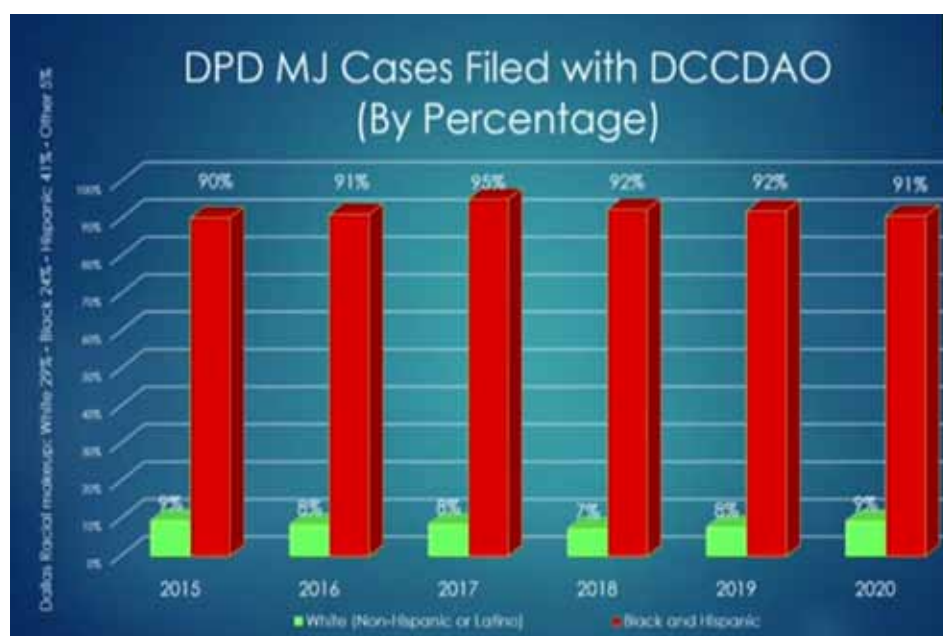
DeSoto City Council examines local marijuana enforcement policy

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

The use of marijuana and related products such as CBD has received a lot of attention in recent years. In some states, the local government has legalized cannabis altogether, though it remains a violation under existing federal law. Another related issue is the disparity between the treatment of different individuals who find themselves on the wrong side of the statute, depending on where they live ... and what they look like.

This enforcement was the subject of a special session of the DeSoto City Council held online on Aug. 17.

The issue was brought forward by Councilmember Candice Quarles, who emphasized the disproportionate impact low-level marijuana arrests have on people of color, and how it follows them through life when dealing with issues like housing, Pell grants and employment. Quarles had invited Dallas County Dis-



A graph presented to the DeSoto City Council by District Attorney John Creuzot shows a clear disparity in the ethnicity of those being prosecuted for marijuana offenses in Dallas.

trict Attorney John Creuzot to speak at the meeting. She said Creuzot had made policy changes at the county level, and that the DeSoto Police Department had changed their policy shortly afterward.

"I believe we should have been a part of that conversation and this is why I'm bringing it before you now," Quarles said. "One, for information, and two, discus-

sion of going forward."

Creuzot addressed the council, noting widespread use of marijuana among young people, on college campuses and even among people his own age. He said there was a shift in what was believed about the drug from his younger years watching "Dragnet," to what is known today. For many years it was said that cannabis was a "gateway

drug.

"It's a gateway to two things," Creuzot said. "It's a gateway to searching a car,

and it's a gateway to causing someone to have a criminal record. And it doesn't have any relationship to any cause and effect of violent crime."

Citing research by researcher James Forman, Jr., Creuzot said much of the racial disparity in prosecution is the result of "pretext" traffic stops. Forman's research found that when simply enforcing traffic laws, police tended to pull over drivers without regard to race, but when conductive investigative stops, Blacks and other minority drivers found themselves being pulled over two-and-a-half times more often.

Creuzot showed the council statistics from the Dallas Police Department and the court system where

from 2015 to 2020 more than 90% of marijuana cases prosecuted each year were from the Black or Hispanic communities. He also showed statistics showing that while the violent crime rate has risen, marijuana violations have been relatively stable.

From his office, Creuzot has instituted a policy of diverting low-level offenses and offering deferred adjudication. He also thanked DeSoto Police Chief Joe Costa for being the first to follow suit in his own department. Creuzot believes this policy not only saves individuals from headwinds down the road, it also helps free up the court system for more pressing matters.

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said. As recommended by the CDC, the states are not reporting positive cases unless confirmed by a laboratory test.

"It is a huge policy issue, and it's a huge problem," Madrigal said. "These rapid point-of-care tests are a remarkable public health tool, but they also make it

difficult to track how much testing is being done."

Jennifer Nuzzo, senior scholar at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, which also tracks state and local COVID-19 data, agreed. "Rapid result tests are potentially going to be helpful," she said. "But we need to figure out

how states are going to use them and how they're going to report the data.

"One of the reasons we're in this mess is that states are making high-stakes decisions about whether to restrict travel and open or close schools and businesses based on positivity rates," she said. "We have to hope they're calculating them with the correct data."

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2204	Sizzling Hot 7s - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.36	\$2	9/25/20	3/24/21
2213	Money Multiplier - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.19	\$5	9/25/20	3/24/21
2173	Hit \$1,000,000 - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.33	\$30	9/27/20	3/26/21
2141	Million Dollar Jackpot - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.39	\$50	10/2/20	3/31/21
2220	Emerald 8s - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.40	\$2	10/4/20	4/2/21
2127	4-Way Cash - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.74	\$2	10/14/20	4/12/21
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2208	\$50 or \$100! - Overall Odds are 1 in 8.33	\$10	10/14/20	4/12/21

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TEXAS LOTTERY

Virginia high school students can now take Black History courses

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

Virginia students now can take an elective course focusing on African American history, Gov. Ralph Northam said on Thursday, Aug. 28.

The new courses are available in 16 of the state's school divisions, including in Arlington and Prince William counties.

"Black history is American history, but for too long, the story we have told was insufficient and inadequate," Gov. Northam said in a news release. "The introduction of this groundbreaking course is a first step toward our shared goal of ensuring all Virginia students have a fuller, more accurate understanding of our history, and can draw important connections



"We can expect young Virginians to understand the enduring impacts of systemic racism only when they fully understand both the oppression experienced by African Americans and their significant contributions to STEM, the arts, education, law, and advocacy," said Virginia Secretary of Education Atif Qarni. (Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA)

from those past events to our present day."

