



# North Dallas Gazette

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## Shop Talk: Bridging the gap between police and citizens

By Marland Mosley, Jr.  
Contributing Writer

It doesn't come as a shock that there's a standstill between law enforcement and people in different communities, including law-abiding citizens. In today's world, when most people see someone in a police uniform, or any uniform for that matter, they automatically assume that the police are there to inflict harm, tear families apart, or even wreak havoc on the communities they're policing. This all stems from the lack of trust, respect, community, and a lack of making people feel safe.

Even though we, as a people, will probably experience bad policemen and policewomen, there is still a beacon of hope that shines all throughout the Fort Worth community. In an interview, we dove in about the Shop Talk program and how it affects the individuals interviewed, people in the community, and how to bridge the gap between the police and the community. The interview included Eddie Pannell (Owner of the Faded Blue Barbershop Lounge), one Community USA owner, Tony Brinker, Chief of Police Neil Noakes, Deputy Chief of Community Roy Hudson, Deputy Chief Buck Wheeler, Commander Andre Smith, Assis-



A program that began between law enforcement and citizens in the local area is gaining attention, support, and expanding to other communities. (Courtesy photo)

tant Chief Joe Sparrow, and retired Officer Jon Pluckett.

Pannell started off to say, with Shop Talk, there's "no hold bars." Everything from politics, a problem a certain child may have, or if someone is foregoing a life-changing experience, Shop Talk provides a sense of family, camaraderie, and oneness towards each other. In fact, he says "I don't want them to be perfect...they can give their testament to help someone else."

Pannell says he was once one of those kids who needed a role model in his life, so he felt that it was only right for him to have "barbershop talk" about any and everything and incorporate people in the com-

munity as well. He went on to say that "Barbershops are a hospital." The Faded Blue Lounge is more than a barbershop. It is a haven for someone who doesn't have anyone to talk to. It's a place where people come to get talked off the ledge. And it's a place where everyone from all walks of life are welcome, including policemen.

Chief of Police Neil Noakes, an endorser of Shop Talk, is one of those officers who brings the police force and the barbershop together. As I've stated before, anytime someone sees the police, people in the community automatically assume the worst is about

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### People In The News ...



Sean XLG Mitchell



Yanique DaCosta

NDG Quote of the Week: "Racism isn't born, folks, it's taught. I have a two-year-old son. You know what he hates? Naps! End of list." — Dennis Leary



## Sean XLG Mitchell

(Black PR Wire) -- Sean XLG Mitchell has penned a new book for “woke” African Americans. “Afro-spirituality” is an African-centered and culturally enriched faith designed to address the problems in the Black community and to empower Black people in America and worldwide.

The author, well-known in the hip hop arena, says that he has been actively involved in working in the Black community for 30 years. In addition, he’s a former deacon and or-



dained minister who has studied African history from scholars, such as Dr. John Henrik Clarke, Ivan Van Sertima, and a host of others.

“Most races of people

have beliefs that are based on tradition, and culture is the centerpiece that unites and mobilizes the masses of their people,” stated Sean XLG Mitchell.

“I used this formula to create the faith.”

“Afrospirituality” is deeply rooted in ancestral principles and practices with a modern-day perspective on mindfulness that speaks to the advancement of faith in a contemporary world.

The work reflects a compilation of his experience and dedication.

“I think it’s important for us to do as much as we

can to contribute towards improving our lives and conditions,” says Mitchell.

“It’s not going to happen overnight, but it won’t happen at all if we don’t do anything to make the necessary changes to better ourselves.”

The practice centers on the development of culture, a significant factor in the unity of most races of people. Sean adds, “slavery interrupted our cultural continuity which created a divide among our people.

We must work together to recapture and reclaim it if we’re going to advance from where we are.”

“Afrospirituality” is a daily practice designed to uplift and empower the members of the Black community.

The book incorporates African history and achievements from ancient to modern times to include traditional ethics and guidelines. The practice shows a correlation between culture and power in all areas of life from education to economic growth with a focus on self-development.

