



North Dallas Gazette

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Fighting an Unjust System: The Bail Project helps people get out of jail and reunite families

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

As public support for criminal justice reform continues to build — and as the pandemic raises the stakes higher — advocates remain vigilant that it's more important than ever that the facts are straight, and everyone understands the bigger picture.

"The U.S. doesn't have one 'criminal justice system,' instead, we have thousands of federal, state, local, and tribal systems," Wendy Sawyer and Peter Wagner found in a study released by the nonprofit Prison Policy Initiative.

"Together, these systems hold almost 2 million people in 1,566 state prisons, 102 federal prisons, 2,850 local jails, 1,510 juvenile correctional facilities, 186 immigration detention facilities, and 82 Indian country jails, as well as in military prisons, civil commitment centers, state psychiatric hospitals, and prisons in the U.S. territories," the study authors discovered.

With hundreds of thousands of individuals locked up in jails almost daily, many find it challenging to pay bail.

Recognizing America's ongoing



With hundreds of thousands of individuals locked up in jails almost daily, many find it challenging to pay bail. (Photo via NNPA)

mass incarceration problem and the difficulties families have in bailing out their loved ones, a new organization began in 2018 to offer some relief.

The Bail Project, a nationwide charitable fund for pretrial defendants, started with a vision of combating mass incarceration by disrupting the money bail system.

Adrienne Johnson, the regional director for The Bail Project, told NNPA's Let It Be Known that the organization seeks to accomplish its mission one person at a time.

"We have a mission of doing exactly what we hope our criminal system would do: protect the presumption of innocence, reunite families, and challenge a system that we know can criminalize poverty," Johnson stated.

"Our mission is to end cash bail and create a more just, equitable, and humane pretrial system," she insisted.

Johnson said The Bronx Freedom Fund, at the time a new revolving bail fund that launched in New York, planted the seed for The Bail Project more than a decade ago.

"Because bail is returned at the end of a case, we can build a sustainable revolving fund where philanthropic dollars can be used several times per year, maximizing the impact of every contribution," Johnson stated.

In addition to posting bail at no cost to the person or their family, The Bail Project works to connect

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Student debt forgiveness just starts

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Psych drugs overused on BIPOC teens

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Both sides revving up for abortion fight

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Another great year starts in District 6

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CCBCC hosts open house, ribbon cutting

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Last week to catch 'Ain't Too Proud' in Dallas

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ArtExpo Dallas announces programming

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People In The News ...



Lt. Cmdr. Jesse Iwuji



Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis

NDG Quote of the Week: "Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave. I rise. I rise. I rise."
— Maya Angelou

Lt. Cmdr. Jesse Iwuji

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Men and women in uniforms. American flag flying high in the sky. Fierce competitors with their game faces on. This is a description of what Lt. Cmdr. Jesse Iwuji sees both on the race-track and on his Navy Reserve drill weekends. Iwuji is a surface warfare officer in the Navy Reserve, and when he's not serving his country, he is an Xfinity Series NASCAR driver.

Iwuji balances the unique demands of being a U.S. Navy Reserve Sailor and professional NASCAR



driver every day. He served on active duty for seven years before deciding to follow his dreams and spend more time behind the wheel. Transferring from active duty to the Navy Re-

serve has given him the opportunity to pursue both of his passions.

"I wanted to have more time to work on my businesses and work up through the ranks of NASCAR," said Iwuji. "Staying active duty would not have allowed me the amount of time necessary to do everything I wanted to do. I wanted to stay in the Reserve though, because it allowed me to keep one foot in the door and continue to serve and do my small part to keep our country free."

Iwuji's passion for cars and racing started in his childhood. While on active

duty in San Diego California, he was finally able to afford his own race car. Chasing his passion, he took the car to drag strips and road courses throughout southern California, which inspired him to pursue professional racing, a family he officially entered in 2017.

"It's been great working up the ranks of NASCAR but it has not been easy," said Iwuji. "I am still learning at every level I go up, which means I will have many good days and many bad days — and sometimes more bad days than good — but it's all a learning

process, and it's a blessing to just even have the opportunity to be on track with these great competitors."

Most NASCAR drivers have been racing since adolescence. Iwuji has only been racing for six years, making his climb to the Xfinity series all the more impressive to those inside the sport. With steadfast dedication, Iwuji climbed the tiers and ranks of NASCAR just as he has done in the Navy, while inspiring and leading those around him in both arenas.

"The similarities between NASCAR and the military are the teamwork

side, engineering side, process and procedures side, communication side and competition," said Iwuji. "There are not a lot of differences, but maybe one of the biggest differences is that in the military you are not just working with your fellow members because it is your job, you were working with them because of you are protecting their life and they are doing the same for you as well."

Iwuji takes pride in his position to inspire, educate and lead Sailors, as well as civilians, to follow their

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Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis

National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. has received the President Joseph R. Biden Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award for Community Service and Civil Rights.

Dr. Chavis received the award during a ceremony at Morehouse College in Atlanta.

"On behalf of the NNPA and the Thurgood Marshall Center Trust, as well as on behalf of all my fellow Civil Rights Movement comrades who were present at the President Joe Biden 2022 Lifetime Achievement



Awards on the campus of the historic Morehouse College in Atlanta, I express my profound gratitude to President Biden and Vice President Harris," Dr. Chavis remarked.

"At a time when our nation is facing renewed chal-

lenges to our democracy, it was very timely to reassert the importance of the right to vote, the Black Press of America, and the need to continue the fight for freedom, justice, equality, and equity," Dr. Chavis continued.

"We are committed to achieving #10MillionMoreBlackVoters."

In addition to honoring the work of Dr. Chavis, the awards recognized the Atlanta Student Movement, civil rights leaders, and others who have shaped American history.

Over 80 individuals are receiving awards from President Biden this year at ceremonies held at North

Carolina Central University in Durham, the Elks Lodge in Delray Beach, Fla., and Morehouse College.

Among the many notable recipients were Dr. Otis Moss Jr., Rev. Dr. Lawrence E. Carter Sr., Dr. Anne Winbush Watts, Dr. Clarissa Myrick-Harris and Thurgood Marshall Center Trust Inc. President Thom-

asina W. Yearwood.

A final ceremony is scheduled for September 10 at the Thurgood Marshall Center Trust in Washington, D.C.

"We are eternally grateful to all venues for hosting the awards program this year," said Dr. Beverly Kee, Executive Director of Premiere Coalition Part-

ners Association, LLC., a Maryland-based certifying organization for the Presidential Volunteer Service Award Program.

"We have a very impressive list of honorees who are making a meaningful difference in their communities, and this venue is so fitting for such a prestigious event," Kee stated.

Col. Gregory Clark

(Black PR Wire) The National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation, Inc., has tapped Alabama State University Vice President of Institutional Advancement and the Executive Director of the ASU Foundation, Col. Gregory Clark, U.S. Army, Retired, for their 2022 Hall of Fame. The organization selected Clark to receive the Chairman's Award for exceptional achievements in his field.

The Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will take place on Friday, September 23, 2022, in Atlanta.

"This honor goes back to



my work at Florida A&M as National Alumni President. To be selected as a Hall of Famer and be in the company of a list of illustrious people is a great honor," Clark said. "This is a culmination of working and being an advocate for HBCUs."

Clark will join a distin-

guished list of more than 350 others who have been enshrined in the Hall of Fame since 1986, including notables such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, Walter Payton, Leontyne Price, Chief Justice Thurgood Marshall, Oprah Winfrey, Ambassador Andrew Young, Will Packer and Nancy Wilson.

A native of Abbeville, Alabama, and a 1993 graduate of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (Florida A&M University or FAMU), Clark has made his mark as an ardent leader in military service, as a financial advisor and as a leader at his alma mater.

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Check us out on Youtube!

In case you've missed it, the *North Dallas Gazette* has begun producing videos. Our latest series, "Close Up" takes a deep dive into issues affecting the local DFW community. Episodes I and II are up now, with Jackie Hardy taking a look at criticisms surrounding the North Texas Tollway Authority's compliance with its stated goals of inclusion for Minority and Women in Business Enterprise firms. The first episode is a conversation with two accomplished professionals in the field, and the second features the NTTA's response to questions about its past performance. Check it out, subscribe to our Youtube channel and stay informed.



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Biden student debt forgiveness plan begins, not ends

By Charlene Crowell

President Joe Biden's recent student debt cancellation announcement elicited a diverse range of reactions—some congratulatory, others critical, and still others that seem unsure what to make of the unprecedented multi-billion-dollar effort.

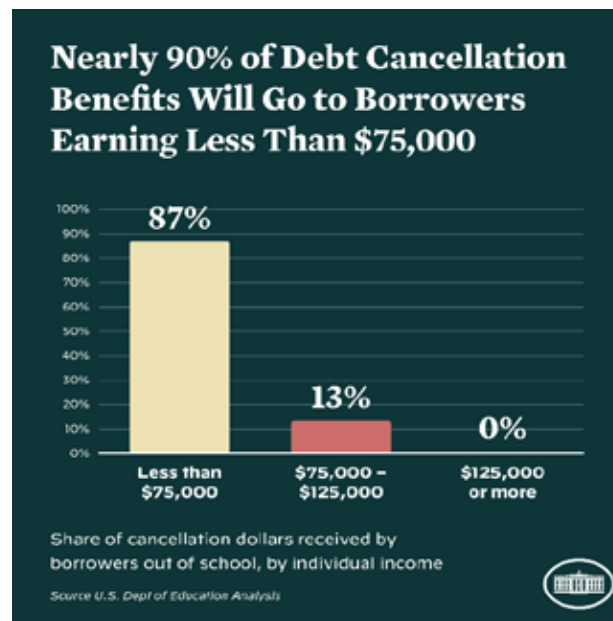
Predictably, long-time education and civil rights advocates spoke to the need for additional reforms, while others wondered about cancellation's impact on an already troubled economy. Families struggling with the rising cost of living and deepening student debt—have only a few months to make household budget adjustments before loan payments resume in January.

