



North Dallas Gazette

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Biden, other leaders mark a century since the Tulsa Massacre

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

President Joe Biden plans to travel to Oklahoma to help commemorate the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre.

White House officials said the President would visit Tulsa on June 1 to mark the centennial of the Tulsa Race Massacre in the Greenwood District, which many know as Black Wall Street.

Beginning Wednesday, May 26, a series of events are planned, including the "Remember & Rise" event produced by the Tulsa Race Massacre Commission and featuring John Legend.

"Remember & Rise" is scheduled for Monday, May 31, and will include national civic leaders and artists like Legend and Stacey Abrams.

ONEOK Field, an outdoor venue in the Greenwood District, is the site of this year's commemoration.

"John Legend is known for his poignant performances, and his transformational statements on civil rights for Black Americans," Commission Director Phil Armstrong said.

"Remember & Rise is a once-in-a-lifetime event, and John Legend's participation ensures a global audience learns the history of what occurred here 100 years ago, on the



According to NPR, an armed White mob attacked Greenwood, a prosperous Black community in Tulsa, killing as many as 300 people. What was known as Black Wall Street was burned to the ground.

streets of the most affluent African American community of the early Twentieth Century."

"Remember & Rise" honors several distinguished guests, including survivors and descendants of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre.

"As a community, we will gather and remember the deadly days of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre," Armstrong stated in a news release.

"We will share examples of how the community rose from those ashes to rebuild while also providing a message of unity and hope for the present and future generations of Black Tulsans, Oklahomans, and Americans."

According to NPR, an armed White mob attacked Greenwood,

a prosperous Black community in Tulsa, killing as many as 300 people. What was known as Black Wall Street was burned to the ground.

"Mother, I see men with guns," Florence Mary Parrish, a small child looking out the window on the evening of May 31, 1921, when the siege began, related to NPR.

"And my great-grandmother was shushing her, saying, 'I'm reading now, don't bother me,'" Anneliese M. Bruner, a descendant of the Parrish family, told the network.

But the child became more insistent.

"And so, my great-grandmother put down her reading and went to

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Mulbe Dillard IV

People In The News ...



Ava DuVernay



Rep. Rhetta Andrews Bowers

NDG Quote of the Week: "Have a vision. Be demanding."

- Colin Powell

Mulbe Dillard IV

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FLA – The top-five players in the 2021 APGA Collegiate Ranking have been finalized, with Florida A&M University’s Mulbe Dillard IV finishing No. 1 and earning an exemption into the Korn Ferry Tour’s REX Hospital Open.

“The path to professional golf has never been stronger for Black golfers, and I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for the top players in this year’s APGA Collegiate Ranking,” said Ken Bent-



ley, co-founder and CEO of the APGA Tour. “This year’s inaugural class is an important step forward as the APGA Tour continues to grow and provide opportunities in professional

golf to Black players.”

Led by its all-senior lineup, Florida A&M won its first Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) championship this season and advanced to the NCAA Regionals for the first time in program history. After finishing fifth at the MEAC Championship, Dillard solidified his spot atop the APGA Collegiate Ranking with a T28 performance in his final college start at the Tallahassee Regional.

Dillard has two top-10s in three starts on the APGA Tour as an amateur, and he will make his debut as a

professional at the REX Hospital Open, June 3-6.

“I appreciate everything the APGA, PGA TOUR University and Korn Ferry Tour have done for this opportunity to play in the REX Hospital Open, to be exposed to a lot of great golfers, and to compete with them,” Dillard said. “It was a lot of hard work. I’m just happy that hard work is going to be put to good use, and that I’m going to be able to show that a kid from the south side of Chicago, who went to an HBCU, is going to be out there competing with some of the best golfers in

the world.”

Finishing No. 2 in the APGA Collegiate Ranking was Andrew Walker, who posted three top-20 finishes and had his score count in 19 of 24 rounds as a senior at Michigan State.

In addition to having APGA Tour status this summer, Walker has Forme Tour status, as he finished T5 at a Qualifying Event in February. He is exempt for the first half of the Forme Tour schedule, starting June 23-26 at the L&J Golf Championship at Jennings Mill Country Club in Watkinsville, Georgia.

The APGA Collegiate

Ranking was announced in October 2020 through a partnership between PGA TOUR University and the APGA Tour.

Eligible players are Black golfers from NCAA Division I, II or III programs – including HBCUs – who exhaust a minimum of four years of college eligibility. The APGA Collegiate Ranking is based on players’ Golfstat adjusted scoring average, designed to evaluate the top players positioned to qualify for APGA Tour and Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament access.

Ava DuVernay

By Lisa Olivia Fitch
Our Weekly News

Filmmaker Ava DuVernay was interviewed last week for #WOW2021, a virtual event featuring a variety of personalities in conversation with preeminent UCLA doctors and researchers. The goal was to raise awareness and reduce the stigma of mental illness.

The first #WOW event took place in 2018 as an all-day summit—#WOW The Wonder of Women—conceived by women, for women, about women.



#WOW2021 welcomed men to the conversation. This year’s theme was “Whole Health includes Mental Health” and the fundraiser supported the UCLA Friends of the Semel Institute Research Scholars

and UCLA Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital Board of Advisors.

“I started to meditate during the quarantine, which has been interesting and helpful,” DuVernay said. “And the days that I meditate, I can tell.”

She recently joined the Coalition for School Well-Being. Formed in the wake of the pandemic and widespread recognition of racial and social injustices, the coalition is a public/private partnership to make social-emotional learning, mental health, and racial and social justice the cornerstone of education in California.

DuVernay and her staff have created learning com-

panion pieces that pair with the TV shows and movies she directs. She is concerned with how youth are dealing with the pandemic during adolescence.

“Can you imagine that age?” she asked. “We’re barely dealing with it as adults.”

DuVernay had a double major in college—English and African-American Studies—and after 15 years in Public Relations, she followed her dream, a dream which has led to becoming the first Black woman to direct a big-budget film “A Wrinkle in Time” and be nominated for Academy Awards for directing for “Selma” and “13th.”

During the interview, which highlighted National Mental Health Month, DuVernay noted that Blacks especially suffer from a lot of mental stress, and not just during the current pandemic.

“The fact that we’re not all out of our minds truly is a testament to the strength of Black people,” she said. “We’re talking about 400 years of degradation and dehumanization; 400-plus years of human bondage, where we were property. And families are a real thing. That stuff gets passed down, right? Not being able to speak your mind for fear of being lynched. You re-

ally have to think about the history and not gloss over the harm that’s been done.”

When asked just how she has coped with all the historical and recent stresses of the world, DuVernay credited her upbringing.

“I’ve been fortunate to be fortified by a deep and abiding faith in a power higher than myself,” she said, noting that she practices an attitude of gratitude regularly. “I have really been taught to embrace and love life as its own living, breathing entity. That you’re not just living life—like you are part of a life being lived cooperatively with a lot of other people.”

Rep. Rhetta Andrews Bowers

State Representative Rhetta Andrews Bowers (HD 113) successfully added an amendment on the House Floor to Senate Bill 14 that will ensure municipalities and counties have the ability to pass local versions of the CROWN Act.

CROWN Acts—Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair—prevent discrimination on the basis of hair texture or protective hairstyle associated with race. Versions



have passed in 22 local jurisdictions and 9 states across the nation.

Senate Bill 14, authored in the Senate by Chairman Creighton and Sponsored by Representative Phil King, relates to regulation by a municipality or county of certain employment benefits and policies. S.B. 14 amends the Labor Code to prohibit a municipality or county from passing ordinances regulating private employment practices, which results in a patchwork of different regulations. Representative Bowers added an amendment to ensure that local municipali-

ties maintain their right to prevent hiring and employment discrimination on the basis of hair texture or protective hairstyle associated with race. S.B. 14 passed on third reading in the House and is now on its way back to the Senate to concur with the House amendments.

Representative Bowers introduced the Texas CROWN Act as House Bill 392 in the 87th Legislative Session. This civil rights legislation prohibits race-based hair discrimination—the denial of employment,

educational and housing opportunities because of hair texture or protective hairstyles including braids, locs, twists or bantu knots. H.B. 392 is bipartisan legislation Jointly Authored by Representative Reynolds, Representative Rose, Representative Sherman, and Representative Buckley. There are 58 Coauthors of the CROWN Act in the Texas House of Representatives. It was voted unanimously out of the Committee on State Affairs and was placed on the General State

Calendar for May 12, 2021 but failed to be read before the midnight deadline the next day.

“This session, I laid the groundwork to pass a statewide CROWN Act through introduction, education, and awareness,” said Representative Bowers. “In the meantime, it is important that we preserve the ability of our local colleagues to pass crucial civil rights policy in their own jurisdictions to end race-based hair discrimination.”



