



# North Dallas Gazette

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## Affirmative Action activists descend on U.S. Supreme Court

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

The Leadership Conference Education Fund, in collaboration with the African American Policy Forum, Asian Americans Advancing Justice – AAJC, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, and other civil rights groups, are rallying outside the U.S. Supreme Court in support of affirmative action.

The activists are demanding that there remains a need for colleges and universities to consider race as one of the factors in the holistic admissions process.

"What is happening on college campuses today is that applicants are treated differently because of their race and ethnicity," said Edward Blum, a legal activist.

He founded Students for Fair Admissions and is against affirmative action.

"Some are given a thumbs up. Some are given a thumbs down," Blum stated.

However, Harvard University and the University of North Carolina have countered a need for a demographically diverse student body.

The universities asserted that admissions committees need not ignore a candidate's race "any more than it does a candidate's home state, national origin, family back-



The activists are demanding that there remains a need for colleges and universities to consider race as one of the factors in the holistic admissions process. (Photo via NNPA)

ground, or special achievements."

As broken down by NPR, "because UNC is a state school, the question is whether its affirmative-action program violates the 14th Amendment's guarantee to equal protection of the law."

And even though Harvard is a private institution, it is still covered by federal anti-discrimination laws because it accepts federal money for various programs.

Ultimately, NPR noted, at the heart of both cases is the same principle: what constitutes racial discrimination?

Further, NPR reported that this holistic approach to college admissions "is used by many colleges, large and small, including the U.S.

military academies."

Among the many academic institutions that have filed briefs supporting affirmative action are 57 Catholic colleges and universities, including Notre Dame, Georgetown, and Holy Cross. And there are more briefs filed by 68 of the largest corporations in the country and a brief filed by a long list of retired three- and four-star generals and admirals attesting to the need for racial diversity in the upper echelons of the military. For example, the lack of racial diversity in the officer corps during the Vietnam War led to enormous tensions and even violence between the predomi-

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### People In The News ...



Capt. Bret Storck



Thelma L. Wells

*NDG Quote of the Week:* "When we're talking about diversity, it's not a box to check. It is a reality that should be deeply felt and held and valued by all of us."  
— Ava DuVernay



## Capt. Bret Storck

Collin College Fire Instructor Capt. Bret Storck, of Frisco, received a Congressional Medal of Honor Award recently at the 2022 Valor Awards presentation in Knoxville, Tennessee. Storck was honored for his life-saving efforts of removing an unconscious victim from a burning vehicle.

In addition to awarding medals to military personnel, the Congressional Medal of Honor Society selects U.S. citizens to receive the Citizen Honors Award. Storck was selected



as a recipient of the Single Act of Heroism Award, recognizing Americans who accomplish extraordinary feats of heroism by risking their lives for the benefit of others in dire situations.

The citation notes that Medal of Honor Recipients selected Storck as a 2022 Citizen Honors Award Honoree for his "conspicuous act of selfless courage in going above and beyond the call of duty in aid to others," and that "Captain Storck's courage reflects great credit upon himself, his family, and the state of Texas."

Storck pulled an unconscious woman from a car and placed her onto the grass in a safe location and shared important information with Steve Cruz, Collin College fire instructor and captain of Station 5 in

Frisco, and his fire company who responded to the call.

"Dallas Fire Captain Bret Storck performed a valiant, heroic act and deserves this special recognition," said Pat McAuliff, Collin College Director of Fire Science. "Our student firefighters have the privilege of learning from consummate, seasoned professionals like Captain Storck and Captain Cruz who devote their lives to keeping our communities safe."

To watch a Congressional Medal of Honor Society video about the award, filmed at the college's Pub-

lic Safety Training Center, visit [www.cmohs.org/citizen-honors/bret-storck](http://www.cmohs.org/citizen-honors/bret-storck).

In an article published by Collin College News, Pat McAuliff, the college's Director of Fire Science and Chief Training Officer, explains:

"Being a firefighter is not a job just anyone can do. . . You need people who are passionate about it, and clearly these two are. I am enormously proud of them. Collin College's Fire Science program is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, and I believe the strength of our program comes from our instructors

who are from a wide variety of different agencies in the area. But all of them have the common thread as firefighters who help others on or off duty. It is part of their DNA."

The article also quotes Captain Storck, explaining, when firefighters are at the scene of an accident, they react in the way they were trained. He calls it muscle memory. "That same repetition is helpful for students," he said. "We go over motor vehicle collision (MVC) at the college. We teach students how to

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## Thelma L. Wells

Thelma L. Wells, beloved speaker, teacher and author has passed. Thelma L. Wells, "Mama T." was known worldwide for her warmth and candor as a business woman, speaker, teacher and author.

She has been featured in numerous local and national publications and appeared on TV shows including The Dr. Phil Show, The Joanie Show, Life Today and the 700 Club. She was a sought-after speaker by corporations, women's groups and government entities. As a speaker, she



spoke to over a million people and shared the stage with speakers such as Zig Ziglar, Max Lucado, Kay Arthur, June Hunt and of course her Women of Faith porch pals: Luci Swindoll, Sheila Walsh, Patsy Clair-

mont, Marilyn Meberg, Nicole Johnson and Sandy Patti. "My dear Mama T., Thelma Wells exuded the widest width of grace I've ever seen" says Sandy Patti. TBN's Sheila Walsh says "I'm so grateful for her kindness, wisdom and her passion for Jesus. Our loss is heaven's gain."

Mama T.'s tagline was "In Christ you can 'BEE' the best!", a mission she carried out for more than 50 years. "Human beings need a lot of encouragement to be able to do the things required and desired of them", she would say. To that end, she hosted her own TV

show for the National Religious Broadcasters (NRB) and penned over 40 books during her lifetime. Mama T.'s desire to uplift women never waned. After leaving the Women of Faith conference, she started That a Girl and Friends Speakers Agency and launched her "Generation Love: Divine

Explosion" conference tour in 2016. She had just finished her last book Olive Tree Wisdom when she became ill.

You may continue to be inspired by the teachings of Mama T. through her website: [www.thelmawells.com](http://www.thelmawells.com).

A memorial for Thelma L. Wells is planned for Sat-

urday, November 5, 2022 at Trinity Church located at 1231 E. Pleasant Run Road, Cedar Hill 75104. The memorial will begin at 11:00 a.m. and is open to the public. In lieu of flowers, please send a financial gift to Trinity Church in memory of Thelma L. Wells (aka Mama T.).

## Remeko T. Edwards

Remeko Tranisha Edwards is running for Judge of Dallas County Criminal Court No. 7.

Prior to becoming a criminal judge, Judge Edwards practiced criminal and family law as an attorney for 15 years. She also worked with Dallas County as a detention and probation officer before going to law school. Her background gives her a good understanding of the justice system and its purpose. She explains, "I do not take the job lightly and strive to serve with purpose, knowledge, and experience."

Ms. Edwards seeks reelection for the continued opportunity to serve and



create reform within the Criminal Justice system in a fair manner.

"We will continue to educate about the process and serve the community as elected to do. Our docket will continue to process and dispose of cases to ensure that individuals are not in the system longer than

necessary," she explains.

She is driven to promote social justice and educate regarding the criminal justice system, and she is committed to ensuring proper bonds are available to individuals according to their financial circumstances.

"There are many moving parts to the process, but if we work together, we can continue to progress toward reform in the criminal justice system."

When asked what citizens deserve from this public office, she explains that citizens deserve judges to be accountable and to do the work they have been elected to do. She believes the courts should operate in a manner to work with other departments to dispose of cases in a timely manner.



## 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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## Because they were just Germans?

By Oscar H. Blayton

In my hometown of Williamsburg, Virginia, there is a living museum whose stated motto is: "That the future may learn from the past."

At a time when America is being plagued by legions of history deniers wanting to hide their true nature by obfuscating who they have been, it is important to learn from the past so we can see the dangers we face in our future.

Most people alive today have no personal memories of World War II, but few are unfamiliar with its place in history. The massive destruction and human misery brought about by the rise of fascism is unmatched in modern times. For more than seven decades, historians have struggled to explain how the Axis nations, and Nazi Germany in particular, came to inflict such horror on the world. In many instances, historians simply concluded that this was just the nature of the German people.

In his book, "Iron and Blood: A Military History of the German-Speaking Peoples Since 1500," Oxford University Professor Peter H. Wilson warns that attempts to draw a continuous line through centuries of violent German history culminating in the Holocaust are the result of "lazy" scholarship and imply a false continuity and inevitably. Wilson argues that this laziness risks ignoring the agency of those involved in the atrocities, thus acquitting them of their personal responsibility. He states that in each case, individuals chose to partake in genocide, and the question as to why they did demands more complicated answers than "because they were German."

It is true that a great deal of what happened in Germany in the first half of the 20th century had to do with a crazy little man named Adolph Hitler. But even he can't take all the blame.

When World War I ended

in 1918 with total defeat for Germany, the Treaty of Versailles, signed in 1919, and the Dawes Plan of 1924 created conditions that placed Germany in a pressure cooker. The treaty forced Germany to give up its colonial territories, reduce its military forces and make reparation payments to the Allied powers.

But perhaps most stinging to the German people was the treaty's "War Guilt Clause" which required Germany and her allies to accept all the guilt for starting the war. This public humiliation of Germany enraged its population and gave rise to their sense of grievance.