The good news is that of the 43 million people affected by the executive action, 20 million borrowers will have all of their debt cancelled. Many of these borrowers incurred student loans but dropped out of school, left with thousands in debt and lower earnings due to the lack of a degree.

Another 27 million people from working class backgrounds who received Pell grants are assured of up to \$20,000 in debt relief.

But these actions do not resolve the structural mismatch between the still-rising costs of college, limited family financial means to contribute to that cost, and the availability of financial aid other than interest-bearing loans.

"We've all heard of those schools luring students with a promise of big paychecks when they graduate only to watch these students be ripped off and left with mountains of debt," stated President Biden on August 24. "Well, last week, the Department of Education fired a college accreditor that allowed colleges like ITT and Corinthian to defraud borrowers...Our goal



is to shine a light on the worst actors so students can avoid these debt traps."

It seems like a perfect time for the Department of Education to clean house of all the bad higher education actors -- especially costly for-profit institutions that promise a lot but deliver little, and accreditors that fail to do their jobs.

On August 30, following President Biden's announcement, the Department of Education took action against another defunct for-profit: Westwood College. This trade school lured unsuspecting students into costly debt from January 1, 2002 through November 17, 2015 when it stopped enrolling new borrowers in advance of its 2016 closure. The Department found widespread misrepresentations about the value of its credentials for attendees' and graduates' employment prospects.

"Westwood College's exploitation of students and abuse of federal financial aid place it in the same circle of infamy occupied by Corinthian Colleges and ITT Technical Institute," said Under Secretary James Kvaal. "Westwood operated on a culture of false promises, lies, and manipulation in order to profit off student debt that burdened borrowers long after West-

wood closed."

Now, 79,000 Westwood borrowers will benefit from \$1.5 billion in debt cancellation, thanks to the Department.

Changes to Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program rules will allow borrowers that would not otherwise qualify, to receive credit for past periods of repayment. Interested borrowers and their families can get more information on the program's information page, but they must act by October 31. Details on the time-limited offer are available at: <https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/pslf-limited-waiver>.

But individual states must do their part as well. Across the nation, state revenues are flush with surpluses.

"I don't think there's been a time in history where states are better equipped to ride out a potential recession," said Timothy Vermeer, senior state tax policy analyst at the Tax Foundation, a Washington, D.C.-based think tank. "A majority, if not all, of the rainy-day funds are in a really healthy position."

Additionally, and according to the 2021 edition of the annual State Higher Education Finance (SHEF) report, short-changing higher education funding at the state level will likely lead to worse, not better results.

The report tracks enrollment trends, funding levels and distributions of state institutions

"Generous federal stimulus funding protected state revenues and directly supported higher education, reducing states' need to cut funding during the pandemic and short economic recession," states the report's news release. "However, sharp declines in student enrollment and net tuition and fee revenue signal continued upheaval for public higher education revenues."

Federal stimulus funding during the pandemic boosted state education appropriations, but only 8.9 percent of state aid to public institutions in 2021 went toward providing student financial aid, according to SHEF. And without federal stimulus funds, state education appropriations would have declined by one percent in 2021 if full-time enrollment had held constant, according to the report.

"States vary in their relative allocations to higher education," states the report. "Public institutions in some states remain primarily publicly funded, but a growing proportion have become primarily reliant on student tuition and fee revenue over the last two decades."

The report notes that while federal stimulus and relief funds are helpful, they cannot be a replacement for long-term state investments, because stimulus funds are time-limited and often restricted in their use.

If we want to end the student debt trap, now is the time for citizens to challenge states to use their tax revenue to do more for their own constituents.

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

Keep up with the news

O N L I N E

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Prescribing adolescents multiple psychiatric drugs now the norm, particularly in BIPOC communities

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

The current trend of polypharmacy – the simultaneous use of multiple drugs by a single patient for one or more conditions – reflects racism and discrimination in the treatment of Black, Indigenous, and people of color children and teens, according to Dr. Carolyn Coker Ross, an intergenerational trauma expert and eating disorder treatment specialist.

“It has been documented in adults that Black patients with mental illness are more likely to receive substance care and more likely to be diagnosed with psychotic disorders than with depression and anxiety,” Dr. Ross stated.

“The lack of access and availability of therapeutic options to treat mental illness and the lack of understanding and acknowledgment that mental illness in teens and children may have their roots in trauma.

“Medication will not fix the brain changes caused by childhood trauma experiences and may not even fix the symptoms. Beyond this, medication use in children and teens is risky at best and dangerous at its worst.”

Dr. Ross’ comments are in response to a new report revealing that anxious and depressed teens are using multiple, powerful psychiatric drugs, many of which are untested in adolescents or for use in tandem.

In 2020, the journal *Pediatrics* reported that 40.7 percent of people ages 2 to 24 who were prescribed a drug for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder also were prescribed at least



In 2020, the journal Pediatrics reported that 40.7 percent of people ages 2 to 24 who were prescribed a drug for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder also were prescribed at least one other medication for depression, anxiety, or another mood or behavioral disorder.

(Photo via NNPA)

one other medication for depression, anxiety, or another mood or behavioral disorder.

Further, researchers found more than 50 psychotropic medicines prescribed in such combinations.

“These patterns should spark further inquiry about the appropriateness, efficacy, and safety of psychotherapeutic polypharmacy in children and young adults, particularly within subgroups where the use is high,” the authors concluded.

While the use of multiple psychotropic medications counts as concerning in such a young population, it is also not surprising given the lack of other treatment options, Dr. Ross told the *Washington Informer*.

“Beyond this, however, is a lack of understanding about the root cause of many of the psychiatric conditions being diagnosed and treated with medications,” Dr. Ross asserted.

She continued:

“Both during and before

the pandemic, BIPOC children and teenagers are exposed to more trauma and adverse events than any white children and teens.”

Given that depression and anxiety have increased in recent years among youth, and young ones who have experienced trauma or childhood adversity (or ACEs – adverse childhood experiences) are more likely to experience depression and anxiety and other health and learning challenges, this is a significant health and social justice conversation, added Sarah Marikos, the executive director of the ACE Resource Network (ARN).

“The issues on prescribing psychotropic medications for children, adolescents, and young people, and lack of access to behavioral health supports for youth who have an increasing need for mental health support is one of the biggest health challenges our country is facing right now,” Marikos wrote in an email.

“This is partly why the U.S. Surgeon General issued an advisory on youth mental health at the end of 2021. When diagnosing and treating depression, anxiety, and ADHD, as well as many more common health conditions, particularly among young people, it is important to have a trauma-informed approach.”

Marikos continued:

“Giving children and young people, or anyone really, a psychiatric diagnosis with medication has serious, potentially helpful, and potentially harmful consequences. Diagnosis informs treatment. Therefore, if the diagnosis is not right, the treatment may not work, or worse, it could be hurtful.”

“Diagnoses can also impact how young people think and feel about themselves and perhaps define themselves. Doctors and behavioral health providers who understand trauma and seek to understand their patients’ history and experiences, may mean a shift in

diagnosis and treatment.”

The *New York Times* noted a nationwide study published in 2006 examined records of visits to doctors’ offices by people younger than 20 and found a sharp rise in office visits involving the prescription of antipsychotic drugs — to 1.2 million in 2002 from 200,000 in 1993. In addition, the drugs were increasingly prescribed in combinations, particularly among low-income children.

The newspaper added that between 2004 and 2008, a national study of children enrolled in Medicaid found that 85 percent of patients on an antipsychotic drug were also prescribed a second medication, with the highest rates among disabled youngsters and those in foster care.

“It’s a fact that our youth are experiencing more mental health concerns today than ever before,” offered Laura Tietz, a pediatric pharmacist.

She once worked at

Cleveland Clinic Children’s Hospital in Ohio.

“While I believe physicians and psychiatrists are probably overprescribing these medications, I don’t believe they do so intentionally,” Tietz stated.

“Unfortunately, they are often left with little choice. Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) and other forms of counseling have been shown to be an essential part of managing mental health conditions,” Tietz continued.

“However, there are few professionals in the medical field today who practice adolescent psychiatry and can provide this benefit to our youth.

“This leaves prescribers with the task of trying to manage mental health concerns strictly with medication.

“I believe any physician would tell you that they want to help the patient to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, right now,

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Senate Republicans introduce nationwide abortion ban legislation

South Carolina Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham has introduced a bill that bans abortions in the United States after 15 months.

The legislation comes three months after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, and as President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris vow to restore the abolished law's protections.

"I think we should have a law at the federal level that would say, after 15 weeks, no abortion on demand except in cases of rape, incest or to save the life of the mother," Graham said on Tuesday, Sept. 13.

"And that should be where America is at."



Photo via NNPA

Graham reiterated the GOP's argument that states should decide abortion rights.

He said if his party wins

the House and Senate during the November midterms, they'd immediately vote on his proposal.

"Abortion is not banned

in America. It is left up to elected officials in America to define the issue," Graham insisted.

"States have the ability

to do [so] at the state level and we have the ability in Washington to speak on this issue if we choose. I have chosen to speak."

White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre blasted the GOP for introducing the measure which she said would strip away women's rights in all 50 states.

"This bill is wildly out of step with what Americans believe," Jean-Pierre asserted.