The full-credit course surveys African American history from precolonial Africa through the present day. It introduces students to African American history concepts, including the trans-Atlantic slave trade, the Civil War, Emancipa-

tion, Reconstruction, and the civil rights era.

Students will also learn about African American voices, including many not traditionally highlighted, and their contributions to Virginia and America's story.

According to the news release, the course is ex-

pected to challenge students to explore primary and secondary sources documenting the African American experience.

It includes a capstone project requiring students to conduct independent research on a question or problem of their choosing and demonstrate a deeper understanding of African American history.

"We can expect young Virginians to understand the enduring impacts of systemic racism only when they fully understand both the oppression experienced by African Americans and their significant contributions to STEM, the arts, education, law, and advocacy," said Virginia Secretary of Education Atif Qarni.

"As a history teacher, I know that this course is long overdue and is a first step toward telling a more

inclusive story about the past and how it has shaped the present."

In 2019, Gov. Northam signed an executive order to establish the Commission on African American History Education.

The Commission was charged with reviewing Virginia's history standards, and the instructional practices, content, and resources to teach African American history in the Commonwealth.

The inclusion of African American history in high school classes in Virginia comes as protests continue in the aftermath of the police shootings of George Floyd in Minnesota, Jacob Blake in Wisconsin, and many others.

It also comes at a time when professional athletes and entertainers have stood in force behind the Black

Lives Matter Movement in a push for social justice and all to understand the history of African Americans.

"The full history of Virginia is complex, contradictory, and often untold – and we must do a better job of making sure that every Virginia graduate enters adult life with an accurate and thorough understanding of our past, and the pivotal role that African Americans have played in building and perfecting our Commonwealth," Gov. Northam stated.

"The important work of this Commission will help ensure that Virginia's standards of learning are inclusive of African American history and allow students to engage deeply, drawing connections between historic racial inequities and their continuous influence on our communities today."

ACLU urges school districts to remove discriminatory dress code requirements

HOUSTON – The ACLU of Texas this week sent a letter to hundreds of school districts throughout Texas demanding that they reexamine dress and grooming code policies that are unconstitutional and discriminatory.

"While school districts throughout the county have removed policies that were

based on antiquated sex stereotypes, many school districts in Texas still have policies that treat students differently on the basis of their gender, such as requiring different hair and dress standards for male and female students," said Brian Klosterboer, attorney for the ACLU of Texas. "Recent court decisions, includ-

ing from the U.S. Supreme Court, have found that this type of gender-based discrimination is unconstitutional. School districts need to conform to federal law and fix outdated policies that cause serious harm to students in Texas."

This July, the ACLU of Texas represented Kaden Bradford in a grievance

challenge to an east Texas school district's gender-specific grooming policy, which prevented Kaden and his cousin, De'Andre Arnold, from wearing locs. Two weeks ago, a Texas federal court struck down this policy, which required male, but not female, students to wear short hair, and found the school district's

practices to be unconstitutional discrimination based on race and sex.

In the letters sent to 477 school districts, the ACLU of Texas warns that such policies are outdated, harmful, and could leave them open to civil rights litigation. The ACLU of Texas is asking school districts to revise their dress and groom-

ing policies to ensure that all students are treated fairly and equally, and that they do not face discrimination.

A copy of the letter and a list of school districts that have been identified as likely having discriminatory grooming provisions are available on the ACLU of Texas website (www.aclutx.org).

BOSEMAN, from Page 2

technologically superior nation, ripe for poaching by outsiders.

Much like the Gullah culture of his home state, Boseman was able to effortlessly blend African and American culture to help create a fantastical world on screen that was inspirational and recognizable. Boseman led an all-star cast including Angela Bassett, Michael B. Jordan, Danai Gurira, Daniel Kaluuya, Letitia Wright, Sterling Brown,

Winston Duke and Academy award-winning actors Lupita Nyong'o and Forrest Whitaker, holding his own and fortifying his status as a Hollywood superstar.

Boseman, who also appeared as T'Challa/Black Panther in Avengers Infinity War and Avengers: End Game, starred in and produced the films 21 Bridges, Marshall and Message from the King, which he served as Executive Producer. At the time of his death, Boseman

was in pre-production as producer on Yasuke, a film about the world's first Black Samurai in which Boseman was slated to star.

In addition to acting and producing, Boseman was also an activist and philanthropist supporting social justice initiatives like Michelle Obama's #WhenWeAllVote and celebrating fellow Bison Kamala Harris' history making selection as the Democratic Vice-Presidential nominee for the 2020 U.S. Presidential election, which was his

last Twitter post before his death.

In 2018, the wonder-kind performer delivered a powerful commencement speech at Howard University encouraging students to rise above traumatic experiences and applauding their campus activism. Boseman, who was mentored by fellow Howard University alum Phylicia Rashad and helped financially by Denzel Washington as a student donated \$100,000 to #Change4Change, which supports HBCUs in November

2019.

The private public figure spent time visiting children suffering from cancer at St. Jude's Research Center. In April 2020, the actor donated \$4.2 million worth of PPE equipment to hospitals serving Black communities

during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The youngest of four, Boseman is survived by his parents Leroy and Carolyn Boseman, siblings Kevin, Dionne and Derrick and wife Taylor Simone Ledward. Boseman was 43.

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Irving police complete pledge to improve response to mental illness cases

The Irving Police Department announced it is the first police department in Texas to complete a pledge taken to improve its response to those suffering from mental illness in the community.

The pledge is part of an initiative known as the One Mind Campaign started by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), a 30,000 member professional association for law enforcement which provides training, technical assistance, and recruitment services to police agencies around the world.

To join the One Mind Campaign, law enforcement agencies must pledge to implement four promising practices in a 12-36 month period to ensure successful future interactions between



Jude Beck / Unsplash

police officers and persons with mental illness.

In the law enforcement community, mental illness has become a common focus, with some departments estimating that as many as 20 percent of their calls for service are related to mental health challenges. Irving Police Chief Jeff Spivey made the decision to join the International Association

of Chiefs of Police's One Mind Campaign to ensure the Irving Police Department was providing the most relevant and comprehensive approach to providing mental health responses to the Irving community.