The heavy reparation payments placed on Germany by the treaty were eased somewhat by the Dawes Plan, created by Charles G. Dawes, an American banker who later would become vice president of the United States under President Calvin Coolidge. Under the Dawes Plan, Germany's annual reparation payments were reduced initially but were scheduled to increase over time as its economy improved. Additionally, economic policymaking in Berlin was reorganized under foreign supervision and Germany was required to rely on foreign loans to make its reparation payments. More importantly, the plan left undetermined the full amount to be paid.

After World War I, Hitler remained in the German army and, in 1919, was an intelligence agent assigned to infiltrate the German Workers' Party (DAP). After joining DAP, Hitler discovered that he agreed with their views, so when he was discharged from the army six months later, he became an enthusiastic party member.

DAP eventually changed its name to the National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) and became known colloquially as the "Nazi Party."

As he rose in the party, Hitler became adept in the use of scapegoating as a

means of focusing blame upon minorities for the economic hardships and other grievances of his angry listeners.

With the help of early followers, he was able to assemble street thugs into a violent paramilitary group known as the "Storm Troopers." Ostensibly their function was to provide protection at rallies, but most often they were used to physically attack political opponents.

In late 1923, Hitler, backed by his Storm Trooper thugs, tried to stage a coup, much like the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection in Washington, D.C. And like the Jan. 6 insurrection, Hitler's coup attempt, known as the "Beer Hall Putsch," failed. Hitler was tried and imprisoned for nine months for his part in the attempt.

In 1927, the threat of rising fascism was recognized in Germany. The Nazi Party was declared illegal in Berlin and eventually Nazi speechmaking was banned throughout the entire German state of Prussia. Unfortunately, the ban was lifted later that year and the march towards fascism continued.

Five years after Hitler was released from prison, the U.S. stock market crashed in 1929. With the Great Depression that followed, Germany's reliance on foreign loans under the Dawes Plan sent Germany into an economic tailspin. The pain of the Depression, coupled with Germany's sense of grievance over the loss of World War I and the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, ultimately led to political instability in Germany and the end of its democratic government. What ensued was the rise of the Third Reich under the Nazi Party. Using his oratory skills to focus blame on scapegoats, Hitler garnered overwhelming public support by promising to repudiate the Versailles Treaty, strengthen the economy and provide jobs.

By 1933, Hitler had become chancellor of Germany, introduced censorship, passed laws ending civil liberties and passed the En-

abling Act, making himself dictator for four years. And the following year, he made himself chancellor and president.

This is the history of a nation that followed an avowed racist and anti-Semite who never finished secondary school, who possessed no discernable skills other than oratory, and who never rose above the rank of corporal in the German army. Germany followed him into World War II and to a destruction of its own making.

In 1927, German citizens were at a crossroads. And they failed their country. By ignoring the threat of fascism that year, Germany was unable to resist it after the stock market collapsed in 1929.

Today, Americans find themselves at a similar crossroads. Grievance politics and economic instability have led to the scapegoating of immigrants and minorities by a segment of our society that sees fascism as the answer to its problems, even if it is not called by that name.

The critical question at this hour is: Can America become the democracy it claims it wants to be, or will it devolve into the chaos of fascism as Germany did a century ago?

Overcoming this danger requires a desire for equality that has been lacking throughout this country's history.

The myth of a democratic America has never been more than an aspirational concept. But we can no longer deny equality and a decent quality of life to portions of our society and expect to be rewarded with their loyalty and support. Shared strength must result in shared power. A democratic America must share power or disappear.

Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia. His earlier commentaries may be found at <https://oblayton1.medium.com/>

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# EPA announces \$50 million in clean school bus funding for school districts in Texas, will bring 25 electric buses to Dallas ISD

WASHINGTON - Historic investment from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law headed to all 50 states in effort to transform America's school bus fleet

The Biden-Harris Administration announced the Fiscal Year 2022 recipients of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program rebate competition, awarding \$50,980,000 from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to Texas school districts. The grants will help 13 school districts purchase 144 clean school buses that will accelerate the transition to zero-emissions vehicles and produce cleaner air in and around schools and communities.

"This is great news for Dallas schools and shows how the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law continues to deliver and how North Texas school districts can lead the nation in the adoption of this technology," said Congressman Colin Allred, a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. "I am a graduate of Dallas public schools, and I took the bus when I was growing up, so I know how important this service is for families. I was glad to join the EPA this summer in urging our schools to apply for this funding and I am proud that Dallas ISD will receive 25 clean, pollution-free electric school buses."

"President Biden's historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is accelerating our nation's transition to electric and low-emission school buses while ensuring a brighter, healthier future for our children," said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. "As



Federal funding will help update Dallas school buses and limit exposure to harmful diesel emissions. (Damian Carr / Unsplash)

## Below is a list of the school districts and total funding:

Dallas ISD received \$7,625,000  
 Socorro ISD received \$9,875,000  
 North Hopkins ISD received \$790,000  
 Wolfe City ISD received \$1,185,000  
 Queen City ISD received \$1,975,000  
 Kilgore ISD received \$1,580,000  
 Cushing ISD received \$790,000  
 Martinsville ISD received \$1,580,000  
 Killeen ISD received \$9,875,000  
 Houston ISD received \$6,225,000  
 Matagorda ISD received \$790,000  
 Refugio ISD received \$1,185,000  
 San Felipe-Del Rio CISD received \$7,505,000

many as 25 million children rely on the bus to get to school each day. Thanks to the Biden-Harris Administration, we are making an unprecedented investment in our children's health, especially those in communities overburdened by air pollution. This is just the beginning of our work to build a healthier future, reduce climate pollution, and ensure the clean, breathable air that all our children deserve."

"I am pleased to learn that Dallas ISD has been selected for participation in the EPA's Clean School Bus Program, a groundbreaking initiative that will provide \$7.6 million in funding for 25 new electric

school buses. Once fully implemented, students will ride buses that are healthier for the environment—and in turn, healthier for them," said Congresswoman Edie Bernice Johnson.

"I'm proud of the \$6,225,000 in federal funds awarded to Houston Independent School District (HISD) to invest in 25 new school buses," said Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia. "These funds were only made possible by President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. I was proud to support this law in Congress because I knew it would benefit students right here in our community. This will improve our local environment and allow

HISD students to enjoy 15 brand-new electric buses as they continue their education. These are the great results that happen when we put people over politics."

"Congratulations Houston ISD for being awarded \$6,225,000 as part of the EPA's Clean School Bus Rebate program funded by the Biden Administration's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Taking steps to make our school buses greener while remaining safe and effective is not only imperative for the wellbeing of students and bus drivers, but also for the public at large," said Congressman Al Green. "I applaud this announcement by the EPA under President Biden's leadership. I look forward to seeing the positive impact that this outstanding award to purchase electric and propane school buses will have on reducing our carbon footprint."

"Because of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, for which I was the only elected official in our region to vote, Socorro ISD will be receiving a historic investment to modernize their bus fleet, significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and limit exposure to harmful diesel emissions for our students, teachers, and staff," said Congresswoman Veronica Escobar. "In March of this year, I had the privilege of hosting EPA Regional Administrator for Region 6, Dr. Earthea Nance, to brief El Paso superintendents on the Clean School Buses Program and how to apply. For years, federal grant programs have failed to reach underserved communities. That's why I am so proud to see the funding Democrats worked so hard

to secure in the hands of the El Paso community."

In May, EPA announced the availability of \$500 million for its Clean School Bus Program. Given overwhelming demand from school districts across the country, including in low-income communities, Tribal nations, and territories, EPA nearly doubled the amount of funding that will be awarded to \$965 million. The rebate application period closed in August with an outstanding response from school districts seeking to purchase electric and low-emission school buses across the country.

At this time, the agency selected 389 applications totaling \$913 million to support the purchase of 2,463 buses, 95% of which will be electric. EPA will distribute awards to school districts in all 50 states, Washington D.C., along with several federally recognized Tribes and U.S. territories. School districts identified as priority areas serving low-income, rural, and, or Tribal students make up 99% of the projects that were selected. More applications are under review, and the agency plans to select more to reach the full \$965 million in the coming weeks.

Those school districts who received an award can now proceed with purchasing new buses and eligible infrastructure. Selectees will need to submit Payment Request Forms with purchase orders demonstrating they have ordered new buses and eligible infrastructure. EPA is also partnering with the U.S. Department of Energy and Department of Transportation to provide school districts with robust technical

assistance to ensure effective implementation.

These awards are the first \$1 billion of a five-year, \$5 billion program created by President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. EPA is also designing the next rounds of program funding to launch in the coming months, which will include an ambitious grant competition. Through future rounds of funding, EPA will make available another \$1 billion for clean school buses in Fiscal Year 2023. EPA encourages school districts not selected in the first round of rebates – and those that did not apply this funding cycle – to participate in future rounds.

The Clean School Bus Program will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save money for school districts and produce cleaner air. Diesel air pollution is linked to asthma and other conditions that harm students' health and cause them to miss school, particularly in communities of color and Tribal communities. Phasing out these diesel engines will ensure cleaner air for students, bus drivers, and school staff working near the bus loading areas, and the communities through which the buses drive each day. The reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from these bus replacements will also help to address the outsized role of the transportation sector in fueling the climate crisis. The program will also save school districts money as they upgrade school bus fleets, replacing older, heavily polluting buses with brand new clean school buses, while freeing up needed resources for schools.



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# Gearing up for early vote, community meals hosted by BlackTOP, Texas For All help hundreds of Black Texan voters make a plan to vote

(Fort Worth, Fort Bend and Beaumont, Texas) – TOP PAC's BlackTOP and the Texas for All Coalition helped hundreds of Black Texan voters make their plans to vote on Saturday.