Winnifred “Wini” Cannon

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Publisher’s Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

marketing@northdallasgazette.com
972-509-9049

Editorial Department:

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

www.NorthDallasGazette.com
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NDG Columnist

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Published by

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Contributing Writers

Jackie Hardy
Breanne Holley
JacquINETTE Murphy
Dwain Price
Terri Schlichenmeyer
David Wilfong

Interim Editor

David Wilfong

Community Marketing

Nadina Davis

Senior Account Executive

Nina Garcia

Production

David Wilfong

NDG Obituary Dept.

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A good time to look at coming changes

By Dr. John E. Warren,
Publisher, *The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint*

As more people are vaccinated both in the city and the state of California, the opening up of businesses and the removal of mask requirements would give the impression that all is well and things are back to normal. This is not necessarily true. There are still long lines for food, there

remains a need for rent and utility assistance and there appears to be a disconnect between the dollars available and the people who need them.

This is also the month that those agencies that are not federal have their fiscal years end on June 30, 2021. This means that those agencies will have to spend dollars that have not been used up by June 30th. This is a good time to look for un-

used dollars for our many unfunded needs.

While the City and the County of San Diego are looking at their budgets for the next fiscal year, now is the time to look at our unfunded needs and to push for dollars to meet those needs.

At the city level, we continue to have a problem with the San Diego Police and their practice of punching people already on the

ground, as if that’s okay. We still have not learned from the George Floyd murder. And now we have a City Attorney stretching out the decision on whether or not to charge the victim of a police beating with a felony for fighting back. This is unacceptable. This is a good time to look at the many changes coming with this post-pandemic area and become proactive rather than reactive.

Our senators failed us on insurrection vote

Gilberto Hinojosa
Democratic Party Chair

The Republican Party is a threat to the United States of America and our democracy. Alongside nearly every Republican in the Senate, traitorous Texas Republican Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz just voted to block a commission investigating the events of January 6, 2021. The January 6 insurrection was a domestic terrorist attack that took the life of a police officer and four oth-

ers while endangering the lives of thousands -- yet Republicans are blocking efforts to investigate it. This is beyond shameful -- this is a deliberate attempt to rewrite history and dodge accountability.

The peaceful transfer of power is at the core of what makes our country strong. The American people deserve to know exactly what happened when an armed insurrection threatened to overturn the results of a free and fair election. Instead, Republicans are try-

ing to cover it up. There’s one reason why: because from inciting the insurrection, to actively participating in it, countless Republican elected officials are complicit.

Republicans are mounting a full-fledged assault on American democracy as we know it -- and with it, the heart of who we are as a country. They’ve spent six months denying the results of an election, they’re trying to take away our right to vote in state legislatures across the country, and

many of them, including Texas’ own Ted Cruz, actively encouraged the insurrection at our nation’s Capitol in January.

These Republican politicians are a threat to our democracy, and that means they are a threat to our freedom, our rights, and our ability to determine our own future -- everything we stand for as a country. The time is now to defend our democracy by holding every Republican who voted against this commission accountable.

Honoring George Floyd’s life means taking bold action to overhaul the system that ended it

By David Villalobos and Joy Davis
Texas Organizing Project

A father, brother, community member, and friend, George Floyd moved to Minnesota from Houston’s Third Ward for a fresh start – a chance to better himself. And he should still be with us here today.

The verdict reached last

month was a display of accountability, which in itself is an indictment of our current system where accountability for murder at the hands of police has largely been nonexistent.

Honoring George Floyd’s life means taking bold action to overhaul the system that ended it.

Derek Chauvin’s murder of George Floyd was an act

of evil that embodies the disregard for humanity that law enforcement far too often shows toward Black communities.

TOP remains as committed as ever in harnessing the passion of last year’s historic #BlackLivesMatter uprisings to continue the vital work needed to confront uncomfortable truths about policing and transform our

criminal-legal system from the inside out.

We demand nothing short of full accountability for this entire system AND justice for all. Our organizing efforts for the immediate, bold policies we need to ensure true safety in our communities is only growing stronger, and our voices are only getting louder.

Statement by President Joe Biden on Texas Senate Bill 7 (May 29, 2021)

Today, Texas legislators put forth a bill that joins Georgia and Florida in advancing a state law that attacks the sacred right to vote. It’s part of an assault on democracy that

we’ve seen far too often this year—and often disproportionately targeting Black and Brown Americans.

It’s wrong and un-American. In the 21st cen-

tury, we should be making it easier, not harder, for every eligible voter to vote.

I call again on Congress to pass the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advance-

ment Act. And I continue to call on all Americans, of every party and persuasion, to stand up for our democracy and protect the right to vote and the integrity of our elections.

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Blood donations needed as cancer patients resume care after challenging year

The American Red Cross and the American Cancer Society have teamed up this June to encourage people across the country to Give Blood to Give Time and help ensure loved ones have the strength and support they need as they undergo cancer treatment.

According to the American Cancer Society, many patient visits and procedures were forced to delay or cancel early in the pandemic to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19. With procedures resuming, blood donations are critical for cancer treatments. Unfortunately, the Red Cross is seeing fewer blood donors give as the nation begins to climb out of this pandemic. This downturn comes at a time when the Red Cross continues to see strong demand for blood products by hospitals, causing concern for the sufficiency of the blood supply this month and throughout the summer.

The Red Cross currently has an emergency need for eligible donors in the Dallas/Fort Worth area to make an appointment now to give blood to ensure critical patient needs are met.

“Many cancer patients, especially those going through chemotherapy, will have a need for blood products during treatment,” said Dr. Baia Lasky, medical director for the Red Cross. “When someone donates blood or platelets, they may not only help prevent life-



Luann Hunt / Unsplash

threatening bleeding that can cause stroke or relieve some symptoms, like shortness of breath and headaches, but also give patients and their families the time and hope they need to fight back.”

Some types of chemotherapy can damage bone marrow, reducing red blood cell and platelet production. Other times, the cancer itself or surgical procedures cause the need for blood products. About six blood products are needed every minute to help someone going through cancer treatment. Yet only 3% of people in the U.S. give blood. It is vital that more people donate blood regularly to meet that need.

To schedule a blood donation appointment, visit GiveBloodToGiveTime.org. As a special thank-you, those who come to donate through June 13 will receive a limited-edition Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

“The need for blood in cancer treatments is an important and untold story,” said Howard Byck, senior vice president of corpo-

rate and sports alliances, American Cancer Society. “The American Cancer Society is excited to be working with the Red Cross on Give Blood to Give Time. Through this partnership, we want people to know there are multiple ways they can help and make a meaningful difference in the lives of patients and their families.”

Cancer takes so much, but you can help

In August 2016, Myel Bowers-Smith received an unexpected and life-changing medical diagnosis. What she thought was an infection from a mosquito bite was actually stage 4 inflammatory breast cancer. The cancer was a very rare and aggressive breast carcinoma that spread from her breast to her lymph nodes on the left side of her body. “I just knew something wasn’t right with my body,” she said.

Bowers-Smith was determined to keep a positive attitude even when her treatments left her feeling sick for days at a time, unable to eat and extremely fatigued. “I received five dif-

ferent chemotherapy treatments and steroids. I also received multiple plasma and platelet transfusions. I would be in the hospital bed for hours receiving treatments,” she said.

After months of treatment, Bowers-Smith was told her cancer was in remission in February 2017. “I was more than excited because I survived. I won, and it was time to get my life back! This couldn’t defeat me,” she said.

Bowers-Smith recognizes the role of blood products in her recovery and now encourages others to give. “Everyone needs someone, and this is your time to help someone who needs your blood or platelets. Be a blessing,” she said. “Eligible donors, you have something good – which is your blood. A pint of blood can help save lives, and you never know if you or someone you love would need donated blood or platelet products.”

Health insights for donors

The Red Cross is testing blood donations for COVID-19 antibodies through July 24. The test may indicate if the donor’s immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether they developed symptoms. Testing may also identify the presence of antibodies developed after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. The Red Cross is not testing donors to diagnose illness,

referred to as a diagnostic test. To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, it is important that individuals who do not feel well or believe they may be ill with COVID-19 postpone donation.

At a time when health information has never been more important, the Red Cross is also screening all blood donations from self-identified African American donors for the sickle cell trait. This additional screening will provide Black donors with an additional health insight and help the Red Cross identify compatible blood types more quickly to help patients with sickle cell disease. Blood transfusion is an essential treatment for those with sickle cell disease, and blood donations from individuals of the same race, ethnicity and blood type have a unique ability to help patients fighting sickle cell disease.

Donors can expect to receive antibody test and sickle cell trait screening results, if applicable, within one to two weeks through the Red Cross Blood Donor App and the online donor

portal at RedCrossBlood.org.

Blood drive safety

The Red Cross has updated its pandemic safety protocols in alignment with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Fully vaccinated individuals, including staff and donors, no longer need to wear masks or socially distance. Unvaccinated individuals continue to be required to wear masks and socially distance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive.

