



# North Dallas Gazette

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## Senate committee finds widespread employee on inmate sex abuse in America's federal prisons

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

In August 2016, a grand jury indicted Carolyn Richardson for her role in a conspiracy to procure and distribute oxycodone.

A year later, in the early stages of a 12-year federal prison sentence at the Metropolitan Correctional Center (MCC) in New York, Richardson, who said she was deeply remorseful and understood an oxycodone addiction fueled her crime, was hospitalized.

Experiencing complications from a procedure that caused her eyesight to deteriorate, Richardson required extensive eye treatment and periodic visits to hospitals outside of the prison.

A correction officer named Colin Akparanta routinely escorted Richardson to hospital visits and used that time to prey upon her.

"He made himself out to be someone I could trust," Richardson testified before the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations this month.

She said the officer spoke to her about faith and spirituality and brought her food and medicine.

"I believed that here was one person who cared about me when no one else did. I was wrong," Richardson said.



A bipartisan Senate investigation has revealed how the Federal Bureau of Prisons had failed to address the problem of sexual abuse adequately. (Photo via NNPA)

After several months, in or around May 2018, Akparanta began to demand sexual favors in exchange for food and medicine.

He switched from working the day to the night shift and entered Richardson's prison cell at night.

"I did not have a cellmate, and he told me that my cell was in a perfect area because the security camera could not see him coming or going," she recalled.

"He was the only officer working the night shift in my unit, which consisted of approximately 40 female prisoners. He used a flashlight to signal me that he was coming to my cell."

When Briane Moore, a young

single mother, received a 10-year sentence for a drug offense, she said she knew prison would be harsh.

Her first stop was the federal prison Aliceville in Alabama, then FCI Alderson in West Virginia — hundreds of miles from her young daughter in Illinois.

"I accepted that I would be punished for my crime. It was not easy doing time, but I was sentenced and put in prison for my choices," Moore remarked.

"I was not sentenced to being raped and abused while in prison. This should not have happened to me. Speaking about this is not easy,

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### People In The News ...



Kheris Rogers



Dr. Kristamarie Collman

NDG Quote of the Week: "The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any."  
—Alice Walker



## Kheris Rogers

LOS ANGELES (Cal.) -- 360 Magazine released its coveted 2023 "Most Interesting" list, which includes teen CEO, fashion designer, social influencer and anti-bullying advocate Kheris Rogers, among other notable figures. According to the publisher Vaughn Lowery, "The list champions the most powerful emerging personalities; many of whom have had an impact within marginalized communities around the world, outpacing many social constructs."



Six years ago, Kheris Rogers came to national prominence when she turned the tables on bullies at school who made fun of her dark skin by launching her apparel brand Flexin' In My

Complexion.™ Overnight, Kheris and her streetwear line, which champions self-love, self-worth and representation for Black girls and women, became a viral sensation! Iconic celebrities and pop culture figures, including Lupita Nyong'o, Alicia Keys, Whoopi Goldberg and Taraji P. Henson, became some of the young fashionista's earliest supporters. Represented by LA Models, Kheris made history as one of the youngest designers to ever debut her line at NY Fashion Week.

At the still tender age of 16, the Los Angeles native

and fashion CEO has added 'author' and 'humanitarian' to her growing list of attributions. Kheris hopes her children's book "Shine Bright" encourages kids -- especially from the Black community -- to embrace their uniqueness and celebrate themselves even when others don't. Luana Kay Horry, Senior Editor at HarperCollins Children's Books, calls Kheris "an inspiration to anyone who has ever been bullied for the things that make them beautiful," and noted that her story will "encourage all children to shine as bright as they can and on

their own terms."

Continuing her work to empower her peers, Kheris will mark Black History Month with her second annual youth symposium hosted by The Kheris Rogers Foundation in partnership with the Jenessee Center on Feb. 11, 2023. Developed for youth ages 14 - 18, the High Vibration Youth Summit is free to participants and will take place on the beautiful campus of Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, CA. Sessions offered via live stream will allow teens anywhere to engage and participate virtually.

With programming designed to offer a safe space for teens to engage in open dialogue around topics of importance, "High Vibration" will also focus on the effects constant exposure to social media has on the self-esteem and relationship building skills of high school-aged youth. A tour of the college campus will also be available for interested guests.

Registration to attend the "High Vibration" Teen Summit (virtually or in-person) opens soon with details found at flexininmycomplexion.com.

## Dr. Kristamarie Collman

By Paula Penebaker

A growing number of Black doctors are using social media to reach vaccine-wary members of their communities. Dr. Kristamarie Collman, a family medicine physician in Orlando, is one of them.

A TikTok sensation, Dr. Collman has reached more than 500,000 people with trendy videos, in which she pokes holes in common misconceptions about the COVID-19 vaccine.

"I felt as though it was my responsibility as a physician to make sure that I



was spreading correct information, especially on social media," Dr. Collman said in a recent interview. "I want people to know that as a Black woman, as a Black physician, that I hear them, and I understand their

hesitancy. I understand their concerns."

Black Americans are more likely than whites to report poor interactions with their physicians. These personal experiences, rather than wrongs of the past, tend to heighten their distrust of the health care system and lead to skepticism about COVID vaccines.

One in 275 Black Americans have died of COVID. Compared to other racial and ethnic groups in the U.S., Black Americans have been contracting COVID, becoming severely ill, and dying at a higher rate. "We can't control a lot of things, but we can control our deci-

sion to get the vaccine," Dr. Collman said.

Her commitment to trusted, science-based information on COVID vaccines has landed her in Bustle, NBC, Popsugar, NPR, and Women's Health Magazine. Dr. Collman also has a blog called "The Glow Up" and wrote a book titled, "Glow Up Your Life: The Rx for

Looking and Feeling Good from the Inside Out."

Health care heroes like Dr. Collman and others are helping to bridge the gap for Black communities nationwide.

Updated COVID vaccines are currently free and widely available. To find a vaccine location, visit vaccines.gov. For more information about

Dr. Collman, follow her on TikTok @rkristamarie or visit her website at drkristamariecollman.com.

Paula Penebaker is a writer at CMRignite, a strategic marketing agency and a partner of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services We Can Do This COVID-19 public education campaign.

## Ron Bivins

The People's Servant Ministry was founded by members in the community who watched Ron Bivins, a native of Dallas, grow into the man, father, & minister he is today.

Since 1981, after graduating high school, Ron Bivins began working within his community to make a difference. He has dedicated countless hours and resources for more than four decades organizing his peers and working towards a better tomorrow. The name, "The People's Servant" was coined by two sage members of the community who said they saw his work and remarked: "You are truly a people's servant that exemplifies you as a servant of God."



In the Spring of 2016, he established his namesake non-profit with the Texas Secretary of State to symbolize his dedication.

In the first six years, the Ministry has provided service throughout Dallas County. The proceeds from sponsors go to assist Dallas County residents with heavier concentrations to the resi-

dents of the 75115, 75116, 75216, 75232, 75241, and 75146 zip codes.

The group has held events to support communities in Dallas County, including college tours for local schools, scholarships for high school students who are involved in their community, and motivational and mentoring programs, including pep rallies and lunches for students who perform at or above the STAAR and other benchmark tests. The organization also provides free summer camps with a focus on STEM classes and the arts, as well as rental, mortgage and utility assistance. The organization has also partnered with local community businesses and churches to provide COVID-19 vaccine clinics in the southern sector.

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## The Pearl C. Anderson property missed opportunity

By James W. Breedlove

A recent report in the Dallas Morning News highlighted concerns that local South Dallas residents and community leaders expressed to the new owners of the former Pearl C. Anderson Middle School during a joint meeting at Exline Recreation Center.

Watermark Community Church, a mega-church based in North Dallas, purchased the Anderson property through a DISD auction in 2019 and is currently using the facility as a satellite church campus while planning to rezone the property.

Some of the concerns identified by South Dallas residents included: the auction sale was made without community involvement, the community is being dictated to and not partnered with, coordination meetings with the new owners have no substantive content, the \$211,000 sale price is suspiciously low for 9.8 acres of land and a 190,000 sq ft building, and DISD appears to have made some administrative irregularities

in completing a single bidder auction.

While the authenticity of suspicions and concerns that South Dallas residents have regarding Watermark's future intentions regarding the Anderson property is debated some attention needs to be directed to the negative impact of the black community's missed opportunity.

Prime property is an asset that appreciates in value. Yet the black community let 9 acres and a 190,000 sq ft structure slip through the crack because it couldn't or wouldn't come up with \$200,000. Shame, Shame, Shame.

Mrs. Pearl C. Anderson was an influential civic leader and philanthropist whose 1955 donation of a Downtown Dallas property valued at \$350,000 to a charitable trust is now worth many millions and continues to grow. Proceeds from the trust donation were instrumental in financing the Pearl C. Anderson School that opened in 1963.

Have the history lessons of the land grabs perpetuat-

ed on blacks in places such as Fair Park, Little Elm, Little Egypt, or Love Field been forgotten? The intricacies of eminent domain was lorded over blacks whenever the white establishment decided to use black land for white purposes. Blacks were ignorant to the nuances of this legal concept in the early days of the civil rights movement and were usually taken advantage of.

Land becomes a valuable commodity as populations grow or needs change. Land is one of the best wealth accumulation vehicles since it is in finite supply. Yet in the black quest for wealth equality blacks seem to be hesitant to the land acquisition process instead of aggressive.