"While President Biden and Vice President Harris are focused on the historic passage of the Inflation Reduction Act to reduce the cost of prescription drugs, health care, and energy – and to take unprec-

edented action on climate change – Republicans in Congress are focused on taking rights away from millions of women," Jean-Pierre continued.

She said Biden and Harris "are fighting for progress, while Republicans are fighting to take us back."

"President Biden and Congressional Democrats are committed to restoring the protections of *Roe v. Wade* in the face of continued radical steps by elected Republicans to put personal health care decisions in the hands of politicians instead of women and their doctors, threatening women's health and lives," Jean-Pierre concluded.

Divine 9 aims to save the lives of Black women endangered by *Roe v. Wade* repeal With 'Tell Somebody' PSA campaign

The Divine 9, the historically Black fraternities and sororities of the National Pan-Hellenic Council led by Phi Beta Sigma, are joining forces to save the lives of Black women.

In a news release, the influential organization said it would launch "Tell Somebody," a public service campaign emphasizing the profoundly disproportionate impact of the U.S. Supreme Court's June 24 decision to overturn nearly half a century of established law under *Roe v. Wade*, on Black women.

The campaign is a collective effort by the Divine 9 to empower the community to counteract the potentially disastrous effect of the repeal by urging Americans to contact the politicians who can make the most difference.

"Overturning *Roe v. Wade* will not end abortion, it will only end safe abortions and access to health-care for millions of women – particularly poor women of color – and fuel a full-fledged public health crisis in this country," Chris V.



Photo via NNPA

Rey, J.D., President of Phi Beta Sigma, a member of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, said in the news release.

"We're calling on the 2.5 million members of the Divine 9 to contact lawmakers to mitigate the impact of this egregious blow to the well-being of 10 million Black women of child-bearing age."

"Tell Somebody," narrated by iconic actor Jenifer Lewis (Black-ish, *Strong Medicine*, *Five, The Preacher's Wife*, *Cars*,

What's Love Got to Do with It) starkly illustrates the circumstances that drive nearly four times more Black women to seek abortions versus their white peers, particularly sexual violence.

According to the release, nearly half of Black women experience sexual coercion, and one in four will experience sexual abuse, by the age of 18. Thirty-five percent will experience some form of sexual violence within their lifetime.

Black women are also

three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications than their white peers.

This mortality rate among Black mothers is expected to increase by 33 percent in the wake of the repeal, officials stated in the release.

Lewis, known as the "Mother of Black Hollywood," urges viewers to contact key lawmakers to tell them to relax filibuster rules so Congress can protect women's healthcare rights.

Alexis McGill Johnson, president of Planned Parenthood Action Fund, an advocate for reproductive rights, supports the Divine 9 campaign, proclaimed that "What we are living through is an unprecedented public health crisis."

"The severity of losing the right to govern our own bodies cannot be overstated, especially for Black communities who have long felt the impact of politicians asserting power and control over our bodies at the expense of our health, lives, and futures," McGill Johnson stated.

She continued:

"Creating medically unnecessary barriers to abortion only makes it harder for people to get the health care they need, and deeply affects communities that already face challenges within the health care system — communities like ours.

"Despite the darkness we are living through, we must remember that we have the power to make a difference. As a member of a Divine 9 sorority, I know

there is power in our stories and strength in our voices as we continue to push for freedom."

"Tell Somebody" is produced by veteran broadcaster Sybil Wilkes "The Voice of Reason" on the Tom Joyner Morning Show and Executive Producer Yolanda Starks-White, co-founders of YoSy Media, a multi-media news, information and Black culture platform.

"This is a call to action. Lives are on the line – the lives of those with the least access to medical, financial and social resources," Wilkes stated.

"The measure of a nation is how it treats its most vulnerable. It's time to stand up together for those who cannot stand up for themselves."

Contact information for members of the U.S. Senate can be found at:

<https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm>

For more information about the Tell Somebody campaign visit www.TellSomebodyNow.org.

Welcome Back for Another Productive Year



Joyce Foreman
Dallas ISD
District 6

The new school year brings a fresh opportunity to make great things happen for our students.

And we are starting this year with the wind under our wings, due to the recently released accountability ratings from the Texas Education Agency, which showed Dallas ISD maintained a "B" rating overall despite the chal-

lenges presented by Covid.

Carter Educators Honored

Congrats to two deserving educators at Carter High School, Gregory Chapman and D'Cardio Cottonham, who were honored by Academy Sports and the Texas Rangers for their hard work and dedication to our Cowboy scholars. Mr. Chapman has been employed with Dallas ISD for 21 years and now serves as Carter High's community liaison. Mr. Cottonham is in his seventh year of teaching in Dallas ISD.

Comprehensive Safety Plan

The safety and well-being of all our students and staff are the top priorities of Dallas ISD, and the district has put in place a comprehensive safety plan for our campuses, including facility enhancements and protocols, mental well-being programs for students, training and safety awareness for staff, resources for reporting potential issues, and outreach to parents to support school safety at home. For more information, visit www.dallasisd.org/safeschools.

District 6 Schools Shine in Ratings

Our District 6 schools performed especially well, making us the only trustee district in Dallas ISD to have not a single "D" or failing grade. This just shows that if we receive equitable resources, we will perform. Kudos to the executive directors, principals, staff, and students of District 6 for their hard work, and let's keep it up. I'd like to personally thank these outstanding principals.

Birdie Alexander
Jimmie Tyler Brashear
T.W. Browne
John W. Carpenter
David W. Carter
D.A. Hulcy
Kathlyn Joy Gilliam
Zan W. Holmes Jr.
Barbara Jordan
Bedford Law (Atwell)
Justin F. Kimball
Umpfrey Lee
Thomas L. Marsalis
Ronald McNair
Otto M. Fridia (Thornton)
Clinton P. Russell
Leslie A. Stemmons
Boude Storey
T.G. Terry
Thomas Tolbert
Adelle Turner
Mark Twain
Daniel Webster
Martin Weiss

David Welch
Sonja Barnes
Darwin Hughes
Constance Jawaid
Troy Tyson
LeVonue Brewster
Gayle Smith
Tangela Carter
Luis Salcedo
Shondula Whitfield
Llewellyn Smith
Yolanda Knight
Kimberly Richardson
Demetria Bell
Christofor Stephens
Gerald Bennett
Efrain Tovar
Jacqueline Rivers
Alicia Bradley
Lakeisha Smith
Natalie Crittendon
Tiffany Green
Clement D. Alexander
Lakeisha Merritt

Dallas ISD Students 'Attend Ain't Too Proud' show at Broadway Dallas

Broadway Dallas, Dallas Independent School District and a consortium of generous underwriters announced today a district-wide STEAM education program themed around the Broadway musical AIN'T TOO PROUD – THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE TEMPTATIONS.

Over the course of multiple weeks, 3,400 theatre students and teachers from 25 Dallas ISD High Schools will participate



Celeste Cass, T. Cameron Photography

in specially created curriculum that relates to the production, taught in classrooms by Broadway

Dallas teaching artists. As part of the lesson plan all the participating students and teachers will attend a

dedicated performance of AIN'T TOO PROUD at the Music Hall at Fair Park, where the show will play from September 6 – 18, 2022.

The program was borne of a growing partnership between Broadway Dallas and Dallas ISD, which strives to provide students access to "the spirit of Broadway" through a wide array of programs and initiatives. In 2021, the program featured the national

tour of HAMILTON.

"At Broadway Dallas, we operate from a place of 100% certainty that experiences in and around live theatre have the capacity to change people's lives. At its core, live theatre is a genre that promotes empathy, providing those who attend a show the chance to see the world through another person's eyes," said Ken Novice, Broadway Dallas President and CEO.

"AIN'T TOO PROUD

is the perfect show for this program as it will allow our mostly BIPOC Dallas ISD students to see people who look like them on stage portraying the meteoric and historic story of a group of successful Black men," Novice added.

"Having personally experienced this show on Broadway a couple of years ago, I am thrilled for our students to have this op-

See SHOW, Page 14

IWUJI, from Page 2

dreams. In his spare time, he is also committed to steer students and service members toward hands-on opportunities in Science, technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education.

"My best experiences in NASCAR have come from utilizing the platform I have as a team owner and driver to possibly affect people's lives," said Iwuji. "We have an opportunity to link STEM initiatives, and transitioning service member-based initiatives to help people advance their lives."

Iwuji and his team recently hosted five Sailors from Navy Reserve Center (NRC) Birmingham to celebrate the achievements of

Reserve Sailors around the fleet. Iwuji led the Sailors on a tour of the PIT, Pad-dock, and other intimate areas within the Talladega Superspeedway.

"It is always great hosting military personnel at the track to show them what life is like in NASCAR and to show them what possibilities are out there in the world outside of the military," said Iwuji. "I want our service members to serve our country valiantly, but I also want them to know that there is a life outside of the military they can also be a part of simultaneously or once they transition out."

NRC Birmingham Commanding Officer Lt. Cmdr.

Christien Edwards has worked with Iwuji in the Navy and in his pit crew. He helped set up the opportunity for Iwuji to show his Sailors an up-close glimpse into the inner operations of NASCAR at the highest levels, to highlight translatable skills, gain insights and learn about teamwork.

"NASCAR is not too different than the Navy in terms of OPTEMPO and expected outcomes on tight schedules," said Edwards. "The driver during the season is essentially like a mobilized Sailor. All items that went into the increased readiness and preparation of the drivers and teams, or units, are extremely congruent to what NRCs and operational units execute for mobilizations."

The Sailors in attendance said they were inspired by Iwuji's kindness, passion and dedication.