The planning took place at community meals hosted by BlackTOP in Fort Bend and Beaumont, and a third meal in Fort Worth where they were joined by the Texas for All Coalition. The events featured live music, art and other family-friendly entertainment. Attendees overflowed the events, surpassing organizers' expectations and demonstrating the enthusiasm of Black voters across the state for the midterm elections.

Guests were treated to a free meal at each location, with local restaurants like Mikki's in Fort Bend or Richard's Cafe in Beaumont, and chefs like Lake Como's own Kenneth Spencer in Fort Worth, playing an important role



Courtesy photo

in bringing the community together.

"It turned into a block party," said one BlackTOP organizer of the Fort Worth event.

The most important part of each event was making a plan to vote.

"I tell folks, let's make a plan and get out early so whatever barriers come up, you might have an opportu-

nity to deal with them," said BlackTOP Statewide Training Coordinator Terrance "TK" Koontz.

"Texas is home to the largest number of Black registered voters and our goal is to inspire Black voters in the 2022 election cycle to turn-out in record numbers and help deliver progressive, statewide wins. Wins that will translate into

policy changes--like expansion of healthcare, a more just legal system and protection of voting rights. These community meals are one way for us to help make sure everybody can get to the polls and make their voices heard," said Texas Organizing Project's co-Executive Director Brianna Brown.

"Texas for All is not just

watching Tarrant County from a distance, we're kicking off our program here and are on the ground to join this community in demanding a representative democracy. The Black community in Lake Como is worth leadership that is in tune with this community's needs. From Brownsville to Uvalde to Fort Worth, our elected leaders have long prioritized private interests over those of the community. Today is another day of us showing up for each other and we're looking forward to making a plan to vote with hundreds of voters here today," said Sissi Yado, Executive Director of the Texas4All Coalition.

Both BlackTOP and the Texas for All Coalition will be out in communities doing the work to turn Black voters out to the polls this November.

Members of the BlackTOP and Texas for All teams are also available for

interviews; please reach out to [press@blacktoptexas.org](mailto:press@blacktoptexas.org) with interview requests or for more information.

BlackTOP was built on the premise that the future of Texas rests in organizing Black folks across the state and getting US to the polls. With offices in Houston, Dallas and San Antonio, BlackTOP will soon launch canvassing programs across multiple counties to talk to, organize and mobilize the Black voters whose votes will decide the results of the 2022 election.

Texas for All is a 501c4 coalition made up of 12 organizations dedicated to building cross-movement political efforts and multiracial progressive governing power in Texas. Partners include Texas Organizing Project, Battleground Texas Engagement Fund, Texas Freedom Network, Planned Parenthood Texas Votes, Texas AFL-CIO and Workers Defense Action Fund.

## CCBCC plans 16th annual Year End Celebration for Dec. 3

On Saturday, December 3, 2022 @ 6:00 PM the Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce will host its 2022 Year End Celebration at the Marriott Courtyard in Allen.

The keynote speaker for the momentous occasion is the illustrious Charles O'Neal, Board Chairman for the US Black Chamber and President of the Texas African American Association of Chambers of Commerce (TAAACC). To his credit and wealth of knowledge, Charles is a veteran advocate for all African-American/Black-owned businesses. Before

joining TAAACC in 2013, he worked for the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce for 17 years, and served in many capacities including President and Chairman of the Board.

The lavish, red carpet affair will award several youth scholarships, Trailblazer Awards to local Collin County community leaders & business owners and present awards to the Business Incubator graduates. In addition, the event will include the formal installation ceremony for the 2023 Executive Committee Officers and Board of Directors, showcase local

vendors, silent auction, live entertainment from local comedienne Trey Mack, musical entertainment from local celebrity DJ Ken Bell, fine dining, door prizes & raffle drawings.

For information on membership for CCBCC, upcoming community events, general meeting information and to purchase tickets to attend the 16th Annual Year End Celebration, please visit the CCBCC website @ [www.ccblackchamber.org](http://www.ccblackchamber.org) or contact the 16th Annual Year End Celebration Committee via email at [events@ccblackchamber.org](mailto:events@ccblackchamber.org)

The deadline for sponsorship opportunities, vendors and business advertisements for the souvenir booklet is Monday, November 21, 2022 with no acceptance for late entries. Sales for dinner tickets

end Monday, November 28, 2022.

Vendor Shopping, Networking & Cocktail Hour starts @ 6:00 P.M.

Program & Dinner starts promptly @ 7:00 P.M.

Vendor Shopping &

Dancing will reconvene and continue after the program's conclusion.

RSVP ticket(s) required in advance. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Attire is Black Tie/Dressy Cocktail.

## STORCK, from Page 2

do things safely, how to approach a car from the side, how to pull people out and get them out of the situation."

Collin College serves more than 57,000 credit and continuing education

students annually and offers more than 100 degrees and certificates, including a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), a Bachelor of Applied Technology (BAT) in Cybersecurity, and a Bachelor of Applied

Science (BAS) in Construction Management. The only public college based in Collin County, Collin College is a partner to business, government, and industry, providing customized training and workforce development. For more information, visit [www.collin.edu](http://www.collin.edu).

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This Texas Lottery Commission scratch ticket game will be closing soon:

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
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# BEGiN and Sesame workshop to launch social-emotional learning app 'Learn with Sesame'

*The new interactive experience featuring beloved Sesame Street characters will address social learning gaps created by the pandemic*

NEW YORK (NY) -- BEGiN, the company behind industry-leading early learning programs HOMER, codeSpark Academy, Little Passports, KidPass, and Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit educational organization behind Sesame Street, launch Learn with Sesame, the first offering to come out of their partnership. The new app uses Sesame Workshop's tried-and-true educational approach alongside BEGiN's four-step learning framework, 'The BEGiN Method,' which builds confidence, promotes problem-solving, and fosters a lifelong love of learning. Learn with Sesame, featuring the beloved characters from Sesame Street, offers social-emotional learning and academic skill development with a research-based framework. Through interactive games, stories, videos, and songs, the app



Bruce Mars / Unsplash

provides kids from ages 2-5 opportunities to navigate everyday challenges and emotions as they explore foundational concepts such as numbers, colors, shapes, and more.

This September, as children settle into new routines, Learn with Sesame can help families with everyday challenges and multitude of feelings that arise with a new school year. The app was designed with kid-friendly navigation that fosters independent play to

encourage critical thinking, promote independence, and develop problem-solving skills. With learning loss attributed to the pandemic, this launch comes at a time when the need for social-emotional learning support has never been greater.

"At BEGiN, we recognize routines are critical for early learners. The pandemic created an inconsistent learning environment, and shutdowns disrupted 1.6 billion students' education worldwide at its peak.

Left unaddressed, this situation could result in long-term learning deficiencies and delays in key developmental milestones," said Neal Shenoy, CEO and Co-Founder of BEGiN.

"We're excited to partner with our friends at Sesame Workshop and go to market with a new offering that addresses the gap in social-emotional learning and teaches problem-solving skills to children navigating new experiences. Giving parents and families the tools to help their kids harness the complexities of emotions is at the core of our brand and the launch. We will continue to create products that fit the needs of today and tomorrow's parents."

"Young children are managing big feelings and everyday ups and downs. Because Sesame Workshop has always understood

the importance of social-emotional learning to help kids succeed in school and in life, we're continuing to deepen our focus on the emotional health and well-being of the whole child," said Steve Youngwood, CEO, Sesame Workshop. "Two years ago, we began a strategic partnership with BEGiN to support their growth and give young children the best possible start at a critical time of their learning and development. Learn with Sesame combines BEGiN's proven framework with the educational approach and heart parents have come to expect from the makers of Sesame Street."

Learn with Sesame offerings include:

A standalone app where early learners have access to research-backed content, accessible by a one-time download or as part of the

HOMER Learn and Grow bundle. Available across common platforms and devices, the app also offers a complimentary option where a user can download and play limited content for free.

Nearly two dozen learning experiences to practice new social-emotional skills and apply them to new situations. Children can explore different parts of the neighborhood within that app, each with a common curricular goal, including the Playground (kindness and empathy), Hooper's Store (exploration of new foods), the Community Center (conflict resolution) and more.

Both free play and guided play options help early learners navigate their feelings and emotions, while learning early reading, math, and critical thinking skills.

## Aqua-Tots urges families to stay safe this fall with swim lessons: World's largest swim school urging families to keep focus on water safety

PHOENIX (AZ) – Even with summer now just a memory, Aqua-Tots Swim Schools wants everyone to know that water safety isn't seasonal.

According to a report from the CDC, drowning is the leading cause of injury and death to children ages one-to-four years old. Aqua-Tots wants to offer solutions to those statistics by showing that next summer's water-safe swimmers begin with lessons this fall.

"A young child's curiosity for the water does not have a season," said Ruth



Courtesy photo

Franks Snedecor, MD, Internal Medicine Hospitalist. "Adults often decrease their water safety vigilance when cooler temperatures

arrive because in their mind, the pool is closed. That's why, even now, it is still important for children to learn and work on their

techniques in the water."

With November being National Child Safety and Protection Month, now is the perfect time to enroll into the world's largest swim school and get an introduction to the ins and outs of water safety from some of the best accredited instructors.

"Even in seasons when swimming isn't the main activity, children still find themselves around water," said Aqua-Tots CEO Craig Wright. "By enrolling in one of our swim schools all across the globe, learn-

ing about water safety at a young age not only allows children to participate in fun adventures but also provides their parents much-needed peace of mind."