Where were the black city, county, or DISD officials when the Anderson property was being administratively prepared for the auction block? Is there no communication link to any black religious, civic, professional, or fraternal organizations with goals that are attuned to maximizing the wealth/power equation?

It is easy to understand

how a financial opportunity that requires millions of dollars might be prohibitive but there is no excuse for not being able to finance a \$200,000 project.

Pastor Donald Parish of True Lee Missionary Baptist Church stated that now is the time for Watermark to reach out. "We know the community. Let's get some community involvement, community input. You (Watermark) have the resources. We have the experience. Let's see if we can't work together."

Even if Watermark creates the most beneficial project as a result of its rezoning decisions South Dallas residents will pay money for using the refurbished Anderson property instead of collecting instant profits and future appreciation.

Thus, the net result of the Anderson Property missed opportunity to the black community is negative wealth accumulation and prolonged economic disparity.

(Comments may be sent to the writer at: thebreed@swbell.net.)

## MLK Day of Service on transforming unjust systems

By Sylvia Ghazarian

The MLK's Day of Service theme this year was "Cultivating a Beloved Community Mindset to Transform Unjust Systems." What better way for us to start 2023 than to continue to fight for our human rights and freedom from sex discrimination.

This year would have marked the 50th anniversary of Roe. However, the recent Dobbs decision by the Supreme Court tossed out the right to a safe and legal abortion that people who become pregnant have come to expect and instead left these vital rights in the hands of each state to decide. This has resulted in unequal, unfair

and unjust consequences for people that happen to reside in a state that now bans or restricts abortion access. The consequences are especially severe for low-income, Black, Indigenous and other people of color.

Imagine finding out you are pregnant and your partner all of a sudden disappears, and you are working full-time in a low-income job. You already have 2 children and live in a state that has now banned abortion. What do you do? Where do you begin? This is a common scenario for most patients that Women's Reproductive Rights Assistance Project (WRRAP) serves.

Although abortions are

one of the safest and most common (1 in 4) health care procedures in the U.S., communities of color and those with low-income face huge barriers when it comes to access and care.

Initially the individual has to do research to find a clinic outside their state and book an appointment. That is not always easy to do since many out of state clinics are working hard to navigate a surge in patients. The person also has to look at taking time off from work, childcare and be able to afford gas and/or travel expenses. Once the individual finds out the cost which can range anywhere from \$700 - \$1,500 depending on the state, they then have to figure

out how to pay for their abortion and any travel related expenses.

The WRRAP has a streamlined system that allows us to work directly with clinics on a daily basis to provide the funding support necessary for a person seeking abortion care. We also work in solidarity with other funds that provide "practical support (gas, airfare, child support, etc.)"

Since Dobbs, the need for these services has grown and we have continued to stand strong in our ability to fund patients from Coast to Coast. In fact, this past year we pledged out over \$1.4M to

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# Going back to the future with the COVID-19 pandemic

Covid-19 vaccines, testing, and treatments will no longer be free once the Public Health Emergency (PHE) expires on Jan. 11, even as the U.S. faces down a more infectious new subvariant XBB 1.5.

The new subvariant accounts for 75% of new infections on the East Coast and 40% of new cases in the country overall. Moreover, the XBB 1.5 subvariant contains five new mutations not found on Omicron, on which the current vaccine boosters are based. "It can evade antibodies better and infect human lung tissue easier than earlier strains," said Dr. Ben Neuman, Chief Virologist of the Global Health Research Complex, Texas A&M, at an Ethnic Media Services news briefing Jan. 6.

Dr. Oliver Brooks, Chief Medical Officer at Watts Healthcare, also spoke at the briefing, stressing the importance of continuing to get vaccinated, boosted,



Mat Napo / Unsplash

and tested, as XBB 1.5 emerges. "It's our job to get the community vaccinated. So when I hear we're not getting vaccinated anymore, to me that's just a challenge. I can't stop," said Brooks. "If you get vaccinated you are not only protecting yourself but also your community."

At the briefing, Jill Rosenthal, Director of Public Health Policy at the Center for American Progress predicted a significant drop in people seeking treatment, testing, and vaccines as PHE ends,

and UC San Francisco research data scientist Sophia Tan discussed a novel new study published in Nature, which studied the impact of Covid-19 in the prison population.

"Anyone who's telling you that COVID is over is misinformed," said Dr. Ben Neuman, Chief Virologist of the Global Health Research Complex, Texas A&M, noting that in each of the last three years COVID was the third leading cause of death in the U.S. behind heart disease and cancer.

Neuman said Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) peaked in November, and the flu season peaked in December. But COVID-19 is not slowing down. So far, it has not overwhelmed hospitals, and some experts say it might not become as bad as the Omicron surge last year.

Neuman noted that the Omicron virus has seven or eight mutations compared to the original Alpha strain and the XBB has 12. "Based on the rapid rise, it would appear that it is living up to its genetic destiny. It appears that it is very infectious and is overcoming at least some components of immunity," he said.

Americans have returned to work and resumed their lives as if the pandemic is over, noted Dr. Brooks. Many people have refused vaccines and stopped wearing masks.

Brooks treats COVID patients and talks to them about vaccine confidence, vaccine convenience, and

vaccine complacency. He says public health messaging has failed to address these "three Cs," noting only 15% of the U.S. population has received the updated, bivalent booster, and only one-third of older adults, who are most at risk of dying from Covid. And there is a very low percentage of fully vaccinated children, as parents hold off because of fears based on misinformation.

When the pandemic began three years ago, supplies of tests and masks could not keep up with COVID's advance. The country could be caught flat-footed again.

Last March, the White House asked Congress for \$22.5 billion in emergency spending that would replenish funds for testing, treatments, vaccines and other COVID-related infrastructure. But Congress rejected the request in the 2023 budget bill.

Jill Rosenthal, Director of Public Health Policy at

the Center for American Progress, discussed funding shortfalls and what they mean for future pandemic preparedness.

"That short-sighted failure to invest in the response leaves us without the tests, treatments and vaccines we need going forward and leaves us unable to continue to track the disease and unprepared for future surges," said Jill Rosenthal of CAP.

Without the money to pay for it, the White House abandoned its National Preparedness Plan. Unlike the past two years, people without health insurance will have to pay \$120 for vaccines which now cost the government \$30.

The U.S. government bought 20 million doses of Paxlovid at \$530 each but supplies are expected to run out by 2024. The price for Paxlovid on the private market is expected to skyrocket by then.

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## How social emotional learning curriculum will address scary statistics about the mental health of African American youth

What is the state of mental health for African American children in your coverage area? If it is the same as it is in much of the country, it is on a serious downward path.

The overall mental health of American youth has notably declined over the years and is now made worse post pandemic. The decline is accentuated for African American kids, according to the Center for Disease Control. Black children have the highest rates of emergency mental health pediatric visits per 100,000 of any youth segment of the population. Black visits are 55% higher than those for white children, according to a 5-year study by a group



Kiana Bosman / Unsplash

of pediatricians published in the National Library of Medicine.

Black children were also 2.4 times more likely than

white children to have lost a primary caregiver from Covid, accelerating their rates of emotional distress, according to the American

Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. A recent study in the journal Pediatrics showed that 140,000 children lost a parent or grandparent caregiver. A majority were kids of color.

The suicide rate among Black youth, which for years trailed that of Asian and white students, has doubled since 2014 and is now twice the statewide average, far exceeding all other groups, according to the California Department of Public Health.

"We are caring for young people with soaring rates of depression, anxiety, trauma, loneliness, and suicidality that will have lasting impacts on them, their families, their communities, and

all of our futures," said Dr. Gabrielle Carlson, President of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Over the same period, an education curriculum called Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) demonstrates strong positive effects on student mental health and on school and life success. The curriculum has been adopted by an increasing number of schools, accelerated after the U.S. Surgeon General declared a "national youth mental health crisis" a year ago and notably called for SEL advancement in American schools to ease youth pain.

Unfortunately, and predictably, SEL adoption

in preK-12 schools with predominantly black and poorer children lags seriously behind other schools. Moreover, according to the American School Counselor Association, 48 of 50 US states lack adequate school counselors.

Equip our Kids maintains a Speaker Bureau of some of the leading parenting experts in the country who also specialize in SEL. They also offer free webinars from our speakers who share SEL practices at home and how to help optimize its adoption in their schools. SEL can make a measurable positive difference in the mindsets and behaviors of students who experience it.



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# New renderings released for Fair Park First's 18-acre Community Park Complex

Dallas Park and Recreation's management partner that oversees day-to-day operations at Fair Park, Fair Park First, has unveiled images for its new 18-acre Community Park Complex. The renderings showcase a bird's-eye view of the entire Community Park Complex along Fitzhugh Avenue, a view of one of the play areas featuring a skywalk and hillside slides, and a snapshot of an outdoor market featured in the Market Grove overlooking the central lawn.

The park will feature numerous free and accessible amenities, including wifi, water play, a full-scale outdoor performance stage, a dog park, outdoor cafes, exercise equipment, inclusive playgrounds, and custom play structures, all with diverse native landscaping and shade woven across the site. The primary goal of the Community Park is to be a world-class park that creates gathering and recreational space for South Dallas, while serving as an attraction to visitors from across the region.

"Mayor Johnson has made parks one of his major priorities for 2023. Public-private partner-



ships will have to be the cornerstone for this initiative," said Dallas Park and Recreation Board President Arun Agarwal. "The Dallas Parks and Recreation Board is thrilled to help build a new 18-acre Community Park with our partner Fair Park First. The design team for this is world-class, and the process has been very inclusive. This park truly encompasses amenities that will benefit the community for decades to come."