"Getting to meet Jesse and experience even just a portion of what he has accomplished in racing was absolutely incredible," said Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Peyton Maret, assigned to NRC Birmingham. "He opened my eyes to all of the opportunities there are for Sailors who are willing to put in the work and strive for something big. It was truly humbling for me to hear about his journey and I left that day feeling inspired to be bold with my hopes for the future."

Iwuji's background as a Navy Sailor has now contributed to his success on the track, while his success

in racing and businesses has continues to inspire many people in both the racing and Navy communities. While has successfully followed his NASCAR dreams and keeps striving for more every day, even while staying faithful to his Navy Reserve commitments, he offered advice for those in the military actively trying to pursue outside goals while still serving.

"Figure out a way to divide up the time you have so you can maximize your days," said Iwuji. "There are 24 hours in a day, and you only need six or seven of those hours to sleep, and typically only need around eight or nine of those hours working your normal day job in the military unless

you are deployed. So those other hours should be spent on your mind, body and goals."

Iwuji said goal setting and time management are what set him up to become one of many Reserve Sailors who have propelled both their civilian and military careers, and he promised to continue to be an example to fellow Sailors on how to stay ready for whatever challenges lie over the horizon.

"No one should ever make any excuse that they don't have any time," said Iwuji. "I was able to get the process started to go after my dreams and goals even while I was on deployment and I still do everything I need to do to make sure I'm good to go as a warfighter."

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce RIBBON CUTTING & OPEN HOUSE!



Gernelle Nelson / Unsplash

The CCBCC has been gathering and networking in various locations for 15 years. The Chamber celebrated a significant milestone on August 11, 2022, when it opened its own office and meeting space in SPACES Plano. When one of our members opens a new business in Collin County or has just undergone renovations or a move, the Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce takes part in ribbon-cutting ceremonies. Ribbon-cutting ceremonies are held to welcome a new business into the neighborhood and to celebrate with the owners, their families, and the neighborhood. Thank you to everyone who came out to the Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce's own ribbon-cutting and open house last month. Special thanks to the President of the Chamber, the Executive Board, the Board Members, Plano Council Member Rick Grady, and the CCBCC Membership that came out to support us.

(Compiled by Dewayne Gibson)

BAIL, from Page 1

its clients to social services and community resources based on an individual's identified needs, including substance use treatment, mental health support, stable housing, and employment.

Johnson noted that officials created cash bail to incentivize people to return to court.

Instead, she said, judges routinely set cash bail well beyond most people's ability to afford it, resulting in thousands of legally innocent people incarcerated while they await court dates.

According to The Bail Project, Black Americans are disproportionately impacted by cash bail, and of all Black Americans in jail in the U.S., nearly half are

from southern prisons.

"There is no way to do the work of advancing pretrial reform without addressing the harmful effects of cash bail in the South," said Robin Steinberg, Founder, and CEO of The Bail Project.

"Cash bail fuels racial and economic disparities in our legal system, and we look forward to supporting the community in Greenville as we work to eliminate cash bail and put ourselves out of business."

Since its launch, The Bail Project has stationed teams in more than 25 cities, posting bail for more than 18,000 people nationwide.

Johnson said the organization uses its national revolving bail fund, powered by individual donations, to

pay bail.

The Bail Project has spent over \$47 million on bail.

"When we post bail for a person, we post the full cash amount at court," Johnson stated.

"Upon resolution of the case, the money returns to whoever posted. So, if I posted \$5,000 to bail someone out, we then help the person get back to court and resolve the case," she continued.

"The money then comes back to us, and we can use that money to help someone else. So, we recycle that."

Johnson said eliminating cash bail and the need for bail funds remains the goal.

"It's the just thing to do. It restores the presumption of innocence, and it restores families," Johnson asserted.

CLARK, from Page 2

Clark joined the ASU family on August 1. His duties include serving as a member of the President's Cabinet.

"As VP of Institutional Advancement, I oversee the Office of Alumni Affairs and the Office of Development, which essentially is the fundraising arm of the University... In my role as Executive Director of the Foundation, I manage the foundation which acts as the custodian of dollars for University donations."

One of his main goals for ASU is to advance the University's initiatives to help students financially.

"I spearheaded a program previously that was aimed at paying off student balances. I know that ASU has had similar initiatives for our students here. My intent is to launch a campaign to help

the President in his efforts to support his initiative, to strengthen the existing program and have an even greater impact on our students," Clark said.

Clark said he is honored to wear the black and gold in support of ASU.

"I'm happy to be here because of Dr. Ross's leadership and my belief that he has taken this University to a place that I like to be a part of, now and into the near future... If I can send these young students out into the world with a little less debt, I think I would have done my job," Clark emphasized.

Clark is Chairman of the Board at the Prince Hall Legacy Foundation of Alabama. He also is the Vice Chair of the United Supreme Council, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, PHA,

and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

He is the recipient of many high honors and awards, including being inducted into the Florida A&M University Sports Hall of Fame, receiving the Alumni Association President of the Year Award issued by the HBCU Alumni Hall of Fame, and the Real Life Stories Award issued by the National Association of Insurance & Financial Advisors/News Week Magazine.

The NBCA Hall of Fame is dedicated to the growth and development of the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). They are committed to securing supplemental scholarships for students attending HBCUs, as well as highlighting the tremendous accomplishments of distinguished alumni of these institutions.

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Queen Elizabeth's legacy through the lens of colonialism and Black lives

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

Immediately following the death of Queen Elizabeth II, notable media personality Jemele Hill urged her peers to put the monarch's passing in perspective.

"Journalists are tasked with putting legacies into full context, so it is entirely appropriate to examine the queen and her role in the devastating impact of continued colonialism," Hill tweeted.

Elizabeth's legacy isn't necessarily complicated, but filled with enough ambiguity and action and inaction, that it might be easy to understand why people of color might view her differently than the adoring throng mourning outside of Buckingham Palace.

The longest-reigning British monarch's history on race will forever exist as part of her legacy.

"Reminder that Queen Elizabeth is not a remnant of colonial times. She was an active participant in colonialism. She actively tried to stop independence movements and keep newly independent colonies from leaving the Commonwealth. The evil she did was enough," Twitter user @YaaAsantewaaBa wrote.

While her role in colonialism and its devastating impact on Black people continue to gnaw at many, the latest generation had an up-close view into the Queen's relationship with her mixed-race daughter-in-law Meghan Markle.

"A low point was when [Prince] Harry was asked by a family member 'how dark Archie's skin might be,'" Markle told Oprah Winfrey in a 2021 interview.

Archie is Markle and Harry's son.

Markle revealed that she began having suicidal thoughts while pregnant with Archie in early 2019.

"I just didn't want to be alive anymore," Markle told Winfrey. "And that was a very clear and real and frightening constant thought."



Harry expressed frustration over the lack of family support when British media members and others launched racially motivated insults at Markle.

"For us, for this union and the specifics around her race, there was an opportunity — many opportunities — for my family to show some public support," Harry stated during the same interview.

"And I guess one of the most telling parts and the saddest parts, I guess, was over 70 female members of Parliament, both Conservative and Labor, came out and called out the colonial undertones of articles and headlines written about Meghan. Yet no one from my family ever said anything. That hurts."

Earlier, many in Great Britain and around the globe called on the Queen to deal with the fallout over complaints that Buckingham Palace had no official response to the murder of George Floyd and the global Black Lives Matter Movement.

However, the palace offered only tepid responses.

Before and during Elizabeth's reign, journalists claimed the royal family looked the other way — and even enabled — racism.

"These incidents aren't just historical — royal family members have been

ignoring accusations of racism since as recently as June 2020, when the Queen failed to respond to accusations that the royal honors medal is 'highly offensive' and resembles the killing of Floyd," Royal Insiders Mikhaila Friel and Rachel Hosie wrote in 2021.

"It's hard to imagine the Queen showing support for BLM — and anti-racism in general — when in her 69 years on the throne, she has failed to address the racism that undeniably exists in the institution of the royal family," the duo concluded.

Further, a 2021 exposé in The Guardian revealed documents that shed light on Elizabeth's continued exemption from race and sex discrimination laws.

Investigative journalists David Pegg and Rob Evans said they discovered papers at the National Archives as part of an ongoing investigation into the royal family's use of an arcane parliamentary procedure, known as Queen's consent, to influence the content of British laws secretly.

"They reveal how the Queen's chief financial officer once informed civil servants that 'it was not, in fact, the practice to appoint colored immigrants or foreigners' to clerical roles in the royal household, although they were permitted to work as domestic ser-

vants.

Pegg and Evans wrote that the Queen had remained exempted from equality laws for more than four decades.

"The exemption has made it impossible for women or people from ethnic minorities working for her household to complain to the courts if they believe they have been discriminated against," the journalists found.

They said Buckingham Palace didn't dispute their findings.

Instead, officials offered without explanation that there's a separate process for hearing discrimination complaints.

In 2020, when Antigua and Barbuda marked 40 years of independence from Britain, calls grew louder for slavery reparations.

Frustration with the Queen and colonialism also grew palpable.

"I think most Antiguan

would want to replace the Queen now," historian Ivor Ford told BBC News during the celebration.

"Young people can't relate to the Royal Family; they don't understand their purpose. Even older people like me would love to see us become a republic. The head of state should be someone who is elected like in America," Ford concluded.

Antiguan businesswoman Makeda Mikael recalled how as a child, she attended ceremonies that celebrated the Queen against her will.

"We didn't know as much about our history then as we do now," Mikael related.

"In school, I wasn't taught African or Caribbean history. So I knew everything about British and European history and nothing about ours."

She told the BBC she and others would continue to demand reparations.

