



North Dallas Gazette

"Most respected Voice of the Minority Community"

Visit us online at www.northdallasgazette.com

A star is born amid the chaotic House speakership debate

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

A star is born amid the chaotic House speakership debate

It's possible that after the bitter campaign for House Speaker ended on January 7th, Americans – especially Black Americans – felt a strong sense of déjà vu.

New York Democratic Rep. Hakeem Jeffries provided a masterclass on leadership and served up a clear reminder of what an up-and-coming senator from Illinois named Barack Obama once did during a divided America.

"Progress asserted itself tonight, manifested in [Hakeem] Jeffries, even amidst a hostile takeover of the House by neo-fascists," Jason Randolph of Vote.org commented.

Randolph said Jeffries delivered "what's likely the best political speech not given by Obama in generations."

On July 27, 2004, during the Democratic National Convention in Boston, a 42-year-old Barack Obama, who a few months earlier won a Senate primary in Illinois, spoke eloquently and inspiringly about the divide facing America.

"Now even as we speak, there are those who are preparing to divide us, the spin masters, the negative ad peddlers who embrace the politics



New York Democratic Rep. Hakeem Jeffries provided a masterclass on leadership and served up a clear reminder of what an up-and-coming senator from Illinois named Barack Obama once did during a divided America.

(Photo: U.S. House of Representatives)

of 'anything goes,'" Obama asserted.

"Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a liberal America and a conservative America; there is the United States of America. There is not a Black America and a White America and Latino America and Asian America; there's the United States of America."

Nineteen years later, in 2023 where many say politics are as divisive and dangerous as ever, Jeffries, 52, channeled Obama by providing a masterclass on leadership.

Throughout Jeffries' speech, Trump supporting Republicans jeered while Democrats rose to applaud the Brooklyn born congressman.

Jeffries smoothly went through the alphabet to capture all the ails America, and what's needed to repair the divided nation.

"House Democrats will always put American values over autocracy, benevolence over bigotry, the Constitution over the cult, democracy over demagogues," Jeffries asserted.

"Freedom over fascism, governing over gaslighting, hopefulness over hatred quality of life issues over Q'Anon, reason over racism, substance over slander, triumph over tyranny, understanding over ugliness, and voting rights over

See STAR, Page 11



Threatened migrants require action

- See Page 3



NFL incident boosts CPR interest

- See Page 4



Garland preps for annual MLK parade

- See Page 5



Collin College project heads up to the ISS

- See Page 6



McKinney looking to boost tourism

- See Page 7



Garland parade, musical to honor MLK

- See Page 9



Pan African Film Fest returns to Los Angeles

- See Page 10



Sister Tarpley: Famous quotes of Dr. M.L. King, Jr.

- See Page 15

Inside...

People in the News	2
Op/Ed	3
Health	4
Community	5
Education	6
Northside	7
Entertainment	9-10
Marketplace	11-12
Career / Notices	13
Religion	14-15
Book Review	16



Scan to go to:
The NDGLive
YouTube
Channel
(and "Like" us)

By "liking" us, you will be entered into an upcoming promotional contest for tickets to area entertainment events!

For the latest news and events in DFW, follow us online:
www.northdallasgazette.com

People In The News ...



Dorothy Jones



Deborah Robertson

NDG Quote of the Week: "Diversity is not about how we differ. Diversity is about embracing one another's uniqueness."
— Ola Joseph

Dorothy Jones

(DALLAS COLLEGE) Dorothy Jones, a seasoned communications leader and brand strategy executive with a distinguished career in corporate marketing, recently joined Dallas College as its new Chief Marketing Officer (CMO).

After an extensive search to identify the right candidate, Jones takes the reins from outgoing interim CMO Dr. Bradford Williams, who led the department for the past six months during a time of transition following the pandemic. Jones is now charged with leading a staff



of nearly 70 people within the College's Department of Marketing and Communications, as Dr. Williams returns to his previous duties as the full-time president of the El Centro Campus.

Jones most recently headed her own marketing and management consulting firm, and over the course of her diverse career, she has marketed and advertised brands at both for-profit companies and non-profit organizations. These include Frito Lay, Nestle, and Interstate Batteries, where as CMO, she led a large team to drive an expansive organizational and digital transformation. She has also held leadership positions at the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, as Global Vice President of Marketing, and at Sally Beauty, where she served as

Vice President of Retail and Integrated Marketing.

"A big reason why I am so proud to join Dallas College is that it represents the epitome of inclusion for anyone seeking a better life through education and training," Jones said. "As an institution of higher ed that is so deeply woven into the fabric of Dallas County, Dallas College's student population already mirrors our highly diverse community. Our impact among students, their families and community members – who all benefit from Dallas College – is a cause I look forward to championing, especially among those

who may not know what Dallas College has to offer."

As an experienced C-suite executive, Jones has consulted and guided companies in the areas of business transformation, change management, communications strategy, public relations, brand strategy, analytics and insights, digital strategy, social media engagement, content management, business partnership, distribution, and more.

"We are very excited to welcome Dorothy as our new CMO," said Chancellor Justin Lonon. "Dorothy is a proven high-energy executive who will increase

awareness of Dallas College as the premier institution for transforming lives and communities through higher education in Dallas County. We look forward to her leading the critical efforts of our marketing and communications team in its drive to effectively tell the Dallas College story amid today's increasingly competitive marketing landscape."

Jones holds an MBA from the Haslam College of Business at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance from The American University in Washington, D.C.

Deborah Robertson

The San Bernardino Black Culture Foundation recently announced Deborah Robertson as a recipient of its 30th Annual Black Rose Awards.

The Mayor of Rialto and founder of The Women's Conference, Ms. Robertson also received The Founder's Award for San Bernadino Community Hospital Administration.

Not long ago, the Black Culture Foundation renamed the award the "Dr. Margaret Hill Black Rose Youth Inspiration Award." Recipients of the award in



remembrance of Dr. Margaret Hill, will receive their awards at the annual banquet on February 4, 2023 at California State University. "This year's Award Gala will be held in honor of Rosa Parks' birthday,"

said Black Rose Committee Co-Chair Jim King. At the event, scholarships will be presented to two inspirational and outstanding San Bernardino Black American students graduating high school seniors, said Scott.

President Arlington Rodgers remarked, the Black Culture Foundation's mission is to bridge cultural differences for generations through nurturing, educating, and building lasting respectable and encouraging communities by adoption these goals:

- Commit to the appreciation and provide an understanding of Black culture

while ensuring the Foundation continues to be inclusive;

- Our ultimate purpose is to foster better understanding of the contributions that African Americans have made throughout history to the citizens of California and our nation;

- Equip our youth with

the knowledge of a quality education, leadership skills and the means to be "Life-long Learners" to achieve life goals;

- Recognize our community members, organizations, and businesses that go "above and beyond" the call to do great works in relations to goals 1 and 2; and

- Collaborate and assist with projects (the Arts, cultural diversity programs, organizations) in alignment with mission statement and goals.

"The Foundation has prided itself with the ability to give more than 125 scholarships to our community students over the

Kylian A. Mbappe

(AMERICAN HERITAGE UNIVERSE) -- The American Heritage Universe recently (AHU) announced the selection of Kylian A. Mbappe as its 2022 Person of the Year. Mbappe's performance at the recent World Cup, where he scored the most goals and was awarded the Golden Boot, made him an easy choice. Not only does Mbappe exemplify the relationship between hard work and achievement, but his lofty perch on the world stage has the potential to inspire countless young people in our Universe.

The AHU Person of the Year is awarded to an indi-



vidual whose body of work conforms to AHU core values and animating principles: reliance on talents, energy and resources for personal and global prosperity. From the initial nurturing of his skills under the tutelage of his dear papa, Wilfried, to the attainment of world super-stardom at

the tender age of 23, Kylian's work ethic has been clearly in evidence. Add to this his style of play and witness the beautiful game rendered with exquisite dexterity.

It is not lost on AHU that Mbappe's interests transcend the world of football. Witness his partnership with Didier Drogba and George Weah for the enhancement of sports and education in Africa. He has also made financial contributions to the search for Emiliano Sala and David Ibbotson, who's missing plane was lost over the English/French Channel and has lent his celebrity to an awareness campaign for the survival of pandas.



180

BANKING

It all begins with a fresh start!



SCAN ME

Our new deposit account offering allows you to build your banking history while giving you access to more financial opportunities in the future.

Call us at 972.716.7100 to learn more!

DALLAS | ADDISON | LAS COLINAS | PLANO | FRISCO

Member FDIC



P.O. Box 763866 - Dallas, Texas 75736-3866

Phone: 972-432-5219 - Fax: 972-509-9058

“Do what you say you are going to do ... when you say you are going to do it.”

Publisher's Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:marketing@northdallasgazette.com
972-509-9049**Editorial Department:**

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

www.NorthDallasGazette.com
www.twitter.com/NDGEditor
www.facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette
www.pinterest.com/NDallasGazette
www.instagram.com/NorthDallasGazette

STAFF**Chairman Emeritus**Jim Bochum
1933-2009**Religious / Marketing Editor**Shirley Demus Tarpley
("Sister Tarpley")**Chief Editor Emeritus**Ruth Ferguson
1965-2020**NDG Columnist**

Allen R. Gray

Published by

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Contributing Writers

Jackie Hardy

Lori Lee

Jacqueline Murphy

Dwain Price

Terri Schlichenmeyer

David Wilfong

Special Projects to the Publisher

Mrs. Clinique Hill

Production

David Wilfong

NDG Obituary Dept.Vicky Richardson-Stewart
VP of Operations

North Dallas Gazette assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.

The North Dallas Gazette, formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded in July 1991, by Mr. Jim Bochum and Mr. Thurman R. Jones. North Dallas Gazette is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Threatened migrants and shortchanged workers

(Economic Policy Institute) -- Immigration is the government's top federal law enforcement priority, while labor standards enforcement agencies are starved for funding and too understaffed to adequately protect workers.

For too long, employers have lobbied members of Congress to keep funding unrealistically and disastrously low for agencies like the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)—so low that they cannot adequately fulfill their missions. The result is an environment of near impunity for rampant violators of labor and wage and hour laws, a situation brought to light by the recent wave of labor organizing across the country as workers make it clear that they are unwilling to continue accepting unsafe and unjust conditions on the job.