The Community Park Complex design has reached a milestone, transitioning into its final phase of design, permitting, and construction documentation. With community in-



Courtesy photos

put, the design process has been an extensively collaborative project led by the renowned landscape architect firm Studio MLA and the global design powerhouse Gensler. Key partners on the project include Studio Outside, AGWms studio, buildingcommunityWORKSHOP, Turner Construction, VCC, Con-

Real, Rise360, K Strategies, and Biederman Redevelopment Ventures.

"Encouraging play and physical activity are vital to the overall health of our community, and what better way to do so than to provide a new, vibrant 18-acre Community Park," said Ron Kirk, former Dallas Mayor and cur-

rent Unity Co-Chair for the Fair Park Your Park Campaign. "I am proud to serve as Co-Chair on this capital campaign to raise the needed funds for this park. We know this new community asset will contribute to healthier, brighter, and stronger futures for the neighborhoods and beyond.

The Community Park Complex is the signature component of Phase 1 of the 2020 Fair Park Master Plan Update and the Fair Park Your Park Campaign. Under the leadership of the Fair Park First board and leadership team, the Community Park Complex has raised \$25M towards the campaign goal of \$93M.

The park is expected to open in 2025.

Dallas Park and Recreation has established public-private partnerships with nonprofits, community agencies, corporations and businesses for the management and operations of city-owned venues and facilities. These important connections help the department offer unique programs and activities for diverse audiences and interests. Among the department's other partners are the Dallas Zoo, Dallas

Arboretum, Shakespeare Dallas, FC Dallas/Money Gram Soccer Park, Baylor Scott & White Health, Dallas United Crew, Woodall Rogers Park Foundation, National Audubon Society, and Dallas County Audubon.

For updates, visit FairParkDallas.com. For a complete listing of the department's partnerships, visit DallasParks.org.

Fair Park First's mission is to restore, revitalize, and renew the 277-acre National Historic Landmark through transformative improvements, increased activations, and improved tenant relations, ultimately sustaining Fair Park for generations to come. In partnership with the City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department and OVG360, the Dallas-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit's priority is to reestablish Fair Park as one of Dallas's premier performance and recreation venues so that it is accessible and enjoyed by all. Since 2019, the Fair Park First has saved the City of Dallas nearly \$40M in operating costs for the entire Fair Park Campus. For more information about Fair Park First, head to www.fairparkfirst.org.

## CBC begins 'busy' 2023 meeting with Biden administration over border policies

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire National Correspondent

While House Republicans spent a week publicly bickering and 15 rounds voting to elect Rep. Kevin McCarthy of California as speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) was already hard at work on behalf of its millions of constituents.

In the 118th Congress, the CBC will have 58 members, nine of whom are new to the chamber.

Steven Horsford, a Democrat from Nevada, was chosen as chair.

The rest of the executive committee is made up of Democrats from New York,

Louisiana, Georgia, and Washington: Yvette Clarke, Troy Carter, Lucy McBath, and Marilyn Strickland.

Due to the lengthy speakership vote, Congress could not do business during the first week of the new legislative year.

Despite this, Horsford and other CBC members still managed to talk about one of their 2023 goals.

Members were worried about the Biden administration's plan to stop people from Cuba, Nicaragua, Venezuela, and Haiti from crossing the border.

Horsford stated, "America is a nation of immigrants."

He argued that the right to access could save lives

in many situations.

Horsford and Clarke said that the government's policy, which is very similar to that of the Trump administration, should be looked at again immediately.

Even though Biden's new program intends to speed up the asylum process, "the reality is that the administration's actions have the potential to threaten the safety and humanity of migrants," as Horsford put it.

Horsford's parents are native Trinidadians, while Clarke's ancestors came to the United States from Jamaica.

During a meeting with DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, which Horsford led, the topic of Haitian mi-

grants was central.

Horsford says, "Members talked about the real-life experiences of their constituents with migration and their worries about the continuation of Title 42. They also stressed the importance of giving everyone fair and equal access to asylum and other ways to move."

Trump's pandemic-era Title 42 law allowed the United States to deport hundreds of thousands of asylum seekers on public health grounds.

Horsford praised the CBC and Mayorkas for "taking the right step in the right direction" by collaborating on a government-

wide strategy to address migration at entry points.

The caucus' chair said the CBC is eager to collaborate with Biden on finding "humanitarian-focused solutions."

The CBC has not yet released all its priorities for 2023 due to the delay in electing a speaker, but it expects a busy session.

Maxwell Frost (D-FL), the youngest new member at age 25, is the first person from Generation Z to serve in Congress.

Summer Lee, 35, is the first Black woman to represent Pennsylvania in the United States House of Representatives.

After being sworn in for

the first time on January 3, 1991, D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton, now 85, is beginning her 16th term this month.

"I do not know if we have ever needed you more than we do now," said Marcia Fudge, the former chair of the CBC and the current secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The CBC "has been the conscience of the Congress, the moral center that ensures that the people in communities whose blood, sweat, and tears built this country are never forgotten by this storied institution for over 50 years," Fudge asserted.



## Looking forward to a great New Year



**Joyce Foreman**  
Dallas ISD  
District 6

Welcome back, District 6! I hope your holidays were everything you wished for and you are refreshed and ready for a successful new year. We all have a lot to look forward to this year.

### MLK Oratory finalists named

One of my favorite Dallas ISD events is coming up – the annual MLK Oratory Competition, which will be held this year on Jan. 13, at W.H. Adamson High School. I'm proud to say that District 6 has two final-

ists in this year's competition – fifth graders Zihair Douglas from T.L. Marsalis Elementary and Daniella Mitchell from Thomas Tolbert Elementary. The eight contestants will be speaking on the topic, "What Would Dr. King Say to Us Today About Hope for Tomorrow." Good luck to Daniella, Zihair, and all the young orators.

### Mourning the loss of two leaders

I recently joined the entire school community in mourning the passing of Mr. Gail David Dupree, a beloved teacher, coach, and administrator who served for years as the principal at Carter High School in District 6. His last Dallas ISD role was as executive direc-

tor of Student Discipline, a job he was well suited for because of his temperament and his patience with students. Mr. Dupree, known best as simply "Dupree," was also a longtime staff member of the Dallas Cowboys organization, and he will be missed by fans across the Metroplex and beyond.

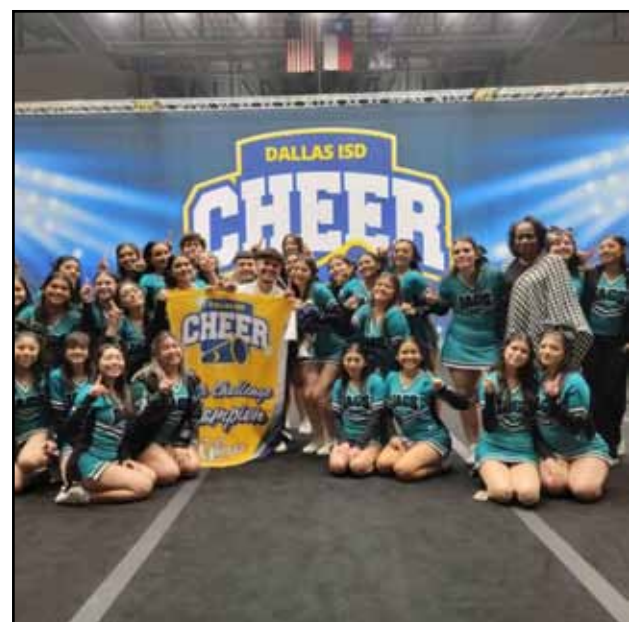
Dallas ISD also mourns the loss of Mr. Lester Jerome Mays, a longtime educator and manager who served 29 years in educational leadership for the district before retiring as executive director of Purchasing. He was a former director of Lincoln High School's award-winning drill team and was recognized for his valuable ser-

vice to the district's South and West Learning Centers, the Selena Butler Leadership Development Institute, and El Centro College.

May they both rest in peace.

### Campus Teachers of the Year

As you know, I support our teachers as the most important resource in Dallas ISD, and I am always happy to see them get their due respect. As part of that recognition, the district's Campus Teachers of the Year have been announced. This is a special honor because the winners are selected by their peers. For the full list of outstanding campus teachers, visit <https://www.dallasisd.org/campusteachersoftheyear>.



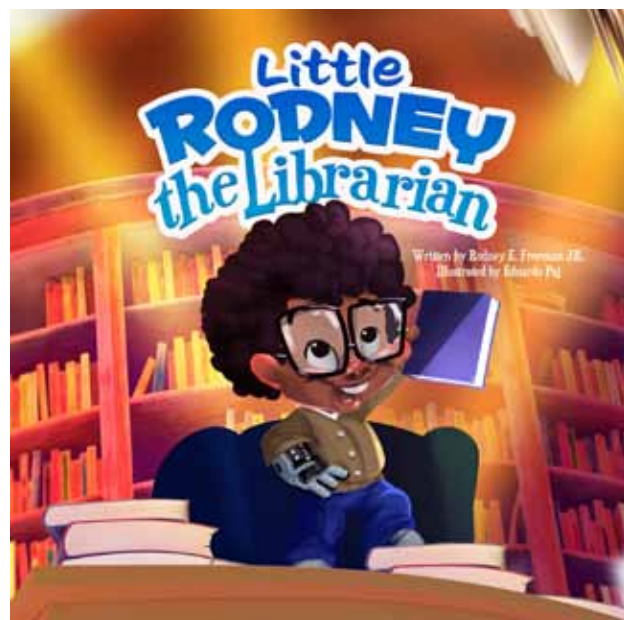
### Kudos to Dallas ISD Cheerleaders

*What a thrill it was for me to watch our cheering squads compete and to present awards to them during the recent Cheer Challenge Competition. In total, 634 elementary cheerleaders from 48 schools had the opportunity to show off their new uniforms and skills at the Dallas ISD Cheer Challenge Showcase. Go, squads!*

## Author creates new children's picture book aimed at inspiring Black boys to become librarians and leaders

Rodney Freeman is a librarian and archivist committed to sharing the narrative of the African American family and excellence. He felt that there was not enough positive light on black men as fathers, husbands, and leaders. Because of this, Freeman created his "Black Male Archives" platform. Through this platform, he captured, curated, and highlighted positive stories about black men and the black experience in the United States.