In completing the One Mind Pledge, the Irving Police Department established a sustainable partnership with a local mental health

organization, developed and implemented a model policy to address officers' interactions with those affected by mental illness, and ensured that all officers received some type of mental health awareness training, with at least 20 percent of the department completing the more intensive Crisis Intervention Training.

The 40-hour Crisis Intervention curriculum is designed by local agencies to train a team of specialized officers to respond to calls which involve individuals with mental health disorders, such as depression or intellectual disability. The curriculum includes education on various de-escalation techniques as well as live role-play scenarios of officers responding to persons

who need mental health assistance.

Other initiatives that the Irving Police Department has pursued in response to the needs of the community include establishing a local Behavioral Health Leadership Team (BHLT) and Mental Health Response Team (MHRT). The Irving BHLT is the first police department-led body of its kind in the state of Texas. It is an interagency leadership group that includes representatives from mental health services providers, the municipal court, a local nonprofit organization, the local housing authority and other interested entities.

Its members meet regularly to discuss trends and solutions for efficiently managing local mental health re-

sources.

The Irving MHRT is staffed by police officers and a licensed mental health clinician. The team responds to crisis calls and maintains contact with services clients to facilitate their continuity of mental health care.

"The greatest benefit in adopting the strategies of the One Mind Campaign pledge has been ensuring our organization's response to those individuals suffering from mental illness in line with best practices as determined by the IACP based research, model policies and local mental health authorities," the department said in a release. "This enables the Irving Police Department to develop and maintain trust relationships in responses to these calls for service."

City of Carrollton slates second annual Glow Run 5K event for Sept. 26

The City of Carrollton is offering the second annual Glow Run 5K on Saturday, September 26 at 9 p.m. New COVID-19 safety measures will be in place for this year's event.

The race will start and finish at McInnish Dog Park (1845 Legends Trail) and will route through the

adjacent McInnish Sports Complex. Participants will need to park at the dog park or at the circular parking lot south of the park on Legends Trail. The main entrance to McInnish Sports Complex will be closed.

Participants can take the half-mile marker shortcut for a one-mile fun run/walk

to the finish line. Dogs are allowed to run with their owners at no additional charge.

To allow for social distancing, participants must preregister for one of four time slots beginning at 9 p.m., 9:45 p.m., 10:30 p.m., or 11:15 p.m. A maximum of 50 people will be al-

lowed to sign up during each time period.

Preregister before Monday, September 21 by 11:59 p.m. to receive the \$25 rate.

Price increases to \$35 on race day. Changes to registration after September 21 will incur a \$5 change fee. Walkups will be accepted

the evening of the event if space allows.

For more information call 972-466-9816 or visit the city's website.

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SCAN TO REGISTER

Learners are Leaders, Inc: Lessening the summer slide through enrichment

By Jacquinette D. Murphy
NDG Special Contributor

The looming COVID-19 global pandemic and the necessity of social distancing did not stop Learners are Leaders, Inc., a non-profit based in Cedar Hill and founded by Brandy Jones-West, Ph.D., from hosting their second Summer Leadership Camp. West and her team pivoted the in-person camp enrichment program model to host a virtual experience for fifteen youth ages 9-13 years old.

The programs developed by the camp are dedicated to lessening the summer slide by offering engaging projects and activities centered around a 5-point focus on social justice, academic enrichment, movement, leadership, and social/emotional learning.

As a former classroom teacher who also held several roles as a K-12 administrator, Jones-West is currently a clinical professor in the Teaching and Learning Department at Sam Houston State University, LL Inc. She shared the necessity of enrichment programs like Leaders are Learners, Inc, that develop out-of-school academic-based programs dedicated to helping youth bridge the gap between the classroom and the real world.

"As a teacher, I noticed that there were a lot of lessons students was not receiving from the curriculum, such as leadership and soft skills. These are skills that I feel students still need to be successful," said Jones-West as she shared the vision and inspiration for the camp. "I am really into experiential learning, field trips that get children



Kaiden West took first place in the competition with a presentation on the Little Rock Nine. (Courtesy Image)



The Brown vs. The Board of Education decision was the subject of Brenyae West's presentation, which took second place. (Courtesy Image)

out of their houses, schools, and neighborhoods to do and learn new things. You do not know how big the world is until you get out there and experience it."

For three weeks, the young campers learned online together with certified teachers, engaged in several, skill-building activities and contests for three hours per day. Then, they worked independently to complete academic enrichment projects, to research and practice for two culminating camp contests, the camp spelling bee, and the culminating poetry oratorical presentations.

According to West and the camp attendees, one of the most memorable components of the camp included a book study and leadership discussion on the Clinton Twelve, a nonfiction story about 12 African-American students who integrated Clinton High School in Ten-

nessee in 1956.

Themed the Promise of Change, the youth took a virtual walk through the pages of African American history during the final poetry oratorical contest, as the campers presented their research and knowledge gained about leaders and changemakers that helped to reshape society, such as the Buffalo Soldiers, Tuskegee Airmen, The Little Rock Nine, Clara Ward, The Jim Crow Laws, Brown vs. The Board of Education and others.

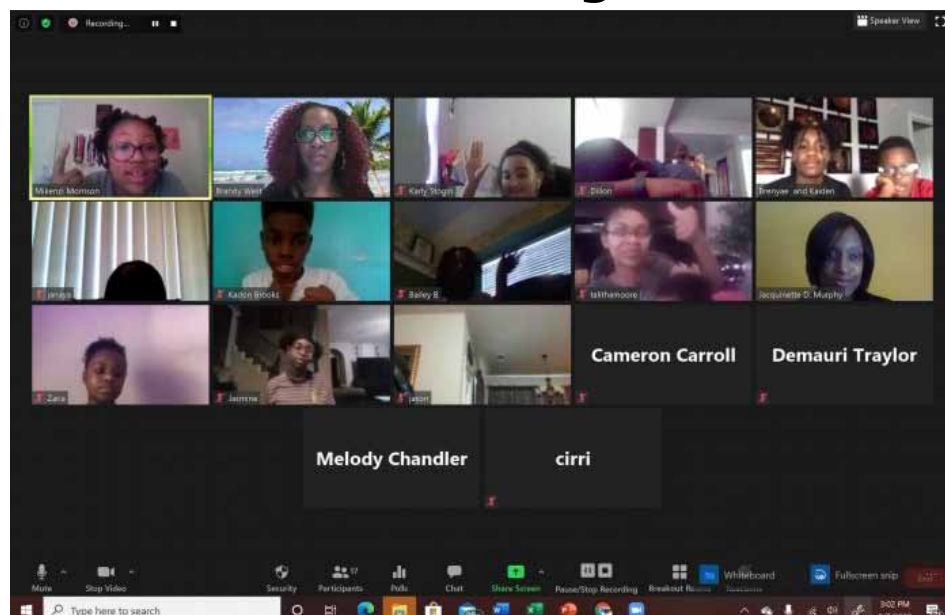
The top three presentations selected by the judges based on research, visuals and presentation tone, were as follows: Kaiden Stewart West – First Place (118 points) for his The Little Rock Nine presentation, Brenyae West – Second Place (117 points) for her presentation on Brown vs. The Board of Education and Jasmine Simpson –