One clear way to understand the priorities of a government is to look at how it spends money. If it's true that "budgets are moral documents," then the U.S. Congress, for at least the past decade, has placed little value on workers' rights and working conditions. An analysis of federal budget data from 2012 to 2021 reveals top federal law enforcement priorities of the U.S. is to detain, deport, and prosecute migrants, and to keep them from entering the country without authorization. Protecting workers in the U.S. labor market—by ensuring that their workplaces are safe and that they get paid every cent they earn—is barely an afterthought.

This situation leaves migrant workers especially vulnerable to employer lawbreaking. Without enough federal agents to police employers, a massive immigration enforcement dragnet threatens

workers with deportation. Employers take advantage of the resulting climate of fear to prevent workers from reporting workplace abuses. Workers who find the courage to speak up can be retaliated against in ways that can set deportation in motion.

Despite the funding gap, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), who is in charge of immigration enforcement could encourage workers to speak out without fear in order to assist labor standards enforcement agencies. By using prosecutorial discretion to protect migrant workers involved in labor disputes and by issuing temporary grants of deferred action or parole, DHS can ensure migrant workers can pursue claims against employers without the threat of retaliation and deportation.

DHS also has the authority to provide workers with employment authorization so they can support themselves financially during the dispute process.

The use of prosecutorial discretion can be a force multiplier for understaffed labor enforcement agencies, assisting them in their mission to hold lawbreaking employers accountable.

The wide gap in government funding between immigration and labor standards enforcement has persisted for at least a decade and is largely the same over the past decade and across different presidential administrations.

So why does any of this matter? The wide funding gap between immigration and labor standards enforcement hurts all workers—including migrant workers. It is increasingly more difficult to ensure that all workers, whether born in the U.S. or abroad, are treated fairly in the workplace.

Budgets for labor standards enforcement agencies are shrinking, while employer tactics such as forced arbitration prevent workers from suing in court when they are robbed by their employers. Further, a growing body of research shows that workers attempting to change jobs face many challenges.

Without a strong mandate and funding from Congress to enforce labor standards, the executive branch can severely limit the work that labor agencies do on behalf of workers through executive actions, regulatory policy, and even political appointees—something the former Trump administration specialized in.

When immigrant workers can't stand up for their rights, it degrades labor standards for their American counterparts as well. Perhaps that is why employers rob immigrant employees at much higher rates than those who are U.S. citizens.

All workers face too much risk if they act to make their workplaces safer and fairer. But for nearly 8 million workers—roughly 5% of the U.S. labor force those risks include deportation and family separation because they lack immigration status.

Temporary migrant workers, those employed through temporary visas, are a significant and growing segment of the workforce, recently at roughly 2 million. Because their visas are almost always tied to a single employer, these workers are in danger of retaliation if they speak up about conditions such as substandard health and safety procedures. Their employers control their livelihoods and their visa status.

No worker should ever have to risk deportation in order to file a claim with a

labor agency.

The Department of Homeland Security can help bridge the gap and protect workers by empowering migrant workers to come forward and report employer lawbreaking and workplace violations without fear.

The Biden administration, to its credit, has taken some important steps to protect migrant workers. The administration ended the ICE practice of mass raids at worksites to enforce immigration laws. The NLRB issued updated guidance and policies to protect immigrant labor rights attempting to join or form unions, and DOL issued a document explaining immigrant workers who report labor and workplace abuse can seek DOL's support for immigration status protections that DHS can provide.

Immigrant and worker advocates have called for these improvements, and such clarification is needed for workers who understandably remain skeptical about following the guidance of these agencies given the decades of DHS enforcement actions against workers.

DHS should grant deferred action and parole to migrant workers in labor disputes with more frequency and regularity, across a broad range of disputes, and in response to a broad swath of labor and workplace violations. Providing a path for workers engaged in labor disputes to remain in the U.S. through deferred action or parole would allow both undocumented workers and temporary workers with nonimmigrant visas (whose status is tied to their employers) to aid in the enforcement of acceptable labor standards. Deferred action

See **WORKERS**, Page 12

Keep up with the news

O N L I N E

www.northdallasgazette.com

Interest in CPR resources spike in wake of dramatic save during NFL game

(American Heart Association) — Witnessing Bills player Damar Hamlin's cardiac arrest during the Buffalo Bills - Cincinnati Bengals Monday Night Football game on January 2, inspired many around the country and the world to seek out CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) education and related resources.

The American Heart Association is the global source of the official resuscitation science and education guidelines to help ensure the highest quality of care and improve outcomes. Guideline-directed educational content was taught to about 22 million people around the world last year.



Flex Point Security Inc. / Unsplash

The Association's website and educational resources have experienced the following online activity since Monday evening, January 2nd.

- 620% increase in pageviews to hands-only CPR content pages, which in-

cludes a hands-only video and resources;

- Significant increase in web traffic to cpr.heart.org. 66% increase over average Tuesday/Wed/Thursday;

- This represents an additional 57,600 additional people visiting cpr.heart.org this week (Tues/Wed/Thurs);

rest -- an electrical problem in which the heart malfunctions and suddenly stops beating. This condition contrasts the circulatory problem involved in a heart attack in which blood flow is blocked to the heart.

Why CPR?
When a person has a cardiac arrest, survival depends on immediately receiving CPR and defibrillation from someone nearby. According to the American Heart Association, about 90% of people who suffer cardiac arrests outside of a hospital die. CPR, especially if performed immediately, can double or triple a cardiac arrest victim's chance of survival. Yet, bystanders

- 145% increase in pageviews to What is CPR page, which includes definition, stats, and AED information; and

- 113% increase in pageviews to our CPR Course Catalog page -- where visitors can learn more about what CPR course is right for them!

Volunteer and staff experts are available to discuss the mechanics of CPR, provide demonstrations for both CPR delivery and AED use.

Hamlin's condition after tackling the Bengals wide receiver brought attention to the concept of cardiac ar-

rest -- an electrical problem in which the heart malfunctions and suddenly stops beating. This condition contrasts the circulatory problem involved in a heart attack in which blood flow is blocked to the heart.

only perform CPR 46% of the time.
While medical staff on site rushed to Hamlin on the field, for the general public the two steps of Hands-Only CPR are to call 911 and push hard and fast in the center of the chest until the person begins breathing on their own or emergency medical services arrive. Use a familiar song to help you keep up the pace of 100-120 beats per minute -- Stayin' Alive by the Bee Gees or Crazy in Love by Beyonce can be found on the Association's Don't Drop the Beat playlist. Watch our Hands-Only CPR instructional video in English, Spanish and/or Mandarin.

Study indicates good hydration is linked to healthy aging

WASHINGTON -- Adults who stay well hydrated appear to be healthier, develop fewer chronic conditions, such as heart and lung disease, and live longer than those who may not get sufficient fluids, reports a National Institutes of Health study published in eBioMedicine.

"The results suggest that proper hydration may slow down aging and prolong a disease-free life," said Natalia Dmitrieva, Ph.D., a study author and researcher in the Laboratory of Cardiovascular Regenerative Medicine at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), part of NIH.

Most people can safely increase their fluid intake to meet recommended levels, which can be done with water as well as other fluids, like juices, or vegetables and fruits with a high-water content, she said. The National Academies of Medicine, for example, suggests most women should consume around 6-9 cups (1.5-2.2 liters) of fluids daily and for men, 8-12 cups (2-3 liters).

The authors cited research indicating about half of people worldwide don't meet recommendations for daily total water intake, which often starts at 6 cups (1.5 liters).

Using data gathered from 11,255 adults over 30 years, researchers analyzed links between serum sodium levels, which go up when fluid intake goes down and various indicators of health. They found that adults with serum sodium levels at the higher end of a normal range were more likely to develop chronic conditions and show signs of advanced biological aging than those with serum sodium levels in the medium ranges. Adults with higher levels were also more likely to die at a younger age.

The study expands on research the scientists published in March of last year, which linked increased risks for heart failure to higher ranges of normal serum sodium. Both findings came from the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) study, which includes sub-studies involving thousands of Black and

white adults from throughout the United States. The first ARIC sub-study started in 1987 and has helped researchers better understand risk factors for heart disease, while shaping clinical guidelines for its treatment and prevention.

Researchers analyzed information gathered from participants in five medical visits, the first two when in their 50s, and the last between ages 70-90. To allow for a fair comparison, researchers excluded adults with high levels of serum sodium at baseline check-ins or with underlying conditions, like obesity, that could affect serum sodium levels.

They then evaluated how serum sodium levels correlated with biological aging, which was assessed through 15 health markers. This included factors, such as systolic blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar, which provided insight about how well each person's cardiovascular, respiratory, metabolic, renal, and immune system was functioning. They also adjusted for factors, like age, race,

biological sex, smoking status, and hypertension.

They found that adults with higher normal serum sodium -- with normal ranges between 135-146 milliequivalents per liter (mEq/L) -- were more likely to show signs of faster biological aging. This was based on indicators like metabolic and cardiovascular health, lung function, and inflammation. For example, adults with serum sodium levels above 142 mEq/L had a 10-15% associated increased odds of being biologically older than their chronological age compared to ranges between 137-142 mEq/L, while levels above 144 mEq/L correlated with a 50% increase. Likewise, levels of 144.5-146 mEq/L were associated with a 21% increased risk of premature death compared to ranges between 137-142 mEq/L.

Similarly, adults with serum sodium levels above 142 mEq/L had up to a 64% increased associated risk for developing chronic diseases like heart failure, stroke, atrial fibrillation and peripheral artery disease,

as well as chronic lung disease, diabetes, and dementia. Conversely, adults with serum sodium levels between 138-140 mEq/L had the lowest risk of developing chronic disease.

The associations do inform clinical practice and guide personal health behavior, though the findings don't prove a causal effect, researchers noted. Randomized, controlled trials will be necessary to determine if optimal hydration can promote healthy aging, prevent disease, and lead to a longer life.

"People whose serum sodium is 142 mEq/L or higher would benefit from evaluation of their fluid intake," Dmitrieva said. She noted that most people can safely increase their fluid intake to meet recommended levels, which can be done with water as well as other fluids, like juices, or vegetables and fruits with a high-water content. The National Academies of Medicine, for example, suggest that most women consume around 6-9 cups (1.5-2.2 liters) of fluids daily and for men, 8-12 cups (2-3 liters).