Aqua-Tots currently has 127 locations worldwide and teaches five million swim lessons a year. Additionally, every swim instructor has completed more than 40 hours of intensive in-water and classroom training. The Aqua-Tots Swim Journey is comprised of eight levels of comprehensive curriculum that is tried, true and

trusted all over the world. Each level is designed to build upon the next, taking each child on a journey toward becoming a safe and confident swimmer for life.

Aqua-Tots offers swim lessons for children as young as four months all the way through 12 years old. Children can participate in private lessons or small group classes to help ensure a safe environment for proper swim instruction. For more information about Aqua-Tots and to enroll in swim lessons, visit aqua-tots.com.

## ACTIVISTS, from Page 1

nantly white officer corps and the primarily Black and Hispanic enlisted men, sometimes compromising the war effort.

Many anticipate that jus-

tices on the politically compromised Supreme Court, who issued the controversial decision to overturn Roe v. Wade earlier this year, will overrule some or

all the precedents in the affirmative action case.

"The baseline for permissible affirmative action programs in higher education was established in 1978," NPR reported.

"Citing Harvard Univer-

sity as the model, Justice Lewis Powell said that in evaluating applicants for admission, race could not be the determinative factor, but the university could use race as one of many factors, just as it uses other traits —

special talents in music, science or athletics, and even the fact that the applicant's parents attended the university."

Justice Powell stressed that "in choosing among thousands of academically

qualified applicants," a university's admissions committee may "with a number of criteria in mind," pay "some attention to distribution that should be made among many types and categories of students."



## Rotary and City of Plano to honor our nation's veterans and first responders

As a field of flags appears this week at Red Tail Pavilion at Oak Point in Plano, the Rotary Club of Plano East along with the City of Plano will demonstrate their gratitude for those who have served our nation and communities. Community members are invited out to watch as the park is transformed into a sea of red, white, and blue. Each of the 1,111 full sized American flags tells the story of heroes whose lives were devoted in service to others, some making the ultimate sacrifice. Stories are submitted by members of the community to honor friends and loved ones.

"The Plano Flags of Honor manifests itself as something we can see and touch when we remember those who have served our nation and our communities," Rotarian Ean Sullivan, Marine Corps. Captain, said.

This North Texas community event, now in its 6th year, will be held at



Flags offer a powerful display of gratitude for those who have served.  
(Photo: Plano.gov)

Red Tail Pavilion at Oak Point in Plano, Texas, Nov 5-12. Flags will be installed on November 4th. Visitors to the field ask why 1,111 flags. Plano Flags of Honor Co-Chair explained that "In recognition of Veterans Day, originally known as Armistice Day, there will be 1,111 American flags flying in the field. The Armistice treaty, which indicated the conclusion of WWI was signed at the 11th hour, of the 11th day

of the 11th month." This year, the program will also showcase the City of Plano's first responders with a Safety Fair and Touch-A-Truck event on Saturday, November 5th.

"The Plano Flags of Honor unites the community with those who serve and are devoted in service to others," Lisa Bloomer said. "It gives us a 'time out' to pause our busy lives and reflect on our past and present heroes who keep us

safe and our country's ideals strong."

Many additional programs are held throughout this week-long event, including remarkable musical performances by P.I.S.D. Elementary Students, Plano Civic Chorus, Plano Community Band, Salvation Army Band, and the Ladies Liberty Show Troup. The Collin County Veterans Coalition and Plano East Rotary Club will both hold their luncheons at the park. There will be a Marine Corps Birthday Celebration and cake cutting, a Stars and Stripes

Car Show, Plano East JROTC Drill exhibition, and a very moving Congressional Medal Presentation by Congressman Pat Fallon. Uplifting Adventures will be offering tethered hot air balloon rides to see the flags from the sky and is coordinating a patriotic balloon glow (weather permitting). Visitors can write Notes to a Hero that will be delivered to Veterans and first responders. We close out the week with the Boy Scouts providing a flag retirement ceremony.

To learn more about the Plano Flags of Honor and

all the events Rotary Club of Plano East Rotary has planned and to our honor veterans and first responders, go online to [www.planoflagsofhonor.com](http://www.planoflagsofhonor.com).

Rotary is 1.2 million passionate individuals in 35,000+ clubs worldwide. We are both an international organization and a local community leader. Together we lead change in our own backyards and across the world. The Rotary District of North Texas has 62 clubs and over 2,300 members serving their communities right here in North Texas.

## Big Bluestem Trail to open Nov. 19 in Frisco after years-long cleanup

Following years of anticipation, the City of Frisco is introducing residents to Grand Park by opening Big Bluestem Trail. An inaugural trail walk will be held November 19 at 9 a.m. The trailhead for Big Bluestem is located off Cotton Gin Road, between Dallas Parkway and Legacy Drive.

"We're so excited to welcome the community to start exploring this trail," said Mayor Jeff Cheney. "Our city has aspired to develop Grand Park for many years. In fact, the idea of Grand Park is one of the projects that inspired me to run for city council. I believe this trail marks the beginning of developing a legacy park destined to become one of our city's greatest attractions for residents, visitors and future generations."

Named for a prevalent native grass, the Big Bluestem is a natural, unpaved 12-foot-wide trail that winds its way through undeveloped park land for 2.2 miles. Bois d'arc trees, wildflowers and other grasses complement the landscape.

"Keep in mind, Grand Park is a multi-year development project," said Shannon Coates, Director of Parks and Recreation. "In Phase 1, we're keeping it simple by providing access to a beautiful walking trail and natural, open space."

Work is underway to install a temporary road, as well as parking and lighting. 'Big Bluestem' is a single trail. While bikes will be allowed once the trail opens to the public, there is no alternate route

for mountain bikes.

"For your safety, we're asking everyone to please wait to explore the trail until our opening on November 19," said Coates.

You can register at [Racerooster.com](http://Racerooster.com) for the 9 a.m. morning preview event, which is limited to the first 250 people to sign up. Receive a commemorative long-sleeved t-shirt as part of your \$20 registration. No bikes or pets are allowed for the preview. Strollers are discouraged.

Following the morning event, the trail will open to the public at 11 a.m. Afterwards, trail operating hours will be sunrise to sunset.

Big Bluestem is the latest addition to Frisco Hike and Bike Trails presented by Children's Health. For more information, go to [PlayFrisco.org/Trails](http://PlayFrisco.org/Trails)



# 'Moulin Rouge! The Musical' tickets go on sale on Nov. 4

Broadway Dallas and Broadway Across America (BAA) announced today that the first North American tour of Moulin Rouge! The Musical will play in Dallas at the Music Hall at Fair Park from March 15 through April 2 as part of the 2022-2023 Germania Insurance Broadway Series presented by Broadway Dallas. Tickets will go on sale Friday, November 4 at 10 a.m.

Single tickets for Moulin Rouge! The Musical will be available at Broadway-Dallas.org or by calling 800-982-2787. Group orders of 10 or more may be placed by calling 214-426-4768 or emailing Groups@BroadwayDallas.org.

Moulin Rouge! The Musical is the winner of ten 2021 Tony Awards including Best Musical, two Drama League Awards including Outstanding Production of a Musical, five Drama Desk Awards and ten Outer Critics Circle Award Honor citations including New Broadway Musical.

Moulin Rouge! The Musical opened to critical acclaim at the Al Hirschfeld Theatre in the Summer of 2019 and reopened in September 2021 following the shutdown of Broadway due to the pandemic.

"Spectacular! Euphoric! In Moulin Rouge! The Musical, life is beautiful," raves The New York Times. "Moulin Rouge! The Musical is a fabulous new musical. The high begins the instant you walk into the theatre," said the New York Post. Entertainment Weekly concludes that "it's easy to believe that Moulin Rouge! The Musical could run for 50 years."

Moulin Rouge! The Musical is directed by Tony Award winner Alex Timbers and with a book by Tony Award winner John Logan, choreography by Tony Award winner Sonya Tayeh and music supervision, orchestrations and arrangements by Tony Award winner Justin Levine.



Courtesy photo

The design team for Moulin Rouge! The Musical includes Tony Award winner Derek McLane (sets), Tony Award winner Catherine Zuber (costumes), Tony Award winner Justin Townsend (lighting), Tony Award winner Peter Hylenski (sound), Drama Desk Award winner David Brian Brown (wig and hair design), Sarah Cimino (Make-up design) and Tony Award winner Matt Stine (Music Producer). Casting is by Jim Carnahan and Stephen Kopel.

Enter a world of splendor and romance, of eye-popping excess, of glitz, grandeur and glory! A world where Bohemians and aristocrats rub elbows and revel in electrifying enchantment. Pop the champagne and prepare for the spectacular spectacular ... Welcome to Moulin Rouge! The Musical.

Baz Luhrmann's iconic film comes to life onstage, remixed in a new musical mash-up extravaganza. Moulin Rouge! The Musical is a theatrical celebration of Truth, Beauty, Freedom, and - above all - Love. Moulin Rouge! The Musical is more than a musical; it is a state of mind.

As in the film, Moulin Rouge! The Musical celebrates over 160 years of music - from Offenbach to Lady Gaga. The stage musical features many of the iconic songs from the movie, and also includes recent hits released since the mov-

ie premiered 21 years ago.

Moulin Rouge! The Musical is produced by Carmen Pavlovic and Gerry Ryan OAM for Global Creatures and Bill Damaschke. General management is by Foresight Theatrical.