About Sean XLG Mitchell. Sean XLG Mitchell is an author of half a dozen books, newspaper contrib-

utor, Hip Hop historian, artist, and activist. He is the first rapper to win a national music competition. He’s an accomplished rap artist, grass roots activist and scholar.

As a leading authority on the African American experience, Sean has worked extensively in the Black community. He is an ordained minister, a former deacon and is the creator of Afrospirituality. About the Book: “Afrospirituality” by Sean XLG Mitchell is available in eBook and paperback (ISBN-13:979-8389330801).

## Yanique DaCosta

MIAMI (Black PR Wire) – It’s yet another history-making moment when this sista steps up to serve as President of this prestigious group.

The Jamaican born graphic designer and businesswoman will discuss her motivational path to success as a recognized industry leader.

Yanique’s love of design began at an early age, as she remembers sketching, cutting, and painting everything in sight. She was on a quest to make a real impact, moving from one endeavor to the next, and her



efforts were rewarded with the role of Vice President of the International Council of Design.

“This woman is a go-getter,” says Camry. “Her work really speaks for itself, and all throughout our

discussion, listeners will savor the excitement and joy she brings to the table from her passion and love for her craft and skill. She #ROCKS! Black PR Wire’s Thrivin’ in Color podcast is a platform for inspiring Black and Brown people to share their stories of success inspiring the current and next generation of leaders major platforms, including Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

The first Black president of the Graphic Artists Guild, Yanique recently spoke with Thrivin’ in Color’s host, Camry Brown, for an intriguing and candid conversation on

Yanique’s natural born talent and all of the success it has brought her. Listeners from all over the globe will tune in and enjoy the jewels she’ll drop to inspire and empower.

Thrivin’ In Color, a podcast produced by Black PR Wire, features interviews with remarkable sistas and brothas from across the country who are doing extraordinary things in today’s society. Thrivin’ In Color takes us behind the scenes of their world, where we meet with them and pick up some golden nuggets for success.

Thrivin’ In Color podcast is available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify and all of your favorite podcast services.

Black PR Wire is the

nation’s first and largest online Black newswire distribution company and is a powerful leader in effective news delivery services. With a comprehensive database and listing of over 1,200 Black (African American, Caribbean and Haitian) organizations and media, Black PR Wire

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## Dr. Karen Stills

Dr. Karen Stills, vice chancellor of student success at Dallas College, has been selected to participate in the 2023-2024 class of the Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship, which begins in July. As a fellow, she will work closely with accomplished community college presidents, Aspen leaders and Stanford University faculty over the 10-month fellowship to further define and assess student success at Dallas College and clarify her vision for excellent and equitable outcomes for students.

Dr. Stills is an equity-minded leader dedicated to illuminating education as a catalyst for hope and oppor-



tunity. “I genuinely believe that community colleges are vehicles for transforming families’ lives,” she said. As a first-generation college graduate, she is passionate about ensuring success for all students, particularly those who have been historically marginalized and underserved.

With over 20 years of experience, Dr. Stills provides leadership for student success, guided pathways, career and transfer services, as well as degree audit at Dallas College. Her strategic initiatives focus on student persistence, completion, transfer and career development. Recently, she led Dallas College’s transformation from its system of more transactionally focused academic advisors to specially trained success coaches, geared to support the holistic needs of students and help them to overcome barriers to success in higher education.

Dr. Stills holds a bachelor’s degree in business

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# Civil rights Freedom Rides 2.0

By Arthur Fleming

In my inaugural article titled "We can't normalize the ending of American democracy," I presented seven strategies that we as the African American community can implement now.

The main goal of Freedom Rides 2.0 is to combat the bombardment of negative media marketing imagery and messaging about the African American communities. The main goal of "the Supreme Capitalist of America" is economic profits and political power, resulting in economic violence against our communities.

The African American communities must mobilize to push back against the fear-based racist culture war aimed at the African American diaspora without response.

In future articles, each of the seven points mentioned in my inaugural article will be explained in more depth, however this writing's focus is about how freedom rides 2.0 can work in 2023, and why its needed at this time to address the rise of fascism that has now spread across the nation and threatens the African American community directly.