Some may need medical guidance due to underlying health conditions. "The goal is to ensure patients are taking in enough fluids, while assessing factors, like medications, that may lead to fluid loss," said Manfred Boehm, M.D., a study author and director of the Laboratory of Cardiovascular Regenerative Medicine. "Doctors may also need to defer to a patient's current treatment plan, such as limiting fluid intake for heart failure."

"On the global level, this can have a big impact," Dmitrieva said. "Decreased body water content is the most common factor that increases serum sodium, which is why the results suggest that staying well hydrated may slow down the aging process and prevent or delay chronic disease."

This research was supported by the Division of Intramural Research at NHLBI. The ARIC study has been supported by research contracts from NHLBI, NIH, and the Department of Health and Human Services.



Check us out on Facebook!

Like our page to stay current with all the news and events in DFW!



MLK parade and musical planned for Garland

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Garland, Texas Unit will host its 34th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. parade & march on Saturday, January 14, 2023, at 10:00 A.M.

The MLK Parade Route in Garland – January 14, 2023 is as follows:

- Parade starts on Dairy Road @ Garden Drive (near Embree Park), Garland, Texas, 75040 It proceeds north on Dairy Road to Highway 66 (Avenue D) • West (Left) on Highway 66 (Avenue D) to First Street

- North (Right) on First Street to Highway 66 (Avenue B)

- West (Left) on Highway 66 (Avenue B) to Fifth Street



Courtesy photo

- North (Right) on Fifth Street to Austin Street

- Parade ends at the Granville Arts Center, 300 North Fifth @ Austin Streets, downtown Gar-

land, TX, 75040

The 2023 MLK theme is “Honoring Two Garland Mayors in KING Fashion.” Mayor Scott LeMay and former Mayor Rev. Dr.

Ronald E. Jones, will serve as grand marshals. The celebration continues following the parade with the 2nd Annual Musical: “Lift Every Voice and Sing” on

Saturday, January 14, 2023 at 12:00 PM. It will be held at the Granville Arts Center, 300 N. 5th Street, downtown Garland where the MLK Communitywide Youth Choir joined by students from the Garland ISD Fine Arts Department will perform. Winners of the 2023 MLK Float Contest will be announced at the musical. This event is free and open to the public.

Youth groups from area churches and Garland ISD step teams will showcase their spiritual talents in praise dance and step routines on Sunday, January 15, 2023 at 300 N. 5th Street, downtown Garland, 75040, beginning at 4:00 P.M. The MLK Youth Extravaganza is free and open to the public.

For more information

on these events, please contact the NAACP Garland Unit at 972.381.5044, voice box #5, or visit the NAACP Garland Unit’s website: www.garland-txnaacp.org and click on MLK Events.

Corporate/Community Sponsors/Radio Coverage on KKVI 98.9 FM Community Radio

The City of Garland; the Garland ISD; JP Morgan Chase Bank; Veritex Community Bank; DART; Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins, & Mott, LLP Attorneys at Law; Frost Bank; Dallas Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram; Randall Reed’s Planet Ford 635, Southwest Kia of Mesquite, Sport City Toyota, and Jupiter Chevrolet are sponsors this year.

New Congress greeted by gridlock and low expectations

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

When the 118th Congress started on Jan. 3, Americans had the slimmest hope that lawmakers would pass any essential laws.

Instead, experts, people who follow politics, and the public have every reason to think there will be gridlock in 2023 and maybe even af-

ter that.

With Democrats controlling the Senate and Republicans enjoying the majority in the House, much of any bill or other action signed by President Joe Biden would likely come in the form of executive orders.

Grumet this week declared, Americans should expect a bumpy start to the new Congress, said Jason Grumet, president of the

Bipartisan Policy Center, in a recently published interview. “The first three months of next year, we should all just kind of avert our eyes. There’s a tremendous amount of pent-up aggression,” said Grumet.

“There will be some very angry moments, but there will also be some quiet, competent moments that I think will advance a national policy agenda,” said

Grumet.

Once the growing pains subside, Grumet argues there is room for cooperation and productivity.

Lawmakers could find common ground on issues like homelessness, mental health, immigration reform, and more, Grumet continued. Still, he does not expect grand legislative victories to go down in the history books.

However, Biden likes to talk about bills passed with support from both parties, Laura Barrón-López, the White House Correspondent for the PBS NewsHour, said during a broadcast this week. She also said that the president has a long list that fits that category.

“And this is not an exhaustive list, but it includes investment in semiconduc-

tor manufacturing—that’s the big China competitiveness bill—expansion of health care for veterans that were exposed to burn pits, the big bipartisan infrastructure bill that was passed with a number of—like, big negotiations that went on for a long time, gun safety, protections for same-sex marriage,

See GRIDLOCK, Page 10

DOJ begins Supreme Court defense of student loan forgiveness

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

In a filing sent to the U.S. Supreme Court this week, the Department of Justice agreed with President Joe Biden’s plan to forgive student loans. In 2022, the president promised to forgive all outstanding student loan debt for millions of borrowers, up to a maximum of \$20,000 each.

Republicans are leading the way in suing the federal government to stop the plan.

The Department of Justice said last week in a

court filing, however, that Biden’s actions are perfectly legal, and lawyers from the Department of Justice said that Congress gave the president “clear permission” to go ahead with his plan.

A federal judge in Texas invalidated a program in October that would have helped 40 million people with their student loan debt. “The program is consequently an illegal exercise of Congress’s legislative power and must be vacated,” wrote Judge Mark Pittman, a Donald Trump nominee. “In this country, we are not dominated by an

all-powerful executive with a pen and a phone,” he continued.

At the time, White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said the government strongly disagreed. The HEROES Act of 2003, according to the White House, gives the Secretary of Education the authority to forgive student debt.

“The President and this Administration are determined to help working and middle-class Americans get back on their feet, while our opponents, backed by extremist Republican special interests, have sued to prohibit millions of Ameri-

cans from getting much-needed relief,” Jean-Pierre remarked.

Two people who didn’t qualify for aid under Biden’s scheme sued the initiative on behalf of the conservative Job Creators Network Foundation. One plaintiff in Texas had lost her right to have her federal student loans forgiven because the federal government had not serviced her loans. Since the other plaintiff did not obtain a Pell award, the amount of debt relief to which he is entitled is just \$10,000.

They said they had no way of voicing their dis-

approval of the program’s regulations because the administration had not followed the Administrative Procedure Act’s notice and comment rule-making procedure.

Elaine Parker, president of the Job Creators Network Foundation, stated in a statement, “This verdict supports the rule of law which requires all Americans to have their voices heard by their federal government.”

According to CNN’s reporting, Bernie Marcus, the former CEO of Home Depot, and a key Trump donor, established the Job Creators

Network Foundation.

Six states with Republican governors have now sued to stop Biden’s plan to forgive debts, which caused the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals put a hold on the plan.

Two challenges to Biden’s debt relief plan will be argued before the Supreme Court in February.

In its petition, the Justice Department said, “The lower courts’ decisions have wrongly taken away the Secretary’s legislative authority to give targeted student loan debt relief to borrowers affected by national emergencies.”

Collin College student experiment selected for trip to ISS

A microgravity experiment designed by Collin College students has been selected to fly to the International Space Station aboard a SpaceX commercial supply vehicle in Spring/Summer 2023 as part of Mission 17 of the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program (SSEP).

The experiment, "Does microgravity affect the formation of symbiotic relationships between soy and rhizobium?" will focus on the viability of soybeans as a

possible food source and the creation of microplastics on long space voyages. While soybeans sprout in microgravity, rhizobium increases the yield by 66 percent, making the crop much more useful to future astronauts.

Collin College students Henry Elmendorf of Allen and Stefano Sacripanti of Murphy designed the experiment with the guidance of Dr. Tamara Basham, a professor of Environmental Science at the Plano Campus.

"I think we came up with a very relevant experiment that ties in with past and current research being done on the International Space Station that could provide valuable information for future spaceflight missions," Elmendorf said. "I may never work with NASA or a commercial space agency, but I didn't want to miss the opportunity to have a project I contributed to get to fly to the ISS. That's just too cool to pass up."

Scientifically-minded

students from multiple Collin College campuses, including many participating in the college's Center for Advanced Studies in Mathematics and Natural Sciences (CASMNS) program, submitted potential experiments for SSEP Mission 17.

Other experiments designed by Collin College students that the SSEP considered included "Chemical reaction/erosion on a parent rock" and "Galleria mellonella's Polyethyleneases

See ISS, Page 12



An experiment designed by Collin College students Stefano Sacripanti (seated) and Henry Elmendorf (left) with guidance by Dr. Tamara Basham has been selected to travel to the International Space Station in 2023. (Sara Carpenter / Collin College)

Scholarship applications open to local high school seniors through April 1

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater North Texas (RMHCNTX) recently announced the opening of applications for its Scholarship Program. Funded by North Texas McDonald's owner/operators and donations from the community, the annual scholarships recognize students for their outstanding academic achievements and community involvement, granting more than \$60,000 to 30 local high school seniors each year.

"Each year, we're proud to support high school seniors in our community as they pursue their education," said David Floyd,



local McDonald's Owner/Operator and Board Treasurer of RMHCNTX. "We hope this scholarship allows students to focus on their academics without having to worry about finances."

Since the Scholarship

Program was founded in 1988, more than \$2.5 million has been awarded to more than 1,500 North Texas high school seniors. For more information and to apply, visit rmhcntx.org/scholarships.

Applications will be

open online at rmhcntx.org/scholarships until April 1, 2023. All students can apply regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender, disability, or national origin.

To qualify for an RMHC Scholarship, students must:

- be a high school senior
- be younger than 21 years old
- be eligible to attend a two- or four- year college or university with a full course of study
- be a legal U.S. resident
- live in the geographic areas of the RMHC of Greater North Texas Chapter
- and submit a complete

application and all required documentation by the deadline.

McDonald's of North Texas is a co-operative of local business owners who own and operate more than 350 McDonald's restaurants in the Greater Dallas-Fort Worth area. McDonald's of North Texas restaurants employ more than 17,500 people in the Greater Dallas, Fort Worth and Tyler communities. Follow McDonald's North Texas on Instagram @McDonaldsNorthTexas and Facebook @NorthTexasOperatorsAssociation. Ronald McDonald House

Charities of Greater North Texas (RMHC of Greater North Texas), a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that creates, finds and supports programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children and their families. Our programs are grassroots-driven to enable us to offer help where children and families need it most – right in their own communities. RMHC of Greater North Texas is part of a global network of Chapters making a positive impact on the lives of children and families in 65 countries and regions around the world.