Co-producers of the touring production include Aaron Lustbader, Hunter Arnold, Darren Bagert, Erica Lynn Schwartz/Matt Picheny/Stephanie Rosenberg, Adam Blanshay Productions/Nicolas & Charles Talar, Iris Smith, Aleri Entertainment, Sophie Qi/Harmonia Holdings, CJ ENM, Len Blavatnik, Ambassador Theatre Group, Endeavor Content, John Gore Organization, Spencer Ross, Gilad-Rogowsky/In-Stone Productions, AF Creative Media/International Theatre Fund, Nederlander Presentations/IPN, Cody Renard Richard, Jujamcyn Theaters, Eric Falkenstein/Suzanne Grant, Peter May/Sandy Robertson, Tom & Pam Faludy, Triptyk Studio, Carl Daikeler/Sandi Moran, Desantis-Baugh Productions, Red Mountain Theatre Company/ 42ND. CLUB, Candy Spelling/Tulchin Bartner, Roy Furman, Andrew & Ruby Ryan, Brent & Sarah Deboer and Michael Ryan.

Released by 20th Century Fox, Baz Luhrmann's MOULIN ROUGE! premiered at the 2001 Cannes Film Festival. At the 74th Academy Awards, the film was nominated for eight

Oscars, including Best Picture, and won two.

The Moulin Rouge of Paris, managed by Jean-Jacques Clerico (CEO), is a dazzling and spectacular universe, the symbol of the Parisian way of celebrating since 1889. Starting life as a popular cabaret and dance hall, the venue became an iconic music hall in the Roaring Twenties, and then a theatre where numerous famous French and international artists stepped out into the limelight. Today, the Moulin Rouge and its 60 artists present the Féerie revue show: two hours of

amazement between cabaret and music hall styles where dance scenes and surprise acts intersperse - without forgetting the Moulin Rouge's most emblematic dance, the French Cancan! Since its creation, the Moulin Rouge of Paris has always been an invitation to live and share all the emotions and effervescence of a unique party extravaganza. <http://www.moulinrouge.fr/>

The Grammy-nominated Moulin Rouge! The Musical Original Broadway Cast Recording, produced by Baz Luhrmann, Justin Levine, Matt Stine & Alex Timbers, is now available by Baz Luhrmann's label, House of Iona, and RCA Records. The album debuted at #1 on Billboard's Cast Album chart.

MAC is the Official Makeup Partner and Preciosa is the Official Crystal Partner of Moulin Rouge! The Musical.

In 2022, Dallas Summer Musicals changed its name to Broadway Dallas. Since 1941, the non-profit Broadway Dallas has presented the Best of Broadway to

North Texas audiences. Located in the historic Music Hall at Fair Park, Broadway Dallas promotes excellence in live musical theatre with year-round performances for diverse audiences of all ages, impacting the lives of children and families through education and community outreach programs, while enriching the cultural landscape of North Texas and the Southwest Region.

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Broadway Dallas relies on a variety of funding sources to offer affordable ticket prices, preserve the beautiful historic theatre, educate young audiences and develop impactful community programs.

Broadway Dallas gratefully acknowledges the support of our season sponsors, annual fund donors and corporate partners Germania Insurance, American Airlines, Texas Instruments, The Dallas Morning News, and WFAA TV Channel 8. For more information about Broadway Dallas, visit our website at BroadwayDallas.org.

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# Women at Work at the 2022 New York Film Festival

By Dwight Brown  
NNPA Film Critic

For 60 years, the New York Film Festival has programmed films from around the world that profile women's issues. In 2022, the festival continued that tradition with movies that chronicled the female experience from centuries ago to modern times.

**Corsage (\*\*1/2)** You can't deny the sheer beauty of this very exquisitely crafted biopic. Nearly every frame in this regal 19th century palace melodrama looks like a painting. A series of pictures that chart the unraveling of a rebellious queen whose stubborn nonconformist psyche led her to the edge.

Empress Elisabeth of Austria (Vicky Krieps) married her husband Emperor Franz Joseph (Florian Teichtmeister) at age 16. Now in 1877, in her 40s, her life includes a public scrutiny that is alternately courted and disdained. She wears the tightest, most talked about corsets in the country and flagrantly eschews traditional royal life. The king admonishes her: "You abandon yourself to every whim, without considering your position." The queen responds: "A lion doesn't lose sleep over the opinion of sheep." Does



her wild streak mask serious emotional problems or is this the behavior of a misunderstood crowned head?

Director Marie Kreutzer, cinematographer Judith Kaufmann, production designer Martin Reiter and costume designer Monika Buttinger have created a very gorgeous, eye-catching and tragic epic. Krieps makes the queen's triumphs and tragedies feel both historic and fated—like the empress' popularity has gone to her head. Audiences may hope the young queen's fighting spirit prevails, but her story darkens, darkens and darkens. Setting up a rebellious woman who excites you and then escorting her down a path to destruction annihilates all the verve experienced for nearly 1h 52m. Why, of all the defiant female monarchs in the world, was

Elisabeth accorded her own bio movie?

**She Said (\*\*\*\*)** If fans of investigative journalism liked the Oscar-winning crime/drama Spotlight they'll stay glued to this #MeToo exposé. It's a first-rate probe into the sexual harassment, rape allegations, and general bad bullying behavior of movie producer Harvey Weinstein.

In 2017, Jodi Kantor (Zoey Kazan, Olive Kitteridge) and Megan Twohey (Carey Mulligan, Shame), two New York Times reporters, methodically uncover the story behind criminal allegations against Weinstein, who repeatedly denies their merit. Under pressure to find the truth, make a solid case and meet deadlines, the women pursue a story with historic implications and reluctant witnesses. Megan: "The

only way these women are gonna go on the record..." Jodie: "Is if they all jump together."

Based on Kantor and Twohey's best-selling book, the material is meticulously adapted into Rebecca Lenkiewicz's (Ida) riveting script and judiciously brought to the screen by the very astute director Maria Schrader (TV series Unorthodox). Tension builds to a fever pitch as facts are uncovered, denials are made, accusations are corroborated and a case is built. Very natural portrayals by Kazan and Mulligan are supported by a sterling cast: Patricia Clarkson, Samantha Morton, Jennifer Ehle and particularly Andre Braugher. You watch. You listen. You learn. A reckoning, regarding the maltreatment of women, happens right before your eyes. Astounding drama.

**Tár (\*\*)** Audiences easily warm up to vulnerable

protagonists fighting the odds. They can also be fascinated by shocking and diabolical central characters (Dr. Hannibal Lecter, Silence of the Lambs). Lead characters that don't fit these descriptions well, are blah.

Lydia Tár (Cate Blanchett), a world-renown orchestra conductor and an EGOT composer, has broken certain barriers in the stuffy world of classical music. She's a woman in what's traditionally been a man's occupation. A lesbian with a wife (Nina Hoss) and child. Also, an insufferable narcissist. Writer/director Todd Field (In the Bedroom) sets the stage, characters and vile personality of a pioneering maestro few viewers will like. Add into Tár's long list of negatives, from grooming young musicians (Noémie Merlant) to be her next lover and discarding proteges like old shoes, and

frankly she's as wicked as she seems.

So why would audiences be infatuated with this monster for 2h 38m? Well, there's the backstage look at the cloistered world of classical music. That's fascinating. Certainly, Blanchett devotees will enjoy watching her spew the word-laden dialogue like she's delivering lines from a play at a theater in the West End. She's totally convincing as the troubled artist. Yet cold. Cold as the film. All production elements (music, production design, art direction and cinematography) are impeccable. But will audiences find Tár loathsome enough to be enthralled? Enough to want to see if her karma bites her back? Possibly.

**Women Talking (\*\*\*\*)** There are so many profound thoughts and words in this angry feminist alle-

See WOMEN, Page 13

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# NDG Book Review: 'Someday, Maybe: A Novel' looks at family grief

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

It's possible.

Not now, but probably later... if at all. The thing is, you're patient and you can wait. It'll happen eventually, one way or the other, and you're fine with things as they are in the meantime. You're good. Whatever you hope for, it's possible – except when, as in the new novel “Someday, Maybe” by Onyi Nwabineli, life has other plans.

She prayed that he hadn't read the last texts she sent to his phone.

Eve Ezenwa-Morrow had been angry at her husband, Quentin. She'd sent him a



flurry of “where are you?” messages that escalated until she actually went to his photography studio to give him a piece of her mind – and she found him lying in a pool of blood, dead.

This, clearly, was wrong.

Young husbands are not supposed to kill themselves. They do not leave their wives to figure it out, to wonder why, to get on with life, to deal with his mother who blames the wife. Who always blamed the wife for everything.

Thank heaven Eve's parents were medical people; they gave her sedatives and watched over her. Thank heaven her sister, Gloria, was a lawyer who looked out for her as Eve lay in bed, unable to do anything but sleep and cry. Thank heaven her younger brother, Nate, didn't leave her alone – although alone was what she really wanted.

Alone from her persistent Nigerian family, alone from her loony bosses at work, from her best friend, and especially, she wanted Aspen to stop calling.

Eve had nothing to say to her husband's mother; Aspen would never have listened anyway. She was more focused on driving a wedge between Eve and Q that never quite stuck.

Why didn't Eve see that Q was unhappy if, indeed, that was why he committed suicide? Why didn't he say something, send her an email, try to talk it out with her, something? He didn't even leave her a note. No, instead, he left her some-

thing else that she wasn't really even sure she wanted...

If “Someday, Maybe” were alive, you would be compelled to pick it up, hold it to your shoulder, and pat it until it hiccuped raggedy breaths. You'd murmur comforting things. This book hurts in a way that's familiar to anyone who's tragically lost someone close.