"England has enjoyed the benefit of our slave labor right up to today, and they need to be honest, admit it, and find a way to reconcile," Mikael insisted.

"Most people couldn't care less if [Elizabeth] is head of state or not. The Queen is not a significant part of anybody's agenda."

With a reported net worth of nearly \$12 billion, Elizabeth has never publicly spoken about reparations.

"Along with a number of colonies in North America, the Caribbean formed the heart of England's first overseas empire," explained David Lambert, professor of Caribbean History at the University of Warwick.

Lambert also authored White Creole Culture, Politics and Identity During the Age of Abolition, and Mastering the Niger: James MacQueen's African Geog-

See QUEEN, Page 12

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Last week for smash stage hit 'Ain't Too Proud'

AIN'T TOO PROUD - THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE TEMPTATIONS has garnered rave reviews from the critics on several stages, and by the response of audiences its Dallas engagement has been no exception. Beginning on Sept. 6, the show has thrilled attendees with its revival of the legendary music group. People in Dallas still have a narrow window to catch the show, with its final performance being held on Sept. 18, before the cast takes the show to St. Louis, Mo.

With their signature dance moves and unmistakable harmonies, the Temptations rose to the top of the



and how personal and political conflicts threatened to tear the group apart as the United States fell into civil unrest. This thrilling story of brotherhood, family, loyalty, and betrayal is set to the beat of the group's treasured hits, including "My Girl," "Just My Imagination," "Get Ready," "Papa Was a Rolling Stone," and so many more.

After breaking house records at Berkeley Rep, The Kennedy Center, CTG's Ahmanson Theatre, and Toronto's Princess of Wales Theatre, AIN'T TOO PROUD opened on Broadway in March 2019, where it continued to play

sold-out audiences and broke the Imperial Theatre's box office record. Written by Kennedy Prize-winning playwright Dominique Morisseau, directed by two-time Tony Award® winner Des McAnuff, and featuring the Tony Award winning choreography of Sergio Trujillo, this dazzling production now brings the untold story of the legendary quintet to audiences across the country.

The creative team also includes Tony Award nominee Robert Brill (scenic design), Tony Award winner Paul Tazewell (costume de-

See PROUD, Page 13

Broadway Dallas continues the hits with limited special 4-show packages

Broadway Dallas has announced that 2022-2023 Germania Insurance Broadway Series 4-show subscription packages are available now, for a limited time only. The package includes one of Hollywood's most beloved

romantic stories of all time, PRETTY WOMAN: THE MUSICAL; the winner of ten 2021 Tony Awards® including Best Musical, MOULIN ROUGE! THE MUSICAL; a laugh-out-loud love letter to the theater based on the Oscar®-

nominated film, TOOTSIE; and the history-making new play Harper Lee's TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD - written by Academy Award® winner Aaron Sorkin.

4-show subscription packages start at \$155 and are available at Broadway-

Dallas.org through Friday, September 23rd only. Buyers will have the option to renew their seats for the 23-24 season which will include TINA - THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL and

HAMILTON

4-show package buyers may also purchase advanced tickets to RIVERDANCE and THE BOOK OF MORMON which are optional add-ons.

In addition, in order to make the 97-year-old Music Hall at Fair Park welcoming to all, Broadway Dallas has implemented a

See BROADWAY, Page 16

DOING THE RIGHT THING

“The time is always right to do what is right.” — Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dallas CASA needs more Black volunteers to serve our community's abused and neglected children living in foster care.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION:

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For more information or to register for this event, please visit dallascasa.org

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Artexpo Dallas announces its schedule of programming

Redwood Art Group, the nation's leader in exhibitions and event production, media, and marketing for the global art community, announces the schedule of programming for its highly anticipated three-day showcase, the inaugural Artexpo Dallas 2022, taking place within 50,000 square feet of uninterrupted convention center space at Dallas Market Hall, 2200 Stemmons Freeway in Dallas, TX from September 16 to September 18. Artexpo Dallas partners with WestEdge Design Fair, to offer attendees three days of world class art and design within two major fairs for the purchase of a single ticket. Tickets can now be purchased in advance from \$20 by visiting www.redwoodartgroup.com/artexpo-dallas/.

The new fair will offer a compelling series of industry-focused conversations and exhibits, with a chance to meet some of today's most successful talent from the art world. This year's program features an extensive series of daily activities for attendees, that includes the Spotlight Program, a focused look at several cutting-edge galleries and artists chosen by the Redwood Art Group selection committee; Art Labs, a series of outstanding projects by leading galleries, art institutions, and art collectives within the fair; Meet The Artists and Live Demonstrations, presenting an interactive experience—allowing attendees to get up-close-and-personal with the artists; and the Discoveries Collection – a selection of unique discoveries from this year's artists and exhibitors, selected by the Artexpo Dallas Curatorial Team, as its favorite pieces of art—each one priced at \$1,000 and \$3,000 or less.

"We're delighted to announce the exciting programming schedule for our very first Artexpo Dallas," says Eric Smith, president of Redwood Art Group. "The fair features some of



Courtesy photo

the most prominent leaders in the industry, from established and emerging artists to fine art photographers, gallery owners, art dealers, publishers and private collectors. Our partnership with WestEdge Design Fair brings an eclectic mix of domestic and international art with world class interior design and home furnishings under one roof. Our inaugural edition of Artexpo Dallas offers something for everyone with the purchase of a single ticket."

Hosting an anticipated 15,000 avid art and design enthusiasts, Artexpo Dallas is the sister fair to the renowned Artexpo New York, known as the largest international gathering of qualified trade buyers, that celebrated its 45th Anniversary in April this year. Attendees at Artexpo Dallas will have an opportunity to browse thousands of innovative new works of art and enjoy specific programming. [SOLO] offers established and emerging independent artists the opportunity to showcase their work on an international stage. Over the decades, [SOLO] has become the ultimate venue for independent artists to be discovered—not only by gallery owners and art publishers, but also by collectors and enthusiasts. The VIP/Media Preview and Opening Night Party for Artexpo Dallas takes place on Friday, September 16, from 5:00p.m. to 9:00pm. The fair continues for the public and trade on Saturday, September 17, through Sunday, September 18, from

11:00am, with advance tickets priced at \$20 for daily general admission. A multi-day advance purchase ticket that includes access for all three days, is priced at \$45. All tickets purchased include entry in to both Artexpo Dallas and WestEdge Design Fair at the Dallas Market Hall.

Since its launch in 2016, the Spotlight Program has continued to be a highlight of Artexpo New York's programming and events. This year's inaugural Artexpo Dallas recipients are bringing their cutting-edge talent to the forefront of the art world. The five remarkable recipients who have been selected for this year's Spotlight Program, include End to End Gallery (Booth 133), Ephraim Urevbu, Urevbu Collection (Booth 116), Leticia Herrera, Leta Herrera Art (Booth 134), Patrick Jones Gallery (Booth 130) and Rodney Asikhia Gallery (Booth 114).

This year's Art Labs features a series of outstanding projects by leading galleries, art institutions, and art collectives presented on-site within the fair, and include: "Unifying Our World, Protecting Our Oceans" by Art Gallery Pure (Booth 211), "Reinventing Textile Art" by Contemporary Art Projects USA (Booth 245), and "Unveiling: Frida Tic Tac Toe, Interactive" by Ricardo Cardenas (Booth 245). The Discoveries Collection labels art throughout the fair, selected by Artexpo Dallas's Curatorial Team as a group of their favor-

ite discoveries—each one a great option at \$1,000 and \$3,000 or less. There

are thousands of affordable pieces of world-class art and on-trend, highly col-

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PGA of America VendorMatch provides sourcing opportunities for championship events

The PGA of America has launched PGA VendorMatch and is seeking local and diverse-owned businesses to provide products and services in support of the following PGA of America events:

- 2023 PGA Championship - Oak Hill Country Club - Rochester, N.Y. (May 15-21, 2023)
- 2023 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship - PGA Frisco - Frisco, Texas (May 24-28, 2023)
- 2023 KPMG Women's PGA Championship - Baltusrol Golf Club - Springfield, N.J. (June 21-25, 2023)

Minority-, women-, LGBT-, disabled-, Veteran- and locally owned businesses are invited to participate in PGA VendorMatch. Companies can register through Sept. 15, 2022, at PGAVendorInclusion.org to potentially meet with the PGA's larger suppliers for procurement opportunities leading up to and during any of the three Championships.

The \$84.1 billion golf industry produces approximately \$26 billion in total travel expenditures, with major golf championships generating a significant

amount of tourism and entertainment spending in their host regions. PGA VendorMatch emphasizes the PGA's commitment to positively impact the economies and communities of championship host cities and their surrounding areas through the business of golf.

"We are actively seeking suppliers in New York, New Jersey, Texas and the surrounding areas to engage in PGA VendorMatch," said PGA of America Chief People Officer Sandy Cross. "Diverse-owned suppliers have provided unique

products and services that elevate our Championship operations and the customer experience. We desire to continually increase the engagement of diverse-owned businesses in our championship operations which helps drive local hiring and transformation of the local economy."

A variety of goods and services are needed, such as catering, lodging, florals, food and beverage products, and staffing. Visit PGAVendorInclusion.org for a full list of needs and to register.

PGA VendorMatch registrants receive instant ac-

cess to the broader golf industry, including major governing associations via the diverse supplier portal and database VRA Connect, which is hosted by the Vendor Resources Administration. Utilization of the database is part of

the industry's "Make Golf Your Thing" movement toward greater diversity, equity and inclusion, and to ensure golf is open to everyone.