Secretary Cardona meets with global education leaders in France

(U.S. Department of education) -- U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona recently traveled to France for the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Ministerial summit on "Rebuilding an Inclusive and Equitable Society through Education." Discussions before and during the meeting with counterparts from member and non-member countries and U.S. diplomats focused on lifelong education and reimagining education for an equitable future.

Secretary Cardona began the summit by meeting U.S. Ambassador to the French Republic and to the Principality of Monaco Denise Campbell Bauer. They



discussed the importance of post-pandemic collaboration with French leaders to help students in both countries not only recover but thrive academically.

To open the summit, the Secretary started by meeting with Ambassador to the OECD Jack Markell in which they discussed

educational priorities in the U.S. and the importance of aligning elementary and secondary education with higher education. He also had the opportunity to engage with and greet OECD staff.

Secretary Cardona held bilateral meetings with education leaders from around

the world, including Ireland Minister of Education Norma Foley; Saskatchewan Minister of Advanced Education Gordon Wyant, who represented Canada; and Costa Rica Minister of Education Anna Katharina Müller Castro. He also had pull-aside meetings with Netherlands Minister of Education, Culture and Science Robbert Dijkgraaf; United Kingdom Minister of State for Schools Nick Gibb; German Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Education and Research Jens Brandenburg; and Berlin Permanent Secretary for Education Alexander Slotty.

Secretary Cardona participated in two sessions:

"Education: Investing in the Future" and "Building Democratic Societies through Education." Secretary Cardona spent also participated in panel discussions about topics such as reimagining education.

"The OECD summit is a great opportunity for intentional collaboration with ministers of education from across the world. As we learned during the pandemic, the economic success of our countries depends on the educational opportunities provided to students in K-12 and beyond," said U.S. Secretary of Education. "We are focusing now on how to leverage the disruption from the pandemic to raise the bar in education. This is our opportunity

to be bold and reimagine education in a way we never could before."

Building on his commitment for intentional collaboration, Secretary Cardona moderated a session on Thursday with representatives from approximately 25 countries titled "Foundations for Lifelong Learning, from Birth through Work and Beyond." The conversation explored early education, pathways to careers, and multilingualism.

Additional bilateral meetings included France Minister of National Education and Youth of French Pap Ndiaye and Finland Minister of Education Li Andersson.

McKinney Tourism Grant application cycle is now open; deadline is Feb. 10

Visit McKinney is now accepting tourism grant applications from organizations planning events or initiatives that promote the City of McKinney as a tourism destination.

"As the city's tourism entity, we strive to bring new dollars into the city's economy through visitor-related travel," said Aaron Werner, Visit McKinney Executive Director. "These grant funds provide us the opportunity to assist groups with marketing and promotion of projects geared toward visitors but enjoyed

by residents, too."

Visit McKinney annually offers \$30,000 to qualifying applicants split via two cycles each fiscal year. The Visit McKinney board awards the grant funds based on state-established guidelines governing the use of hotel tax. These guidelines, application, and schedule of the grant process can all be found online at VisitMcKinney.com/grants.

Anyone who wishes to discuss the viability of a project/event may complete the inquiry letter also found

on this webpage and submit it to Werner by email to executivedirector@visitmckinney.com.

"In Cycle 1 of this fiscal year, our board awarded grant funds to the McKinney Philharmonic and Greater North Texas Youth Orchestra as well as Mill-House McKinney. In our previous fiscal year, Visit McKinney also supported events or projects by Chestnut Square Heritage Village, McKinney Restaurant Council, Ovation Performing Arts Academy, Jump Into Art Studios, SBG

Hospitality, and Marching Music Made in McKinney," Werner said. "We're excited to see what types of projects and events applicants bring to us in February."

The deadline for Cycle 2 grant applications is Friday, Feb. 10. Applicants will make presentations to the Visit McKinney board on Feb. 28, and the board will announce grant awards during its March 28 meeting.

Visit McKinney is funded by hotel tax dollars collected by the City of McKinney.



Courtesy photo

30th annual MLK Celebration will happen at Lewisville High

LEWISVILLE — Lewisville High School will host the 30th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Monday, Jan. 16, 2023, in its auditorium located at 1098 W. Main St., Lewisville at 6 p.m. Admission is free.

The celebration's theme will be "Living the Dream:

It Takes a Team."

The keynote address will be delivered by Cameron Dockery, a graduate of Lewisville High School. Now a college senior majoring in criminal justice and legal studies, Dockery is the chief of staff for Prairie View A&M University's Student Government Association and a member of

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, PALS and the Prairie View Go Team.

The ceremony will include recognition of art, photo and essay contest winners who will receive cash prizes and performances/appearances by the Durham Middle School Orchestra, Rise Up! Girls of Southridge Elementary

School, the Lewisville High School Chin Student Association and Westside Baptist Church's Boy and Girl Scouts' Color Guard.

A display of art, photo and essay contest entries will open at 5 p.m. on Mon-

day, Jan. 16, 2023, and the MLK event will start at 6 p.m. in Lewisville High's auditorium, 1098 W. Main St., Lewisville.

Beginning Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023, the winning art, photo and essay entries will

be displayed in the City of Lewisville's Exhibit area at the Lewisville Grand, 100 N. Charles St., Lewisville, for 3-4 weeks.

For more information, please visit www.MLKof-NorthTexas.org.

MLK Day of Service to focus on cleanup of historic Black cemetery

LEWISVILLE - Local citizens', organizations', and businesses' response to the Martin Luther King Jr. National Day of Service on Monday, Jan. 16, 2023, will focus on cleaning the historic Black Champion-Macedonia Cemetery in Lewisville is scheduled from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. (noon).

Organizer Jackie Shaw requests that volunteers with work gloves help clean up the grounds with garden tools including trimmers, rakes, weed eaters and chain saws. Two generators will be provided for electric tools, so it will be helpful if participants bring 50-100 ft. electric extension cords. It would be appreciated if someone would bring a riding lawnmower. A tent and porta potties will be on site. Water and snacks will be

available for volunteers.

Founded in the 1880s, Champion-Macedonia Cemetery, also known as Mt. Olive Cemetery, is believed to be the site of as many as 134 graves. "This Black cemetery tells the rich history of our people in this area," said Shaw. "Entire families — grandparents, parents, children, sisters and brothers, community founders and veterans lay in eternal rest here. By ensuring that their graves are clean and well cared for, we not only honor our history and their lives but also enjoy great fellowship while completing a day of service."

Continued Shaw, "We're honored to have as event sponsors Westside Baptist Church, Huffines Auto Dealership, Amazon Lewisville Hub, Denton County Precinct 3

Commissioner Bobbie

Mitchell, the City of Lewisville, Davoodi Family Medicine, Jeri Harrell with Republic Services, Kwik, Kar, Vista Ridge, Cavender's Boot City in Lewisville, Credit Union of Texas and Denton-Lewisville Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc."

Champion-Macedonia Cemetery is located behind the Huffines Chevrolet Dealership at 1400 S. Stemmons Freeway. The best way to get to the event is to head north on the I-35 frontage road and turn right immediately after passing Cavender's Boot City. Please do not park in the Cavender's Boot City parking lot.

If it rains Jan. 16, 2023, the cleanup will occur on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (noon).

For more information, call 972-221-5668.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday, January 26, 2023
5:30 p.m.

Turney W. Leonard Governance
and Training Center
Conference Area
5151 Samuell Blvd.
Dallas, TX 75228

Annual Report of Performance on Texas Academic Performance
Report for 2022-2023

and the 2022-2023 Evaluation of the Effectiveness of
Accelerated Instruction

The Dallas Independent School District will hold a public hearing to share information with the community regarding the educational performance of the district along with the effectiveness of accelerated instruction. The Meeting will take place at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, January 26, 2023, Conference Area, 5151 Samuell Blvd.

Persons interested in making comments at the public hearing must register to speak by contacting Board Services at (972) 925-3720. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m., Monday, January 23, through Wednesday, January 25, at 5 p.m.



Ashley Sissel, Whitney Lawson and Christine Bassham get decked out for a night of Casino fun to support local children. (Courtesy photos by Tim Heitman)

Dallas CASA's CASAblanca Casino Party brings young professionals together in support of children

The Dallas CASA Young Professionals will host the annual CASAblanca casino party on Saturday, February 4. Guests will enjoy an evening with casino games, dancing, cocktails, appetizers, prizes and much more. Casino games include blackjack, craps and poker, as well as a roulette wheel. The Special Edition Band will perform all night while guests hit the dance floor. All proceeds from the event will benefit children who have experienced abuse or neglect and are living in the protective care of the state.

CASAblanca is hosted by the Dallas CASA Young Professionals, a vibrant group of local young professionals under 40 who serve as an outreach, volunteer and fundraising arm for Dallas CASA. CASAblanca is the group's largest and most well-attended fundraiser. Founded in 2009, the mission of the Young Professionals is to increase awareness of Dallas CASA

and the children the agency serves while providing social and charitable events. Event co-chairs are Anuka Dhakal, Brooke Donelson and Melissa Wong.

The event will take place from 8 a.m. to Noon on Saturday, February 4, at the Hall on Dragon, 1500 Dragon Street.

Dallas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) seeks to protect children, restore childhoods and help child victims of abuse or neglect achieve their full potential. The agency's trained and supervised community volunteers are assigned by judges to advocate for the best interests of children who have experienced abuse or neglect and are living in the protective care of the state. For many children in foster care, their Dallas CASA volunteer is the only consistent, caring adult in their lives during a frightening, uncertain time. Now in its 43rd year, Dallas CASA serves more children than

any of the more than 900 CASA programs nationwide. While Dallas CASA envisions a day when all children experience safe and enriching childhoods, the agency currently provides a child advocate for every Dallas child in need. In 2021, 1,539 Dallas CASA volunteers were assigned to advocate for 3,113 children in protective care. To learn more, visit dallas-casa.org.