That bawling-til-you-can't-breathe feeling is front-and-center inside this book; in fact, it's large and overwhelming and it's almost a character in itself. And yet, author Onyi Nwabineli portrays grief so well that there's humor inside this tale, in those moments of completely inappropriate laughter that happen sometimes, making outsiders think the bereaved has lost her mind. These up-and-down emotions – humor that's not out-of-place, howling pain, and hope – are wrapped inside a family drama that you oughtn't even try to resist.

Readers shouldn't expect soggy tears forever but if you're fresh to grief, this book may be too much to bear right now. If you're good, though, you'll find that “Someday, Maybe” is, too. Will you love it?

Yeah, it's pretty possible.

## Multidisciplinary artist Rashid Johnson to showcase work at the DMA

The Dallas Museum of Art invites visitors to step into the artwork of renowned multidisciplinary artist Rashid Johnson in Focus On: Rashid Johnson, an installation showcasing Johnson's multimedia work The New Black Yoga Installation. Gifted to the DMA by the artist in 2022, this installation combines a video projection and branded Persian rugs to create an experience that is, at once, intense and intimate. The film features five men performing an enigmatic dance

of ballet, yoga, tai chi and martial arts across a sun-soaked beach, exploring the complexity of personal and cultural identity. Their choreographed movements reflect Johnson's ongoing meditations on Black masculinity and mysticism, as well as his investigations of the body in space. Rugs branded with crosshairs, a symbol that is etched into the sand in the video, are situated throughout the gallery, projecting the film's combined sense of peace and foreboding into physical space.

“We are so proud to have the work of Rashid Johnson in our collection, and we are endlessly grateful to Rashid himself for generously gifting The New Black Yoga Installation to the DMA earlier this year,” remarks Eugene McDermott Director Agustín Arteaga. “It is of the utmost importance to our institution to expand the reach of our collection to touch every corner of our



See DMA, Page 15

Courtesy DMA

## Carrollton updates entertainment lineup for Festival at the Switchyard

CARROLLTON (Texas) – In this case, more is more, and even better because it's free. The City of Carrollton is adding more entertainment to its free 12th annual Festival at the Switchyard to be held on Saturday, November 5 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. in Historic Downtown Carrollton (1106 S. Broadway Street). Sidekicks Martial Arts and Momentum Dance Company have been added to the front of stage lineup and strolling performers will entertain attendees during the daytime. The lineup will bring a varied collection of musical talent and family fun to the Downtown Square. Artists

include double-platinum, Grammy award-winning rock band headliner Soul Asylum and multi-platinum selling bands Hoobastank, Lit, and Marcy Playground as openers. North Texas favorite Emerald City Band, Hip Hop Hooray, Run To You, and Jade Flores Band will round out the main stage entertainment.

The City's award-winning Festival at the Switchyard will be held on the streets of historic Downtown Carrollton, located between President George Bush Turnpike (PGBT) and LBJ Freeway, just east of IH-35E on the south side of Belt Line Road and

steps away from the Downtown Carrollton Station on the DART Green Line. Festival goers are highly encouraged to park at the North Carrollton/Frankford Station or the Trinity Mills Station and ride DART to the Festival site, as parking is extremely limited.

In addition to the exciting free concerts and live children's entertainment, attendees will be treated to strolling performers as they are walking, eating, and shopping throughout the Festival at the Switchyard. The Creekview High School Cheerleaders will perform cheers and routines. Watch for Guinness World Record holder and

juggler David Slick, and hula hoop artist Amanda Slick. Texas-based costumers and cosplayers, the DFW Avengers, are sure to be a big hit with the kids and kids at heart. Strolling magician Ritchy Flo will also be onsite to provide an enjoyable experience for children of all ages.

Spectators will be able to grab a bite to eat from a variety of food vendors and unique Downtown restaurants, as well as browse Festival booths and the eclectic shops surrounding the Downtown Square. The event also offers a beer garden, free rides and

Main Stage Schedule*	
National Anthem	11:05 a.m.
Jade Flores Band	12 p.m.
Run To You	1 p.m.
Hip Hop Hooray	2 p.m.
Emerald City Band	3:10 p.m.
Marcy Playground	4:20 p.m.
Lit	5:50 p.m.
Hoobastank	7:20 p.m.
Soul Asylum	8:50 p.m.
Front of Stage*	
Motion, The Studio	11:10 a.m.
R.L. Turner High School Lionettes	11:30 a.m.
Sidekicks Martial Arts	11:45 a.m.
410 Line Dancers	12:40 p.m.
Top Kick Martial Arts	1:40 p.m.
Momentum Dance Company	2:50 p.m.
Aeon: K-Pop Dance Team	3 p.m.
Inside Plaza Arts Center*	
Double Dee Karaoke	12 p.m.
School of Rock North Dallas	3:30 p.m.
*All times are approximate and may be subject to slight changes.	

See SWITCHYARD, Page 14



## Biden-Harris Administration announces Texas grant funding to improve port infrastructure, strengthen national supply chains, lower costs

*Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests billions of dollars to modernize ports of all sizes and help cut costs for Americans*

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation announced last week more than \$39 million to fund 3 projects in Texas to improve port facilities through the Maritime Administration's Port Infrastructure Development Program. The funding, made possible by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and additional Congressional appropriations, helps improve supply chain reliability through increased port capacity and resilience, more efficient operations, reduced port emissions, and new workforce opportunities. Together, these investments will help get goods to shelves faster and lower costs for American families.

Creating a stronger and more resilient supply chain for the nation has been a key focus for the President



David Vives / Unsplash

who issued an Executive Order on Supply Chains in February 2021 and stood up a Supply Chain Disruptions Task Force, co-chaired by Secretary Buttigieg in July 2021. The Administration, supported by Secretary Buttigieg and the Department of Transportation has engaged in near-term actions to address supply chain disruptions and now, with investments like this

one, are working to create the infrastructure for a stronger, more resilient supply chain for the long term.

"So many of the goods we all count on, from appliances to furniture to clothes, move through our nation's ports on their way to us," said U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg. "Using funds from President Biden's Biparti-

san Infrastructure Law, this year we're awarding record levels of funding to improve our port infrastructure, strengthen our supply chains, and help cut costs for American families."

The Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) supports efforts by ports and industry stakeholders to improve port and related freight infrastructure to meet the nation's freight transportation needs and ensure our port infrastructure can meet anticipated growth in freight volumes. The program provides planning, capital funding, and project management assistance to improve ports' capacity and efficiency. The PIDP provides funding to ports in both urban and rural areas for planning and capital projects. It also includes a statutory set-aside for

small ports to continue to improve and expand their capacity to move freight reliably and efficiently and support local and regional economies.

More than 60 percent of the awards will be benefiting ports in historically disadvantaged communities and several of the projects will help reduce emissions at the ports through electrification. Additionally, more than \$150 million in awards include a focus on electrification of port equipment to reduce emissions and improve air quality. The awards also include nearly \$100 million for port projects that will advance offshore wind deployment – in support of President Biden's bold goal of deploying 30 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2030, which is enough to power 10 million homes

with clean energy, support 77,000 jobs, and spur private investment up and down the supply chain.

"President Biden's commitment to modernizing our infrastructure – from the beginning of his Administration – has resulted in an unprecedented investment in all segments of our port infrastructure to enable us to move goods more quickly, strengthen supply chain resiliency, and reduce the climate impacts of port operations themselves," said Maritime Administrator Ann Phillips.

Texas grants include:

**Texas Container on Barge Infrastructure Project (\$26,440,500), Beaumont, Texas**

This project includes two components: 1) the "Lot 6 Project," which involves

**See SUPPLY, Page 12**

## Hiring Red, White & You! marks 11th year of linking our nation's heroes with Texas employers

AUSTIN (Texas) – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), in partnership with local workforce development boards throughout the state, and the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC), will host hiring fairs for veterans in cities across Texas through November 15. TWC's 11th annual Hiring Red, White & You! Statewide Hiring Fair is a joint initiative supported by the Office of the Governor, the Texas Medical Center, and TVC to connect veterans and their spouses in Texas with employers seeking the exceptional skills of veterans and their spouses.

"Texas is home to 1.5 million veterans, the largest population of veterans in any state in the country," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "Veterans have the skills, training, and leadership tools necessary to

make significant contributions to the civilian workforce and a positive impact on the Texas economy."

The statewide event is free to attend and assists veterans, service members, and their spouses as they seek their next career opportunity. Employers participate at no cost and are encouraged to contact their local Workforce Solutions Office for more information. Since 2012, Hiring Red, White & You! has served 20,131 employers, connected 114,778 job seekers to meaningful job opportunities, and facilitated 3,198 same-day hires.

"Each year, more than 22,000 uniformed service members transition from the military and remain or return to Texas," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez. "Texas veterans honor-

ably served our country. Through Hiring Red, White and You! TWC is serving them in the next step of their careers."

Employers who hire veterans may be eligible for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, which allows employers to receive up to \$9,600 of federal business income or payroll tax benefits when they hire from certain qualified groups, including veterans.

"Texas employers participating in Hiring Red, White & You! recognize veterans have a unique skill set that contributes to the overall success of a Texas business," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Aaron Demerson. "This event connects employers with our nation's heroes and provides our

**See HEROES, Page 13**



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## Five things retailers can do right now to crush their sales targets for 2022

CLEVELAND -- Forty-eight-year retail sales and marketing expert with 5 Billion dollars in sales throughout her career shares her top 5 tips for retailers to maximize their revenue in 2022.

"To maximize profits in 2022 (and beyond), beat out your competition, and optimize revenue, retailers have to focus on making a difference in their customers' lives," Ruth Farrington, an international best-selling author and a veteran of retail sales and marketing management, is responsible for over 5 billion dollars in

sales over her 48-year career.