Freeman is now excited to share his second children's book entitled "Little Rodney the Librarian." This book is the second Freeman has published un-



der his platform 'The Black Male Archives' designed to represent black males posi-

tively. 'Little Rodney the Librarian' was published on Dec 01, 2022.

'Little Rodney the Librarian' is an engaging read centered on imagination and adventures exploring the library. When his friend Chloe tasks Little Rodney with helping her find her brother a book to complete a report so they can finally go on a family vacation, resident book lover and self-proclaimed Librarian Little Rodney is up to the task—and he does it in a way she never expected.

His computer glove and transforming library desk take them straight into three books, hoping the experience will help Chloe discover which one she wants to check out. But they quickly learn that they are

racing against the clock—a horde of bugs is slowly eating the books, and if they don't make a choice and get out fast, Rodney and Chloe will be trapped in the book forever.

Freeman wrote this children's book in dedication to his newborn son and all book lovers to show that they can be anything they dream to be.

The book 'Little Rodney the Librarian' is available for purchase on Amazon. In addition to this, it is available on the Kindle, paperback, and hardcover. 'Little Rodney the Librarian' is an excellent read for children between five (5) and ten (10) years old.

In an interview conducted by Urbaanite Nashville, Freeman stated that "People need and must see more stories of positive Black men and minorities in general to destroy these unrealistic narratives and perceptions that many people believe are true. Unfortunately, these negative stereotypes have birthed deadly consequences like Ahmaud Arbery and the many others whose stories we have not even heard about."

Parents can purchase the work of Rodney Freeman for their children and enjoy the love, excitement, and adventure of "Little Rodney the Librarian" with them.

## Research Institute at Dallas College and UT Dallas' Texas Schools Project Research Center partner to explore equitable returns on college investment

Two institutions are joining forces to research students' education-to-workforce pathways and how institutions can best support equitable, high returns on investment in college education. The Research Institute at Dallas College and the University of Texas at Dallas' Texas

Schools Project (TSP) will capitalize on the expertise of each, leveraging the Research Institute's unique position within Texas' largest community college and extensive data held by TSP.

"It is never simple to assess students' needs, both academic and personal, and whether those needs were

met," explains Dr. David Mahan, founding executive director of the Research Institute at Dallas College. "It takes a longitudinal assessment to determine a student's objectives and preparation before matriculating in postsecondary. The ERC holdings provide a more holistic look at the

students we serve."

A cornerstone of the Research Institute's 2022-2023 research agenda is a longitudinal study of Dallas-area student outcomes eight years after high school graduation. The primary objective of the study is to better support students at key tran-

sition points from K-12 to postsecondary education to their careers. Preliminary findings show that about 40% of DFW area high school graduates earn a postsecondary credential within eight years, which greatly contributes to their ability to earn a livable wage and gain economic

security. This is especially true for those who go on to earn a bachelor's degree. Average wages for bachelor's degree holders are \$54,224, compared with \$35,233 for those with a high school diploma alone. These findings can be ex-

**See RESEARCH Page 10**



## Auditions announced for Irving's Got Talent

Can you sing, dance, juggle or play a musical instrument? If so, you should register to be a part of Irving's annual teen talent competition, Irving's Got Talent.

The auditions, open to students in grades 6

through 12, will be held Feb. 11 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Carpenter Hall at the Irving Arts Center in Irving.

Finalists will perform in front of a live audience at the Irving's Got Talent competition, scheduled for

Mar. 3, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., also at the Irving Arts Center.

Carpenter Hall is located at the Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. in Irving.

The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, please call (972) 721-8090.

Interested participants must register to audition by Feb. 3. Registration forms can be completed online or in person at Lively Pointe Youth Center, located at 909 N. O'Connor Road.



## Parker-Mims proposes committee to prevent school-to-prison pipeline affecting special education children

Longtime Lewisville attorney and Denton County Democratic Party chair Delia Parker-Mims proposed the creation of a committee to explore preventing special education children from entering a school-to-prison pipeline to the LISD Board of Trustees Monday, Jan. 9, 2023.

Parker-Mims is also a former state of Texas hearing officer presiding over special education due process hearings. Parker-Mims stated that due to that posi-

tion she "understands that there's a balancing of interests which includes the district, parents and students. We cannot be a district that intentionally or systematically funnels our special education children into the criminal court system."

Unfortunately, explained Parker-Mims, when a student who has been diagnosed with an emotional problem or is on the autism spectrum has an outburst in the classroom due to their condition that involves an-

other person, the student is referred to the juvenile court system.

"What eventually happens is the child will be placed on probation or be expected to behave in a manner that is inconsistent with their condition," Parker-Mims said. "So, it's the practice of criminalizing children via the criminal court system to try to force the child to overcome a medical condition that's beyond their control."

According to Parker-

Mims, such children continuously violate the terms of their probation and the consequences of violating their probation is that the terms of the probation con-

tinue to be more and more severe. Eventually, they are removed from the home and placed in a residential treatment center or in juvenile prison.

"The fact that 65-85% of special education children make up the juvenile justice system points to a need for changes," said Parker-Mims.

### 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.

# HAPPY.



## Say goodbye to renting... and noisy neighbors.

**Make 2022 the year you buy your first home!**

Buying a home may be more affordable than you think, and even if you are still building your credit, you may still be able to borrow up to 100% of the home's appraised value.

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# Library of Congress, National Park Service announce winner of 2022 Holland Prize

The Library of Congress and the National Park Service announced today that the 2022 Leicester B. Holland Prize will be presented to Lukas Burgher for a drawing of the historic Grace Methodist Episcopal Church in Lincoln, Virginia.

The Holland Prize honors an outstanding historic building, structure or landscape measured drawing prepared to the standards of the Historic American Buildings Survey, Historic American Engineering Record, or the Historic American Landscapes Survey.

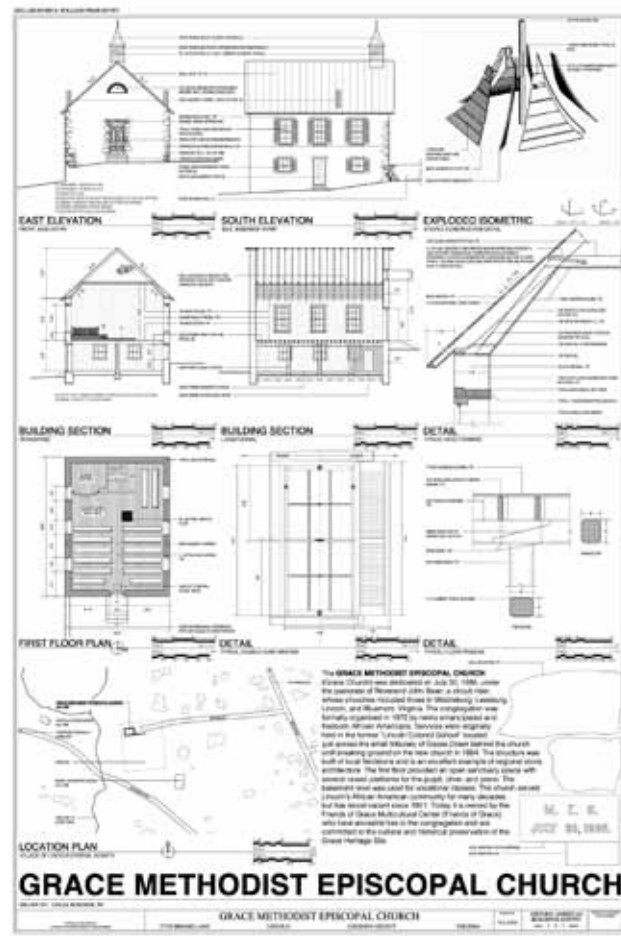
The Grace Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated on July 30, 1885, under the pastorate of the Rev. John Bean, a circuit rider, whose churches included those in Middleburg, Leesburg, Lincoln and Bluemont, Virginia. The congregation was formally organized in 1872 by newly emancipated and freeborn African Americans.

The church served Lincoln's African American community for many decades but has stood vacant since 1951. Today, it is owned by the Friends of Grace Multicultural Center, who have ancestral ties to the congregation and are committed to the cultural and historic preservation of the Grace Heritage site.

Burgher will receive a \$1,500 cash prize and a certificate of recognition, and plans donate his prize to the Friends of Grace Multicultural Center to assist in restoration efforts.

The Honorable Mention is awarded to Nate Cole and Devin Tabor, students at the University of Arkansas Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design for their submission of the Richard D. and Alma Brothers House in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

The Richard D. and Alma Brothers House, completed



in 1957, is among the earliest built works of Fay Jones. Jones is distinguished as an Ozark modernist and internationally renowned architect, and former apprentice to Frank Lloyd Wright.