legislative session, saying this was a step in the right direction, and one which has been seen before.

"If you look at the history of what other states have done, before they went to medicinal legalization or full legalization, they started with this," Quarles said.

states have some sort of legalization, and another 34 have uses like medicinal, but we're still arresting people for it."

She said it was significant that the state government legalized hemp in the last



Students gather virtually for the final day of the Leaders are Learners program. (Courtesy photo)



Jasmine Simpson took third place for her presentation on The Jim Crow Laws. (Courtesy Image)

Third Place (110 points) for her presentation on The Jim Crow Laws. These winners received cash awards sponsored by the North Dallas Gazette of \$100, \$50, and \$25, respectively.

Jones-West shared that she was impressed by the participation and prepara-

tion of the students and glad that did not cancel this year's learning excursion. An opportunity for which Simpson and the camp attendees made plain that they were grateful to have.

"It allowed me to learn in a different way. This is new to all of us because we are

used to doing this in-person and now we are doing it all online," she said as she and the other campers gave two thumbs to state their satisfaction for the camp content, its organizers, and to the new friends that they made.

The campers also participated in the Dallas City of Learning (DCOL), an education initiative and online platform sponsored in part by Big Thought and designed to help students discover new interests, develop skills, and earn recognition for learning achievements.

Learn more about this organization and its out-of-school programs via its website leadersinc.org.

POLICY, from Page 5

In regards to the future of marijuana enforcement, Quarles says times are changing. There are

"Marijuana is changing," Quarles said. "Attitudes around it are changing. It's more accepted. Eleven

states have some sort of legalization, and another 34 have uses like medicinal, but we're still arresting people for it."

She said it was significant that the state government legalized hemp in the last

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Oprah & Ava: 'Own Spotlight: Culture, Connection & August 28th'

LOS ANGELES – Continuing conversations surrounding issues impacting Black lives, “OWN Spotlight: Culture Connection & August 28th, Ava DuVernay & Rev. Sharpton,” which originally aired Friday, August 28 at 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. ET/PT on OWN, will stream for free on the Watch OWN app and the OWN Facebook and Youtube pages.

The special features Oprah Winfrey as she speaks separately with both acclaimed director Ava DuVernay and Rev. Al Sharpton regarding the historical context of August 28th and the significance of the upcoming election, along with a special presentation of DuVernay's short film “August 28: A Day in the Life of a People.”

During the special, Winfrey speaks with DuVernay about the work she is doing in support of social justice, how she uses history to inform her activism, and how imperative



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it is for everyone to vote in the upcoming election. Winfrey later discusses with Rev. Al Sharpton the connection of the ‘Get Off Our Necks’ Commitment March which took place on the same day as the historic March on Washington 57 years ago. Rev. Sharpton shares ways that everyone can show their support in this moment, reiterating his intention for the march is not about numbers but long-term impact.

The interviews book-

end DuVernay's scripted short-film entitled “August 28: A Day in the Life of a People,” starring Lupita Nyong'o, Angela Bassett, Don Cheadle, Regina King, David Oyelowo, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, André Holland, Michael Ealy and Glynn Turman.

DuVernay uses a robust combination of both documentary and narrative techniques to transport viewers through six stunning historical moments that all actually occurred on the

same day – August 28th – in various years. Written, produced and directed by DuVernay, “August 28” traverses a century of black progress, protest, passion and perseverance of African American people.

The project gives historical perspective within the creative framework of one date that has had a profound effect on America including: the passing of The Slavery Abolition Act on August 28, 1833, the lynching of Emmett Till on August 28, 1955, the first radio airplay from Motown Records on August 28, 1961 with The Marvelettes “Please Mr Postman,” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s “I Have A Dream” speech during the massive March on Washington on August 28, 1963, Hurricane Katrina making its tragic landfall on August 28, 2005 and then-Senator Barack Obama's acceptance of the Democratic nomination for the presidency on August

28, 2008.

The film was lensed by cinematographer Malik Sayeed and edited by Oscar nominee Spencer Averick. Ten-time Grammy nominee Meshell Ndegeocello composed the score. Paul Barnes produced, with co-producers Tilane Jones and Tammy Barnes.

This special is part of OWN's overall OWN YOUR VOTE initiative, a bipartisan registration and get-out-the-vote campaign partnering with national and local grassroots and voting rights organizations to provide tools and resources that will empower Black women to vote this November. Black women powerfully influence elec-

tion outcomes, and OWN YOUR VOTE supports this group of voters to show up to the polls and help friends, family, and their community to do the same. Winfrey recently shared that OWN will grant November 3rd as a company holiday to ensure all employees have the time to vote and volunteer. “I challenge other companies to do the same because this might be the most important election of our lives,” Winfrey said in her social post.

“OWN Spotlight: Culture Connection & August 28th, Ava DuVernay & Rev. Sharpton” is produced by OWN. The executive producers are Oprah Winfrey and Tara Montgomery.

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The Rustic launches Safe Sounds Music Series in Dallas

The Rustic is introducing a new and COVID compliant Safe Sounds Music Series. This intimate seated concert series will bring top musicians back to The Rustic's stage, all while continuing to implement the necessary precautions to ensure guests safety.