The purpose and goals of Freedom Rides 2.0 is

to create communications infrastructure to facilitate ongoing educational system and programs and that create political and economic opportunities for our African American communities throughout the south.

By developing African American political, economic, and social power, independent of the "Democratic and Republican Parties," the African American communities can create a third way for African American self determination and aspirations.

The African American community is not helpless and without power, far from it. African Americans have over two trillion dollars in economic buying power in the American economy.

African American moral authority is a little used power rooted in our history of enslavement in America, where our ancestors developed survival skills and abilities that helped them through the most inhuman, brutal experiences known to modern man.

Because "our ancestors" refused to give up, they not only survived but thrived. This legacy has been passed on to all who are willing to honor the legacy with a commitment to community servant leadership.

The African American

"moral authority" is rooted in our ongoing struggle to hold America to its constitutional words, "that all men are created equal."

Freedom Rides Summer 2.0 will be a modern day version of the original freedom rides of the sixties with an expanded focus to include not only voter registration and education, but federal, state and local resource access to information, also civil rights, political rights, human rights, healthcare rights and educational rights information.

Freedom Rides 2.0 will also provide educational opportunities for the students that participate in Freedom Rides 2.0 program. Students will learn the value of not only their vote powers, but the value of their Black lives. Our children need to see us fighting for their lives.

The African American voter votes in a 90% plus Black block regardless of their socio-economic status. No other group does that. The African American communities must mobilize and increase those numbers to create an economic benefit for the African American community.

African American moral authority combined with the 90% plus Black block vote provides the build-

ing blocks around which we can build a resistance movement in response to the "anti-woke politicized CRT atmosphere" created by those who wish our beloved community ill.

Freedom Rides 2.0 will also serve to remind and revive the old schoolers who thought our current battles were won long ago.

It's time for African American elders of wisdom, experience and leadership to stand up and take their place in what could be the final battle of the American civil war to end "the enslavement of our collective minds." -- The third reconstruction.

Finally, Freedom Rides 2.0 will send the message of urgency throughout the African American communities and provide a spark of urgent energy into Black community that will facilitate our strategies and infrastructure programs.

Clearly, African American communities are under attack from serious fascist forces in the State of Texas and America. This moment requires the African American communities leadership to respond and act accordingly. "This is not a drill. This is real."

To quote Howard University Black history professor Greg Carr, "Let's dance!"

## On the resignation of Susan Rice

By President Joe Biden

I surprised a lot of people when I named Ambassador Susan Rice as my domestic policy advisor. Susan was synonymous with foreign policy, having previously served as national security advisor and United Nations ambassador. But what I knew then and what we all know now – after more than two years of her steady leadership of the Domestic Policy Council – it's clear: There is no one more capable, and more determined

to get important things done for the American people than Susan Rice.

Thanks to her tireless efforts, we expanded and strengthened the Affordable Care Act, released a comprehensive national mental health strategy, and finally enabled Medicare to negotiate lower prescription drug prices for seniors and cap the cost of insulin at \$35. We've taken historic actions to reduce gun violence and advance police reform. We are addressing our failed approach to mar-

ijuana. We have embedded equity into the work of the entire federal government. We are making college more affordable and accessible and providing student debt relief. We are increasing access to high quality child care and long-term care. We have committed to a bold national strategy to end hunger and reduce diet-related disease by 2030. We reversed the harmful immigration policies of the previous Administration, reunified more than 670 children separated

from their families, and rebuilt the broken system of care for unaccompanied children, putting their safety and well-being first and foremost.

The list goes on, and it would not have been possible without Susan.

As the only person to serve as both national security advisor and domestic policy advisor, Susan's record of public service makes history. But what sets her apart as a leader

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# New study challenges 'good' cholesterol's role in universally predicting heart disease risk

A National Institutes of Health-supported study found that high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, or "good cholesterol," may not be as effective as scientists once believed in uniformly predicting cardiovascular disease risk among adults of different racial and ethnic backgrounds.