All PGA VendorMatch registrations must be received by Sept. 15, 2022.

FVA to host annual 'Big Check Presentation' ceremony

On September 9, 2022, the Texas Veterans Commission awarded funding to more than a dozen north Texas organizations to serve veterans across different types of needs such as housing, legal assistance, and healthcare.

Among the organizations

selected for the funding was City Of Dallas's Veteran's Treatment Court, which helps veterans with a substance abuse disorder who have at least one outstanding City of Dallas Class C misdemeanor citation.

The "Big checks" were presented by Texas Veterans

Commissioner Kimberlee Shaneyfelt, a retired U.S. Air Force colonel from Denton. Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn King Arnold and Army Combat Veteran Council Member Chad West were present at the Ceremony.

"The state of Texas has over 1.4 million veterans,

and many of them live in north Texas. These brave men and women served our country and deserve our help when they need it the most, and these grants will help many nonprofits provide critical services to veterans in need" stated Council Member Chad West.

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Color Of Change launches Black Tech Agenda as a roadmap for racial equity in tech policy

(Black PR Wire) Color Of Change, the nation's largest online racial justice organization, recently launched the "Black Tech Agenda" which is endorsed by several prominent members of Congress: Senator Cory Booker (NJ), Senator Elizabeth Warren (MA), Representative Robin Kelly (IL-02), and Representative Pramila Jayapal (WA-

07).

The Black Tech agenda sets an affirmative vision for how to create tech policy that centers racial justice, ensuring bias and discrimination are rooted out from the digital lives of Black people and everyone. The agenda has 6 pillars which outline real policy solutions for Congress to advance racial equity in

Tech:

- Advancing Robust Antitrust Policy: Create fair markets where Black businesses can compete, Black workers can thrive and Black people have abundant options;
- Protecting Privacy and Ending Surveillance: Limiting monopoly power to create fair markets where Black businesses can com-

pete, Black workers can thrive and Black people have abundant options;

- Preventing Algorithmic Discrimination: Forcing companies to address discrimination in their decision-making through independent audits and repair the harm that has happened;
- Expanding Broadband Access: Ensuring everyone

has high quality, affordable internet;

- Supporting Net Neutrality: Treat all internet traffic equally and designate the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as its regulatory body; and
- Addressing the Disinformation and Misinformation Crisis: Changing the incentives for profiting from harm by regulating

optimization algorithms and reducing monopoly power.

The Black Tech Agenda, as a comprehensive roadmap to prioritizing the policies that impact Black communities on and offline, is an effort to distinguish the real solutions to advance racial equity from

See TECH, Page 13

QUEEN, from Page 8

raphy and the Struggle over Atlantic Slavery.

In a white paper for the British Library, Lambert explained that from the early 17th century, people from other European powers, including France and England, settled in the Caribbean.

"The English settled St Kitts in 1624, Barbados, Montserrat, and Antigua in 1627, and Nevis in 1628," Lambert wrote.

"Around the same time, France established colonies in Martinique and Guadeloupe. In this way, the Caribbean came under the control of many competing European countries, joining Spain, which had established its first colonies in the region more than a hundred years before."

Further, Lambert noted that the system of slavery saw its dismantling in the early 19th century, and the enslaved received freedom in the British Caribbean in the 1830s.

A system called "Apprenticeship" was put in place from 1834 to 1838 across most of the Caribbean," Lambert offered further.

"This was intended to provide a transition to freedom for the formerly enslaved people and the planters who relied on their labor. Even after Apprenticeship was ended, things remained very unequal."

Born Apr. 21, 1926, the eventual Queen's given name was Elizabeth Alexandra Mary.

Her father, Prince Albert, was the youngest son of King George V, and Albert's place in the family presumably gave Elizabeth little chance to ascend to the throne.

However, in a stunning move, Albert's brother, King Edward VIII, abdicated the throne in 1936 to marry an American woman, which allowed for Albert's ascension as King George VI – thus making Elizabeth

heir to the throne.

On Nov. 20, 1947, Elizabeth married her distant cousin, Lt. Philip Mountbatten of the Royal Navy.

The former Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark, Philip then took the titles of duke of Edinburgh, earl of Merioneth, and Baron Greenwich.

The couple's first child, Prince Charles Philip Arthur George, was born on Nov. 14, 1948, at Buckingham Palace.

On Feb. 6, 1952, King George VI died after a months-long illness, and Elizabeth became Queen – though her coronation took place more than a year later at Westminster Abbey.

Elizabeth also gave birth to Princess Anne in 1950, Prince Andrew in 1960, and Prince Edward in 1964.

With Elizabeth's death, Charles became the first King since his grandfather's death more than 70 years ago.

"Michelle and I were lucky enough to come to know Her Majesty, and she

meant a great deal to us," former President Barack Obama said in a statement.

"Back when we were just beginning to navigate life as President and First Lady, she welcomed us to the world stage with open arms and extraordinary generosity. Time and again, we were struck by her warmth, how she put people at ease and brought her considerable humor and charm to moments of great pomp and circumstance."

President Joe Biden said Elizabeth had a steadying

presence and a source of comfort and pride for generations of Britons, including many who have never known their country without her.

"An enduring admiration for Queen Elizabeth II united people across the Commonwealth. The seven decades of her history-making reign bore witness to an age of unprecedented human advancement and the forward march of human dignity," Biden stated.

"In the years ahead, we look forward to continuing

a close friendship with The King and The Queen Consort. Today, the thoughts and prayers of people across the United States are with the people of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth in their grief.

"We send our deepest condolences to the Royal Family, who are not only mourning their Queen, but their dear mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Her legacy will loom large in the pages of British history and the story of our world."

DRUGS, from Page 4

physicians have few tools besides medication to do this."

Get Immediate Help

People often don't get the mental health services they need because they don't know where to start.

Talk to your primary care doctor or another health professional about mental health problems. Ask them to connect you with the right mental health services.

If you do not have a health professional who is able to assist you, use these resources to find help for yourself, your friends, your

family, or your students.

Emergency Medical Services, 911

If the situation is potentially life-threatening, get immediate emergency assistance by calling 911, available 24 hours a day.

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

If you or someone you know is suicidal or in emotional distress, contact the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. Trained crisis workers are available to talk 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Your confidential and toll-free call goes to the nearest

crisis center in the Lifeline national network. These centers provide crisis counseling and mental health referrals.

Call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org.

Find Treatment with SAMHSA

SAMHSA's Behavioral Health Treatment Services Locator is a confidential and anonymous source of information for persons seeking treatment facilities in the United States or U.S. Territories for substance use/addiction and/or mental health problems.

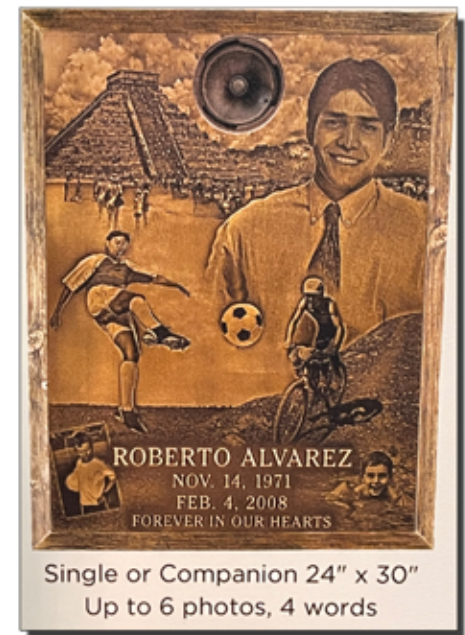
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TECH, from Page 12

fake, self-regulated suggestions proposed by Big Tech.

“Silicon Valley has a very clear policy agenda full of fake solutions to real problems — empty ideas that will do nothing to address the harm Big Tech corporations cause to black people and in turn all other communities online. Letting Big Tech run the policy show means letting them chase profits no matter the cost to the rest of us,” said Rashad Robinson, president of Color Of Change and Co-Chair of the Aspen Institute’s Commission on Information

Disorder. “Their crafty lobby in Washington claims there is no alternative, but the Black Tech Agenda proves that there is one. And this is the alternative that anyone who truly cares about racial justice must take seriously. The Black Tech Agenda outlines real solutions grounded in deep expertise, preventing Big Tech from allowing corporations to deny loans to Black people, collude with racist law enforcement practices, refuse job applications from Black people, block Black people from sharing our voices online, and give an unfair advan-

tage to big businesses as they try to destroy Black small businesses that compete with them — all of which send us backward on racial discrimination just when we were finally beginning to move forward.”

“From facial recognition systems that open the door to unchecked government surveillance of marginalized communities, to algorithms that contain implicit biases, new technologies have often perpetuated deep-seated racial inequities in society,” said Senator Cory Booker. “We

need to implement privacy safeguards and robust racial justice provisions to ensure Black people and their personal information are protected digitally, and I am proud to partner on this campaign to advance equity and justice in the tech space.”

In collaboration with key leaders in tech regulation, the agenda is endorsed by Congressional pioneers of legislation that has implemented long-awaited regulation for digital spaces. The agenda works as an extension of the groundwork

laid by legislation like the Algorithmic Accountability Act of 2022, Prohibiting Anti-competitive Mergers Act, and first-of-its-kind Artificial Intelligence regulation.

“The anticompetitive practices, algorithmic discrimination, and invasions of privacy committed by Big Tech firms are disproportionately harmful to Black consumers, workers, and small businesses. We need policies that incorporate racial justice and I’m glad to support Color of Change’s Black Tech

Agenda,” said Senator Elizabeth Warren.