“At The Rustic, music is part of our DNA, and we are proud to offer this series as a way to support musicians during these difficult times,” said Kyle Noonan, co-owner of Freerange Concepts, creator of The Rustic. “By leveraging our 30,000-square-foot inside/outside space, we are able to create this unique opportunity that allows patrons to experience the Safe Sounds Series. We

understand how important it is for our guests to have a safe place to relax and enjoy live music, which is why we are committed to continue delivering a controlled, socially-distant and safe environment.”

As always, The Rustic is dedicated to ensuring the safety of its guests and team members by operating with the highest standards of food safety, cleanliness and health precautions. In addition to following all capacity requirements and social distancing protocols, The Rustic has implemented enhanced cleaning and sanitation procedures. Some of the safety measures that will be implemented during the Safe Sounds Music Series include:

- Dedicated table service.
- All guests will be seated at socially distanced tables with limited seating.
- Masks are required by all guests and team members.
- Fixed menus available through a QR code to limit contact with servers.
- Staggered arrival times for guests.
- No standing room permitted. Guests will only be allowed to walk around when entering, exiting or going to the restroom in which masks will be required.
- Photos and video will not be permitted.
- Increased security to ensure that all of the safety

See RUSTIC, Page 10

EARLY VOTING

OCTOBER 13 - 30

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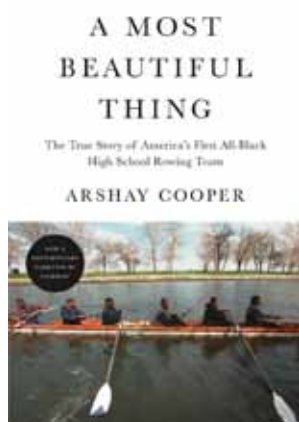
NDG Book Review: 'A Most Beautiful Thing' highlights a sports milestone

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Either, or.

The choice is yours: do you pick one thing, or take the other? Stay where you are, or reach for better? This or that, any way, you always have to decide: do you take either, or... as in "A Most Beautiful Thing" by Arshay Cooper, do you take the oar?

Growing on Chicago's West Side, Arshay Cooper was used to seeing blood on the sidewalk. Gunshots were like lullabies and he hated it. His father was long gone, his mother was then too addicted to care for her children, and he "had a



funeral" for her in his heart. Later, once his mother was clean and he started attending high school at Manley Career Academy, he became firm in his belief that his future was not on the streets. He knew gang-

banging wasn't for him, so he mostly stayed home and watched Family Matters, The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air, and A Different World on TV, absorbing their lessons and wishing his life was more like that of the characters.

And then he saw a boat.

It wasn't just any boat, though: it was long and sleek and Cooper quickly learned that it was used in a sport he'd never heard of. The white female coach said team members would be taught all they needed to know; the white man who'd put the program together said that there'd never been an all-Black

high school rowing team, and he promised that anybody who stuck with the program would succeed in life. Though Cooper's schoolmates talked smack about it, and in part because of a girl, Cooper and his best friend signed up for "crew."

And everything clicked into place.

Rowing required discipline. It was exhausting, emotionally and physically. There were sacrifices. But when on the water, rowing, he says, "I don't hear gunshots or ambulance sirens. I don't see gang signs and I don't have fear... I feel powerful."

Here's all you need to know: "A Most Beautiful Thing" lives up to its name.

It doesn't start out that way, though: in laying the ground for his tale, author Arshay Cooper writes about the realities of growing up in a Chicago neighborhood that he hints could have been any-inner-city-where, any-inner-city-time. This gives the story its muscle and allows readers to better picture the scenes and the struggles he and his young teammates withstood. You'll be happy to know that there isn't a shred of boasting or false pride in that.

Once you're that far into

the book, then, you may notice that Cooper masterfully makes you feel a part of the team. At that point, just go ahead, take their losses to heart. Be proud of the changes they've made. Think about the grace on race that Cooper offers. Grin like a fool at the triumphs, and laugh at their nonconformity.

It's perfectly okay to get teary-eyed at the epilogue, really.

This is the feel-goodest of feel-good books, and you should have it now. Reading "A Most Beautiful Thing" will leave you feeling merrily, merrily, merrily.

National Museum of African American Music plans digital and in-person experiences for fall roll out

NASHVILLE -- (PRNewswire) The National Museum of African American Music (NMAAM) announces that its previously scheduled grand opening for Labor Day weekend 2020 has been delayed due to ongoing concerns around the coronavirus pandemic. Starting this month, NMAAM will kick off a year-long celebration filled with a variety of digital experiences and limited in-person events.

"We take the health and safety of our staff and guests seriously. Construction of the museum is coming to completion, and although we will be prepared to open in the next couple of months, we won't do so until we are confident that we can adhere to the recommendations of the CDC and the City of Nashville, to keep our staff and commu-

nity safe," said H. Beecher Hicks III, NMAAM President and CEO. "We hope to have a soft opening in the fall, and an incredible celebration sometime mid-next year. More details will be available soon."

In the meantime, the public will be able to engage and interact with NMAAM through various digital experiences available via the museum's website and social media channels. The museum is continuing to share the story of the influence and contributions of African Americans on the American soundtrack. The signature From Nothing to Something educational program is now being offered across NMAAM social media platforms, along with other recurring programming such as Sips and Stanzas, the My Music Matters interview series and the

Fine Tuning Masterclasses. NMAAM will also soon offer virtual tours of the museum and digital sneak peaks of selected items in its collection of artifacts.

Located in the heart of downtown Nashville as part of the Fifth + Broadway mixed-use development, NMAAM was scheduled to kick-off the grand opening of the full development that includes retail, residential and office spaces. The remainder of the Fifth + Broadway will host its own opening activities allowing tenants to move-in and celebrate at their own pace.

Construction on the 56,000 square foot facility was impacted earlier this spring when COVID-19 concerns halted many local businesses and forced crews to work in limited capacities due to social distancing mandates. Luck-

ily, construction was already far enough along that NMAAM only experienced slight delays and the construction team was able to stay substantially on schedule. NMAAM leadership is pleased that construction of the museum will be complete by September as originally planned.

Upon entering, guests who visit the museum will be immersed in generations of musical history created and inspired by African Americans. NMAAM features seven content gal-

eries—six permanent and one rotating—that chronicle Black musical traditions from the 1600s to the present day. More than 50 genres and sub-genres of

American music are explored from spirituals and gospel, to jazz, blues, R&B, hip-hop, and more.