The research, which published in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, found that while low levels of HDL cholesterol predicted an increased risk of heart attacks or related deaths for white adults, a long-accepted association, the same was not true for Black adults. Additionally, higher HDL cholesterol levels were not associated with reduced cardiovascular disease risk for either group.

"The goal was to understand this long-established link that labels HDL as the beneficial cholesterol, and



if that's true for all ethnicities," said Nathalie Pamir, Ph.D., a senior author of the study and an associate professor of medicine within the Knight Cardiovascular Institute at Oregon

Health & Science University, Portland. "It's been well accepted that low HDL cholesterol levels are detrimental, regardless of race. Our research tested those assumptions."

To do that, Pamir and her colleagues reviewed data from 23,901 United States adults who participated in the Reasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke Study (REGARDS). Previous studies that shaped perceptions about "good" cholesterol levels and heart health were conducted in the 1970s through research with a majority of white adult study participants. For the current study, researchers were able to look at how cholesterol levels from Black and white middle-aged adults without heart disease who lived throughout the country overlapped with future cardiovascular events.

Study participants enrolled in REGARDS between 2003-2007 and researchers analyzed information collected throughout a 10- to 11-year period. Black and white study participants shared similar characteristics, such

as age, cholesterol levels, and underlying risk factors for heart disease, including having diabetes, high blood pressure, or smoking. During this time, 664 Black adults and 951 white adults experienced a heart attack or heart attack-related death. Adults with increased levels of LDL cholesterol and triglycerides had modestly increased risks for cardiovascular disease, which aligned with findings from previous research.

However, the study was the first to find that lower HDL cholesterol levels only predicted increased cardiovascular disease risk for white adults. It also expands on findings from other studies showing that high HDL cholesterol levels are not always associated with reduced cardiovascular events. The REGARDS analysis was the largest U.S. study to show that this was true for both Black and

white adults, suggesting that higher than optimal amounts of "good" cholesterol may not provide cardiovascular benefits for either group.

"What I hope this type of research establishes is the need to revisit the risk-predicting algorithm for cardiovascular disease," Pamir said. "It could mean that in the future, we don't get a pat on the back by our doctors for having higher HDL cholesterol levels."

Pamir explained that as researchers study HDL cholesterol's role in supporting heart health, they are exploring different theories. One is quality over quantity. That is, instead of having more HDL, the quality of HDL's function -- in picking up and transporting excess cholesterol from the body -- may be more important for supporting cardiovascular health.

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# End of the public health emergency has little affect on state and local use of ARPA fiscal relief funds

By Dave Kamper

Congress recently passed H.J.Res.7, a resolution that formally ends the public health emergency declared at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. This termination is effective as of April 10 and signals the end of certain programs put in place over the past three years, including important measures related to Medicaid and health insurance.

However, the resolution will largely not affect the ability of state, local, territorial, and tribal governments to spend the close to \$200 billion in unspent State and Local Fiscal Re-



Courtesy photo

covery Funds (SLFRF) allocated by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

State and local governments will still be able to use remaining SLFRF dollars to make transformative investments to enhance equity and support working families and communities.

It's not unreasonable to wonder if the official end of the public health emer-

gency will limit the uses of SLFRF. References to the pandemic state of emergency appear throughout SLFRF's enabling legislation and its final rule, which makes clear that the funds must be used "to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts."

Thankfully, clear new guidance issued this month by the U.S. Treasury Department clarifies that governments can and should continue to use SLFRF dollars for originally intended purposes. As the guidance says, "recipients generally will be able to continue to make investments using

their SLFRF funds without changes."

The end of the public health emergency does not mean the impacts of the public health emergency have gone away, and SLFRF was intended to address those impacts. State and local governments will still have until Dec. 31, 2024, to make spending decisions on SLFRF, and until Dec. 31, 2026, to make expenditures.