Cole and Tabor will receive a \$500 cash prize and a certificate of recognition for this Honorable Mention award.

The Leicester B. Holland Prize recognizes the best single-sheet, measured drawing of a historic building, site or structure prepared to the standards of the Historic American Buildings Survey, the Historic American Engineering Record or the Historic American Landscapes Survey. It is an annual competition administered by the Heritage Documentation Programs of the National Park Service. The competition's jury recommends winners to the Center for Architecture, Design and Engineering in the Library of Congress Prints and Pho-

tographs Division, which supports the prize through the Paul Rudolph Trust. For information on how to participate in the Holland Prize competition, visit the National Park Service contest website.

The Holland Prize is intended to increase awareness, knowledge and appreciation of historic sites, structures and landscapes throughout the United States, and to encourage the submission of drawings by professionals and students. All drawings accepted for the competition will be added to the permanent collection in the Library of Congress. Images of Holland Prize drawings held in the Library's collection can be viewed at the National Park Service contest website.

The prize honors Leicester B. Holland (1882-1952). Holland was a fellow of the American Institute of Architects; chairman of the

See HOLLAND, Page 9



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  
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It's All Right/ Sentimental Reasons  
Ease My Troublin Mind  
Blowin in the Wind  
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# NDG Film Review: 'House Party' might make a solid new franchise

By Dwight Brown  
NNPA Film Critic

Bringing the '90s back is hard work -- so hard, this new "House Party" reboot only gets half the job done. But when it's on, it's on.

For those who were in a drug induced coma during 1990 (you know who you are), the duo Kid 'n Play (Christopher Reid and Christopher Martin) threw a "House Party" (HP) that brought hip hop joy to the masses. How popular was it? Three more HP films followed.

The event planners behind this '23 party remix are equally ambitious. They hired Grammy-winning music director Calmatic (real name Charles Kid II, winner Best Music Video for Lil Nas X's "Old Town Road") to helm a project written by Atlanta co-writers Jamal Olori and Stephen Glover. The pedigree is there. What about the attention to details?

Damon (Tosin Cole, "Till") and Kevin (Jacob Latimore, "The Chi") have been friends since childhood and losers forever. In Los Angeles, you're either rich or poor, and these struggling party promoters are broke bros. Their day-time grind is working for a house cleaning company -- swabbing toilets, sweeping up, dusting, throwing out the garbage... They dream big, but their game is small.

Kev is desperate to pay for his young daughter's



Tosin Cole, Jacob Latimore and cast in "House Party" (Courtesy photo)

tuition, and his baby momma pressures him to come up with \$10K. Typically, Damon (pretentiously pronounced da-MON) finds ways to solve Kev's problems but most often gets him into more trouble.

His not-so-smart idea this time? Why don't they throw a big, money-making, superstar-invited house party in the mansion they're currently cleaning? The owner will be gone for two weeks, they'll hire security, rope-off the fancy rooms and clean up. What could go wrong? For starters, the villa belongs to LeBron James—and his ego. Plus, someone could call the cops. Right?

The premise is ripe for comedy. The script sets the stage: challenges, solutions and worst possible outcomes. Quirky hip-hop characters are assembled, and they all blossom. Kev's lost love Venus (Karen Obilom, "Doom Patrol") is his boss at the cleaning service, and their sexual tension is

burning hot. Her gal pal Mika (Shakira Ja'nai Paye), a modern, quintessential soul sister (colored hair, fake eyelashes, long fancy fingernails), is onboard.

Add in a crazed DJ (comedian D.C. "Young Fly"), a spiritual advisor with ties to the Illuminati named Cudi (Scott Mescudi, a.k.a. Kid Cudi) and a nosy white neighbor (Andrew Santino) with a roaming pet Koala bear, and the casting is just crazed. Star-studded cameos (Mya, L.A. Lakers' Anthony Davis, Lil Wayne, Snoop Dogg, Odell Beckham Jr.) are icing on the cake.

All the good ingredients are in place. So, what's the rub? At 1h, 40m the footage is too long -- too many lapses and dead spots; too many scenes needed to be clipped to their core (editor Matthew Barbato, Dave). In a beginning sequence, three rival menacing party promoters (Rotimi, Allen Maldonado, Melvin Gregg) harass and beat up the boys.

get my gun!"

Calmatic is successful with sight gags, physical pranks and the dance offs in party scenes. Though the crux of the movie takes place at LeBron's place, the most outrageous wacky stuff comes in a sequence where Cudi takes the duo to an underground world, populated by weird Caligula-looking people. The debauchery, depravity and horrific violence on view are so funny viewers will lose their lunch, spill their drinks or gag on their weed. That's the frustration with this update. It could have been better, tighter, funnier and even more frenzied.

Problems with the script and direction aside, the production team is stellar. The colors pop (art director Frances Lynn Hernandez), the sets—from Damon's stanky room to LeBron's trophy man cave—greatly reflect Hollywood's rags or riches stories (production designer Scott Falconer; set decorators Laura Harper and Maya Levy). The clothes are ghetto hip, star chaser flashy or glamorous according to the characters (costumes by Derica Cole

Washington, Zola). Audiences will live for the music (music supervisor Keir Lehman, Queen & Slim; composer Oak Felder The United States vs. Billie Holiday). And it's all perfectly lit and shot (cinematographer Andrew Huebscher).

Cole and Latimore fit together well, and if their dialogue was shorter, they'd shine brighter. Obilom, Paye, Cudi and Santino make their marks and claim their turf too. Hard to believe LeBron James can hold down his part of the screen, but he does.

Overall, this movie knows how to talk to its demographics (young, urban and don't give a ----). If first-time feature film director Calmatic, the screenwriters and producers (including James) learn from their mistakes and achievements, audiences will R.S.V.P. to future House Parties—even if they're on streaming services and not in theaters.

In truth, this new HP didn't bring back the '90s. It's trying to funk up the 2020s!

In theaters January 13th.

## HOLLAND, from Page 8

institute's Committee on Historic Buildings; director of the Library of Congress Fine Arts Division; first curator of the Historic American Buildings Survey collection; co-founder of the Historic American Buildings Survey program; and the first chair of the Historic American Buildings Survey advisory board.

The Center for Architecture, Design and Engineering is a program in the Prints and Photographs

Division at the Library of Congress. It was established by a bequest from the distinguished American architect Paul Rudolph, who was a proponent of the art of architectural drawing. The program sponsors activities and publications to engage the public with the Library's rich collections. For more information, visit [loc.gov/rr/print/adecenter/adecent.html](http://loc.gov/rr/print/adecenter/adecent.html).

The Library of Congress is the world's largest li-

brary, offering access to the creative record of the United States — and extensive materials from around the world — both on-site and online. It is the main research arm of the U.S. Congress and the home of the U.S. Copyright Office. Explore collections, reference services and other programs and plan a visit at [loc.gov](http://loc.gov); access the official site for U.S. federal legislative information at [congress.gov](http://congress.gov); and register creative works of authorship at [copyright.gov](http://copyright.gov).



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## Race around White Rock Lake offers opportunities for training and racing

The Too Cold To Hold Half Marathon, 10K and 5k returns to White Rock Lake on Jan. 28. Hosted by the locally-owned and operated Run Project series, the event has dared runners to brave the chilly temps to earn hot times on a fast and flat course along Dallas' top running trail for more than 25 years. More than 2000 runners of all paces and experience levels are expected to take part.

"Our Too Cold To Hold Half is timed just right for runners headed to Cowtown and other early spring marathons around the country," said Run Project Owner and Fort Worth native Tanna Wood. "With



Miguel Amutio / Unsplash

nine events throughout the year, our series offers participants a chance to both race and train, creating mileposts on the way to their key goals for 2023."

The half marathon takes participants from Nor-

buck Park, down the west side of White Rock Lake, and back. Long-sleeve tech shirts, finisher medals, and custom bibs await those braving the cold, all adorned with icy imagery to match the winter theme.

Participants will have a chance to warm up at the post-race party with hot drinks and food, as well as a beer garden. The finish line festival also includes music from DJ Dame and an awards ceremony. Event photos are free and shared on Run Project's Facebook page.

The race has a converse sister event, the Too Hot To Handle Half Marathon, designed for participants to test their skills in summer weather set for July 15.

The event acts as a fundraiser for Girls on the Run DFW, which has 10,000 girls served in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex since 2004. Girls on the Run pro-

vides fun, evidence-based programs for elementary and middle school aged girls that build their confidence, kindness and decision-making skills through dynamic lessons that instill valuable life skills. Girls on the Run DFW Metroplex operates programs in Dallas, Collin, Tarrant, Ellis, Johnson, Rockwall, Kaufman, Grayson and Denton Counties.

The Too Cold to Hold Half Marathon is one of nine races held by the Run Project across North Texas. The events attract thousands of runners from across the metroplex, the state, and the nation, and raised tens of thousands of

dollars for local charities.

Run Project is Texas' and the southwest's premier race series. Run Project represents the top 2% of running events that are locally owned and operated in the Texas area. They are part of the Racing Systems, Inc family of brands. The brand is authentically local and globally minded, creating world-class, locally-owned events that benefit causes in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

For more information about Too Cold To Hold and the Run Project race series, visit [www.RunProject.org](http://www.RunProject.org) and follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

## 'Code Red (Anthem)' gospel video brings attention to gun violence in Black communities on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday

The world premiere of the powerful Gospel music video "Code Red (Anthem)" written by G-HARRIS817 was recently announced by Thizz.Tv. The film is set to bring attention to the pressing issue of gun violence in Black communities around the U.S.