See MUSIC, Page 12

← RUSTIC, from Page 9

measures are being followed.

With its casual atmosphere, live musical acts and unique, full-service dining experience featuring farm-fresh, homestyle dishes with ingredients sourced from local farmers and a Texas-sized selec-

tion of wines, spirits and 20 beers on tap, The Rustic has carved a distinctive niche among Dallas, San Antonio and Houston restaurants. The concept is the brainchild of Noonan, Josh Sepkowitz and Texas country artist Pat Green, whose love of the outdoors and

live music helped bring The Rustic to life. The result is a fun and relaxing dining and concert experience from a phenomenal patio, all under the big Texas sky.

The Rustic is located at 3656 Howell Street in Dallas. For more information and a list of upcoming events, visit therustic.com/safe-sounds.

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The COVID-19 pandemic is forcing millennial mothers out of the workforce

By Rasheed Malik and
Taryn Morrissey
Center for American Progress

Millennials—the generational cohort born between 1981 and 1996—are now the largest generation in the U.S. labor force. Yet they have also earned the dubious distinction of experiencing two once-in-a-lifetime economic catastrophes before the oldest have even turned 40 years old. Consequently, the coronavirus pandemic is stretching Millennial parents to the breaking point and may set maternal labor force participation back decades.*

A new Center for American Progress analysis of the Household Pulse Survey finds that during the CO-



Austin Wade / Unsplash

VID-19 pandemic, Millennial mothers are nearly three times more likely than Millennial fathers to report being unable to work due to a school or child care closure. Indeed, Millennial men have largely embraced gender equality when it comes to paid work, but research has found that these attitudes rarely extend to

child care responsibilities. Today's heterosexual couples may aspire to more egalitarian parenting and housework, as evidenced by women becoming a majority of the paid labor force for the first time in nearly a decade in December 2019. The data, however, tell a different story, as women are often responsible for a

much greater share of child care and household labor. Meanwhile, 80 percent of the 11 million single-parent families are headed by women.

The relatively meager work-family policies in the United States translate to an underresourced child care system and no guaranteed federal paid family and medical leave. While the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provided funding for businesses to extend paid sick and caregiving leave to their workers, lobbyists for big business inserted exemptions that, among other things, excluded all workers in businesses with more than

500 employees from such paid leave provisions. As they have for generations, women have shouldered most of the unpaid domestic work, even as their roles as financial breadwinners have grown. Indeed, more than 60 percent of mothers are now the sole or co-breadwinners of their household.

Decades of federal inaction have resulted in a market-based approach to the problem, placing the burden on families to finance a child care system. This has merely resulted in greater gender, economic, and racial inequities. Meanwhile, early childhood educators—who are disproportionately women and specifically women of color—have been system-

atically underpaid and undervalued in the accounting of economic productivity, perpetuating a history of misogyny and racism that has long characterized U.S. domestic economic policy.

Unfortunately, as a result, Americans have internalized the notion that child care is a personal problem—or even a personal failure on the part of working mothers. In truth, however, the lack of affordable child care is a structural macroeconomic problem that policymakers have ignored for far too long; their choices and priorities may now push millions of working mothers into unemployment as the child care system faces a pandemic-induced existential threat.

The IRS offers tips for those taxpayers who need to file a new W-4

All taxpayers should review their withholding annually. They can use the IRS Tax Withholding Estimator to check and make sure they're not having too little or too much federal tax withheld. This tool offers workers, retirees and self-employed individuals a step-by-step method to help figure out if they should adjust their withholding.

Those who need to adjust their withholding should submit a new Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Certificate to their employer.

People who should check their withholding include those:

- who are part of two-income families
- working two or more jobs or who only work for part of the year
- with children who claim credits such as the child tax credit
- with older dependents, including children age 17 or older
- who itemized deductions on their 2019 tax return
- with high incomes and more complex tax returns
- with large tax refunds or large tax bills for 2019
- who received unemployment at any time during the year

The IRS Tax Withholding Estimator can help taxpay-

ers check their withholding.

- This tool will help determine if they should complete a new Form W-4.

- It will also help users determine what information to put on a new Form W-4.

- It will save them time because they don't need to complete the form worksheets. The Estimator does the worksheet calculations.

Taxpayers who complete a new Form W-4 should submit it to their employer as soon as possible. With withholding occurring throughout the year, it's better to

take this step sooner, rather than later.

People should generally increase withholding if they hold more than one job at a time or have income from sources not subject to withholding. If adjustments aren't made for these situations, they will likely owe additional tax and possibly penalties when filing their tax return.

On the other hand, people should generally decrease their withholding if they are eligible for income tax credits or deductions other than

the basic standard deduction.

Having the most recent pay statements, information for other income sources

and the most recent income tax return can help taxpayers use the Withholding Estimator to figure out their correct withholding.

They might also need to adjust their state or local withholding. They can contact their state's department of revenue to learn more.

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 36-foot, 6-inch small cell monopole Communications Tower at the approx. vicinity of 2413 Harry Hines Blvd, Dallas, Dallas County, TX, 75201, Lat: [32-47-25.3824], Long: [-96-48-20.8692]. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Alicia, a.santucci@trileaf.com, 2550 S. IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.*

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



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Rep. Maxine Waters sounds alarm on coming wave of evictions

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Contributor

Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA), who is the Chairwoman of the U.S. House Committee on Financial Services, is sounding the alarm on what she says will be an eviction crisis in the U.S. after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic, which hit the U.S. in the middle of March, has resulted in over 177,000 deaths and counting. It has also resulted in state and local governments mandating that people stay home and not go to work. As a result of those directives, businesses remained closed for three months with states currently still attempting to re-open in stages.

Some cities are estimating that thousands will face eviction and/or foreclosure as local governments re-open, unfreezing moratoriums on rents and mortgages and enabling landlord and tenant disputes for non-payment of rent to move forward. Though some Governors have put in place or extended eviction moratoriums others have not, exacerbating outcomes for the millions of Americans facing unemployment.



The resulting economic shutdown has led to over 40 million people filing for unemployment — over 20 percent of the U.S. labor force. (Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA)

The U.S. is currently experiencing record days of both new positive coronavirus tests and spikes in cases in Texas, Florida, Georgia and California. As a result, Texas, Florida and California have either delayed planned re-openings or made modifications to their planned staged rollouts.