There is one exception to how state and local governments can use SLFRF dollars. One of the allowed uses of SLFRF is to provide premium pay to low-wage workers who

performed essential work during the pandemic. Premium pay (often called hazard pay or hero pay) is an effective tool to support low-wage workers and their families who kept our economy and health care systems afloat during the pandemic. Premium pay is still an eligible use of the funds; however, because premium pay can only be allocated for work performed "during the COVID-19 public health emergency," premium pay can only apply to work done between Jan. 27, 2020, and Apr. 10, 2023.

The Treasury Department's rules still allow for

many options to use SLFRF to support low-wage workers, including allocating funds toward retention and recruitment bonuses for public-sector employees, paid leave to workers, and direct economic assistance to workers impacted by the pandemic. As such, the limitation on premium pay should not pose too great an inconvenience to state and local governments.

The Treasury guidance should allay any concerns that policymakers or advocates may have about allowed uses for the funds.

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# Biden's re-election announcement to test resolve of Black voters

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

The news that President Joe Biden will seek re-election has many curious about how well he will perform among African American voters.

According to the results of a recent poll conducted by TheGrio and KFF, black people had a positive opinion of both Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris.

There remains some debate among Black Americans about whether or not they will support Biden for president in 2024.

According to the results of the poll of one thousand Black voters who were reg-



Even among Black voters, there's a wide range of viewpoints about the question of whether Biden should be the nominee.  
(Gayatri Malhotra / Unsplash)

istered between August 24, 2022, and September 5, 2022, 69% of respondents were pleased with Biden's performance. When asked whether the

Democrats should select someone other than Biden in the next presidential election, 58% of Black voters answered that they would rather see another candidate run than Biden.

Additionally, the results of the survey suggested that an astounding seventy percent of Black voters would cast their ballots for Harris if she were to run for president, revealing the possibility that African Americans would offer more support to Harris than Biden.

Further, there remains a greater degree of disagreement among Black voters who identify as Democrats or who lean toward the party.

The poll reveals a con-

sensus among respondents (49%) that the party ought to put forward Biden as its candidate for another term.

The remaining half of voters have indicated that they would want the Democrats to select a different candidate for president in 2024.

Even among Black voters, there's a wide range of viewpoints about the question of whether Biden should be the nominee.

Those under the age of 50 and those who lean Democratic are more likely to seek a different candidate than those over the age of 50 who want Biden to run for a second term.

This is especially true of Black Democrats.

Fifty-seven percent

of Black Democrats and Democrats-at-heart aged 50 and over want Biden as the nominee, however only 42% of all Democrats and Democrats-at-heart want the party to choose someone else.

Meanwhile, the Republican Party has struggled to win Black voters, and the poll shows that this pattern hasn't changed.

The anger and obstruction that Republicans have shown toward Barack Obama throughout the years, in addition to their resistance to a voting rights law in Congress, make gaining the Black vote an uphill battle for the GOP.

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## Intelligence document leak on Discord raises questions about security concerns and online gaming communities

(Newswise) Discord, a chat platform originally built for online gaming, is now the subject of intense scrutiny after intelligence documents were leaked, allegedly by a member of the military.

James Ivory, a Virginia Tech professor who researches social media and video game use related to military simulations and links to political extremism and intelligence risks, said Discord has become a very mainstream platform for individual and community messaging.

"The fact that Discord is primarily used for privacy groups and community conversations rather than public posts introduces security concerns because the privacy of its groups may give the false illusion that



material shared in closed forums will stay in those closed forums," Ivory said.

Ivory said the incident underscores a virtually impossible task of monitoring the online activities through spaces like this. "As we have seen in this case, what starts private may not stay private, but it may certainly be easy for people in closed online groups on Discord to have the false belief that

what they share, will stay there."

For the intelligence community, online gaming platforms have been identified as a security concern for more than a decade, so U.S. intelligence as well as other entities have long been active in these communities. "That intelligence activity, by actors with both good and bad intent regarding global safety and security,

will no doubt continue and intensify in the private groups of Discord as well as other online communities," Ivory said.

When asked about gaming communities becoming a place for young, disaffected military members to gather, Ivory agreed that there is certainly evidence that gaming communities focused around military simulation games are often also environments where political extremism flourishes.