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions – including social distancing and face masks for donors and staff – have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face mask while at the drive, in alignment with Texas guidance.

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see what her daughter was talking about. And indeed, the street was populated with people with guns,” Bruner continued. “Bullets were flying everywhere, and they fled trying to reach safety at a friend’s home.”

NPR noted that Bruner

could tell the harrowing story today because her great-grandmother Mary E. Jones Parrish, a teacher, and journalist, survived and documented the massacre in her self-published memoir, “Events of the Tulsa Disaster.”

Tulsa historian Scott Ellsworth, author of “The Ground Breaking: An American City and Its Search for Justice,” told CNN that somewhere between 100 and 200 businesses were operating in the Greenwood district before the massacre, but photos and written records of the event are hard to come

by today.

“How many old letters do you have from your great-grandmother in your family?” said Ellsworth, who is helping lead an effort to uncover the unmarked graves of massacre victims. “There’s obviously newspaper accounts. They’re all available. A lot of the records were all destroyed.”

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Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation announces transition

Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation (BLMGNF) today announced that BLM Co-Founder and current Executive Director, Patrisse Cullors, would be transitioning from her role, and named two Senior Executives to support the organization.

The Senior Executives are Makani Themba, Chief Strategist at Higher Ground Change Strategies, and former executive director of The Praxis Project; and Monifa Bandede, Chief Operating Officer at Time's Up Foundation. Both women have been supporters and advisors of Black Lives Matter since its inception.

"As a strong advocate for the transformation of Black lives and the end of white supremacy, I'm eager to continue the foundation's great work over the coming months," said Bandede. "I'm fortunate to follow the creative and successful leadership of so many across the country, who have set a bold path for the foundation."

BLMGNF's leadership model is based on Ella Baker's philosophy that decision making is more group-centered and inclusive when involving multiple people, and it follows the origins of BLM and its founding in 2013 by three Black women.



Simone Fischer / Unsplash

"BLM was and continues to be an organization that is centered on our love for Black people," said Themba. "I am looking forward to working alongside the powerful team at BLMGNF and BLM Grassroots to continue to work towards Black liberation."

Cullors leaves BLMGNF in a strong position to support grassroots, art/culture work and policy work that invests in the future of Black lives. During her tenure, Cullors helped the organization reach several milestones, including:

- Positioned BLMGNF to advocate for a future that is divested from police, prisons, and all punishment paradigms and replaces it with greater investment in justice and culture programs;

- Emphasized the creativity and joy in Black communities by supporting and showcasing Black artists and cultural influencers;

- Launched BLM Grassroots, the sister organization to BLMGNF, to continue and grow the movement's power built over the years in the streets, and remain true to its founding principles;

- Formed the BLM Political Action Committee to increase voter participation and turnout, and to endorse candidates who move us toward Black liberation. It spent \$746,000 since launching to elect Black liberation candidates;

- Championed the BREATHE Act, federal legislation that would divest taxpayer dollars from brutal and discriminatory

policing and invest in a new vision of public safety;

- Donated almost \$25 million to Black-led organizations and Black families around the country, including nearly \$3 million to support Black people struggling during the pandemic, especially organizers, those affected by police violence or who are LGBTQIA;

- Supported families affected by police violence through a multi-million grant to Love Not Blood and its campaign to help families heal, organize, demand justice and work to stop the police killing of Black people in communi-

ties throughout the United States; and

- Committed 23 percent of its assets last year to non-profit organizations, compared to the average foundation in the U.S. which donates just 5 percent to 8 percent.

"With smart, experienced and committed people supporting the organization during this transition, I know that BLMGNF is in good hands," said Cullors. "The foundation's agenda remains the same - eradicate white supremacy and build life-affirming institutions. Between the two Senior Executives and BLM

Grassroots Co-Director Melina Abdullah, who is an original member of BLM and co-founder of its first chapter in Los Angeles, their immense talent will build a future where Black lives do more than matter - they will truly thrive."

The two Senior Executives will lead BLMGNF until the organization finds a new permanent team. In the interim, BLMGNF remains committed to combating and countering acts of violence, creating space for Black imagination and innovation, and centering Black joy through arts and culture.

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CFBISD continues curbside meal program into summer months

The Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD Student Nutrition Department will continue the Grab and Go meal service during the summer under the Seamless Summer program, in communi-

ty partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Texas Department of Agriculture, from June 8 – July 21st, 2021.

No applications needed for summer meals. Free

meals are provided to children present 18 years or younger.

In the absence of children, parents wishing to pick up meals should bring any of the following items

- Official letter/email from school listing children enrolled
- Individual student report cards
- Attendance record from

parent portal of school website

- Birth certificate for children
- Student ID cards

Pick up times for the grab and go meal boxes, as

well as individual breakfasts and lunches may vary by campus. Parents are encouraged to check with the school district on the specific times for their child's campus.

Texas Democrats' Official Wrapup: The good, the bad, and the ugly from Texas' 87th Legislative Session

AUSTIN (Texas Democratic Party) -- After the heroic eleventh hour walkout by Democrats to block anti-voter bill SB 7, sine die has finally arrived in Texas' 87th legislative session -- and with it, Texas Democrats' official wrapup of the good, the bad, and the ugly from the last five months in the Texas legislature.

With horrific Republican attacks on just about every Texan, this session ushered in new lows from the Texas GOP. Faced with Republicans' unrelenting nastiness, Democrats moved heaven and earth to block the worst of Republicans' assaults on the rights, health, and safety of Texans -- and logged some key successes in the process. Join us as we look back on the high highs and remarkably low lows of Texas' 87th legislative session. Without further ado:

The Good

Capping the Price of Insulin (HB 40/SB 827)

With persistence and hard work to build bipartisan support, Rep. James Talarico (D-Round Rock) did what countless advocates across the country have been trying to do: cap the price of insulin. Having the means to pay for insulin is a question of life and death for millions of adults and children across Texas. For people with diabetes, the cost for their daily medication can easily be over \$1,000 for each 30-day supply -- regardless of whether they have health insurance. Now, for folks with insurance, that out-of-pocket cost is capped at \$25 a month -- a major achievement in protecting Texans' right to healthcare.

Fighting Police Brutality with the Botham Jean Act (HB 929)

The Botham Jean Act, or



DonkeyHoney / Flickr

"Bo's Law," filed by Rep. Carl O. Sherman (D-DeSoto), was named in honor of Botham Jean, the 26-year-old accountant who was shot and killed in his Dallas apartment by an off-duty police officer. The legislation will make it against the law for a police officer to turn their body cam off during an active investigation. This is a key step toward police reform and advancing racial justice -- combating police brutality by promoting accountability in law enforcement.

Combating Domestic Violence and Supporting Survivors of Sexual Assault (HB 2706, SB 1109)

Championed by Rep. Donna Howard (D-Austin), HB 2706 will increase access to healthcare for survivors of sexual assault by expanding access to community-based SAFE (sexual assault forensic exam) programs. Meanwhile, thanks to Rep. Rafael Anchía (D-Dallas) and Sen. Royce West (D-Dallas), SB 1109, known as the Christine Blubaugh Act, will help protect students from dating violence and domestic violence.

Protecting Seniors Through Stronger Nursing Home Data Rules (SB 930)

After families across Texas were left with little information while nursing homes were overrun with

COVID-19, Sen. Judith Zaffirini (D-Laredo) championed this bill requiring Texas nursing homes to release data on outbreaks of communicable diseases such as COVID-19, with this data subject to Texas Public Information Act requests.

A for Effort: Democratic Attempts to Make Life Better For Texans That Republicans Blocked

Thanks to Republicans, Texans are struggling with serious issues that this legislative session has done nothing to resolve. However, that's not for lack of effort on the part of Democrats, who introduced legislation addressing the major challenges facing Texans, including:

- The George Floyd Act, championed by the Texas Legislative Black Caucus with the leadership of Rep. Senfronia Thompson (D-Houston). This bill represented a key step to end police brutality, advance racial justice, and keep Texans safe, including by reducing use of force and prohibiting chokeholds, enacting a duty to intervene in instances of excessive force, and strengthening protocols for investigating officer misconduct. Despite the nationwide protests against racial injustice last summer, Republicans in the Texas legislature decided not to take action to ad-

dress any of the problems with Texas' criminal justice system, letting the status quo continue for the next two years.

- HB 1808 from House Elections Committee Vice Chair Jessica González, which would have allowed Texans to register to vote online on a secure website run by the Secretary of State's office, did not even receive a hearing in the Republican-led House Elections Committee. This bill would have brought Texas in line with the vast majority of other states -- including those across the South -- that allow their citizens this quick, convenient and secure option to register to vote.