Code Red (Anthem) is being released in conjunction with the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr holiday because he was a champion of nonviolence, and we believe that this video is a fit-



Courtesy photo

ting religious tribute to his legacy on the holiday that honors him.

The film, directed and produced by film director

Eric Williams, features a powerful performance by prominent Gospel praise & worship dancers and a cameo appearance by actor

Rodney Allen Rippey. The gospel music video sends a strong message of hope and healing through faith.

It is hoped that the recording will inspire people to take action and work towards a future where gun violence is no longer a code red emergency in our communities."

The lyrics of the song encourage viewers to call on the power of God to overcome the challenges and struggles of life, specifically the effects of gun violence. The video also

features testimonials from pastors who have been affected by gun violence, which serve as a powerful reminder of the human cost of this epidemic.

The video also highlights the need for gun control laws in America, a crucial step to address the issue of gun violence.

"The easy access to firearms in America is a major contributor to the high rates of gun violence, especially in communities of color. Strengthening background

checks and closing loopholes in the current system would help reduce the number of firearms in the hands of those who shouldn't have them. I know all too well, having lost two brothers to gun violence," said director, Eric Williams.

Code Red (Anthem) features speeches from community leaders and activists, as well as a call to action to support gun control measures and increase spirituality in their own lives and communities.

## RESEARCH, from Page 6

plored further through this interactive dashboard.

To engage in such comprehensive analysis, researchers will supplement internal Dallas College data with external data, specifically from the University of Texas at Dallas Education Research Center (ERC). The ERC houses select data from the Texas Workforce Commission, National Student Clearinghouse, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Texas Education Agency, as well as from partner independent school dis-

tricts in the Dallas College service area.

Beyond the current project, this strategic partnership creates ongoing relationships among education researchers and among K-12 districts, community colleges and universities—all leading to improved student outcomes and better serving the local and regional community.

Founded in 2021, within Dallas College's Student Success division, the Research Institute gives voice to the postsecondary educational needs of the Dal-

las College community and North Texas. The Institute helps evaluate access to education, the factors affecting it and its impact on social and economic mobility. Specific areas of research include regional educational attainment, student debt and return on investment (ROI), dual credit and college completion rates and long-term academic and workforce outcomes, some of which are detailed in an earlier release.

"This partnership supports our mission to conduct research to improve education policy and practice in the state of Texas,

said Dr. Trey Miller, TSP director and UT Dallas associate professor of economics, explains. By working directly with our partners at the Research Institute to identify some of Dallas College's most pressing challenges, and working collaboratively to build rigorous research studies to help address those challenges head-on, we are able to move the needle on our primary mission to improve education for students in Texas."

While many institutions across the country may engage with their states' holdings through data requests, most states do not recip-

rocate with true research collaborations. Therefore, even with robust data systems, community college leaders and researchers are often unable to access the extensive resources required for specific, actionable findings. Collaboration between researchers from the Research Institute at Dallas College and TSP will guide methods and analysis and allow both entities to clearly communicate actionable research results to education leaders.

Housed within the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas, TSP supports and

conducts high-quality research to improve academic achievement and teacher effectiveness, increase transitions to and success in postsecondary education and improve labor market outcomes of students in Texas and the nation.

Together, the Research Institute and TSP will conduct more robust quantitative research as well as qualitative research through dialogue with students and alumni, faculty, staff and administrators. The end results will inform strategic decisions for leadership at two-year and four-year institutions across the state.



## PRISONS, from Page 1

but I am not powerless anymore.

"The day I started to heal was the day that I could talk about what happened to me without being afraid."

Moore said a captain at Alderson, who had raped other inmates, began targeting her.

"He was a captain with total control over me. Once, a building officer ordered me to go to the captain's office. There was a secretary's office within the captain's office. But, when I arrived, there was no secretary," Moore recalled.

"The captain closed the door and raped me. On another occasion, the captain himself ordered that I come to his office. I had no choice but to obey.

"We always had to follow orders in prison. But, most importantly, I knew the captain could interfere with my transfer and prevent me from being closer to my family – closer to my daughter."

She continued:

"The captain also knew that I was aware that I was powerless and was aware that he could interfere with my transfer to be closer to my family and my daughter. He then explicitly reminded me of his control.

"In the office, he told me that he knew I wanted a transfer to another prison. He said, 'The paperwork goes through me.' He threatened that he would interfere with my transfer if I resisted. Other times, he sexually assaulted me in isolated areas of the prison. It is hard to explain how this felt fully.

"The captain, who already had complete control over my day-to-day life, was now enforcing that control over my body and using my desire to see my child to threaten me to stay silent. Finally, the captain made it clear that if I wanted a transfer, I had to accept the abuse."

In 2019, Captain Jerrod Grimes received a 10-year sentence for unlawfully engaging in sexual activity with female inmates at Alderson.

A bipartisan Senate investigation has revealed how the Federal Bureau of

Prisons had failed to address the problem of sexual abuse adequately.

In a new report issued by Senate investigators, dozens of witnesses, including survivors of sexual abuse, and former and current prison officials, laid out how rampant abuse is in federal lockups.

Wardens, guards, chaplains, and other prison workers have all been accused, charged, or convicted of sexually abusing prisoners.

Federal law prohibits sex between prison employees and prisoners, even if it's consensual.

Officials found that employees had abused female prisoners in at least 19 of the 29 federal facilities over the past decade.

In June 2021, the Department of Justice revealed that as of 2018, inmates reported 27,826 allegations of sexual victimization, or a 15% increase from 2015. Of the 27,826 allegations, 55% allegedly occurred at the hands of prison staff.

Managers in at least four prisons failed to apply federal law intended to detect and reduce sexual assault.

Further, officials said hundreds of abuse charges remain among a backlog of 8,000 internal affairs misconducts that haven't been investigated.

More than 5,400 allegations of sexual abuse made by female and male inmates against prison employees have been recorded over the past ten years.

MCC in New York, the Federal Correctional Complex Coleman in Florida, Metropolitan Detention Center Brooklyn, and Federal Correctional Institution Dublin, in California, were identified as sites where employees could target female inmates without fear of discipline.

A jury found Ray Garcia, the former warden at Dublin, guilty of seven charges of sexual abuse this month after prosecutors charged him with assaulting female inmates and forcing them to pose for nude photographs.

At least 17 current or former employees at Dublin were under investigation for

sexual abuse, including the prison's former pastor.

"Having experienced the jarring sexual abuse, I came to learn that officer-on-inmate sexual abuse is a pervasive issue throughout the BOP system, though rarely acknowledged in public," Richardson stated.

"I have learned that there are challenges in the criminal prosecution of the abusers, especially because officers often do not use overt threats or physical force to obtain sex with inmates, but rather a psychological manipulation and the inherent power dynamic as in my case."

Richardson continued:

"Even though BOP has a zero-tolerance policy toward sexual abuse, it is extremely difficult for inmates to step up and report the abuse. It feels that there is no real protection from the guards retaliating against you under a pretext or harassing you with their authority.

"Even when the abuse is reported, inmates are kept in the dark about the progress of the investigation, and the repeated questioning is jarring – and emotionally scarring to relive the trauma."

Brenda V. Smith, a law professor at the American University's Washington College of Law, said women in every penal system in the United States, including the federal system, have experienced unequal services and opportunities and physical and sexual abuse. Smith directs the Community Economic and Equity Development Law Clinic and serves as Director of the Project on Addressing Prison Rape.

"District of Columbia women prisoners were forced to trade sex in exchange for food, work opportunities, visitation, preparation of reports and recommendations to the court detailing their progress," Smith told the Senate committee.

"Women also challenged their lack of privacy, including cross-gender searches and viewing by male officers often while they were unclothed.

"Women complained of being viewed while disrobing or showering by the staff of the opposite gender."

Smith said women also have complained of intrusive pat searches, being importuned for sex, and having to trade sex for food, work assignments, visits with family, and completing paperwork for their probation, parole, or release from custody.

"There are common elements of vulnerability in each of these women prisoner's victimization. First, these women, as you know, often bring multiple well-known vulnerabilities into the correctional setting – past histories of childhood and adult physical and sexual abuse; poverty; involvement with powerful systemic actors like courts, child protection, housing, and immigration authorities that control their existence and their families' existence; fear and deprivation that is part of the custodial experience," Smith asserted.

"I could name many more elements, as could you. These factors create the levers of pressure that correctional staff can employ to ensure compliance with both legitimate and illegitimate requests."

mate requests."

She continued:

"Given this inequality of power, women bargain, capitulate, and comply even as they fear for their lives, their freedom, and often for their families.

"Combine these levers with a toxic culture, the forced compliance that is a part of the custodial environment, and powerful system actors who appear to be all-powerful and above rules, regulations, and indeed the law, women make a choice to survive even if survival means rape."

Georgia Democratic Sen. Jon Ossoff, who chaired the subcommittee, noted that the hearing counted as part of a two-year bipartisan effort to investigate conditions of incarceration and detention in the United States.

"From corruption at the U.S. Penitentiary Atlanta in Georgia to the Department of Justice's failure to count almost 1,000 deaths in custody across the country, to abusive and unnecessary gynecological procedures performed on women in

Department of Homeland Security custody," Ossoff stated.

"It is important to acknowledge that law enforcement professionals working in our prisons have among the hardest jobs in our country, and I believe the vast majority of BOP employees share our goals of ending sexual abuse once and for all in Federal prisons," Ossoff said.