Sponsors: Entertainment Sponsor: Lone Star Cadillac; Royal Flush: Christine and Jonathan Bassham and Seven Cities Foundation & Bailey Thompson; Cup Sponsor: Sidley Austin LLP; Koozie Sponsor: Greenberg Traurig; Napkins Sponsor: Mai Plumbing Company; Straight Flush: Ad Pages Solutions, Edelman Global Advisory and R&B Roofing; Full House: Eta Sigma Chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta / Ella Parlor, Claire Dornak and Matt Lewis, and Raising Cane's.



Carson May, Lizzy May, Alexa Cooper and Lee Cooper look forward to raising funds for Dallas CASA.



Hugh Cook and Sam Stehlin prepare to dance the night away.

EISEMANN CENTER
Presents

The Music of
Sam Cooke
A CHANGE IS GONNA COME
—starring—
Bradd Marquis
Twisting the Night Away
Chain Gang
Cupid
Touch the Hem Of His Garment
You Send Me
Bring It On Home
It's All Right/ Sentimental Reasons
Ease My Troublin Mind
Blowin in the Wind
A Change is Gonna Come
Having A Party
+ MORE!

ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY!
Friday, January 20 at 8 pm
in the Hill Performance Hall

Tickets: www.EisemannCenter.com
972.744.4650

Eisemann Center for Performing Arts • 2351 Performance Dr., Richardson, TX

Film Review: Hanks takes the screen again in 'A Man Called Otto'

by Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

(**1/2) Can't they all just get along? Apparently not, and the instigator is Otto Anderson (Tom Hanks), a grumpy old man with a chip on his shoulder and a grudge in his back pocket.

All might be well in their comfy suburban Pittsburgh, PA community, if Otto didn't spread the hurt he feels to others. He's also a bit OCD. Things must be in order, people must follow the rules and if not, anger, threats, yelling, pouting and putdowns ensue. It's a bit much. Someone with a short fuse would punch him. But the characters in this adaptation of a 2012 New York Times Bestselling novel by Fredrik Backman circle around him. Like an extended family.

Director Marc Forster (Monster's Ball, World War Z) and screenwriter David McGee (Finding Neverland, Life of Pi) weren't the first to attempt to transform this good read to a viable movie. That feat was accomplished by writer/filmmaker Hannes Holm with his 2015 Swedish film of the same name. But here



Tom Hanks and Mariana Treviño star in *A Man Called Otto*.
(Photo via NNPA)

we are, in an American housing development with rules and regulations where Otto thinks he's the town sheriff.

His misery is spread equally among the residents and any interlopers who dare drive down the complex's private street. He admonishes those who disobey: "You cannot use this road without a permit!!!" Otto becomes particularly unglued when a young couple gets lost and is looking for their new rental apartment.

The husband, Tommy (Manuel Garcia-Rulfo, Netflix's *The Lincoln Lawyer*), can barely drive and finds parking his car with its U-Haul trailer impossible. His very pregnant wife

Marisol (Mariana Treviño) tries to guide him. Leave it to Otto to insert himself into their mini drama and park the vehicle himself. That's how they meet on a fated day. Bossy neighbor and newbie residents.

It seems like you're watching a series of setup shots clumsily pulled together. There is no flow. Going from scene to scene has all the finesse of an awkward TV drama and not the polish of a well-made feature film. As the characters pile up, including Otto's wife (Rachel Keller) and her former student (the very charming Mack Bayda), the direction pulls them forward but not gracefully. It's like methodically putting pieces of a

puzzle together that's never more than a fuzzy picture.

There are very few sets and locations. Just enough for production designer Barbara Ling and set decorator Michael J. Amato to depict everyday 'burb life. Just enough characters for costume designer Frank L. Fleming to cloth them in blue-collar shirts, pants, dresses and coats that further extend their personalities. The score swells at the right times because composer Thomas Newman makes that happen. Cinematographer Matthias Koenigswieser captures the string of vignettes well. There's a rhythm to it all, orchestrated by editor Matt Chesse who clips scenes at the right time and makes the array of flashbacks discernible.

It's hard to extremely love or hate anything on view. The plot device that breaks out of that tedium involves the central character hiding a secret that is deeper than the impatience, vitriol and condescending mood swings he displays.

Otto is in so much pain that death might be a release. That's where this maudlin small-town story gets its emotional power. Otto is on a ledge, crying for help in the most inappropriate ways. Marisol: "Are you always this unfriendly?" He needs a savior. His crisis and inability to articulate his peril is what will keep audiences intrigued.

Back in the day, Hanks was the odd one on TV's *Bosom Buddies*, then the mermaid's lover in *Splash*. It's been a long journey, a long career. Now, he's the Oscar-winning elder statesman playing a senior citizen in distress. His deliberate, determined way of walking, his repulsion at the sight of a stray cat and the resentment that swirls around him is Hanks getting under Otto's skin, and brilliantly so, for 2h 6m. Watching him do his work is a treasure.

Treviño as the annoying new neighbor is the pesky mosquito Otto needs. Juanita Jennings (*Runaway Jury*) and Peter Lawson

Jones (*White Boy Rick*) play a couple who have history with Otto, and their subplot adds dimension. Cameron Britton as Jimmy the annoying jogger provides comic relief. Truman Hanks, Tom's son, portrays the younger Otto at a time when nepotism is the talk of Hollywood. He doesn't embarrass himself. He doesn't distinguish himself.

For every old miserable codger in the world today, there's a backstory. In this case that grump is part of a group of lost souls coalescing. Some at the end of life's journey. Some at the beginning. But all are redefining what the word "family" means and making the term "extended" totally irrelevant.

Despite the film's flaws, what audiences will take away is a humanizing experience by a group of misfits who learn that sometimes just getting along can be lifesaving.

In theaters January 13th.

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



Getting sick can increase stress, medical expenses or time off from work or school.

Stop the flu before it stops you.

Get vaccinated today!

For more information about flu shots and upcoming flu drives, please visit www.parklandhealth.org/Flu.

 **Parkland**
Care. Compassion. Community.

DOING THE RIGHT THING

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

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

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION:

Thursday, Jan 19 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Friday, Jan 27 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Friday, Feb 10 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, Feb 23 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

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

 **DALLAS CASA**
Court Appointed Special Advocates

Celebrated film and arts festival to return to the heart of Black Los Angeles

The Pan African Film and Arts Festival (PAFF) today announced its dates for the 31st event. The PAFF will take place during Black History Month in Los Angeles, February 9-20, 2023. This year's theme is "Reimagine PAFF" and invites attendees to experience a new story of imagination.

Festival organizers are excited to once again bring Black creatives, executives, and Black culture enthusiasts together in the heart of Black Los Angeles for 12 days for what is the largest BHM celebration in America. PAFF screenings will take place at the Cinemark Baldwin Hills and XD Theatre, while PAFF's unparalleled Black fine arts festival will return to the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza.



"Ayuko Babu, Danny Glover, and Ja'Net DuBois envisioned a global celebration to honor the genesis of imagination — the African story, then began to take steps toward making it a reality," said Marc Brogdon, PAFF Director of

Marketing. "In 1992, The Pan African Film and Arts Festival was established to become the international beacon for the Diaspora arts community to showcase our stories and preserve the cinematic creativity of Pan African Culture. Thirty-one

years have passed since that soulful spark of invention. Today, the fire of ingenuity is rekindled to serve an emerging generation."

PAFF will again be offering a special Early Bird discount to those who purchase their 2023 PAFF film passes by January. Passes can be purchased at paff.org.

Established in 1992 by Hollywood veterans Danny Glover (The Color Purple, Lethal Weapon), the late Ja'Net DuBois ("Good Times"), and Ayuko Babu (Executive Director), the Pan African Film Festival is

a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has remained dedicated to the promotion of Black stories and images through the exhibition of film, visual art, and other creative expression. PAFF is one of the largest and most prestigious Black film festivals in the U.S. and attracts local, national, and international audiences. In addition, it is an Oscar-qualifying festival for animation and live-action films, and one of the largest Black History Month events in America.

PAFF is sponsored in part by the City of Los

Angeles, the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell through the Department of Arts and Culture, LA Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson, LA Councilmember Curren Price, LA Councilmember Heather Hutt, the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, LA Arts COVID-19 Relief Fund with the California Community Foundation, and the LA County COVID-19 Arts Relief Fund administered by the LA County Department of Arts and Culture.

GRIDLOCK, from Page 5

Ukraine aid, and avert[ing] a rail strike," Barrón-López added.

"So, all of these were major bipartisan bills that the president really tried to champion, saying: 'Look, a lot of people doubted that I could work with Republicans,' and yet he did during his first two years."

The new Congress includes 89 incoming representatives, the largest first-year class in three decades.

The House plans 30 weeks of sessions in the new year, and Republicans may use much of that to investigate Biden and his son, Hunter.

Radicals like Republican Marjorie Taylor-Green of Georgia and Lauren Boebert of Colorado want the House to consider impeaching Biden, citing America's troop withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021 and the president's immigration and border policies.

Meanwhile, House Democrats will have new representation, led by New York Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, the first African American to lead a major party in the history of Congress.

According to a Pew Research Center study, 65% of American adults believe Biden will fail to pass any of his initiatives over the next two years, while approximately 61% said they also expect the GOP to fall short of its goals.

A narrow 8% of respondents said they expect relations between Republicans and Democrats to improve in 2023, while only about 48% of Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents said Biden would do well in the next two years.

Similarly, 44% of Republicans and those who vote Republican expect GOP leaders in Congress to pass their programs into law.

"These first two years were under full Democratic control. A number of the big-ticket items were voted along party lines, so just Democrats passed those for Biden," Laura Barrón-López explained this week.

"That includes, of course, the big COVID response funding at the beginning of his presidency and then, more recently this year, the Inflation Reduction Act,

which was that big Democratic wish list bill that had climate change, action, and prescription drug reform, as well as, of course, Affordable Care Act subsidies," Barrón-López continued.

While the 117th Congress concluded with the passing of a bill to replace a bust of former U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger Taney with Thurgood Marshall, the first Black U.S. Supreme Court Justice, members of the 118th Congress will still traverse a building that contains paintings and statues that honor 140 enslavers.

"In removing Taney's bust, I'm not asking that we would hold Taney to today's moral standards," said Maryland Democratic Rep. Steny Hoyer.

"On the contrary, let us hold him to the standard of his contemporaries: Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and all of those who understood that the enslavement of others has always been an immoral act.