- A slew of bills aiming to restore and safeguard Texans' abortion rights and expand access to reproduc-

tive healthcare, including: Rep. Donna Howard's (D-Austin) Abortion in Health Care Act (HB 4389), repealing all medically unnecessary restrictions on abortion in Texas; Rep. Jon Rosenthal's (D-Houston) HB 627 and HB 698, protecting abortion providers from harassment and prohibiting workplace discrimination on the basis of reproductive health decisions; Rep. Ana-Maria Ramos' (D-Dallas) HB 3369, allowing teens to consent to their own contraception; and Rep. Ramos' Free Choice of Provider Act (HB 3825), undoing funding restrictions to help more Texans access reproductive healthcare.

Unfortunately, because Republicans don't care about Texans, none of these important bills passed.

A Whining Dan Patrick
Sometimes when the attacks are really ugly, all you can do is hold the line. That's exactly what Democrats did in the legislature -- so successfully that Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick went

whining to Gov. Abbott to try to get a special legislative session added later this year. Apparently, despite setting the agenda for half the legislature, Patrick couldn't get his pet legislation passed. We'd call that a victory, thanks to Democrats' tireless efforts to block Patrick's extremist agenda.

The Bad

Honestly y'all, Republicans have got us here. They've been such dedicated participants in and proponents of the Horrible

See WRAPUP, Page 14

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South Dallas Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. hosts 57th annual V. Alyce Foster Trailblazer Awards event



The national award-winning South Dallas Business and Professional Women's Club will host its 57th Annual V. Alyce Foster Trailblazer Awards Program on Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 12-noon. It will be a virtual affair that's free and open to the public. Go to Eventbrite.com and register for access to the Club's signa-

ture event. Almost six decades ago, one of the South Dallas Club charter members, Mrs. V. Alyce Foster, was tasked with introducing ways of financing Club projects and scholarship funds. She chaired the Budget and Finance Committee and they "carried the idea of a Trailblazer Awards

[event] to the Club for approval." Now, 57 years later, Club President Dr. Lindy M. Perkins, the 2021 Trailblazer Committee, and all the distinguished Club members have poured their time, finances and energy into months of planning to ensure that this year's virtual Trailblazer Awards Program is a memorable

occasion. The theme is "Continuing A Legacy of Strength, Courage and Dignity" and the Honorable Willie Lewis Brown, Jr., the former mayor of San Francisco, California is the speaker. For more information, go to the South Dallas Club website: southdallasbpwc.org.



2021 Keynote Speaker
The Honorable Willie Brown
Former Mayor of San Francisco, CA



President Lindy M. Perkins and the 2020-2021 Executive Board



President Perkins with South Dallas Youth Club



President Perkins with 2020-2021 Past Presidents



Trailblazer Committee 2020-2021



President Perkins with Ombudsmen

South Dallas Club's 2021 V. Alyce Foster Trailblazer Award Honorees



2021 V. Alyce Foster Trailblazer Award Honorees



South Dallas Club's 2021 Scholarship Recipients



1st Vice President Ollie Gilstrap (left), President Perkins (center) and 2nd VP Katrinia Bivins (right).

Why St. Lucia might be a Black traveler's paradise

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

It's been a rough year. The whole world has spent the better part of the past 12 months isolated and cooped up in their homes. Thanks to cautious measures and vaccinations, people are beginning to be able to emerge from this forced seclusion.

The pandemic hit the travel industry hard. International flights especially were throttled back and came to a near standstill. But now the birds are flying again, and there are a lot of folks who are looking for the chance to get out and visit new places. Part of this is the normal urge to explore, but in this new time a big part of it is finding a setting to reset and just breathe.

African Americans are part of a new and growing travel wave, well preceding the pandemic. According to a study conducted by Mandala Research prior to the advent of the coronavirus, the value of African American travelers increased from \$48 billion in 2010 to \$63 billion in 2018. It is safe to assume Black travelers will be among those looking to spread their wings as soon as possible, but where to go?

For many travelers, a



St. Lucia offers a tropical haven with a rich cultural history, and does so without the overwhelming crowds found in other Caribbean destinations. (Photo; St. Lucia Travel Authority)

tropical island is highly desirable.

In that vein, St. Lucia is an interesting and somewhat hidden option. For African American travelers looking to escape the daily grind in an organic wonderland, it may hold particular interest for a variety of reasons. While it is no at the forefront of destinations in the area, interest is growing enough that American Airlines has invested in a new non-stop weekly flight from Dallas to the island this month.

The Standard Caribbean Fare

St. Lucia is one of many Caribbean islands. As such, it offers a very hospitable climate. It gives travelers the picturesque scenery of lush foliage seamlessly meeting tranquil ocean views. Nature hikes, diving,

sailing and simply relaxing on the beach are among the pleasures that many islands in the region can offer their guests.

The Pitons are two volcanic mountains in St. Lucia (represented in their travel logo in fact) which are quite stunning, and designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Botanical gardens, mineral baths and quaint fishing villages are in abundance.

St. Lucia does have some advantages in this area. It is located south of the "hurricane belt," meaning that vacations are less likely to have to be postponed or interrupted by inclement weather. It boasts accommodations from small boutique hotels to lush all-inclusive resorts at a wide range of price levels.

The food offerings on

this island include many of the creole concoctions the region is known for. But there are some peculiarities the locals take great pride in. The St. Lucian banana is apparently a culinary charmer distinct from the common variety we find in the U.S., and it makes its way into breads and even ketchup. St. Lucia is also a heavy producer of chocolate, and guests are often invited to create their own organic chocolate bars from scratch. The island holds everything from food trucks to five-star restaurants.

A Heavy African Influence

Promoters of St. Lucia travel will point out that its inhabitants span a wide range of ethnicities.

However, more than 80% of St. Lucians are of African descent. Black culture winds its way into every facet of life on the island. The design aesthetics, art, fashion and food reflect this heritage. The music from St. Lucia blends heavily African reggae, calypso and modern sounds trading notes with artists from the U.S. and around the world.

As a nation, St. Lucia become independent from British rule in 1979, and is now the only sovereign nation named after a woman (another source of local pride). The journey of its Black population mirrors that of the U.S. in many ways. The struggle for freedom spanned a longer period; from a French gover-

nor declaring emancipation in 1794 to a takeover by the British, who eventually abolished slavery themselves in 1834.

Other ethnicities in St. Lucia includes Europeans, Amerindians and a sizable contingent of East Indians (who add a curry kick to some of that local cuisine).

Exclusive by Default

While other Caribbean islands can offer much of the same scenery, flavor and even African heritage that St. Lucia does; it is the scale at which it does it that gives St. Lucia a bit of an edge.

The island nation is a total of 27 miles north-to-south, and 14 miles east-

See ST LUCIA, Page 10



The Pitons in St. Lucia are an iconic geographic feature, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. (Photo: St. Lucia Travel Authority)

'A Quiet Place Part II' is satisfying, but not sensational

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

"You can't stay!" Those aren't the words a nerve-frayed family running from killer demons wants to hear. Yet, as they seek refuge, they encounter resistance in this sequel to one of the most innovative drama/horror/sci-fi films ever made, A Quiet Place. AQP was uniquely wondrous and scary. Is AQPPII equally frightening?

It's still a mystery how the actor-turned-director/co-writer John Krasinski (The Office) pulled off the original \$340M international



Noah Jupe, Millicent Simmonds and Emily Blunt co-star in A Quiet Place Part II. (Courtesy photo)

blockbuster, thus starting a franchise. But using sound design (Oscar-nominee Erik Aadahl), guiding his wife actress Emily Blunt (Sicario) and realizing the

potential of a very inventive script, he created a behemoth. A post-apocalyptic nightmare where monsters with ultra-sensitive hearing track down what's left of

humans, by sound. The bad dream continues.

Evelyn Abbott (Blunt) is a survivor. She walks perilously around her deserted environs with her deaf teen daughter Regan (Millicent Simmonds), tween son Marcus (Noah Jupe) and her baby, always looking over her shoulder, scared creatures will hear and kill them. She hauls their rifle and a makeshift baby carriage. The two older kids carry what's left of their valuables and a speaker that can emit ear-splitting noises. Their mission is to find a safe haven and other survivors. And if they can

locate help, how will they be received? "You can't stay."

This sequel has an innate challenge. Its premise doesn't have the advantage of surprise. It's not introducing a state-of-the-art audio accentuation and deprivation technique that intensifies how scary and fatal a mere whimper of noise can be. That's already been done. The script, direction and special effects desperately attempt to plaster on more human drama, keep tension high and involve the protagonists in constant peril. Yet somehow this time, generic horror movie

gimmicks are glaringly obvious. The monsters don't look all that scary—more like computer generated puppets. The gore is not that gruesome. Even as the action shifts to an island where expectations for an astonishing OMG crescendo arise, nothing is truly mindboggling or astonishing.

A few new characters are added, played by Cilian Murphy (Peaky Blinders) and Djimon Hounsou (Amistad), but largely this is still a very intimate, personal family drama.