"There are a lot of online gaming communities with a heavy focus on military technology and procedures, and privileged information will gain a lot of attention and credibility in such communities," Ivory explained. "As long as we have young people working in defense

with access to classified intelligence information who are involved in these small online communities and private discussion groups, the temptation will be there to share information to gain clout—even though the consequences for both them and the people affected by the leaks are extremely serious."

New details surrounding the leak are still coming out, but Ivory's research in this field indicates there are a lot of young men, both civilians and those in active duty, interested in military culture who are very active in gaming and in online communities where extreme views are shared.

"This leak is much broader in scope, but we certainly

have a precedent of online groups related to military simulation being places where extreme views and sensitive documents are shared—and they spread from there," said Ivory.

James Ivory is a professor in the School of Communication at Virginia Tech. His primary research interests deal with social and psychological dimensions of new media and communication technologies, particularly the content and effects of video games, virtual environments, and simulations. In particular, much of his research focuses on the content and effects of technological features of new entertainment media, such as video games.

## SHOOTING, from Page 1

SLFRF dollars should continue to be used to support transformative investments that support working families.

Dave Kamper is senior state policy coordinator for the Economic Analysis and Research Network (EARN)

at Economic Policy Institute. He believes that worker power and racial equity are necessary components to a healthy democracy. His work focuses on the Midwest, helping to bring together policy thinkers and grassroots leaders to

build collaborative relationships that empower communities in America's heartland to obtain the justice they deserve.

Prior to joining EPI in 2021, Kamper worked for 20 years in the labor movement in Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Minnesota, most recently for the Minnesota

Association of Professional Employees (MAPE). He is Board Chair of the New Brookwood Labor College and is part of the editorial collective of The Forge, a journal of organizing strategy and practice. He writes regularly on labor issues for progressive publications.

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# Recent poll shows Texans support raises for teachers

AUSTIN (TSTA) -- Most Texas voters want the Texas Legislature to address the teacher shortage by enacting an across-the-board pay raise for all teachers, not so-called merit pay for a select few, said Texas State Teachers Association President Ovidia Molina.

In a bipartisan poll conducted for TSTA earlier this session, 81 percent of voters said a teacher pay raise was one of their top priorities. This included 53 percent of Republican voters, 52 percent of Republicans in swing districts and 64 percent of rural Republicans.

In the same poll, 65 percent of voters said the pay raise must be statewide across-the-board for all teachers, not for just a few based on STAAR scores. This included 44 percent of Republicans, 61 percent of Republicans in swing



Kenny Eliason / Unsplash

districts and 52 percent of rural Republicans.

The Teacher Vacancy Task Force appointed by Gov. Abbott and the education commissioner also concluded that compensation was the top issue for addressing the teacher shortage. In its report, it pointed out the need for lawmakers to pay for a "significant increase" in overall teacher salaries by increasing the basic allotment and other state funding mechanisms, he said.

Most Texas voters support raises for all teachers, explains Molina. TSTA, asserts, pay raises must be substantial. Molina said the organization is calling for a minimum increase of \$10,000.

In a state where the average teacher pay lags \$7,500 behind the national average, the Legislature is working with a \$33 billion surplus. The funding is there, Molina explains. "The political will should be there too," he said.

Meanwhile, Texas ranked 40 on recent analysis of U.S. states based on their education levels. The ranking by WalletHub researchers, based its overall score while comparing 18 metrics, including educational attainment, school quality in the analysis, reported San Antonio Current. The analysis also considered achievement gaps between genders and race.

Despite the low ranking, Texas ranked 17 in quality of education, a category that considered number of enrolled students in top universities per capita, number of Blue Ribbon Schools per capita, average quality of universities, and other factors.

Texans' average level of education ranks low compared to other parts of the nation, putting the state second to last when it comes to the share of the population

over 25 with a high-school diploma, San Antonio Current reports.

According to Statista, approximately 21.2% of Texans aged 25 and older hold a Bachelor's degree, while only 24.6% have a high school diploma or equivalency as their highest level of education.