"Figures like Taney belong in history textbooks and classroom discussions, not in marbled bronze on public display of honor."

Now 7 Days A Week

Get On-Demand Service With GoLink

Starting January 23, 2023, GoLink will have service from 5 a.m. - midnight daily.



With GoLink, you get curb-to-curb service within your zone or a connection to DART's larger network in a few simple steps:



1 Book with the GoPass® app or call 214-515-7272



2 Pay with a GoPass® Tap card or with your credit or debit card



3 Your ride comes to you!

Dr. King's quest for economic justice continues

By Charlene Crowell

On January 16, the nation will mark its 37th national holiday honoring the life of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968). Across the country observances will chronicle how one man's efforts pricked the moral conscience of the nation in a lifespan of only 39 years.

When he was just 26 and a new pastor at Montgomery's Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, Dr. King was chosen by community leaders to lead the effort to desegregate the city's buses following the arrest of Rosa Parks, who refused to give up her seat to a white man.

From December 1955 and continuing for 13 months, an estimated 50,000 Black residents of Montgomery chose to walk, carpool, or patronize Black cab drivers. In the end, the boycott brought economic devastation and a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that the city's segregation policies violated the Constitution's 14th Amendment that guaranteed equal protection under the law.

The 2023 observance is also a time to recall how it took 32-years to create the first national holiday to honor a Black person. Although the federal holiday was enacted in 1983, its first observance came three years later in 1986, and at the time only 17 states observed its commemoration. It wasn't until 2000 that all 50 states observed the King holiday.

Dr. King's lifelong quest for economic justice is consistent throughout his sermons, speeches, and other writings.

On March 14, 1968, weeks before his assassination, Dr. King gave a speech entitled *The Other America*. In it, he describes how our nation actually reflected two vastly different experiences. In one, "millions of people have



Courtesy photo

the milk of prosperity and the honey of equality flowing before them... In this America children grow up in the sunlight of opportunity," noted Dr. King.

"But there is another America," continued Dr. King. "This other America has a daily ugliness about it that transforms the buoyancy of hope into the fatigue of despair... Probably the most critical problem in the other America is the economic problem. There are so many other people in the other America who can never make ends meet because their incomes are far too low if they have incomes, and their jobs are so devoid of quality."

Today the unfortunate reality for much of Black America is that we continue to toil and suffer from that same economic "fatigue of despair".

As a people, we fervently believe in the value of higher education; but meager financial resources force our students to incur six and sometimes seven figures of debt. Despite laws that call for equal credit, our access to affordable credit is often limited and instead Black Americans are plagued by predatory lending that leaves us with high-cost debts.

In the aftermath of the foreclosure crisis that disproportionately harmed Blacks and other people of

color, Congress created the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to be a financial cop-on-the-beat.

Since opening its doors in 2011, the CFPB has received more than 3.3 million consumer complaints, and delivered over \$14.9 billion in monetary compensation, principal reductions, cancelled debts, and other consumer relief through its enforcement and supervisory work. Nearly three in four complaints filed – 73 percent – were about credit or consumer reporting. The remainder of the complaints reported issues with debt collection, credit cards and checking/savings accounts and mortgages.

Even so, the quest for financial justice continues. Laws and regulations must be vigorously enforced. But just as with civil rights legislation, the naysayers remain aggressive.

Over the past year, CFPB's research and surveys have documented how consumers remain at risk via emerging consumer issues such as the Buy Now, Pay Later (BNPL) industry, elder financial exploitation, nursing home debt collection, college banking, student loans, and medical debt on credit reports and payments.

Testifying before the House Financial Services

Committee (HFSC) on December 14, CFPB Director Rohit Chopra warned lawmakers of the growing dangers of BNPL.

"The CFPB's recent study on Buy Now, Pay Later noted a significant increase in use of these products to fund essential goods and services," said Chopra. "The CFPB is working to

ensure that Buy Now, Pay Later lenders adhere to the same protocols and protections as other similar financial products to avoid regulatory arbitrage and to ensure a consistent level of consumer protection."

Weeks earlier on November 2, the potential harms of BNPL were the topic on the HFSC's Task Force Financial Technology. Marisabel Torres, speaking on behalf of the Center for Responsible Lending said, "When the borrower's BNPL loan is linked to a bank account that lacks sufficient funds for payment, the BNPL lender's payment attempts will typically trigger highly punitive non-sufficient funds (NSF) and/or overdraft fees... These fees in turn are highly associated with closed bank accounts and exclusion from the financial system. Or, the borrower may have sufficient funds for the BNPL

payment but then be left without sufficient funds for other essential living expenses or debts. And many BNPL providers charge their own late or returned payment fees on top of the fees charged by banks."

For these economic and equality issues, Dr. King's own words continue to challenge America to live up to its creed:

"Expediency asks the question is it politics? Vanity asks the question is it popular? The conscience asks the question is it right? And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe nor politics nor popular but he must do it because conscience tells him it is right."

Amen, Dr. King.

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



Ed Bell Construction Company

An Equal Opportunity Employer

January 1, 2023

Ed Bell Construction is a Dallas based heavy highway contractor doing business in the North Texas market since 1963. With clients such as TxDOT, Dallas County Public Works, and the Cities of Dallas, Fort Worth, Richardson, and Mansfield (plus many others), we have a strong backlog of work in the highway market locally.

We are currently hiring for the following positions:

- **CDL Drivers (Water Truck)**
- **Form Setter (Structures, Paving)**
- **Paving Machine Operator (Paving)**
- **Boom Mobile Crane Operator (CDL)**
- **Concrete Finisher (Paving, Structures)**
- **Laborer (Earthwork, Underground, Paving)**
- **Loader Operator (Earthwork, Underground)**
- **Excavator Operator (Earthwork, Underground)**

Available: multiple openings

Rate: Negotiable

Must have own transportation

Years of Experience required will vary, from 6 months to 2 years (depending on position)

Physical and Drug Screen Required

Must have a Clear Background

Must be at least 18 years old (CDL Driver, 21 yrs)

**Must apply in PERSON, Monday – Friday from 8am to 11am
@ 10605 Harry Hines Blvd.**

**Please visit our website: www.edbellconstruction.com/careers
Or email your resume to: careers@edbellconstruction.com**

Better Business Bureau (BBB) warns, beware of situational scams in 2023

Every year, scammers and con artists capitalize on national, international and local situations to steal consumers' personal information, time and money. While many scams reported to Better Business Bureau (BBB) are prevalent year-round, such as employment, online purchase or phishing scams, others surface in response to prevailing situations. To help anticipate when scams may leverage issues of public concern, BBB provides the following list of some contextualized scams that occurred in 2022:

- Taking advantage of the fear and confusion surrounding the coronavirus pandemic by creating fake COVID testing sites to steal money and sensitive health information from their victims;
- Advertising the sale of

baby formula during the national baby formula shortage and failing to deliver the product or providing an unhealthy alternative;

- Creating fake charities and crowdfunding initiatives under the pretense the funds would be used for humanitarian purposes in response to the Ukraine invasion and Uvalde disaster;

- Contacting student loan borrowers in response to the Biden administration's student loan forgiveness policy, introducing confusion into the process and charging for services they did not render;

- Offering fake tickets to high-demand events and concerts such as Taylor Swift, Austin City Limits, SXSW, Fort Worth Rodeo, Fiesta San Antonio and the Astro's World Series games; and

- Traveling to areas dev-

astated by natural disasters and offering quick fixes for repairs that do not last, failing to finish the contracted project, or simply vanishing after accepting payment.

As the new year gets underway, BBB expects scammers to continue leveraging significant local, national and international situations to steal from the public. In most cases, social media continues to play an essential role in the tactics of scammers, as well as the increasing reliance on mobile banking apps such as Zelle and Venmo.

To help prepare consumers for possible scams in the coming year, BBB provides the following tips:

Beware of emotional appeals. In the immediate aftermath of a disaster or humanitarian crisis, it is common to feel the need to

help in whatever way possible. Often, this comes in the form of a donation to a charity or organization focused on providing aid or to specific people impacted through a crowdfunding initiative. When desiring to contribute, be cautious of acting purely on the emotion of the moment and take the time to research where your contribution will be going. Check to see if the crowdfunding page has been vetted, and view the charity's profile on Give.org or another reputable organization that evaluates how funds are used.

Clear up the confusion. Scammers tend to reinforce confusion when new government policies or initiatives affect consumers. When contacting potential victims, they are often vague or uninformative when they are asked spe-

cific questions, and they try to establish themselves as trustworthy sources who only have their target's best interests in mind. Usually, these scams charge money for a free service or will fabricate information to 'guarantee' eligibility. Regardless of the situation, it is best to educate yourself about how the policy will affect you or reach out to a reputable source that can clear up the confusion. If contacted by someone claiming they can guide you through the application process for a fee or becomes aggravated when asked multiple questions, it may be best to walk away.

Trust your instincts during a product shortage. During shortages of an essential product, scammers will often claim to have it available at either an inflated or regular price. They usually

take advantage of the item's necessity and the desperation of people willing to pay any price to obtain it. In some cases, consumers can report businesses that have increased the prices of essential products during an emergency declaration, a practice known as price gouging, to their state's Attorney General. If an inability to obtain an essential product will result in a substantial risk to you or your family's health, reach out to your local government representatives to see if they have an emergency stock of the item or for information about a healthy alternative. Be wary of private sellers advertising the product online, especially on social media.

If you have been a scam victim, report your experi-

See SCAMS, Page 13

WORKERS, from Page 3

and parole from DHS may also include an employment authorization, which would allow workers to seek lawful employment elsewhere. a measure that would allow them to support themselves and their families while pursuing their claims.

Another benefit of this policy relates to the two potential options for workers who are victims of human trafficking or certain other crimes and are in need of immigration status protection—T and U visas. At present, there are large backlogs and lengthy processing times for such visas, leading to years-long wait times for their issuance. Prosecutorial discretion by DHS could benefit workers if it were granted much more quickly than T and U visas; and it could benefit workers in labor disputes who don't meet the narrow requirements for the T and U visas, which currently are not applicable to many labor-related crimes.

The ability of migrant workers to come forward

and report employer abuse could act as a force multiplier for DOL's understaffed and underfunded Wage and Hour Division and Occupational Health and Safety Administration while enabling more migrant workers to exercise their labor rights under the National Labor Relations Act without fear.