"I also want to state for the record the subcommittee investigated sexual abuse of women in federal prison because of some of their unique considerations: women are more likely than male prisoners to have suffered from trauma and sexual abuse prior to incarceration, and particularly susceptible to subsequent abuse in a custodial setting. However, the subcommittee fully acknowledges that sexual abuse is not limited to female prisoners."

DOJ officials said they are in the process of overhauling policies that could allow for the compassionate release of inmate victims of prison employee sex abuse.



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## With 24% market share, fashion became the largest e-commerce segment in 2022

For the longest time, the electronics segment had brought in the most money in the e-commerce industry. However, the fashion segment in the e-commerce industry has recently emerged as the biggest in 2022. According to the numbers presented by SafeBettingSites.com, fashion e-commerce made \$871.2 billion and overtook electronics as the most significant e-commerce segment in 2022. Fashion accounted for 24% of overall e-commerce revenue.

In 2022, the entire e-commerce industry generated \$3590 billion, of which \$871.2 billion came



from the fashion segment. Thus, the fashion e-commerce industry accounted for 24% of the total revenue. In comparison, electronics made \$765.7 billion in revenue – 21% of overall revenue.

As the Statista report indicates, the fashion segment became the most significant revenue-generating e-commerce industry in 2022. Over the past year, e-commerce revenue took a dip following a period of

massive growth during the pandemic years. The past year was also the first year of negative growth in the e-commerce industry.

Some segments of the e-commerce industry were affected more than others in 2022. Until 2021, the electronics segment brought in the most revenue for online retailers. However, the revenue from the electronics segment took a big hit in 2022. The income from electronics dived from \$923.2 billion in 2021 to \$765.7 billion in 2022 – indicating a drop of 17%. In comparison, the revenue from the fashion segment only dropped from \$892.4

billion to \$871.2 – a decline of a mere 2%.

The e-commerce industry, including all its segments, is expected to recover in 2023. However, the fashion segment is expected to keep its hold in the e-commerce industry. In fact, the fashion segment is expected to outgrow the electronics segment even further in the coming years.

The share of the electronics segment is on the decline. When comparing revenues from electronics and fashion segments as shares of overall revenue, an interesting trend pops up. It is very evident that

the share of electronics e-commerce is constantly on the decline, while the percentage from the fashion segment somewhat remains constant.

The share of revenue from the electronics segment is expected to decline from 28.1% in 2017 to just 20.5% in 2025. Meanwhile, the share of fashion segment was 23.4% in 2017, and it is expected to be the same in 2025. Thus, it is safe to say that the road ahead is more treacherous for the electronic e-commerce segment when compared to the fashion segment.

## Women's Entrepreneurship event: How to identify and protect your intellectual property (IP) for business success

Join the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) next week for its Women's Entrepreneurship (WE) event on January 18 from noon until 12:00 p.m. central. The event will be hosted both virtually or in person at the Collier Museum at Government Center, Naples, Florida.

The USPTO will welcome leaders in the intellectual property (IP) community and women entrepreneurs who will share their stories and tips on why protecting IP—via patents, trademarks, copyrights, or trade secrets—is key to starting and maintaining a

successful business.

Confirmed speakers will include the Honorable Kate O'Malley (Ret.), U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; Of Counsel, Irell & Manella; Chrissybil Boulton, Founder, Jump Start Tutoring Center; Vaishali Udupa, Vice President, Associate General Counsel of Litigation, Hewlett Packard Enterprise; incoming Commissioner for Patents, USPTO; and Kathi Vidal, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO.

This event is part of the Women's Entrepreneurship Symposium (WES) event

series.

This series welcomes all entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs who are interested in learning more about succeeding in business, including information on identifying and protecting your intellectual property, securing options for funding, and expanding your network.

The USPTO and Department of Commerce (DOC) recently launched WE, a community-focused, collaborative, and creative initiative to inspire women and tap their potential to meaningfully increase equity, job creation, and

economic prosperity. WE includes a new, online hub for aspiring women entrepreneurs to obtain key information on how to get started, identifying and

protecting their IP, options for securing funding, and building and maintaining a network.

For more information, please visit the series page

on the United States Patent and Trademark Office's (USPTO) website. For questions about the initiative, contact [we@uspto.gov](mailto:we@uspto.gov).



### Check us out on Youtube!

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



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## Aviation engine industry event to bring market leaders to Big D

(EINPresswire.com) -- The aero engine community will gather in Dallas for Aviation Week Network's Aero-Engines Americas co-located with Engine Leasing, Trading & Finance Americas (ELTF), February 7-9 at the Hyatt Regency Dallas.

The events are part of Aviation Week Network's Aero-Engines series with annual conferences in Europe and Asia-Pacific, as well as the Americas.

Engine Leasing, Trading & Finance has a 20+

year history in Europe of bringing together a focused group of lessors, airlines, MROs, OEMs, suppliers, consultancies and financiers to discuss the complexities of the engine leasing market, and it was introduced to the Americas last year with great success. Aero-Engines Americas, happening February 8-9, is the largest event exclusively dedicated to the trends and issues related to the engine community. The combined three-day event will bring together more than 700 rep-

resentatives from airlines, MROs, OEMs, lessors, suppliers, financiers and consultancies.

Aviation Week Network is the largest multimedia information and services provider for the global aviation, aerospace, and defense industries, serving 1.7 million professionals around the world. Industry professionals rely on Aviation Week Network to help them understand the market, make decisions, predict trends, and connect with people and business opportunities.



# The City of Dallas presents the fourth annual Equity Indicators Symposium hosted at Paul Quinn College

The Office of Equity and Inclusion (OEI), in partnership with Communities Foundation of Texas will be hosting the Fourth Annual Equity Indicators Symposium. The hybrid event will take place in-person at Paul Quinn College from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 13, 2023, with a virtual livestreaming option. The Symposium will be centered around the recently adopted Racial Equity Plan (REP) aimed at addressing disparities found in the 2019 Dallas Equity Indicators Report. Residents, businesses, organizations, and other key stakeholders are invited to join the City

of Dallas to explore national trends, City goals and Equity practices in education and philanthropy.

The event will open with welcoming remarks from, Assistant City Manager Liz Cedillo-Pereira, and President of Paul Quinn College, Dr. Michael Sorrell. A video will also be shared from District 11 Councilmember and Chair of Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee Jaynie Schultz.

"This year's Equity Indicators Symposium is especially significant with the adoption of the Racial Equity Plan in 2022, which serves as the City's blueprint for the advancement

of equity," said Assistant City Manager Liz Cedillo-Pereira. "We are honored to be joined by local and national partners to align city, educational and philanthropic efforts to boldly address racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic disparities" said Cedillo-Pereira.

Speakers from national organizations will also be in attendance, including Living Cities, and National League of Cities. Panel discussions during Gallery Walk will educate on how to be a part of making Dallas the most Equitable City in the Country.

"I am thrilled to be part of the City of Dallas' 2023

Equity Indicators Symposium," said Living Cities Associate Director of Public Sector Innovation, Elizabeth Reynoso. "As part of our Closing the Gaps Network, Dallas is part of a vanguard group of cities that are transforming government policies, practices, and operations to create economic activity that benefits all their residents. From the adoption of their Racial Equity Plan to their financial commitment, and rigorous data tracking to accountability to residents, together the City's efforts demonstrate a commitment that other local governments should look to replicate if they want to close racial income and wealth gaps in their cities," said Reynoso.

Space is limited. To register for the free event, visit: [bit.ly/2023EquityIndicatorsSymposium](https://bit.ly/2023EquityIndicatorsSymposium).

The event will offer a limited livestream option of the Main Hall, including the welcoming remarks and

panel discussion from National Partners – Elizabeth Reynoso of Living Cities, and Denise Belser of National League of Cities. The Equity Rooted in Data panel will also be livestreamed.

Breakout sessions focused on equity in education and philanthropy will only be available with the in-person option.

## COVID, from Page 4

Once PHE ends, people enrolled in private insurance and the Affordable Care Act will once again have to pay co-pays for testing, vaccines, and treatments in the same manner they did before PHE. An estimated 27.5 million people in the U.S. are uninsured: they will have to pay for the full price for testing, vaccines, and treatments.

"In the new budget that just passed, the federal budget allows states to disenroll people from Medicaid at the end of the first quarter of 2023. When that happens, people can lose their Medicaid coverage which provides access to vaccines and treatments," said Rosenthal. Medicaid covers low-income people and older adults, who are most at risk for getting infected and sick from Covid. For example, Latino and Black adults who have had higher rates of workplace exposure to COVID have had higher rates of COVID and then eventually long COVID.

Dr. Oliver Brooks, Chief Medical Officer at Watts Healthcare, shared discourse on racial disparities

in Covid treatment. "So once again, there is disproportionate impact on vulnerable communities. It's very concerning not to have federal commitment to continue to respond to the pandemic because we don't know where it's going," she stated.

Some states, including California and Rhode Island, are looking at ways that they can automatically enroll people who are going to lose Medicaid coverage into low-cost marketplace plans. Oregon has developed a bridge health program, which will allow existing Medicaid members who earn a certain percent of the federal poverty level to stay enrolled in Medicaid, said Rosenthal.

Researchers from University of California San Francisco and UC Berkeley had some good news. They looked at breakthrough infections, reinfections, and people who had both in California prisons and published their findings last week. "The question that we were really wondering is what are the benefits from vaccination in terms of preventing the future

transmission of COVID," said Tan of UC San Francisco.