As an effort to outline the necessary action needed from Congress to prioritize users’ safety, the agenda guides’ legislative actions to ensure bias and systemic racism are eradicated from online platforms and digital products. Big Tech’s “self-regulation” at the expense of users’ safety must be met with federal regulation. Color Of Change’s Black Tech Agenda, calls on real and comprehensive steps for Big Tech regulation from Congress.

PROUD, from Page 9

sign), Tony Award winner Howell Binkley (lighting design), Tony Award winner Steve Canyon Kennedy (sound design), Drama Desk Award winner Peter Nigrini (projection design), Drama Desk Award winner Charles G. LaPointe (hair and wig design), Steve Rankin (fight direction), Brian Harlan Brooks (tour resident director), Edgar Godineaux (associate choreographer), John Miller (music coordinator), Molly Meg Legal (production supervisor), and Nicole Olson (production stage manager). Orchestrations are by

Tony Award recipient Harold Wheeler, with music supervision and arrangements by Kenny Seymour. Casting is by Tara Rubin Casting, Merri Sugarman, C.S.A.

The national tour of AIN’T TOO PROUD is produced by Ira Pittelman and Tom Hulse, in association with Stephen Gabriel, executive producer. General management and production management by Work Light Productions. More information on the stage production can be found at www.ainttooproudmusical.com.



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The National Action Network is looking for a President for its upcoming Dallas chapter. This is a volunteer position that requires an activist heart and an interest in civil rights.

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- a. Presides at meetings and acts as Chairman/Chairwoman of the Executive Committee.
- b. Appoints all committees not directly elected by the Chapter.
- c. Between meetings of the Executive Committee and subject to the approval thereof, exercises executive authority on behalf of the Chapter.
- d. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- e. Shall work with other members of the Executive Committee to develop a program agenda for a defined fiscal year.
- f. Acknowledges he/she is the primary force within the Chapter in establishing a working relationship and communication with the National and Regional Office(s); ensures that these offices receive all reports, including quarterly reports, and reports of elections.
- g. Is familiar with pertinent governing documents including: The NAN by-laws and Chapter rules.

Interested parties should contact Robert D. Bush, president of the Las Vegas Chapter, at (702) 626-0158.



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Nothing Like an Old Fashioned Scam

By James L. Snyder

Scams have become the norm of our culture today. If it weren't for Alexander Graham Bell, we wouldn't have all of these scams today. Thanks Alex.

These scams go from car warranties to Medicare benefits, and they're probably just getting started.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage gets very agitated when these calls come. They show up on our phone as a scam. As soon as it shows up on our phone, she yells, "That's a scam. Don't you dare answer it?"

By the time I heard what she said, I had already answered the phone. So, I like to take advantage of these scam calls. After all, it's my phone, I pay the bill, so it should also be my choice.

For example, when they

asked me in the beginning how I was, I said, "Okey-Dokey." I don't know what this means, but they hang up immediately as soon as some hear that phrase. When it first happened, I couldn't have been happier.

So, "Okey-Dokey" is part of my scam to those scammers.

Then when some Medicare scam comes through, one thing they ask is how old I am. So one time I said, "I feel like I'm 87." They said that I don't qualify and hung up immediately.

I didn't say I was 87, just that I feel 87. So now I have another response to these scammers.

I am building up of repertoire of responses to these scammers. I had to sit down and think a little bit in the beginning and ask myself, is it okay to lie to liars? I

guess it depends on your definition of a lie.

Unlike many people, especially those in my house, I don't get aggravated when I see a scam call on the phone. I just get ready to go nose to nose with them.

I'm not sure how these people get through a day of calling; I don't think I could make it. But I am happy to respond as much as possible.

Then something strange happened last week. My idea is that I'm not going to say something is a scam until it turns out to be a scam. After all, it might be real.

The call I got last week was from the government. Our government has selected 1700 people to receive a free \$9,000 grant. Something I don't have to pay back and can use for whatever I want.

My immediate response was, this is a scam. After all, good old Uncle Sam would never do anything to scam anybody. They don't call it a scam; they call it taxes. But that's a different story.

I listened to the proposal and thought it was a scam. So why would the government want to give me a \$9,000 grant that I didn't have to pay back?

Being curious, I listen to the whole presentation. After all, what if it isn't a scam?

I had qualified for this \$9,000 grant, and the young lady on the phone wanted to work out how they could send me that money. Do I want it in cash or deposited in my bank account?

There's no way I will give them my bank information over the phone. So

I said, "I'll take it in cash, please."

She asked me where the nearest Western Union was so she could send me the money. I told her where the nearest one was and then she gave me the information I needed to go there and collect my money. I wrote down all the information I needed.

I hung up the phone and did a bit of laughing.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came in and asked me what I was laughing about. I told her about the phone call and how the government would send me a \$9,000 grant through Western Union. Then I laughed heartily and told her I thought it was a scam, thinking she would agree.

She stared at me with both hands on her hips and said very seriously, "What

if it isn't a scam? What if it's true?"

I was a little setback by her response because if anybody is skeptical about anything, it is her. She can smell a scam three days before it arrives.

And then she said something quite strange, "What would you do with \$9,000?"

I just chuckled and went back to my office to work. But I was bothered by that phrase, "What would you do with \$9,000?" Suddenly, I began thinking of what I could do with that kind of money.

What if this wasn't a scam? What if I did qualify for this money? These and other thoughts rolled through my mind for the next hour.

See SCAM, Page 14

SHOW, from Page 6

portunity," said Dallas ISD Superintendent Stephanie Elizalde. "The chance to learn about live theatre production from actual teaching artists is a genuine gift. This award-winning musical and the lessons it delivers – about history, music and the momentous 1960s – will be an experience to cherish. We are grateful to Broadway Dallas and their partners for making this happen."

T.D. Jakes Foundation is a Dallas-based nonprofit that focuses on being the bridge connecting underrepresented communities with life-changing opportunities. The Foundation, as an extension of its STEAM Academy, joins Broadway Dallas again this year as the presenting sponsor of the program through a special partnership with the Dallas Mavericks.

The Foundation and the Dallas Mavericks are excited to announce their multi-year partnership that expands opportunities and enables more young people to explore STEAM education and careers. The Dallas Mavericks' sponsorship fits

with its larger MavsTake-ACTION! program, which is designed to address racial inequalities, promote social justice, and drive change within the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

"T.D. Jakes Foundation is committed to exposing students, especially those from underrepresented communities to the jobs and skills of the future. It's a commitment we share with our partners, the Dallas Mavericks," said T.D. Jakes, Chairman of T.D. Jakes Foundation. "This unique program by Broadway Dallas for DISD students is a perfect example of the impact we seek to have. We believe "you can't be what you don't see," and that this program will create a spark in many young lives that can lead students to career paths they might not ever have considered."

The curriculum was developed to prepare students for college and 21st-century careers and includes a sequence of lesson plans that will provide students with fundamental training in video editing, honing creative and technical skills on

industry-leading tools. Also included are contextual lessons dealing with the Civil Rights Movement and other historically significant events that took place concurrent to The Temptations' rise to prominence.

"The Dallas Mavericks are proud to partner with T.D. Jakes Foundation as presenting sponsors in this important educational initiative that leverages the power of the arts, technology and innovation for students in our community," said Cynt Marshall, CEO of the Dallas Mavericks. "And through our long-term partnership with T.D. Jakes Foundation, we anticipate having an even broader impact on generations of students."

Inspired by the opportunity to create collective impact in serving the youth of our community, The Moody Foundation and The Addy Foundation have also made significant contributions to underwrite this project.

Additional project funding is being provided by Fichtenbaum Charitable Trust, H-E-B/Central Market, the Dallas Education Foundation, and the Broadway Dallas Education En-

semble and its Give A Kid A Seat campaign.

AIN'T TOO PROUD – THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE TEMPTATIONS is the electrifying, Broadway musical that follows The Temptations' extraordinary journey from the streets of Detroit to the

Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. With their signature dance moves and silky-smooth harmonies, they rose to the top of the charts creating an amazing 42 Top Ten Hits with 14 reaching number one.

Nominated for 12 Tony® Awards and the winner of

the 2019 Tony Award for Best Choreography, AIN'T TOO PROUD tells the thrilling story of brotherhood, family, loyalty, and betrayal, as the group's personal and political conflicts threatened to tear them apart during a decade of civil unrest in America.

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I Wish You Enough!



Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor

I received this long ago; it is still inspiration today for someone. It is something to ponder and perhaps start a tradition in your own family.

A father and daughter at an Airport were overheard talking. The daughter's plane departure was announced. Standing near the security gate, they hugged and the father said, "I love you." "I wish you enough."

The daughter said, "Daddy, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all that I have ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Daddy." They kissed; and she boarded the plane.

The father walked to-



ward the window where I was seated. Standing there I could see he wanted to, and needed to cry.

I tried not to intrude on his privacy, but he asked me, "Did you ever say good-bye to someone knowing it would be forever?"

"Yes, I have, I replied. That brought back memories that I had of expressing my love and appreciation for what my Dad had done.

Recognizing that his days were limited, I told him face to face how much he meant to me. So I knew what this man was experiencing. "Forgive me for asking, but why is this good-bye forever?" I asked.

"I am old and my daughter lives far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is that her next trip back home will probably be for my funeral," he said.

pockets than an empty head.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with his wife in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnsnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

When you said good-bye I heard you say, "I wish you enough." What does that mean?"

The father smiled. "That's a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone." He paused for a moment and looked up as if trying to remember it in detail.

"When we say, 'I wish you enough,' we are wanting the other person to have a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them," he continued and then turning toward me he shared the following, reciting it from memory.

"I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright." "I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive."