See AQPPII, Page 9

High on the Hog: How African American cuisine transformed America

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic



It's a revelation. The rich history of Black heritage cooking and how it has influenced American cuisine is on view in this enlightening, heartfelt and surprisingly well-crafted documentary. The host for this four-part Netflix epicurean travelogue is Stephen Satterfield, founder of Whetstone Magazine, which is dedicated to food origins and culture. He starts his culinary journey in western Africa and continues to the U.S., making his deeply personal sojourn a voyage of self-discovery for everyone.

In Episode 1, Satterfield gets an illuminating tour of Benin, by Dr. Jessica B. Harris, author of *High on the Hog: A Culinary Journey from Africa to America*, whose book is the source material for the docuseries. Her deep, shaman-like voice is reminiscent of Maya An-

gelou's and makes you feel like you are in the presence of an oracle. Harris: "Food is how we know who we are and how we are connected." She and other guides, chefs (Valérie Vinakpon) and preservationists recall how African people were rounded up, enslaved, brought to boats in port towns like Benin's Ouidah and vetted. The captives were shipped out and their food traditions came with them on their harrowing transatlantic passages to the western hemisphere. Learning that okra, yams, black-eyed peas, fava beans and rice are staples

there and here is fascinating. Discovering the history of the four-kilometer slave trail that ran from the center of Ouidah to the sea and a mass grave (Cemetery of Slaves), is so sobering it devastates Satterfield and will have the same effect on audiences.

Episode 2 takes the proceedings to Charleston, South Carolina, where other emissaries chart the history of Black cuisine, with particularly profound insights from Michael W. Twitty, author of the food blog *Afroculinaria* and book *The Cooking Gene: A journey*

Through African American Culinary History in the Old South. "Cooking puts you in the presence of our ancestors," notes Twitty. He and others expound on the essential elements of Black cuisine that influenced American food, from Carolina Golden Rice to using all parts of the pig (aka high on the hog). A very deep preservation of African life has been maintained on South Carolina's isolated Sea Islands as manifested in Gullah Geechee culture. Viewers also learn that enslaved chefs established the palette for a new democracy, and elders to this day teach the next generations how to cook, thus preserving traditions.

Episode 3 spotlights two of the most lauded epicureans of the 18th and 19th centuries, Hercules Posey, head chef for Pres. George Washington and James Hemings, for Thomas Jefferson. The latter, brother of Sally Hemings, was the

first American chef to train in France and is credited for bringing French fries and mac and cheese to America. Their careers, families and fights for freedom are known. Specific menus and portraits are non-existent. The Los Angeles' restaurant Hatchet Hall keeps their form of hearth cooking alive serving history-influenced dishes like Hemings Snow Eggs (soft custard with basil, peach, toasted almond). Equally intriguing are the stories of Thomas Downing, the entrepreneurial Oyster King of New York City, and the smart businessman Albert E. Dutrieuille who created a catering empire/dynasty in Philly.

Episode 4 brings the series to a conclusion as the production ventures to Texas, highlighting the significance of the holiday Juneteenth. Satterfield is briefed on the history by James Beard finalist Jerrelle Guy, author of *Black*

Girl Baking, who unveils some of her prized desserts (Raw raspberry-hibiscus cheesecake) and their historic significance. Meeting Black cowboys (Northeastern Trail Riders Association) and seeing how African Americans influenced cowboy culture—from cuisine to rodeo events—is also very informative. Add in clips of tantalizing cowboy stew, beef brisket, baby back pork ribs and tamarind paste broth and the intersection of culture and food continues to amaze. It's like taking a graduate course in four self-contained episodes.

Black America's legacy lives on because people guard the gates of our culture. The makers of this brilliant miniseries and the guides who take us on this journey are those guardians. Currently on Netflix.

Visit NNPA News Wire Film Critic Dwight Brown at DwightBrownInk.com and BlackPressUSA.com.

AQPII, from Page 8

Blunt continues to be the courageous mom, but now shares the limelight. The brave Regan character is the prime focus of several quests for survival. Simmonds is up to the task, displaying a courage and confidence that is admirable. In contrast Murphy as Emmett, an old family friend,

is the exact opposite. As pessimistic as Regan is optimistic. All other performances gleam accordingly. However, Hounsou does not get the screen time or character arc an actor of his stature deserves.

Marco Beltrami's score entrances. Polly Morgan's camerawork does the job.

The 97 minutes of footage goes by at a quick pace (editor Michael P. Shawver, *Black Panther*).

Colors (art director Christopher J. Morris), locations (production design Jess Gonchor), interiors (set decoration Michael J. Amato and Nancy Haigh) and every article of clothing (costume designer Kasia Walicka-Maimnoë)

work well, but not extraordinarily well.

To the film's credit, the rhythm of scary do-or-die escapes is well measured while red-herring plot twists lead audiences down wrong paths.

Regan's non-hearing experience, with its vulnerability and intrigue, adds another dimension. And in the beginning, as a fiery ob-

ject hurtles through the sky over a suburban baseball game, there are glimpses of a character that will make viewers question if what they're seeing is real or unreal.

The strong, natural momentum of a family trying to survive will satiate horror fanatics, but possibly not mesmerize them. Those who saw the first film may

be more enthusiastic—particularly teens, tweens, young women and girls. If that contingent buys enough tickets, expect a AQP Part III. Which is either a good thing or going to the well too many times. Depending.

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Galleria Dallas to celebrate BIPOC designers with Black Fashion Movement pop up June 17-20

When Frenchye Harris entered the fashion industry, there weren't many people who looked like her at the table. There weren't many models who looked like her. And there certainly wasn't a showcase for designers who looked like her. Harris met that challenge during the past year by creating the Black Fashion Movement. June 17-20, Galleria Dallas will host the Black Fashion Movement and over a dozen amazing designers representing the BIPOC community for a stylish pop-up experience where shoppers across North Texas can come together to see the works of some of the coun-

try's most up and coming designers.

The Black Fashion Movement launched in February 2020 as a grassroots social media campaign to celebrate, promote and support black-owned fashion brands during Black History Month. The movement took root and evolved. The Black Fashion Movement is now a community of fashion designers, entrepreneurs, stylists, fashion industry executives and fashion enthusiasts that share the vision of normalizing buying and incorporating Black-owned fashion brands into our everyday wardrobes.

While Harris began by

hosting monthly roundtables to educate, connect and celebrate the industry and audience. But she realized that there was space for more. The Black Fashion Movement pop up experience at Galleria Dallas is designed to be the first of a series of luxury shopping experiences created to connect emerging Black designers with trend-conscious shoppers in a unique retail encounter.

"The unavailability of Black-owned brands and products that serve the African American community is profoundly impacting the African-American path to purchase", noted Harris.

"Creating in-store opportunities for Black customers to touch, feel and try new products while shopping could be essential to building long term loyalty."

Black Fashion Movement has brought together some of the most exciting Black-owned brands from markets across the country.

Additionally, a collection of Dallas designers will be featured at Black Fashion Movement.

Black Fashion Movement will be open from June 17 – June 20 on Level One at Galleria Dallas across from Gucci. The pop up will be open from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily.



Apparel created by local designer Aisha McShaw will be among the creations highlighted at the Galleria event. (Courtesy photo)

ST LUCIA, from Page 8

to-west. At last count there were just over 180,000 local residents. In total, there are just over 5,000 hotel rooms available in the whole country, not much more than some of the mega cruise ships that wander about the area.

While tourism accounts for 65% of the nation's foreign trade, the simple capacity limitations keep it from becoming a turnstile destination. Not much in

ravel can be as disappointing as paying good money only to be engulfed in a throng of fellow American tourists.

On the flip side of that, it is a good idea to secure a travel itinerary in advance.

COVID, crime and safety

There is still a big elephant in the room when it comes to travel these days. The COVID-19 pandemic is global, and St. Lucia

was not spared. As of press time, the CDC still has the island listed under a Level 4 travel advisory.

The situation around the virus is constantly changing, and just this week the government of St. Lucia announced some easing of measures used to combat the virus.

"While all visitors to Saint Lucia can currently experience a wonderful vacation as well as approved tours and attractions, fully vaccinated travelers are

now invited to explore the entire destination at their leisure, while following our protocols," said Hon. Prime Minister Allen Chastanet.

Travelers are advised to check the regulations for testing both entering and leaving the country.

As for crime, St. Lucia

is like most destinations in Europe and Latin America in that petty theft is not uncommon. Violent crime against tourists is rare.

All Americans traveling abroad should remember that travelers are subject to the laws and regulations of the country they visit.

As the pandemic has wrecked the tourism industry worldwide, resorts and businesses in St. Lucia are making special offers to welcome visitors back. More information can be found online at the website stluciatime.com.