They couldn't find better test subjects than inmates living in close quarters whose movements are highly regulated. Researchers tested, traced infections and secondary cases, tracking the virus as it spread through the prison population.

Results showed that any type of vaccine had a 22% reduction in infectiousness;

one or two prior infections reduced it by 23%; inmates with both prior vaccination and prior infection had 40% reductions in their infectiousness.

"So, not only do vaccines ideally protect you from getting infected, but if you do get infected, we see that there's this hidden benefit that they are preventing and reducing the risk of you transmitting disease to other people," Tan said.



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# I screamed for ice cream and got in trouble

By James L. Snyder

Trouble is not my middle name, although it sure could be; just ask The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

I try to keep out of trouble, but my definition differs from my wife's. What she considers to be trouble is just about everything I do. I will not ask her how I can keep from doing what I do. I don't need that trouble.

If I could remember some of the trouble I've been in it probably could help me keep out of some new trouble. But of course, my "new trouble" is something I've done before, many times, according to someone in our house.

My thought is, and I am unanimous in this, without trouble, there is no real life.

If you don't get into some trouble, then something is wrong.

Sometimes, according to my experience, trouble is worth it.

Well, sometimes it's worth it.

One of my routines at night is to have a nice cold bowl of ice cream. I don't care what flavor it is because I've never had any ice cream that I didn't like. The one I like best is the one I'm eating at the time.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is very good at buying my ice cream and is always looking for coupons or BOGO, for which she is rather famous.

Not long ago, she came into the house excited and laughing, as I'd never seen her laugh before. It took a while for her to calm down, but when she did, I was able

to find out what she was all excited about.

At the one store where she usually gets groceries, she found, much to her surprise, ice cream that was buy one and get two free. Of course, that sure made her day, but it also made my day as well.

I wonder if that was a mistake, but if it was, she took advantage of that ice cream sale.

She's very cautious with how much ice cream I should eat. When she came home with this bargain, I tried to explain that this meant I could have twice the amount of ice cream as before.

When I said that, the smile on her face quickly evaporated, and looking at me, she said, "It does not mean anything of the sort. You will eat what ice cream

I give you, and that's all."

Well, you can't fault me for trying. If you don't try, how do you know something isn't going to work?

I was happy that we had a nice supply of ice cream just in case of any emergency. One emergency that I was thinking of was an overwhelming hunger for ice cream. According to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, this is not an emergency.

I am banking on the fact that because we have so many boxes of ice cream, I could sneak a bowl while she wasn't home, and she wouldn't know about it. After all, with all those boxes, how in the world can you keep count?

One day while she was away for the day, I broke into the freezer and got a nice cold bowl of ice cream.

It was one of the most delicious bowls of ice cream I've had in a long time.

Of course, I washed the dish and put it back into the cupboard to avoid leaving any evidence.

I was in my office doing a little bit of work when she came home, and within 10 minutes, I heard her yelling, "Did you sneak any ice cream from the freezer today?"

How she found out, I do not know. After all these years of marriage, I'm beginning to think she has a little ghost in the house keeping track of my movements. I can't prove it, but I'm starting to feel it.

Every night around 8 o'clock, she gets ice cream for the both of us. Mine in a bowl and hers in a cone. I wouldn't have it any other way.

One night after supper, I sat in the living room watching a little TV. I noticed the clock said 8 o'clock, the time for the ice cream. So I waited a few minutes, and still, no ice cream showed up.

She was busy in her craft room with some crafts, and I just thought she had forgotten what time it was. That always happens to me, but it rarely happens to her. She knows what time it is a half-hour before the time. Figure that out.

Thinking I could solve the problem, which was a ridiculous ploy on my part, I decided to tell her what time it was.

With my strongest outdoor voice, I yelled, "It's ice cream time. Yes, I'll have ice cream."

See SCREAM, Page 16

## MLK, from Page 3

over 6,000 patients, many (38%) having to travel to another state for abortion care.

In recent weeks, the FDA has approved allowing retail pharmacies to dispense the abortion pill. This is a huge victory in terms of access and reducing the time it takes to have the pill delivered by mail. Yet, we know that not every

pharmacy will be moving forward with dispensing pills due to the administrative barriers involved that most other medications do not require. So many pharmacies may not have the time or resources to offer the pills.

Over 67% of WRRAP's funding is for patients in their first trimester and having better access to

receive the pills is key in helping patients get the care they need and want.

While we will always honor Roe, our movement is now stronger and bigger than Roe. The midterm elections are proof that people continue to voice their opinion that abortion is a common and safe healthcare procedure and a decision to be made between a doctor and a patient – not any state or fed-

eral government.

This year on the anniversary of Roe we won't be celebrating, instead we will be pushing forward to dismantle this unjust system and to ensure ALL people have access to safe and legal abortions no

matter where they live.

*Sylvia Ghazarian is Executive Director of the Women's Reproductive Rights Assistance Project (WRRAP), a nonprofit abortion fund that provides urgently-needed financial assistance on*

*a national level to those seeking abortion or emergency contraception. She is an active Council member on the California Future of Abortion Council and past Chair of The Commission on the Status of Women.*

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# More famous quotes from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



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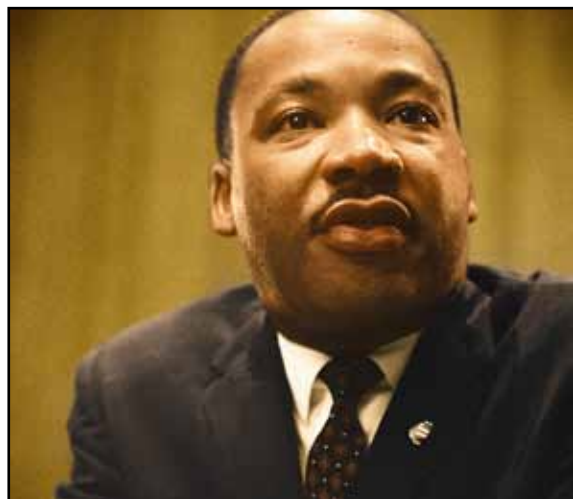
Lest we forget some of these inspiring words and quotes of Dr. King, remember the following:

"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 si-

lence of our friends."

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

See MLK, Page 16

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## NDG Book Review: 'Decent People'

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

It's a small world, isn't it?

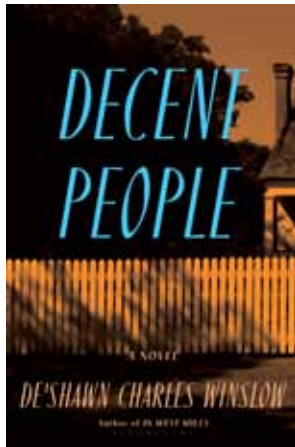
Someone you're acquainted with knows your old roommate's former girlfriend who used to work in your building but is now married to your aunt's babysitter's brother in Tupelo. Yeah, it's complicated and in the new novel, "Decent People" by De'Shawn Charles Winslow, it's twice as hard to untangle.

Josephine Wright had been around the block a time or two.

In her 60s, she'd been married and divorced twice and she'd had her share of affairs but she never met a man quite like Olympus "Lym" Seymore. She could see his heart, and Lym was a good man. Yes, he could lose his temper, but he wasn't like that and there was no way he could have killed his half-sisters or his half-brother like folks say he did.

It was 1976, and Jo had just moved to the small town of West Mills, North Carolina. She didn't know a lot of people there, but she was about to. Somebody had to clear Lym's name, because the local sheriff sure wasn't going to do it.

Eunice Loving should



have kept her mouth shut.

But no, she had to go and have an argument with Dr. Marian Harmon, whose idea of therapy for Eunice's son, La'Roy was to have him beaten up by Savannah Russet's boys. All Eunice wanted was for La'Roy not to be gay, and Marian said she could fix him. Eunice had words with Marian and now Marian was dead. People said Lym did that, and people liked to whisper.

Lovely blonde-haired Savannah Russet wanted to raise her boys in the town where she grew up but her racist father never stopped making that hard. He figured that Savannah's mistake was falling in love with a Black man; having children by him was even worse. And so Ted Temple had written Savannah out of his will – partly because his Mama insisted on it.

But few knew the truth: Ted had been sleeping with Marian Harmon for years....

At one point in this novel, author De'Shawn Charles Winslow mentions that there are about a thousand people in the small town of West Mills.

Seems like you meet them all.

But here's some help on that end: pay them no mind, most of them don't matter here. "Decent People" is overpopulated but it's really mainly about a triple murder and a handful of characters, every one of which is a sleuth and any one of which could be the killer. Still, this really isn't a mystery novel: while the stories revolve around the killing of three siblings, the whodunit seems secondary, as the finger-pointing and crime-solving happen mostly through gossip.

And Winslow's characters do like their gossip.

And that's also where the fun lies: watching the small-town mechanics unfold with a bit of dark humor kind of almost makes you wish the book wasn't going to end. Running out of pages in "Decent People" and having to leave West Mills feels like a let-down after immersing yourself in this wonderful small world.

### ← SCREAM, from Page 14

She came to the living room, looked at me, and said, "Did you hear that terrible noise just a few moments ago?"

Shaking her head she then turned around and walked back to her craft room, and to my disappointment, there was no ice

cream that night. So I was tempted to go to the freezer and get my ice cream, but I wasn't sure what kind of trouble I was in that night.

David seemed to understand this when he wrote, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1).

No matter what my trouble is, because God is my refuge I have nothing to worry about.

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### ← 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 personality 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."

(Editor's Note: This column originally ran in January 2015.)

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