"I wish you enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear larger." "I wish you enough increases to satisfy your wanting." "I

wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess."

"I wish you enough 'Hello's' to get you through the final 'Good-byes.'" He sobbed and walked away. -- Author Unknown.

Trust the Lord when trials come; don't doubt nor question His Wisdom. Believe God's Word; no matter how difficult things may be; press on and trust Him. Rejoice and give Him praise.

Trust in the Lord with your whole heart. The

times when you begin to doubt; lift your eyes and shout . . . "He's my God, Who carries me through, no matter what, I'll trust Him!

No matter what my eyes may see, I'll walk by faith and trust in Thee!" It doesn't matter where He lead, follow Him faithfully.

Through the valleys, over the hills, in darkened times, trust Him still. In everything . . . Trust in the Lord!

(Editorial Note: This column originally ran in September 2016.)

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UNTIL from Page 14

Then the idea came to my mind, what if this was real? What do I have to lose if I go and find out if it's real or not?

The Western Union was a couple of blocks down the road, and it wouldn't take me long to go and check out this scam. If it's a scam, I've only lost two blocks of

time, and if it isn't a scam, it's worth investigating.

Walking back from Western Union with no grant money, I thought of a Bible verse.

Ecclesiastes 7:5, "It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools."

It's better to have empty

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Dr. Zan Holmes, Jr.

NDG Book Review: 'The Two Lives of Sara' is an emotional read

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Pick yourself up.

That's what you've been told since you took your first step: you fall, you pick yourself up and you take another step. Keep going. Don't stop, do the next thing, you really have no other choice. Things'll get better but, as in the new novel "The Two Lives of Sara" by Catherine Adel West, it might take awhile.

Sara King did not want that baby.

He was always reaching for her, crying for her, hanging on her, and she was thankful that the other



boarders at The Scarlet Poplar were happy to hold him and play with him because she didn't want to. Mama Sugar, the owner of The Scarlet said that Sara

would learn to love the boy, but Sara doubted it.

She'd never love anybody after her mother died. Not after what her father did, not after she got pregnant, not after she had to leave Chicago for Memphis and lost touch with her friends, not after this child and the lies and the losses. It was 1963, she was appreciative of Mama Sugar and her job at The Scarlet and all, but she wasn't going to love anybody again.

But time passes and wounds heal and a teacher at the Black school a couple blocks away finally melted her heart and then he asked

Sara on a date. Mama Sugar was happy that Sara went out with Jonas Coulter and eventually, so was Sara when she allowed her mind to open to him. She fell in love – with her son, with Jonas, her community, and with her large new-found family at The Scarlet.

But life has a way of swatting happiness over to one side and once again, Sara found herself closed off to everything good. That meant another re-invention of herself, another place, another decision that affected people she'd come to know. How much worse could her life be?

How much worse could she make it?

There's one big thing you need to know about "The Two Lives of Sara": bring tissues.

From the outset of her novel, author Catherine Adel West sets a flat tone, as if there is no color or depth to the life of her character, as if it's forever cloudy and her days are empty. Slowly, though, as a painter creates a masterpiece, the other characters at West's fictitious boarding house add layers of light and hue to Sara's life, until the book seems to glow with happiness and a reader can

breathe a sigh of relief.

Followed by a gasp, as we learn the truth about the child, what was left behind in Chicago, and two or three other things that plunge readers back into shadows and hushed conversation and a tale that turns simply devastating. And that's not even the end of the novel.

Bring tissues. Seriously.

Don't look now, but the holidays are coming and "The Two Lives of Sara" could make a good gift. Or, if you just can't wait – and who could blame you? – pick it up yourself.

BROADWAY, from Page 9

series of new accessibility upgrades for the 2022-2023 season.

- GalaPro – GalaPro is a first-of-its-kind mobile application that provides captions for the production in both English and Spanish (for select productions). GalaPro is compatible with any smartphone. The unique technology is designed specifically to respect the theater. Airplane mode is always on so there will be no phone calls or messages and a black screen with red or grey lettering is designed so that only the individual looking at their own personal device can see the screen. This feature prevents other theater guests from being disturbed or distracted. GalaPro will be available for all 2022-2023 Germania Insurance Broadway Series shows at the Music Hall.

- KultureCity Sensory Friendly Certification – Broadway Dallas has partnered with KultureCity to make the Music Hall at

Fair Park sensory inclusive. This new initiative will promote an accommodating and positive experience for all patrons with a sensory issue that visit the Music Hall. The certification process entailed the Broadway Dallas staff being trained by leading medical professionals on how to recognize those guests with sensory needs and how to handle a sensory overload situation. Sensory bags, equipped with noise canceling headphones (provided by Puro Sound Labs), fidget tools, verbal cue cards, and weighted lap pads will also be available to all guests who may feel overwhelmed by the environment.

- Quiet/Lactation Room – A designated quiet/lactation room is now available at the Music Hall for guests with sensory needs who might be feeling overstimulated, and for nursing mothers seeking privacy while at the venue.

- ADA Assistance Desk – An ADA assistance desk has been added in the front

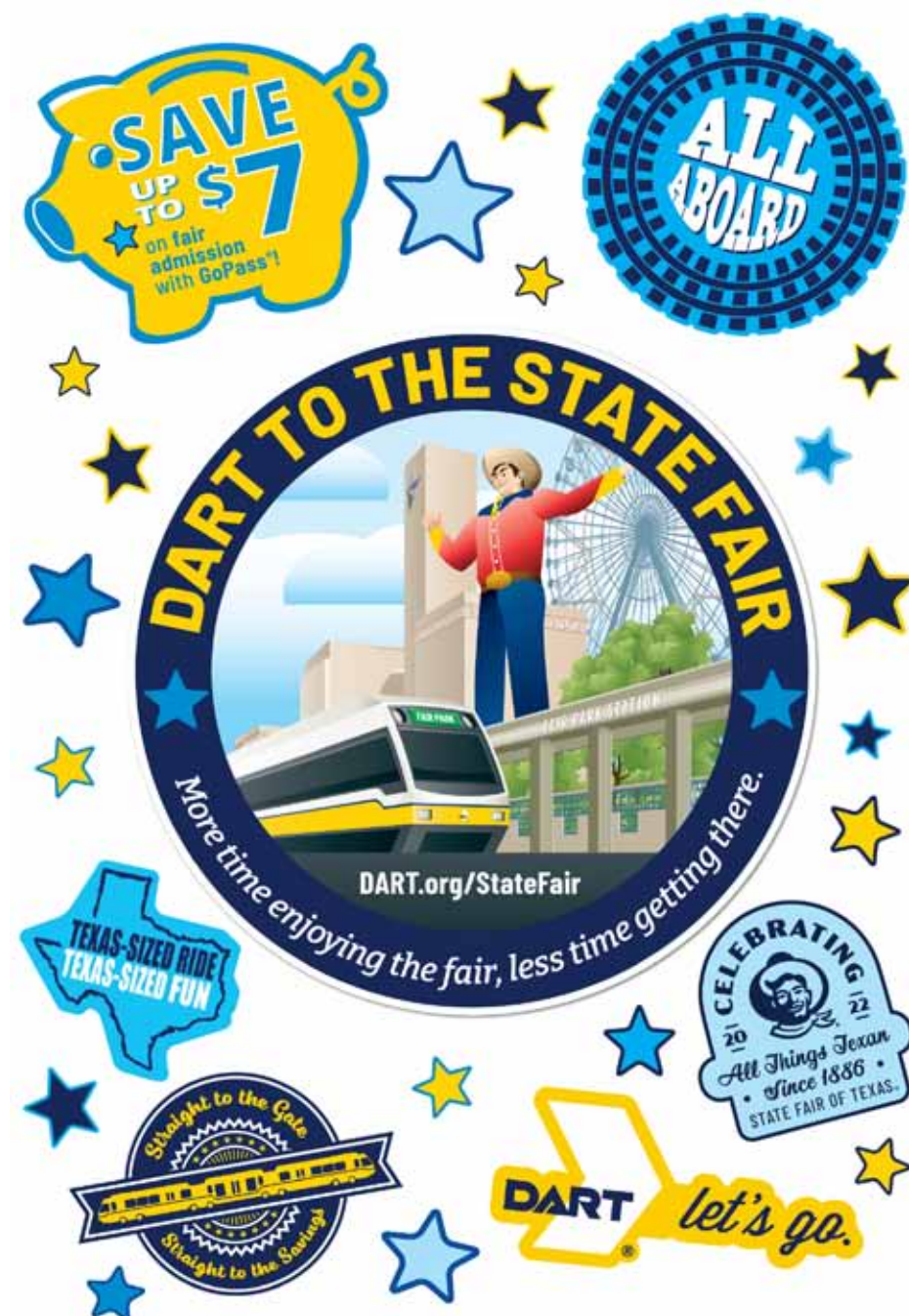
lobby of the Music Hall to assist guests with mobility issues during their visit.

Previous Music Hall accessibility programs will continue, including:

- ASL Interpretation – Broadway Dallas provides complimentary American Sign Language interpretation, in a designated section of the Music Hall, at the first Saturday matinee performance of each show on the Germania Broadway Series. For concerts and other events, ASL interpretation is provided on an as requested basis.

- HEAR US NOW Technology – Broadway Dallas employs the groundbreaking Hear Us Now technology at all performances. Patrons may borrow a sound enhancing device which connects directly to numerous hearing aid technology platforms. Patrons who do not use hearing aides may also borrow headphones to experience the Hear Us Now sound enhancements.

Broadway Dallas is pleased to offer all of these accessibility enhancements at no cost to its patrons.



Let us hear from YOU!!!

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