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Cynt Marshall, Dallas Mavericks / CEO

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Kristen Clarke becomes first Black woman to lead Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division

By Charlene Crowell

On the one-year anniversary of the death of George Floyd, a 51-48 vote in the U.S. Senate seals Kristen Clarke's place in history: the first woman, the first woman of color, and the first Black woman to receive Senate confirmation to head the Department of Justice (DOJ)'s Civil Rights Division. The largely partisan vote included Maine's U.S. Senator Susan Collins as the only Republican to support the historic confirmation.

After years of rollbacks to hard-won racial progress, Ms. Clarke and all of DOJ are poised to correct, reverse, and advance 'justice for all' as a genuine reality instead of a slogan. The COVID-19 pandemic and recession have thrown into sharp view vast health disparities and economic inequities. Much of Black America has suffered in ways that harkened back to Jim Crow and its separate, but never equal status.

For Illinois Senator Dick Durbin, Clarke's nomination is as significant as it is promising.

"At this moment in history, filling this Division,



Kristen Clarke (Photo: David Hills / Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law)

the Civil Rights Division, on the anniversary of George Floyd's murder on the streets of Minnesota, we are confirming the first woman of color in the history of the United States to head this Division," said Sen. Durbin. "It is an historic choice... It shouldn't be trivialized by ignoring the many endorsements she received because of her good life's work, having spent her entire career defending the civil rights of all Americans."

"Kristen Clarke is the right person at the right time to serve as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights," said Center for Responsible Lending Federal Advocacy Director and Senior Counsel Ashley Harrington. "Her vast experience in civil rights

law reflects our country's challenges – from fighting against mortgage discrimination and a grossly inequitable criminal justice system to taking on hate crimes and voter suppression aimed at denying Black and brown people the right to vote. We are excited for Ms. Clarke to take the helm in protecting the civil rights of all Americans."

Since a new Administration began this January, a series of hopeful signs signal that regressive and harmful practices will be challenged in the name of justice.

Nominated on January 7 by President Biden, his remarks noted Clarke's nomination for both its significance and opportunity.

"The Civil Rights Divi-

sion represents the moral center of the Department of Justice. And the heart of that fundamental American ideal that we're all created equal and all deserve to be treated equally," said President Biden. "I'm honored you accepted the call to return to make real the promise for all Americans."

Soon thereafter, a tsunami of endorsements for Clarke's confirmation highlighted national and diverse support for her service. Her backers included labor unions, environmental activists, law enforcement officials, along with legal colleagues and civil rights leaders.

Perhaps one of the earliest and most poignant expressions came from John W. Marshall, the son of the nation's first Black Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, Thurgood

Marshall. Penned on behalf of his family, the February 9 letter to U.S. Senate leadership drew a key historic connection.

"Ms. Clarke is a path-breaking lawyer, like my father, who built her career advancing civil rights and equal justice under the law, and breaking barriers through her leadership for people of color while making our nation better for everyone," wrote Mr. Marshall.

His letter also shared an eye-opening example of Ms. Clarke's groundbreaking work in civil rights. "Ms. Clarke has successfully utilized the law as a vehicle for advancing equality, as my father did. For example, she successfully represented Taylor Dumpson, who was targeted for a hate crime after her election as American University's

first female Black student body president."

Similarly, the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization, the NAACP, advised Senate leadership before its scheduled confirmation hearing of its support for Ms. Clarke.

On April 12, Derrick Johnson, its President and CEO wrote, "The NAACP believes that Ms. Clarke is exceptionally suited to oversee the Civil Rights Division at a time when people of color have suffered devastating harm at the hands of law enforcement. She is the leader we need to ensure local police agencies are complying with civil rights laws and advancing public safety by maintaining positive relationships with the communities they

See DOJ, Page 12

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Staffing firm Hire Dynamics opens in Dallas, kicks off two-day 'HirePalooza'

Staffing firm Hire Dynamics which recently opened its doors at a Lewisville branch will host a hiring event, HirePalooza, on June 8 and 9 from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Hire Dynamics aims to hire talent for several hundred positions in the following industries: manufacturing, call centers and e-commerce/logistics at warehouses and distribution centers. Overall,

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the staffing company puts 11,000 people to work a day, and 47 branches across the Southeast.

Job seekers can book appointments in advance or walk-in to the branch. They

can use the Hire Dynamics Work4HD app (click here to learn more and download the app) to begin the registration process and as a COVID safety precaution. Additional safety measures

will include social distancing and contactless transactions.

The event takes place Tuesday, June 8 and Wednesday, June 9, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Hire Dynamics offices located at 401 N Valley Parkway, Suite 420 in Lewisville, TX 75057. Hire Dynamics is among the top 1% of more than 22,000 staffing companies as winner

of ClearlyRated's "Best of Staffing for Client & Talent Satisfaction" for 12 consecutive years. Founded in 2001 in Atlanta, Hire Dynamics fulfills opportunities by employing some 11,000 people daily at more than 1500 client locations. Through nearly 50 locations across the Southeast and its innovative technology, Hire Dynamics specializes in matching

workers with jobs in manufacturing, contact centers, administrative support, and e-commerce/logistics at warehouses and distribution centers. The mission is to be the #1 staffing company you would refer to a friend. Its own employees have voted it a "Best Place to Work" for 13 years in a row. For more information, go to www.hiredynamics.com.

DOJ, from Page 11

serve. Ms. Clarke has prosecuted police misconduct cases and has worked to make the criminal justice system fairer for people of color."

Ms. Clarke's legal career takes on even more significance when one considers this daughter of Jamaican immigrants grew up in Brooklyn New York's public housing. Although financial resources were limited, the family's teachings of discipline and hard work were not. From public schools, her collegiate studies took her to the prestigious Ivy League.

In 1997, she received her Bachelor's degree from Harvard University. Three years later in 2000, Clarke completed her Juris Doctor at Columbia University.

Her first job as a new attorney was as a federal prosecutor with the Department of Justice, working on voting rights, hate crimes, and human trafficking cases. In 2006, she joined the NAACP Legal Defense Fund until then New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman appointed her as director of the state's Civil Rights Bureau. In this state role, Clarke led enforcement actions spanning criminal justice, voting rights, fair lending, housing discrimination, disability rights, reproductive access and LGBTQ rights.

As recognition of her legal acumen grew, so did the number of honors she received: the 2010 Paul Robeson Distinguished Alumni Award from Co-

lumbia Law School; 2011 National Bar Association's Top 40 Under 40; the 2012 Best Brief Award for the 2012 Supreme Court term from the National Association of Attorneys General; and the New York Law Journal's 2015 Rising Stars.

Months later, the August 2016 edition of the American Bar Association (ABA) Journal featured a Q&A interview with Ms. Clarke. In part, she reflected on her childhood and how it influenced her career aspirations.

"I've experienced what it's like to be underprivileged, and I've experienced very privileged settings as well. I feel a deep sense of responsibility to use the opportunities that I have been given to help those less fortunate. We live in a nation that's divided along lines of race and class. I have a personal sense of what life is like on both sides of that divide, and I want to figure out how we close some of those gaps and level the playing field."

At the April 14 Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on her nomination, Clarke recalled her legal career journey and the principles that guided her work.

"I began my legal career traveling across the country to communities like Tensas Parish, Louisiana and Clarksdale, Mississippi," testified Clarke. "I learned to be a lawyer's lawyer – to focus on the rule of law and let the facts lead where they may."

"When I left DOJ," she continued, "I carried the words of the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall as my guide: 'Where you see wrong or inequality or injustice, speak out, because this is your country. This is your democracy. Make it. Protect it. Pass it on'. I've tried to do just that at every step of my career."

Now, Ms. Clarke returns to the Department of Justice at a time when the agency is recommitting its focus on serving the entire nation equitably. Since early this year, a series of actions reflect the agency's renewed commitment to civil rights. Here are a few examples:

This February and following an FBI investigation, a Michigan man was indicted on a charge of hate crimes after confronting Black teenagers with racial slurs and weapons for their use of a public beach.

In March, two former Louisiana correctional officers were sentenced for their roles in a cover-up of a 2014 prisoner's death at the state's St. Bernard Parish that followed a failure to provide medical treatment while incarcerated.

In April, DOJ and the City of West Monroe, Louisiana reached a consent agreement following a lawsuit alleging violation of the Voting Rights Act. Although nearly a third of the city was Black, the at-large election of city aldermen resulted in all white local officials. With the consent decree, the method of aldermen selection will change to a combination of single

district representatives and others elected at-large.

On May 7, DOJ issued a three-count indictment of four Minneapolis police officers on federal civil rights charges in the death of George Floyd. Additionally, convicted former officer Derek Chauvin faces an additional two-count indictment for his actions in 2017 against a 14-year-old teenager. The indictment charges Chauvin with keeping his knee on the youth's neck and upper back, as

well as using a flashlight as a weapon.