According to the most recent reporting from the U.S. Department of Labor, the advance seasonally adjusted insured unemployment rate was 10.2 percent for the week ending August 8, a decrease of 0.4 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted insured unemployment during the week ending August 8 was 14,844,000, a decrease of 636,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 6,000 from 15,486,000 to 15,480,000. The 4-week moving average was 15,841,250, a decrease of 326,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,500 from 16,169,500 to 16,168,000.

But the resulting economic shutdown has led to over 40 million people filing for unemployment — over 20 percent of the U.S. labor force. On June 29, nearly 60 days ago, Rep. Waters introduced H.R. 7301, the Emergency Housing Protections and Relief Act of 2020. However, typical of the state of play with a U.S. House run by Democrats and a U.S. Senate run by Republicans, Waters' legislation remains stalled by Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

Speaking on the House floor, Waters said, "this bill includes several provisions that were included in the Heroes Act and independently led by a number of Members of the Financial Services Committee. Some people hearing about this bill won't understand what we are trying to do in this bill today. As I said, this was part of the Heroes Act that

passed this House, but we have been waiting on the Senate to take up the Heroes Act. They are not taking it up, they don't seem to care, they don't seem to understand that there are people out there who are going to be evicted, and so we have pulled it out of the Heroes Act and we are taking it up independently so that we can send a message to the Senate that we want this measure heard and so we have a number of Members who participated in putting this legislation together and who had independent bills to do so."

"We can't wait any longer we got to move. The CARES Act was an important step towards providing relief, but more help is needed. We knew, for example, that an eviction moratorium without the provision of rental assistance would only delay disastrous outcomes as families would have to pay, more than they could afford, a lump sum of three to four months of unpaid rent at the expiration of the moratorium," said Waters.

The Washington Post reports that despite President

Trump's repeated claims that his administration and executive order would protect people from losing their homes, evictions have continued across the country. "It risks doing more harm than good by giving people a false impression that Trump is doing something to prevent evictions," said National Low Income Housing Coalition President and CEO Diane Yentel about the president's executive order.

A push led by Democrats is expected for a second stimulus is underway with bi-partisan agreement to assist small businesses in particular.

Representatives Lacy Clay, Denny Heck, David Scott, Chuy Garcia, Cindy Axne, Nydia Velazquez, Ayanna Pressley, Katie Porter, and Al Green.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist for NNPA and the host of the podcast BURKEFILE. She is also a political strategist as Principal of Win Digital Media LLC. She may be contacted at LBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at [@LVBurke](https://twitter.com/LVBurke).

MUSIC, from Page 10

Advance tickets and museum memberships can still be purchased from the NMAAM website. All admission tickets are timed, with tours scheduled every 30 minutes — capacities have been adjusted to

permit appropriate social distancing. Guests will be able to select their time slot based upon ticket availability. Guests can also explore becoming a museum member to receive unlimited entry for a year and access to exclusive content and museum discounts. For additional information, please visit the Membership section of the website or call 615-488-3310.

For the latest news and updates on NMAAM's opening, be sure to follow @TheNMAAM across all social media or visit the official website at BlackMuseum.org.

About the National Museum of African American Music

VOTE, from Page 1

good job or even vote. That his right to vote has a legacy that is long and deep.

In May of 1869, Minister Joseph Adkins was an elected Georgia state senator for the Republican party. Adkins led a dedicated fight for the civil rights and voting rights of Blacks...up until the day the Ku Klux Klan killed him.

In June of 1963, Medgar Evers, was a World War II veteran and an official with the NAACP. Evers led a dedicated fight for the civil rights and voting rights of Blacks...up until the day the White Citizens' Council (a.k.a. KKK) killed him too.

Somehow this bit of history is lost to African Americans who chose not to vote, and to those African Americans who chose to support political platforms that will ultimately do harm to African Americans in general—and thereby do harm to our nation.

On the very first day of the Republican National Convention, Timothy Eugene "Tim" Scott a Black junior U.S. Senator for South Carolina was rolled out before the American public to demonstrate how accommodating and generous Republicans are to African Americans. Scott took the podium and recounted

his family's atypical African American tale before proudly announcing, "Our family went from cotton to Congress in one lifetime. And that's why I believe..."

I will concede that guys like Tim Scott or even Kanye West have the right to vote for whomever they chose. That is their American right. But that right came at a bloody price. The people whose predecessors paid that price over a matter of centuries should not forget.

John Lewis didn't fight for our right to vote for a person or even a particular political party. Lewis fought so that we might be able to vote down and out malevolent ideologies, evil

principalities and oppressive dominions.

In his posthumous message to a grieving nation John Lewis wrote, "Voting and participating in the democratic process are key (to redeeming the soul of America). The vote is the most powerful nonviolent change agent you have in a democratic society."

Voting the right way has never been about voting Republican or Democrat. Voting the right way means casting a vote for the party that will work to make the world better for both rich and poor—and work to redeem the soul of America. So, when exercising your right to vote, make sure you vote right.

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 39-foot monopole small cell Communications Tower at the approx. vicinity of 656 Young St, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas 75202, Lat: [32° 46' 33.7902" N], Long: [96° 48' 20.2602" W]. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Trileaf Corp, Thomas Johnston, t.johnston@trileaf.com, 2550 S IH 35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.

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Prerequisites:

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Ongoing Census Bureau

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

Ongoing City of Dallas

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

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

Ongoing House of Blues

Want a cool job in live music? House of Blues Dallas is hiring! Spruce up your resume and join us on Monday, August 26th for a Job Fair in our Cambridge Room from 1-5PM. All depart-



ments 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.

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.

September 6 9:45 am
Please join us in our quiet

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

September 10, 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

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CHURCH HAPPENINGS

vices until further notice because of the coronavirus.

September 6

You are invited to join us in our Sunday Morning Services as we praise and worship God in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall, followed by our Worship

Services; and bring someone with you, you will be blessed. It's for God's glory and honor.