Congress should pass legislation to protect workers from the threat of retaliation and deportation and provide new funding for labor standards enforcement. Congress should prioritize the reintroduction and passage of the Protect Our Workers from Exploitation and Retaliation (POWER) Act introduced in 2019 by Rep. Judy Chu (D-Calif.) and Sen. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.). The Act, supported by various unions and migrant worker advocacy organizations, would expand access to U visas for migrant workers who report workplace violations, increase the number of available U visas, and extend eligibility to more labor-related crimes.

The POWER Act would also strengthen the investigative powers of labor standards enforcement agencies and permit postponement of deportation of migrant workers who file a legitimate claim or a witness to one. Workers would also be eligible for employment authorization so they can work while their claims are being processed.

Finally, Congress can and should take action to narrow the funding disparity between immigration enforcement and labor standards enforcement agencies. A dramatic increase in appropriated funding would allow the agencies to conduct more investigations and keep pace with the number of workers they are in charge of protecting, while holding more lawbreaking employers accountable.

So far, Congress appears reluctant to fund protections of workers, yet more than willing to provide a blank check for immigration enforcement. Those who care about wages and working conditions should act quickly to narrow the

gap by drastic funding increases for enforcement of labor standards. They

should also consider decreasing funding for immigration enforcement given

the detrimental impact that such actions can have on labor standards.



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.



Scan to go to:
The NDGLive
YouTube
Channel
(and "Like" us)

By "liking" us, you will be entered into an upcoming promotional contest for tickets to area entertainment events!

As Texas Legislature reconvenes, a NFIB proposal to cut the inventory tax is up for consideration

The 88th Texas Legislature began its work this Tuesday, January 10 in Austin.

Among the issues to be discussed are abortion, property taxes, healthcare, LGBTQ rights, healthcare, and issues affecting child safety.

Considering that the Comptroller just announced a near \$33 billion surplus, discussions concerning what the State should do with this money will undoubtedly be on the agenda.

Among the proposals up for review is cutting the state inventory tax. Following the launch of the 'Cut

the Inventory Tax' campaign, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) State Director Annie Spilman appeared on the 'Chad Hasty Show,' to talk about the Texas State Legislature's opportunity to stabilize the small business recovery by passing needed tax relief.

When asked about the inventory tax, Spilman outlined the burden the tax places on mom-and-pop shops:

"The inventory tax is one of those taxes that hurts almost every single small business in this state. And that's because anything that

the small business owner has in their business whether it be furniture or a mixing bowl to make cakes to sell to their customers, they have to pay a tax on."

Describing how employees and consumers shoulder the cost of the inventory tax, Spilman explained all money that goes to the government as taxes or costs for implementing regulations comes from people that they employ and ultimately, consumers. You can't get to recovery if you're spending money and you're not receiving it, she explained.

Spilman concluded that

since the Comptroller just announced a \$32.7 billion budget surplus for the state, it is time to cut the inventory tax.

The state inventory tax is a regressive and burdensome tax, she argues, and it is a "taxpayer active tax," meaning that small business owners who are already short on time have to value and then remit every single item in their business to their local tax appraiser, who mostly ends up telling them they owe more money anyway.

To learn more about the campaign, visit NFIB.com/TexasTaxCut.

STAR, from Page 1

voter suppression."

"Rep. Hakeem Jeffries speaks truth to power," declared attorney Ben Crump.

"Politicians must remember that they represent U.S. All of us. Let's encourage our lawmakers to work together and pass policy that helps all American people and that preserves our democratic form of government," Crump said.

Strategist Steve Schmidt added, "The early morning hours of January 7 marked the rise of a new American leader: Hakeem Jeffries. The thunderclap was the magnificence of his voice rising in defense of the American creed and his taking his place in a long line of liberty's defenders."

Jeffries also called for "maturity over Mar-a-Lago," a direct shot at new House Speaker Kevin McCarthy's praise of Trump.

Albeit grudgingly, the Republican Party did select the speaker; however, given the 15 rounds it took for McCarthy to secure the necessary votes, it's possible that his tenure as speaker won't last.

McCarthy, despite multiple defeats before winning the speakership race and his previous condemnation of former President Trump's role in the 2021 insurrection, still praised Trump.

Two years earlier, McCarthy stated that the President should have assumed responsibility for Wednesday's attack on Congress by mob rioters and that "[h]e should have immediately denounced the mob when he saw what was unfolding."

The person elected to lead Congress and look out for America's best interests praised an alleged would-be over thrower of the U.S. government just two years and one day after the Trump-inspired insurrection in which several lives were lost.

Although a congressional committee recommended criminal charges and numerous members of Trump's inner circle testified to the committee about the former president's guilt.

McCarthy, upon being presented with the speaker's gavel, remarked, "I do want to especially thank President Trump."

"Do not doubt, in my opinion; in fact, no one should doubt his influence. He was with me from the beginning. So, thank you, President Trump."

Whether or not McCarthy remains speaker, his ascension to the top post in the chamber is unlikely to be remembered as the 118th Congress' defining

moment.

McCarthy, despite multiple defeats before winning the speakership race and his previous condemnation of former President Trump's role in the 2021 insurrection, still praised Trump.

McCarthy's moments aside, many people who watched the inauguration of the 118th Congress said that Jeffries, the first African American to lead a major political party in Congress, demonstrated true leadership.

"McCarthy's speech should have contained some of the words Jeffries spoke," Dean Obeidallah, a lawyer and host of a

self-titled SiriusXM show, opined.

"[McCarthy] should have made it clear he denounces autocracy, fascism and the grave threats facing our democracy by Trump and the MAGA wing of the Republican Party," Obeidallah insisted.

The radio host wasn't alone.

"This is what leadership looks like, sounds like and does," podcaster Chris Hahn tweeted.

Actor Rob Reiner simplified the outpouring of accolades resulting from Jeffries' speech.

"A star is born," Reiner declared.

SCAMS, from Page 12

ence to BBB.org/ScamTracker. Information provided may prevent another person from falling victim and helps BBB educate the public about scam tactics.

For more information on preparing for a scam-free new year, visit BBB.org/NewYear.

The Better Business Bureau has empowered people to find businesses, brands and charities they can trust for over 110

years. In 2021, people turned to BBB more than 200 million times for BBB Business Profiles on 6.3 million businesses and Charity Reports on 25,000 charities, free at BBB.org. Local, independent BBBs can be found across the United States, Canada, and Mexico, including BBB serving the Heart of Texas, which was founded in 1950 and serves 105 counties across Texas.



GARLAND
TEXAS MADE HERE

Attention Suppliers of Goods, Services and Construction

Review Competitive Opportunities at
<https://garlandtx.ionwave.net>

www.garlandpurchasing.com

972-205-2415

CBS Insurance Services, LLC
7125 Marvin D. Love Frwy., Suite 302
Dallas, Texas 75237

Looking for A Career Change
Then We Need You!!

If you're looking for full or parttime work with flexible hours, income ranging from \$800.00 to \$2,000.00 plus weekly. No Experience Needed we will license and train.

For more information call (214) 238-6855

Ask for Shun

Email: info@cbsolutionsplus.com

TISEO PAVING COMPANY

419 E. Hwy. 80, Mesquite, TX 75150
Tel: (972) 289-0723 Fax (972) 216-5637
www.tiseopaving.com

Performing Concrete Street Paving
in the Metroplex Area
We Accept Subcontracting Bids
For All Public Works Projects
in the Dallas Area.
We Are Accepting Applications for Concrete Mixer Drivers and Heavy Equipment Mechanics

Equal Opportunity Employer



DO YOU WANT AN EXCITING AND REWARDING CAREER?

PURSUE A CAREER AS A POLICE OFFICER OR FIREFIGHTER!

- Competitive wages
- Array of benefits
- Education incentive pay
- ...and more

REGISTER ONLINE TO TAKE THE CITY OF IRVING'S NEXT CIVIL SERVICE ENTRANCE EXAM

www.cityofirving.org

The City of Irving does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Where Is The Gracious Mistress Of The Parsonage?

By James L. Snyder

Our family's Christmas this year was the best one yet. But, of course, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage says that every year. I completely agree with her this year.

Our great-granddaughter served as the focal point of our Christmas this year. She assumed that position because she was born two weeks before Christmas. What a gift.

This is our second great-grandchild. The first one is in Ohio, and we don't get to see him very often. But this new great-granddaughter is only seven minutes from our house. I was to realize what a difference that would be.

My granddaughter's mother and grandmother are now there to support this precious little great-granddaughter.

The time our granddaughter's mother can

spend with her granddaughter is limited because of her work schedule.

The great-grandmother, the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, is free to visit the great-granddaughter whenever she pleases. Her "free" does have a cost, and I would soon find out that cost.

Every time we visit, I have to pull the great-grandmother away. I'm not entirely sure how this great-granddaughter will affect her when she's a few months old and then a few years old because she's only a few weeks old now. So I need to get ready for that.

The previous week was an interesting one.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came to my office on Monday morning as I was working and said, "I'm going to visit my great-granddaughter, and I prepared lunch in the refrigerator for you in case I don't get back in time."

She sped off and drove to the great-granddaughter's house without waiting for any response from me.

It was a relatively quiet morning. I stopped to check the time and realized it was time to eat. When I entered the kitchen, it was completely dark and quiet. I then recalled her mentioning going to the great-granddaughter's house.

My lunch was in the refrigerator, just as she had predicted. So I took the lunch plate out of the fridge and sat in my chair to eat my meal. I then returned to the kitchen with my empty plate and entered my office to continue working on my day's project.

Because I had not heard any sounds coming from the other rooms of the house. I decided to check on the infamous great-grandmother. She wasn't anywhere in sight.

I hoped she didn't have an accident because I didn't

know where she could be. That started to worry me. She's never been known to leave the house for an extended period without sending me a text or making a phone call. Did she have a problem of some sort?

I was ready to text her on my cell phone when I heard her pull into the driveway. Then, as she entered the door, she said, "I forgot what time it was. I was having so much fun..." Then she began story after story of time with her great-granddaughter that day.

When I woke up the following morning, her side of the bed was vacant. I assumed she awoke early to prepare breakfast. There was no one in the kitchen when I went there.

Looking around, I noticed a note on the refrigerator, "My great-granddaughter needed me this morning, so I dropped everything to go and help her. Make your own breakfast."