Additionally, DOJ is currently investigating police practices in both Louisville, and Minneapolis. Readers may recall that Breonna Taylor was killed in her Louisville home during a late-night, no-knock warrant police entry.

"Our nation is a healthier place when we respect the rights of all communities," advised Ms. Clarke in her confirmation hearing remarks. "In every role I've

held, I have worked with and for people of all backgrounds...I've listened deeply to all sides of debates, regardless of political affiliation. There is no substitute to listening and learning in this work, and I pledge to you that I will bring that to the role if confirmed."

Charlene Crowell is a senior fellow with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.



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

**Ongoing
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 focussed career fair is delivered right at your desktop. No need to travel anywhere, just signup and wait for TAO.ai to organize your interactions.

**On-Going
Customer Rep
job fairs**

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.

Immediate hiring job fairs slated for Glendale Shopping Center, Greater Cornerstone Baptist Church

To address the need for additional workers at its restaurants and retail outlets at Dallas Love Field and Dallas Fort Worth International Airports, Star Concessions has partnered with the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA) to stage two Immediate Hiring Job Fairs, Saturday, June 5th from 12 Noon to 5 pm at the Glendale Shopping Center at the corner of Ann Arbor and Marsalis in Oak Cliff and Saturday, June 12th at the Greater Corner-

stone Baptist Church, 8350 Forest Lane in North Dallas respectively.

The faith-based organization of over 200 churches is promoting the event among its membership. "Many of our member families can take advantage of this opportunity," said Rev. David Wilson, President of the IMA, and senior pastor of Greater Cornerstone Baptist Church. "The idea of the event taking place in the community with people being able to start work-

ing right away is proactive. Star Concessions is setting the best practices model for how to partner effectively with the community for providing jobs and economic vitality," Rev. Wilson said.

"We have over 100 positions available for immediate hiring," said Mollie Standridge, Vice President of Star Concessions. The company operates Chili's, Whataburger, Pizza Hut, Campisi's, Cantina Laredo, Maggiano's and Trinity

Groves among other brands at both airports. Standridge emphasized that new hires will be offered a free DART GoPass after clearing airport security requirements.

She said starting salaries range from \$12 to \$16 per hour with tipped employees making up to \$30 per hour. Participants are asked to bring two forms of valid government ID for on-the-spot hiring. Additionally, those interested may also apply online, www.starcons.com.

#HIREBLACK will match 500 Black women to executive leaders in celebration of Juneteenth

NEW YORK (PRNewswire) -- Today #HIREBLACK announced their intention to host more than 500 career coaching video sessions for Black women on Thursday, June 17th in celebration of Juneteenth and the organization's first anniversary.

Participants will be matched with executive leaders, hiring managers, and recruiters at top companies for resume reviews or career advice. This historical event will provide 15,000 coaching minutes to Black women in one day.

#HIREBLACK is a black-woman led recruiting events/ marketing organization with a goal of get-

ting 10,000 Black women hired, trained and promoted. In less than a year since its inception, the organization has helped their members increase their compensation by a total of \$795,000. Their members have also credited them for assistance in receiving offers at Fortune 500 companies ranging from Amazon, Apple, Disney, Deloitte, Microsoft, and more.

The #HIREBLACK Juneteenth MentorMatch is intended for Black women. "Black women face systematic and intersectional obstacles in the workplace," says Niani Tolbert, #HIREBLACK's Founder and CEO, "with the job market

being more competitive than ever, #HIREBLACK wants to provide support to those who often get overlooked."

Niani is motivated to help Black women after being raised by a single mother who struggled to secure employment for years despite decades of experience in

corporate customer service.

At the #HIREBLACK Juneteenth event participants will lead tailored discussions with their career coaches, seeking advice, guidance, and expertise on but not limited to:

- Leadership

See #HIREBLACK, Page 16

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June 5, 10 am

to 12 Noon

Women you are invented to W.O.R.T.H. Women's Bible Study - 1st Saturday each month via Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84470773249?pwd=OXRHeC9GRnpzLzZKZXF6TlFzbHhIQT09>

June 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.

June 9, 7 pm

You are invited to join us via video-conferencing for Prayer and Bible Study from 7 to 8:45 pm as we pray for the world's Coronavirus. In Wednesday's Bible we are studying Celebration of Discipline by Richard J. Foster, Chapter 10. Dial in Phone # 346 248 7799, Meeting I.D. 256

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June 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

See CHURCH, Page 15

WRAPUP, from Page 6

Legislation Olympics that when it comes down to it, it's impossible to sift the harmful from the horrifying. Given this depressing but on-brand reality from Republicans, we feel it makes the most sense to skip right ahead to...

The Ugly Heartless, Cruel Attacks on Trans Kids

This spring, instead of focusing on the myriad of pressing issues facing Texans -- from winter storm recovery to getting through the pandemic -- Republicans spent precious legislative hours trying to make life harder for trans kids. The horrific list includes SB 29, which would have banned trans kids from playing sports on teams that match their gender identities, a spate of bills that would have labeled parents' and healthcare professionals' provision of lifesaving gender affirming healthcare as child abuse, as well as a number of other anti-LGBTQ+ bills. Republicans persisted despite hearing widespread testimony about how these bills would pose serious mental health risks, including increased risk of suicide, among trans kids. Thanks to the tireless work of trans activists, kids and parents, advocates, health professionals, and Democrats, the full slate of Republicans' anti-trans, anti-child bills has been blocked -- but as advocates have noted, these bills have already caused untold harm to kids across the state. Shame on Republicans.

Setting Up Texans To Die By Allowing Anyone To Carry A Handgun, No Questions Asked

Another infamous piece of legislation to come out of Republicans' twisted imagination, permitless carry (HB 1927) will allow anyone to carry a handgun -- without a license, safety training, or background check requirements. In a country beset by the scourge of the gun violence epidemic, this bill will cause more suffering, loss, violence, and heartache. Police officers oppose permitless carry. Families and advocates oppose permitless carry. The passage of this bill was one of the darkest moments this session. It's currently on the Governor's desk, and he has promised to sign it.

Gutting Abortion Access In An Already Highly Abortion-Restrictive State

This session, disgraced Gov. Greg Abbott signed into law the most damaging six-week abortion ban (SB 9) in the country -- one that is blatantly illegal, as well as deeply harmful and exceptionally cruel. Set to take effect in September, the bill illegally bans abortion around six weeks -- before most people know they are pregnant -- but also allows anyone, including people from out of state, to take legal action against any individual who has helped someone else get an abortion. On top of this brazen assault on Texans' right to abortion and to healthcare, Republicans also

pushed forward a "trigger ban" bill (HB 1280), which would ban abortion outright across the state in the event that federal abortion protections are rolled back. This one is on its way to the Governor.

Blocking Nearly A Million Texans From Getting Healthcare

That's right, folks: more than a year into the COVID-19 pandemic, Republicans blocked Medicaid expansion -- forcing almost a million Texans who would be eligible for health coverage to instead continue going without healthcare. Texas is already the most uninsured state in the country, with some of the worst health outcomes, especially in Black maternal health. Despicable.

Zero Meaningful Action In the Aftermath of the Winter Storm

Despite a horrifying projected death toll upwards of 700 Texans in February's winter storm disaster, Republicans dragged their feet all spring on fixing Texas' power grid -- all but paving the way for another similar catastrophe to strike again. Republicans finally allowed bandaid legislation to move forward in the form of SB 3, but this bill doesn't go nearly far enough to resolve the underlying issues and guarantee weatherization to keep Texans safe.

Censoring Education on Racism and Sexism

With HB 3979, Republicans sought to whitewash education, censor teachers, and stop students from learning about the realities of our history. This bill was a shameful bid to police classrooms and play po-

litical games at the expense of our kids' learning about their

history and the way it shapes our society today -- denying the lived realities of Black and Brown families, and women, girls, and non-binary Texans, and making schools less safe for a majority of Texas kids. Thanks to the efforts of Rep. James Talarico (D-Round

Rock), this bill was blocked through a point of order with just days left in the session. However, Dan Patrick then used

an unconstitutional move to revive the bill, sending this anti-child, anti-education bill to the Governor for signing.

Last But Not Least: Republicans' Rotten Anti-Voter Bill SB 7 and Its 80+ Evil Siblings

Racist, ableist, anti-voter bill SB 7 was one of the most harmful bills put forward by Republicans this session. However, Democrats' efforts to block it -- culminating in a late-night walkout that denied Republicans the quorum needed to pass the bill -- were nothing short of heroic. Like Republicans in state legislatures around the country, Texas Republicans spent this session leading a coordinated attack on Texans' constitutional right to vote. Amidst more than 80 anti-voter bills filed by Texas Republicans this session,

Senate Bill 7 is the most notorious bill to come out of that assault on our rights. SB 7, a Frankenstein's monster combined with extremist anti-voter bill HB 6, represented a blatant attempt to plunge Texas back

into Jim Crow era voter suppression, flagrantly targeting people of color, voters with disabilities, and working people.