Ruth's business and passion are analyzing retail trends, forecasting market opportunities, and maximizing revenues and profits. Ruth adds, "Going into the holiday season; there are key strategies any retailer can use right now to position themselves to crush their sales targets for 2022. Here are the top 5 I would recommend:"

1. Start with your mindset and the mindset of your employees. You've got to believe and behave like

you are the best retailer in your mall, the best retailer in your city, and the best retailer in your entire industry. Get your team into the mindset that you outsell, out-service, and out-satisfy any other retailer.

2. You must get your prices as low as you can afford and still make a profit. Be creative. Whether it means to buy one get one free, buy one get one half off, or any other combination that works. It doesn't have to be every product, but certainly for your most popular products. Create offers that

scream, "You're crazy not to buy me."

3. Generate creative ways to bring in clients and provide the most value when they arrive. The question is, what haven't you done yet to get clients into your store? Brainstorm with your team and all your internal stakeholders. Once the client arrives, you and your staff need to know your pricing and promotions backward and forward. You also need to know what alternative offers appeal to a particular customer. Never forget to ask, "[s]o, who's,

left on your list? Whom are you buying for? Is this for yourself, or is it for somebody else? Have you done all your shopping? Have you forgotten anyone? The last two tips are somewhat esoteric, but they are also the most powerful:

1. Post-pandemic, we are all stressed. Everybody is dealing with something. Create an experience when people come into your store that, even if it's only for a few moments, they can forget about all their other pressures and enjoy being in the moment with you and

your store.

2. Focus on how to make a difference in people's lives. Maybe hire high school students and train them so you can provide complimentary gift wrapping. No one's doing that anymore. Maybe there's a way that each sale contributes to a worthy non-profit or charity, and buyers get a thank you card from the head of the organization. A thank you reminds them they have also given to a more significant cause. Making a difference in people's lives ultimately brings us all the greatest profit.

## Mayor Johnson preps for 'State of the City' address in Fair Park

Mayor Eric Johnson announced Monday that he will host his annual State of the City address on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at Fair Park.

This will be the fourth time that Mayor Johnson has delivered a State of the City address, which is required by the City Charter.

"Dallas is the place to be right now," Mayor Johnson said. "There is a reason the U.S. Travel Association called Dallas the 'Comeback City' after the pandemic. I look forward to discussing our accomplishments, our challenges, and how we can continue to build on the Big Dallas Energy we have created in the past year."

In last year's address, Mayor Johnson heralded the collaborative effort to

reduce violent crime; advocated for historic ethics reforms; pushed for policies to help Dallas families; and called for the city to assert itself more aggressively as it competes regionally, nationally, and internationally for business relocations, tourism, and increased economic activity.

Numerous plans and initiatives that the mayor touted and backed in his speech became reality in the last year.

- The City Council approved the largest single-year tax-rate decrease in four decades.

- The City Council passed the mayor's historic ethics reform proposal and funded the new Office of Inspector General.

- The City Council con-

tinued its commitment to hiring more police officers and public safety programs recommended by the Mayor's Task Force on Safe Communities.

- Mayor Johnson began a Summer of Safety campaign to further promote successful summer programs that could keep kids safe while they were out of school.

- The City Council approved the formation of an Economic Development Corporation and continued to implement a new economic development policy.

- The City Council approved a new convention center master plan and voted to put a measure on the ballot to expand the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center and improve

certain Fair Park facilities — the Automobile Building; Centennial Building; Band Shell; Music Hall; Cotton Bowl; and the Coliseum — and to increase the hotel occupancy tax by 2% to assist with financing these projects.

- Mayor Johnson named a new Workforce Development Czar to oversee new efforts to improve the city's workforce.

- The City Council approved numerous economic development projects to in-

crease density and development in southern Dallas and downtown Dallas.

- The City Council voted to ease regulations on food trucks.

- The City Council began a sunset review process of city departments, programs, and regulations.

- The City Council voted to restart a micro-mobility (electric scooter) program.

- The mayor released a legislative program of priority items for the eight standing committees of the

Dallas City Council.

- Dallas won its bid to become a host city for the 2026 World Cup.

The State of the City program will begin at 11 a.m. on Nov. 15 in the Briscoe-Carpenter building at Fair Park. This is the second time that the mayor has delivered his remarks from historic 277-acre park in South Dallas. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the mayor spoke from the Hall of State in a virtual address.

## SUPPLY, from Page 11

the strengthening of a 400-foot section of dock area to support heavy loads with the addition of a 400' x 100' pile-supported relieving platform and four monopiles for breasting barges, and 2) the "Lot 14B Paving Project," which includes the design and installation of a 26.14-acre container marshalling yard and hard-surfaced laydown area.

**Dock Repair and Renovation Project (\$3,937,500), Harlingen, Texas**

The project will renovate the Port of Harlingen's

main dock and related facilities. Work includes repairs to or replacement of the timber fendering system, timber rails, steel sheet pile bulkhead, steel anchor rods that hold the bulkhead in place, deteriorated concrete deck in multiple locations, mooring piles and related structures, and a mechanical winch operator and cable. In addition, the project will demolish, excavate, dewater, and re-compact critical uplands areas.

**Port of Palacios Energy & Resilience Improvement Project (\$9,600,000),**

### Matagorda, Texas

The project funds the rehabilitation of the bulkhead and vessel berthing areas in Turning Basins 1 and 2, including the repair or replacement of roughly 5,600 feet of bulkhead and installation of approximately 20 vessel-to-shore power stations with multiple outlets to serve several vessels at once. The rehabilitation will make the facilities more resilient to the effects of natural disasters and sea level rise.

A full list of FY22 PIDP award recipients is found at [www.maritime.dog.gov/PIDPgrants](http://www.maritime.dog.gov/PIDPgrants).

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# TRA leads coalition of hospitality and tourism partners to successfully fund grants, creating one of the only pandemic recovery programs in Texas

AUSTIN (Texas) (PRNewswire) -- On November 1, 2022, Texas businesses with NAICS Code 722—including restaurants, bars, caterers, and food trucks—can submit their applications online for the Texas Travel Industry Recovery Grant Program (TTIR), which will provide grants of up to \$20,000 to help local businesses recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Texas Restaurant Association (TRA)

led a coalition representing every facet of the hospitality and tourism industry to successfully advocate for the creation of this program when the Texas Legislature convened late last year. As the largest segment of the hospitality and tourism industry, restaurants and other food and drinking places received the largest subset of the program's \$180 million total allocation, and that subset becomes available on November 1.

Eligibility to apply for the TTIR Program is based on several factors, but importantly, businesses that received assistance from the Paycheck Protection Program or similar recovery programs are not disqualified. And for restaurants with multiple locations, grants are available for each qualifying business with a unique Texas Taxpayer ID.

The TTIR Program is being administered by the

Texas Economic Development Office within the Office of the Governor. Several resources are available to help businesses apply for the program including an FAQs page, a webinar on the program, and a video explaining the online application portal. The TRA encourages any business that might be eligible to review these resources before the application portal opens on November 1.

"Restaurants and other

foodservice businesses faced unprecedented challenges as a result of government closure orders and the COVID-19 pandemic," said Emily Williams Knight, Ed.D., President & CEO of the TRA. "We are so proud of the TTIR Program because it's really the first of its kind in Texas, and while the money will likely fall short of the need, it demonstrates that the State of Texas understands the critical role that the

foodservice industry plays and the way it was especially impacted by the pandemic. Many restaurants are still struggling over two years after the pandemic started, and so it's vital that we get the word out about these grants. For many restaurants, this grant program will go a long way towards helping them get back on their feet so they can continue to employ and serve their neighbors for years to come."

## WOMEN, from Page 9

gory it's hard to keep track. Canadian writer/director Sarah Polley takes her cues on how to tell this deeply touching story from a novel by Miriam Toews. That author used an actual incident that took place in Bolivia for inspiration. Knowing the heritage of the tale is almost as compelling as seeing this drama unfold.

The women of a cloistered religious community have talked among themselves and concluded that they're victims of sexual abuse and rape. The culprits are the men in their agrarian Mennonite colony, who drug their prey. Deciding how to respond, filtered through their religious beliefs and a desire to enter heaven, they talk, think and work their way to a decision. Their choices? Forgive, forget and stay. Fight

the culprits. Or leave.

Some are defeatist, like Scarface Janz (Francis McDormand). Some so angry they could kill: "We have been preyed upon like animals. We should respond like animals." Others seek refuge and freedom. Conversations, revelations, testimonies and accusations are spoken and sometimes hurled. Deliberations are held in a claustrophobic hayloft over the course of two days.

Polley directs the talented actors like they're part of a think tank or therapy group. Emotions are raw, primal and wielded by a stellar ensemble: Rooney Mara, Claire Foy, Jessie Buckley, Judith Ivey, Ben Whishaw, Sheila McCarthy and Michelle McLeod. Luc Montpellier's cinematography, black and white

with only hints of color, is transfixing. Hildur Guonadottir's entrancing musical score is broken up nicely by The Monkees' infectious song "Daydream Believer." Questions pondering patriarchies, crime, the next generation and the meaning of religion are enough to make your head spin. One of the anguished, exasperated souls wants answers:

"If god is omnipotent why hasn't he protected the women of the colony?"