September 10, 7 pm

Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer

See CHURCH, Page 14



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Or email your resume to: careers@edbellconstruction.com**

Death Notices - ndgobits@northdallasgazette.com

Charles Staff Jones Sr.
Born: 09/28/1946
Died: 08/15/2020
Visitation: Friday, August 28, 2020; 2 p.m.-6 p.m.
Funeral: Saturday, August 29, 2020; 11 a.m.
Eternal Rest Funeral Home of DeSoto

Percy Parazette Fletcher Morrow
Born: 09/16/1960
Died: 08/24/2020
Wake: Friday, August 28, 2020; 7 p.m.-8 p.m.
Funeral: Saturday, August 29, 2020; 11 a.m.
Calvary Philadelphia Missionary Baptist Church
4703 Sunnyvale, Texas; Dallas, Texas 75216

Eternal Rest Funeral Home of DeSoto

Charles Edward Leonard Sr.
Born: 04/09/1955
Died: 08/20/2020
Visitation: Friday, August 28, 2020; 2 p.m.-6 p.m.
Funeral: Saturday, August 29, 2020 11 a.m.

Eternal Rest Funeral Home of DeSoto

Joe Leaks
Born: 12/14/1935
Died: 08/18/2020
Visitation: Monday, August 24, 2020; 2 p.m.-6 p.m.
Funeral: Saturday, August 25, 2020 11 a.m.

Eternal Rest Funeral Home of DeSoto

Jordy Gutierrez
Born: 07/21/2001
Died: 08/20/2020
Visitation: Tuesday, August 25, 2020; 2 p.m.-6 p.m.
Funeral Mass: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 10 a.m.
St. John Catholic Church
401 E. La.m.pasas St., Ennis, Texas 75119
Eternal Rest Funeral Home of Ennis

Carver Reed Malone Sr.
Born: 12/16/1938
Died: 08/18/2020
Memorial Service: Sunday, August 23, 2020 2 p.m.
Eternal Rest Funeral Home of DeSoto

David Sanders Jr.
Born: 12/28/1943

Died: 08/14/2020
Visitation: Friday, August 21, 2020; 2 p.m.-6 p.m.
Funeral: Saturday, August 22, 2020 11 a.m.
Eternal Rest Funeral Home of DeSoto

Tom Alton Hall Jr.
Born: 08/08/1972
Died: 08/08/2020
Visitation: Friday, August 21, 2020; 2 p.m.-6 p.m.
Funeral: Saturday, August 22, 2020 11 a.m.
Eternal Rest Funeral Home of Dallas

Betty Tasby
Born: 08/22/1952
Died: 08/11/2020
Visitation: Friday, August

21, 2020; 2 p.m.-6 p.m.
Funeral: Saturday, August 22, 2020 2 p.m.
Eternal Rest Funeral Home of DeSoto

Mildred Thomas
Born: 05/21/1943
Died: 08/15/2020
Visitation: Friday, August 21, 2020; 2 p.m.-6 p.m.
Funeral: Saturday, August 22, 2020 2 p.m.
Eternal Rest Funeral Home of DeSoto

J. L. Griffin Sr.
Born: 03/02/1946
Died: 08/13/2020
Visitation: Friday, August 21, 2020; 2 p.m.-6 p.m.
Graveside Service: Satur-

day, August 22, 2020 11 a.m.
Eternal Rest Funeral Home of DeSoto

Johnnie Davis
Born: 03/05/1953
Died: 08/15/2020
Visitation: Friday, August 21, 2020; 2 p.m.-6 p.m.
Funeral: Saturday, August 22, 2020 4 p.m.
Eternal Rest Funeral Home of DeSoto

Baby Truth Lafayette Wilson
Born: 06/22/2020
Died: 08/16/2020
Celebration Service: Saturday, August 22, 2020 4 p.m.
Eternal Rest Funeral Home of DeSoto

CHURCH, from Page 13

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

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"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.

September 4, 7 pm

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

September 6, 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.

September 10, 7 pm

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

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

September 6, 8 and 11 am

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

September 7, 7 to 8 pm Every Monday Night

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

(Chapel).

September 10, 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
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www.smbcplano.org

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How solid is your foundation?



Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor

"At the king's command they removed from the quarry large blocks of quality stone to provide a foundation of dressed stone for the temple"

(1 Kings 5:16-17).

Several years ago I visited Jerusalem, the ancient city in Israel where Jesus walked. It was an incredible experience. One of the most memorable things I saw was the actual stones used to build the foundation of the temple. These stones lay beneath the ground and can be accessed only by going into an underground tunnel.

The stones are massive and they are perfectly rectangle in shape. The Bible says the stones were moved to the temple area in a quiet manner in respect of the Holy site. It says the foundation was of a "quality stone."

All these structures, from the outside to the great courtyard and from foundation to eaves, were made of blocks of high-grade stone cut to size and trimmed with a saw on their inner and outer faces. The foundations were laid with large stones of good quality, some measuring ten cubits and some eight.

Above were high-grade stones, cut to size, and cedar beams. The great courtyard was surrounded by a wall of three courses of dressed stone and one course of trimmed cedar beams, as was the inner courtyard of the temple of the LORD with its portico (1 Kings 7:9-12).

Do you see the effort put into the type and quality of stone that would be used to build the temple of God?

In order to achieve anything worthwhile in life you must lay a quality foundation. Everything else is going to be impacted if that foundation is not laid with the best materials and the finest craftsmanship.

The Bible says that Je-



Lillie & Charles Lawrence of Carrollton happily married for 65 years on August 22, 2020

sus must be the foundation from which we build everything in our lives (1 Corinthians 3:11).

Anything else will result in a weak foundation.

Are you building on a solid foundation that will last? If not, begin today to shore up your foundation.

God is the God of Hope

and Promise; pray that He will give you the patience that you need to wait upon His will and plans for you.

Ask for His inner peace and understanding to know His will, and His boldness to step out in faith and to do His will.

Thank God for His promises to give wisdom, to always be there for you,

to forgive you, to receive you into God's kingdom and grant you eternal life through the blood and sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

Thank God, your Lord, full of grace and truth; in Jesus' name.

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

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

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The Valsartan lawsuits claim that numerous batches of Valsartan have been found to be contaminated with the cancer-causing substances N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA). Our law firm is accepting clients who took Valsartan and have been diagnosed with liver, intestine, colon or colorectal, stomach, esophageal, pancreatic, prostate, NHL or other blood cancers.


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Our firm is investigating cases where you or a loved one were exposed to Valsartan for at least a year and have been diagnosed with one of the above- mentioned cancers.

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