Republicans flouted procedural norms and relied on shady dealings to jam this bill through the legislature -- ignoring testimony from people across the state on the harm this bill will do to their communities -- because the only way their failing political party can cling to power is by stopping people from voting. However, those underhanded tactics were not enough, because Democrats refused to allow Texans to be silenced this way. Sunday, on the final night of voting in the Texas House, Democrats arrived ready to ask questions and raise points of order to slow SB 7 down. But when Republicans played dirty and collected enough signatures to end debate on the bill, Democrats chose to fight back with everything they had, rather than be complicit in the GOP's sham vote and shady processes.

House Democrats used the last tool available to them, and walked out -- denying Republicans the quorum they would have needed to pass the bill. Thanks to their efforts, SB 7 is dead, and Texas' democracy is intact.

Texas Democratic Party Chair Gilberto Hinojosa issued the following statement:

"The 87th Texas legislative session will be remembered as one where Republicans left Texans to fend for themselves in the midst of multiple, overlapping crises. While ignoring the

pandemic, the winter storm, economic struggles, and a lack of healthcare, Republicans advanced a spate of unrelentingly harmful bills this session -- sparing nothing and no one, from voting rights, to abortion access, to kids health and safety, to the few common-sense gun safety measures we had in place.

"Meanwhile, Democrats fought tooth and nail for Texans every step of the way. From pushing for Medicaid expansion to provide healthcare to one million more Texans to advocating for necessary reforms to our criminal justice system, Democrats went to the Capitol every single day fighting to help our communities and make life better for each of us. Last night, House Democrats blocked the worst assault on voting rights in our state since the Jim Crow era. That's what leadership looks like.

"Hundreds of Republican bills filed this session should never have seen the light of day. I thank our Democratic lawmakers, who stood shoulder to shoulder with advocates and fought tirelessly to block Republicans' assaults on our rights, our communities, and our state.

"The only way we can protect Texans from suffering more of these attacks is by defeating Republicans and electing more Democrats. For the next 17 months until the 2022 elections, that's exactly what we're going to do. Summer is here and Texas Democrats are organizing to take back our state"

Precious Deaths



Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

- Psalm 11

The Bible often speaks of death as a requirement of living a life in Christ. This death is not a physical death, but a spiritual death.

It is a death of the old so the new can be raised. It is the life of Christ that is raised in us. However, this death can be painful if we do not choose to willingly allow this "circumcision of heart" to have its way.

If we are not circumcised of heart, we do not enter into God's promises. Mo-

ses was called to deliver a people from slavery.

But when he was about to return to Egypt to begin what God called Him to do, God almost killed him. He had failed to take care of the details of obedience.

In this case, it was that all the males in his family were to be circumcised. This oversight on Moses' part almost cost him his life. Imagine that - God prepared a man 40 years, and yet, he was almost disqualified because of an oversight.

"At a lodging place on the way, the Lord met Moses and was about to kill him. But Zipporah took a flint knife, cut off her son's foreskin and touched Moses' feet with it..." (Exodus 4:24).

None of us will ever enter the Promised Land



Israel (Izzy) Igwe just graduated Cum Laude from the University of Houston with a Bachelor's of Science in Biochemistry and a Minor in Business Administration & Chemistry.

of full blessing with God unless we have this same circumcision of heart. The psalmist above accurately describes the process of circumcising the heart.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints. O Lord, truly I am Your servant; I am Your servant, the son of Your

maidservant; You have freed me from my chains (Psalm 116:15-16).

We cannot be free to be God's servant until this death takes place in each of us. When this death takes place, we become free - free from the chains of sin that held us back from becoming completely His.

Oh, what freedom there is when this death takes place. No longer are we held to the sin of materialism, fear, self-effort, or anxiety, for we are dead to these things.

The Bible speaks of the seed that must die in order for it to spring up and give new life.

I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life (John 12:24-25).

Each of us must ask the Lord if our seed has died. Is it in the ground now, yielding the fruit of brokenness before Him? This is the

great paradox of a life in Christ - the circumcision of heart and the death process. Ask God to free you to become all that He wants you to be today.

Present your body as a living sacrifice unto God. Ask Him to help you to be holy and acceptable, which is your reasonable service to God (Romans 12:1).

Ask for guidance, direction, protection from harm and evil, and ask Him to shine through your life to influence the world around you. May God be glorified and may the lost be pointed to Jesus through the testimony of your life.

Ask God to keep you pure and forgive you for any sin against Him for all your failures so that you might start afresh every day in the precious name of Jesus.

CHURCH, from Page 14

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

June 9, 7 pm

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

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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.

June 4, 7 pm

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

June 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.

June 7, 7 pm

You are invited to Monday School to see what God has to say to us in His Holy Word.

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June 6, 8 and 11 am

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

June 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).

June 9, 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.

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NDG Book Review: 'The Secret History of Home Economics'

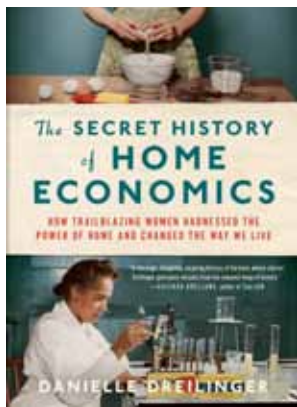
By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You've had a lot on your plate this past year.

Lock-downs, virtual classes, and stay-at-home orders weren't all bad, though; the hunker-down was an opportunity for a new hobby. Knitting busied your fingers. Reading engaged your mind. Newly-discovered baking skills literally added to your plate and, as in "The Secret History of Home Economics" by Danielle Dreilinger, Great-Grandma would be proud.

Our nation wasn't but a few decades old when it became very clear that some citizens were lacking resources, to the point of "disadvantage." Women, for example, were generally solely in charge of the home and everything about it, and that often made for a hard life. By the 1870s, though, help was coming: Ellen Swallow, a "country girl" with an astounding drive to learn insisted on studying the growing new field of science. She then made it her life's work to use what she'd learned to better the lives of women.

Margaret Murray Washington saw the same need, but in a different way: born just before the Civil War ended, she knew that Black women likely already possessed housekeeping skills and needed no further instruction there. Wash-



ington, wife of Booker T., instead pushed for the creation of "domestic science" classes at Tuskegee, believing that a formal degree would ensure racial equality.

The idea of domestic science (or "home economics," as it was later called) was not without detractors but ultimately, emphasis was placed on science and economics. Women learned efficiency in daily chores, but they also learned ways to save money and fix everything from clothing to appliances; food safety, gardening, sanitizing, and healthy cooking. Professional home economists reached out to women to enhance communities. Women reached out to county professionals for tips during peacetime and war.

By the 1970s, feminism swept across the country and home-ec "seemed practically to break loose from a corset." It became clear that such things weren't just for women; still, by the end of

the decade, home ec was becoming more quaint than quintessential.

Says Dreilinger, it's high time we bring it back.

There's one important thing you'll fully understand after you've read "The Secret History of Home Economics": our foremothers were not to be trifled with. They were watchful, highly desirous of education, progressive, ingenious, and humble about their ignorance. In short, as author Danielle Dreilinger shows, Great Grandma was fierce.

Home Ec, as it turns out, wasn't originally just the homey, cooking-sewing-baby-care classes like those you had in high school. Adult women, both professionals and everyday housewives, fought hard to gain opportunities for all homemakers and to turn the job into one with esteem. Those warriors came from surprising corners to do that, and how they did it is a story complete with embedded racism, Eleanor Roosevelt, two women who were "essentially married to each other," and practice-babies.

Readers of women's history will love this book, as will general historians, feminists, and anyone with an interest in domestic arts. There's still work to do, so find "The Secret History of Home Economics" and dish it up.

ence. Thirty minute-long matchings are mentee-led (mentees can choose who they'd like to meet with), self-scheduled within their virtual platform.

#HIREBLACK has tapped incredible community partners to build a list of career coaches, such as Chief, private network designed specifically for women leaders — rising VP level through CEO — to strengthen their experience in the C-suite, cross-pollinate power across industries, and effect change from the top-down.

#HIREBLACK, from Page 13

- Pivoting
- Resume review
- Networking
- LinkedIn Profile Review
- Negotiation
- Business Strategy

The #HIREBLACK Juneteenth event is a celebration and encore of the success of their efforts in 2020. Troubled by the murder of George Floyd, the ensuing social unrest, and racial inequality that placed in the forefront last summer at a time when many had their economic futures up in the

air due to the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic, #HIREBLACK founder and then-furloughed Tech Recruiter, Niani Tolbert, published a post on LinkedIn asking for her network to volunteer to help Black women get feedback on their resumes as a means to help and uplift the community. She was aiming to help just 19 Black women on Juneteenth.

This year, #HIREBLACK returns for a larger mentor matching experi-



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