As time ticks towards a deadline, audiences will be rivetted and hoping that these emotionally scarred women find the strength and resolve needed to propel them forward. Illuminating streams of thought indicate they are on the right path. E.g., "Forgive-

ness is not permission." Oscar-caliber writing, directing and acting in a very theatrical format that could easily be recreated as a Tony-worthy stage play. A parable of biblical proportions that examines and

reacts to the cruelest abuse. For more information about the New York Film Festival go to: <https://www.filmlinc.org/nyff2021/>

Visit NNPA News Wire Film Critic Dwight Brown at [DwightBrownInk.com](http://DwightBrownInk.com).

## HEROES, from Page 11

veterans with a chance to continue their service with pride and purpose even after the military. Thank you to all Texas employers who make hiring veterans a priority."

Find information on how to participate in Hiring Red, White & You! hiring fairs at <https://twc.texas.gov/hiring-red-white-you>. For information on all veteran workforce services available in Texas, visit [www.twc.texas.gov/veterans](http://www.twc.texas.gov/veterans).

Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers, and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and its services in coordination with its local workforce development boards network, call 512-463-8942 or visit <https://twc.texas.gov/>. Subscribe to email updates to receive notifications about TWC programs and services.



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## See Cookie Will Sneak

By James L. Snyder

For more years than I care to remember, I have been on a diligent pursuit, and I won't stop until I reach my goal.

My quest is to find a cookie I don't like. Throughout the years, I have eaten every cookie I could find and loved them all.

My biggest obstacle in this pursuit is The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. She has the crazy idea that I should limit my cookie consumption. I told her I will whenever I find a cookie that I don't like. So far, that hasn't happened.

My favorite time of the year is when the Girl Scouts are selling cookies. I love those little angels. I tell The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage that I'm just supporting these lovely young girls, and that's all.

I don't think she believes me, but I will try what I can get away with.

Recently, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage

has been on a baking spree. She was baking cookies for various people, of which I have no idea. My focus is not on the people she's baking for, but on the cookies she's baking.

As a faithful husband, I encourage her along these lines and congratulate her on a job well done.

One rule she has laid down is I'm not allowed to have any cookie she does not give me personally. That is a very hard rule to keep with all of the cookies in the kitchen. I try my hardest, but my hardest is not enough.

One of my favorite hymns has a line that says, "Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin."

Last Tuesday my wife planned spending the day with one of our daughters. I was supportive of her activity and encouraged her to spend as much time as possible with her daughter.

She looked at me suspiciously and said, "While I am away, I do not want you

to eat any cookies in the kitchen." Then she went to the kitchen, pulled out one cookie, handed it to me, and said, "This is the only cookie you are allowed for today."

Of course, I took the cookie, smiled as she left, and told her to have a great day.

Unfortunately, I did not know what kind of day I was facing and hummed the "Yield not to temptation" hymn all morning long.

For the first couple of hours, everything went well. I was working in my office, and things were just okay.

Then in the middle of the morning, I decided to take a break and get a cup of coffee. I never have too much coffee on any day. I had forgotten the cookies that were stacked up in the kitchen.

As I entered the kitchen, the aroma of all those freshly baked cookies slapped me in the face like I've

never been slapped before. Up to this point, I was able to "Yield not to temptation." But I am afraid that the "Yield not" had just expired.

As I was fixing my coffee, I thought it would not harm me to look at and admire those freshly baked cookies. After all, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage does a wonderful job in baking cookies. I just wanted to admire them and appreciate all the excellent work behind every one of those cookies.

I thought I could handle the situation, but boy was I wrong. I've been wrong on a lot of things; I was wrong on this thing.

With a cup of coffee in my hand, I began thinking that one cookie just wouldn't hurt me. I don't think my wife would find out that I had one cookie because there were so many cookies in that kitchen.

I took one cookie very craftily and then walked back to my office, where

I would drink my coffee and nibble on this delicious cookie. I thought I had solved the problem and gotten over any further thoughts I had about another cookie.

After I finished that first cookie, I just sat back in my chair and enjoyed swallowing the last crumb. How delicious it was. Of all the cookies in all the world, why did this cookie taste so delicious?

I thought it was over, but I could not get that cookie out of my head. Then, after lunch, I picked up another cookie, went to my office, and nibbled on it very slowly, enjoying every last crumb.

An hour went by, and I needed another cup of coffee, walking through the kitchen, I smelled those delicious cookies. So I decided I deserved two cookies this time because I was working so hard. After all, how would The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage know I had two cookies?

Later that afternoon, I heard the front door open, and looking at my watch I realized it was time for my wife to come home. She entered the kitchen, and I heard her say very loudly, "How many cookies did you eat?"

It was then I knew I was in trouble, but I didn't know how much trouble I was in.

I remembered the words of Jesus in Mark 14:38, "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak."

Everybody faces temptation in some form. The real issue has to do with yielding to that temptation. It's the weakness of my flesh.

*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](mailto:jamesnsnyder2@att.net). The church web site is [www.whatafellowship.com](http://www.whatafellowship.com).*

## SWITCHYARD, from Page 10

games, free face painting, free balloon art, free arts and crafts, and a free photo booth. The face painting, balloon artists, and arts and crafts conclude at 6 p.m.; and the rides and games

close at 7 p.m.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available for the event, which annually hosts from 30,000 to 40,000 patrons. Applications for the few remaining craft and

food vendor booths are still available as well. Find Vendors & Sponsors at [CarrolltonFestival.com](http://CarrolltonFestival.com) or email [festival@cityofcarrollton.com](mailto:festival@cityofcarrollton.com) for more information on joining the fun in 2022.

For more information about the Festival at the

Switchyard and the variety of artists performing at this year's event, visit

[carrolltonfestival.com](http://carrolltonfestival.com). For the latest updates, stay connected with the Festival on

social media at [facebook.com/carrolltonfestival](https://www.facebook.com/carrolltonfestival) and [twitter.com/carrolltonfest](https://twitter.com/carrolltonfest).

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# Information That May Help Someone



**Sister  
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Religion  
Editor

Often in the newspaper, I read about a certain accident and the reported cause of the accident is, "The driver fell asleep at the wheel."

I was listening to a renowned Pastor last week and he said, "The worst thing about driving alone is that the driver can easily fall asleep."

One day I drove north to Oklahoma City on I-35 for my cousin's funeral service; and for approximately 100 miles there was a stretch of the highway that if I had not received prayer from several people before



I left or if I had been tired and/or sleepy, I could have easily fallen asleep.

Friday morning, I read in the newspaper about millions of dollars awarded to the victims of a horrible bus accident that took the life of four children (they were on their way to a church retreat) and also the life of the bus driver. Texas De-

partment of Public Safety troopers theorized that, "The driver fell asleep."

I call your attention to these incidents because, a friend of mine a "Good Old Country Man" (I say this because he loves to grow thing in a garden and on top of that he is an excellent cook! I have found him to have "Country Ways" like

my mother's Mexia, Texas family.)

I met my friend through some good friends of mine; and one evening we were all discussing the many accidents that are caused by a person going to sleep while driving a car.

After every one in the group had finished their comments, my friend said, "I know a good way that will be helpful when a person is too tired, too sleepy or bored while driving.

Someone in the group said, "Just turn on the radio," another person said, "Open a window and let the outside air hit you in the face," etc.

My friend willingly admitted that those could probably work just as well, but he said that the best way that he found when driving

for long stretches or when you are too tired and too sleepy was to hold a cup of coffee in one hand while driving with the other hand.

If a person fell asleep, the coffee would spill out of the cup on the person and would wake you up!

Well, as all of my friends can tell you, I am not a coffee drinker, I love my cola drinks (cokes, Pepsi, RC's, etc.) so the idea didn't sound too good to me.

As we were discussing this bit of information that I had never heard before, I thought, "I wouldn't want a cup of coffee or a cola to fall in my lap on my clothes and become sticky.

Then I thought, the best thing for me would be to hold a cup of water with some ice, this idea would work better for me because

I would quickly wake up and my clothes would only be wet, which would dry sooner or later and not be wet and sticky before they dried.

From the time I heard the information I have wanted to pass this idea on to others but I would forget. While driving back from Oklahoma, I again thought, this is an excellent time and I should pass it on to our readers since.

I heard this information. I hope this is something you will use if you get behind the wheels of a car and find you are getting sleepy for what ever reason and I pray that you will pass this information on to everybody you know.

*(Editorial Note: This column originally ran in November 2015.)*

## DMA, from Page 12

diverse community. Rashid has been a pivotal member of the arts community, creating and supporting work both in and outside of the institution, and he is emblematic of the power of art to give voice to the contemporary experience."

Rashid Johnson's practice encompasses a wide range of media, including sculpture, painting, drawing, filmmaking and in-

stallation. Via a rich visual lexicon of coded symbolism and autobiographical materials, Johnson's artwork conducts searing meditations on race and class, in addition to examining individual and shared cultural identities. The artist, who was born in Chicago in 1977, is perhaps best known for translating cultural experiences, most commonly that of Black

Americans, through his unique visual language. Johnson was recognized as the 2022 honoree for his contributions to contemporary art at the 2022 TWO x TWO for AIDS and Art Gala and Auction, a charity auction that benefits both the DMA and amfAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research.

"Over the past two decades, Rashid Johnson has established himself as a voice of his generation.

Through his groundbreaking innovations across media, he has pushed form to incorporate a rich host of cultural and autobiographic references that speak to the most pressing issues of the day," says Dr. Anna Katherine Brodbeck, Hoffman Family Senior Curator of Contemporary Art. "We are excited to celebrate Rashid's contributions to contemporary art in conjunction with TWO x TWO and showcase this entranc-

ing installation within the walls of our Museum for the first time."

Focus On: Rashid John-

son is on view October 22, 2022, through September 10, 2023. Admission to this focus installation is free.

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