Making a meal was simple because I'm not much of a breakfast hound dog. So the coffee was the main component of my breakfast, and there was plenty of it.

When I stopped midway through the morning while working in my office, I heard no noise coming from the other parts of the house. Unless there was an emergency involving the great-granddaughter, I assumed my wife should have returned home by this point.

I started to worry about the welfare of that tiny infant. Why would The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage be so preoccupied with her if nothing was wrong?

When lunchtime arrived, I made my lunch. There's nothing better than a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for lunch and a hot cup of coffee. So I returned to my desk after lunch to pick up on my work.

I paused and listened

for a while after lunch, but there was only silence. I was starting to worry a little bit. Was the great-granddaughter ill, or did the great-grandmother get into some accident returning home?

Where is The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage?

Then I heard her drive into the driveway, exit the car, and enter the house. Then, I asked, "Is the great-granddaughter having any problems?"

"Oh, the great-granddaughter is doing great," she said, beaming one of those smiles in my direction. "I spent the entire day with her and had a great time."

She then began a series of stories about herself and her great-granddaughter, giggling while she told me various details about that young baby.

After a few weeks, when-

See MISTRESS, Page 16

ISS, from Page 6

– Pioneers of biodegrading plastic to establish a sustainable space environment."

Student artists will participate in a patch design contest commemorating the mission this spring.

The Student Spaceflight Experiments Program

(SSEP) is a program of the National Center for Earth and Space Science Education (NCESSSE) in the U.S. and the Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Space Education internationally. It is enabled through a strategic partnership with Nanoracks

LLC, which is working with NASA under a Space Act Agreement as part of the utilization of the International Space Station as a National Laboratory.

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 Sci-

ence (BAS) in Construction Management. The only public college based in Collin County, Collin College is a partner to business, govern-

ment, and industry, providing customized training and workforce development. For more information, visit www.collin.edu.

We Buy Ugly Houses



- Pretty Houses
 - Ugly Houses
 - Divorce
 - Inheritance
 - Problem Tenants
 - Need Repairs
 - Vacant House
 - Fire Damage
 - Estate Sale
 - Behind on payments
- CALL 972-665-0170**

We Buy Houses ... Fast!

Cemetery Space Broker will make you offer on your cemetery plot



Dennis Jarvis / Flickr

- Inherited plot and can't sell it?
 - Bought plot years ago and your plans have changed?
 - Singles space or Side by Side spaces is okay.
- We will make you a "cash offer" on your cemetery plot today! If you get voice mail-leave message phone number and information on cemetery space. We will get back to you

Call Us Today!!!!!!!
972.665.0170

Some Famous Quotes of Dr. M. L. King, Jr.



**Sister
Tarpley**
NDG
Religion
Editor

Lest we forget some of these inspiring words and quotes of Dr. King, remember the following:

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy. The true neighbor will risk his position, his prestige, and even his life for the welfare of others."

"There are some things so dear, some things so precious, some things so eternally true, that they are worth dying for. And I submit to you that if a man has not discovered something that he will die for, he isn't fit to live."

"When we let freedom ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, Black men and White men, Jews and Gentiles, Protes-



tants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, 'Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!'"

"I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. That is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant."

"We've been in the mountain of war. We've been in the mountain of violence. We've been in the mountain of hatred long enough.

It is necessary to move on now, but only by moving out of this mountain can we move to the promised land of justice and brotherhood and the Kingdom of God.

It all boils down to the

fact that we must never allow ourselves to become satisfied with unattained goals. We must always maintain a kind of divine discontent."

"When our days become dreary with low-hanging clouds of despair, and when our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a creative force in this universe, working to pull down the gigantic mountains of evil, a power that is able to make a way out of no way and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows. Let us realize the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice."

"We all have the drum major instinct. We all want to be important, to surpass others, to achieve distinc-

tion, to lead the parade. ... And the great issue of life is to harness the drum major instinct.

It is a good instinct if you don't distort it and pervert it. Don't give it up. Keep feeling the need for being important. Keep feeling the need for being first. But I want you to be the first in love.

I want you to be the first in moral excellence. I want you to be the first in generosity."

"Faith is taking the first step, even when you don't see the whole staircase."

"Hatred paralyzes life; love releases it. Hatred confuses life; love harmonizes it. Hatred darkens life; love illuminates it."

"I submit that an individual who breaks a law that conscience tells him is unjust, and who willingly accepts the penalty of imprisonment in order to arouse the conscience of the community over its injustice, is in reality ex-

pressing the highest respect for the law."

In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence

of our friends."

"It may be true that the law cannot make a man

See MLK, Page 16

Inspiring Body of Christ **IBOX**
Pastor Rickie G. Rush

7701 S. Westmoreland Rd
Dallas, TX 75237
972.672.4262 (IBOC)
www.IBOCHURCH.org

Sunday Service 7:30am & 11am
Monday School 7pm & Men's Fellowship Friday 8pm

Allstate
You're in good hands.

Chris Zeigler
Agency Owner
The Zeigler Agency
Allstate Insurance Company
8750 W Main Ste. 203
Frisco, TX 75034
24 HOUR SERVICE

Office: 469-535-2500 | Cell 214-870-4269
After Hours: 800-255-7828 | Fax 469-535-2499
Email: chriszeigler@allstate.com

Have Medicare questions? I have answers.

I'm Lamonica Thomas, a licensed sales agent in Dallas-Fort Worth. When it comes to Medicare, it's important to consider all of your options. What works well for your neighbor may not be the best fit for you. I know the ins and outs of Medicare, and I'm ready to answer your questions and help you find a plan that fits your needs.

It's time to take advantage.



Lamonica Thomas
Licensed Sales Agent
lathomas55@gmail.com
www.MyUHCagent.com/lamonica.thomas
(972) 249-8907
TTY 711

Plans are insured through UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company or one of its affiliated companies, a Medicare Advantage organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in the plan depends on the plan's contract renewal with Medicare. ©2022 United HealthCare Services, Inc. All rights reserved.
Y0066_23SPRJ55189_C



SPRJ55189

**GENESIS BUSINESS
AND
TAX SERVICES**

CONSULTING | BOOKKEEPING | TAXES | PAYROLL

469-436-3747

GENESISBTS.COM

INFO@GENESISBTS.COM

9330 LYNDON B JOHNSON FWY, SUITE 900, DALLAS, TEXAS 75243

NDG Book Review: 'My People'

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

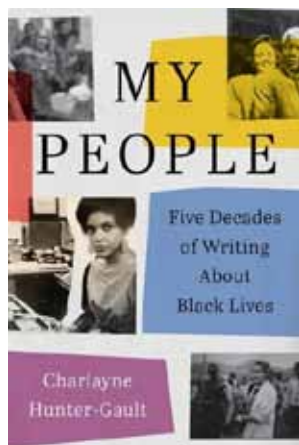
You try to stay on top of things.

You keep your eyes and ears open for news of what's going on because you know that being informed is being forewarned. Somebody's got to watch what happens in your state and your city. Somebody needs to keep track of the goings-on in your neighborhood. And in the new book "My People" by Charlayne Hunter-Gault, somebody needs to testify.

It was hot that early July day in 1959 when Charlayne Hunter and a friend went to the Court House in Atlanta to get their college applications certified. That day, they hoped to enroll in the University of Georgia but, though the papers were all in order, the judge refused to sign them, accusing the pair of wanting to cause trouble.

"All this talk made little sense to me," Hunter-Gault says now.

She'd been "the only Negro" in schools before, so attending the all-white University of Georgia didn't seem like a big deal. Still, they weren't accepted – at least not then but a year-and-a-half later, a Federal judge ordered the university to enroll both Hunter and her friend.



That's not the end of this particular story but a degree in journalism is – and so Hunter (later, Hunter-Gault) went to work reporting the news at the height of the Civil Rights Movement, not long after her own activism.

This book is a collection of some of her columns and interviews.

Perhaps because of her own experiences in education, she writes of schools, integration, and curriculums. She tells tales of other Civil Rights icons, John Lewis, the Panthers, Mandela and Tutu, The Black Women's Community Development Foundation, Shirley Chisholm. She writes about living and working in South Africa and in Harlem.

Personally, Hunter-Gault writes of her jobs in newspaper and television, what a delight it is to find a good

vacation spot, and how to talk to young people about Trump and today's current events. And she sings the praises of Black newspapers, that "tell their story."

As memoirs go – and this is a kind of memoir – "My People" is really different.

You have to look quite a bit between the lines to get author Charlayne Hunter-Gault's story; it's here, just not presented in the way you expect a life story to be. Instead, Hunter-Gault wraps her experiences inside the things on which she reported in these columns from the middle 1960s to just a few years ago.

What's interesting is that the columns, despite the age of some of them, seem as fresh as if they were written last year. Hunter-Gault's work often focused on reporting issues of racism and inequality and the people who fought those things through the years, and yet readers will see the modern relevance. Sadly, however, there's no editorializing or commentary on that; the columns merely stand on their own.

Still, this collection-cum-memoir is a fascinating read, especially for someone who's looking for a unique sort of historical record. For you, "My People" is the thing to put at the top of your to-be-read pile.

MISTRESS, from Page 14

ever I ask myself, "Where is The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage?" I only have to think about that great-granddaughter. That's where she is.

I believe Solomon in the Old Testament had it right when he said, "Children's children are the crown of

old men; and the glory of children are their fathers." (Proverbs 17:6).

Children are truly a blessing from God. But grandchildren and great-grandchildren are beyond blessing. It is God's reward He gives to those faithful parents.

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

MLK, from Page 15

love me, but it can stop him from lynching me, and I think that's pretty important." "Let no man pull you low enough to hate him."

Like an unchecked cancer, hate corrodes the per-

sonality and eats away its vital unity. Hate destroys a man's sense of values and his objectivity. It causes him to describe the beautiful as ugly and the ugly as beautiful, and to confuse

the true with the false and the false with the true."

"Man must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love."

**"IRRESISTIBLE!
A ROMANTIC FANTASY.
A CONTEMPORARY FAIRY TALE."**

THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

*Big New Musical.
Big. Huge.*

PRETTY WOMAN THE MUSICAL

JANUARY 24 – FEBRUARY 5

MUSIC HALL AT FAIR PARK

BroadwayDallas.org



BROADWAY SERIES

PRESENTED BY BROADWAY DALLAS