Molina says the organization is seeking pay increases for support staff, who are undeservedly underpaid. This can be done by increasing the basic allotment to provide districts with the funds to raise pay for bus drivers, cafeteria workers and other employees, he explained.

TSTA is a movement to change the way public schools, their students and employees are treated. Our mission statement says it best: "The Texas State Teachers Association will unite, organize and em-

power public education advocates to shape public education in Texas thus providing a quality public school for every child."

Founded in 1880, we are the Texas affiliate of the National Education Association, 3.2 million members strong. Our seven-story headquarters building is one block from the Capitol at 316 West 12th Street, Austin 78701. Call us at (877) ASK-TSTA or (512) 476-5355. The organization boasts a team of dedicated educational policy experts to represent the interests of TSTA members and students at the State Board of Education, State Board for Educator Certification and the Texas Education Agency. Here we'll post recent testimony that we've presented to these agencies, and to interim House and Senate committees.

## Limited resources leave youth vulnerable to digital abuse

ITHACA -- (Newswise) Youth in the U.S. are targets of cross-platform digital abuse from peers, strangers, offline acquaintances and even relatives, with threats ranging from harassment and sexual violence to financial fraud, according to a new study from Cornell University and Google researchers.

Aided by firsthand accounts, researchers identified the need for more resources to educate youth and parents on digital abuse. They call for better communication and coordination among adult stakeholders in implementing sound protective practices.

"We really need to take a closer look at the types of things that young people



Cut in a moment / Unsplash

are experiencing online, because these experiences are not just child problems anymore," said Diana Freed, a doctoral student in the field of information science at Cornell and lead author of the study. "Young people are experiencing what are typically thought of as adult issues, like financial fraud

and sexual violence."

Just as today's youth live and seamlessly move between offline and online worlds, threats often follow them from platform to platform, said Natalie Bazaro, professor of communication and director of the Cornell Social Media Lab.

"The porousness of bar-

riers between digital platforms and online and physical worlds underscores how easily threats can escalate by crossing social contexts and amplifying harms," she said.

While kids navigate complex and sometimes risky digital lives, for parents and educators alike, there are few formal options for support and resources to educate themselves and kids on potential online harms, researchers found.

"Whether it was the teachers or the parents, they didn't really understand exactly what social media applications young people were using, let alone how to address the problems," Freed said.

In many instances, par-

ents' knowledge about the platforms their kids frequent was limited to information pulled from quick web searches or conversations with friends.

"Some parents would tell us, 'Online gaming is very safe, but a particular social media app is not safe.' But is there an open chat on the gaming platform? Can anyone join it? Do you know who your kids are communicating with?" Freed said.

"Well-meaning parents can have a very difficult time understanding what questions to ask their kids to improve safety."

Among their recommendations, researchers call for better educational resources. For instance, more robust digital safety

educational programs and more accessible, actionable resources for educators might include Social Media Test Drive, a Cornell-led project that Bazaro co-founded and directs. Other recommendations include improving digital-abuse reporting processes on online apps and platforms.

"We may assume, because they're digital natives, that kids will just know how to protect themselves online," Freed said. "That's leaving a lot on young people, families and schools."

The study will be presented at the Association for Computing Machinery CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems this month.

## STILLS, from Page 2

management from the University of New Orleans, a Master of Business Administration from Amberton University, and a doctorate from San Diego State University's Community Col-

lege Leadership Program.

"What is special about the Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship is that it brings student success, equity, and transformational leadership together," said Dr. Stills.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn from the lived experiences of college presidents who have done meaningful work. I'm hoping to leverage this experience to strengthen my skill sets to become a better leader for my team and for

the students and community we serve."

Stills will join 34 fellows from around the country who represent the next generation of college leadership. Selected through a competitive process, this year's cohort of Aspen fel-

lows is 74% women and 60% people of color. They will join a network of over 300 forward-thinking peers—155 of whom are sitting college presidents.

"Each cohort of the Rising Presidents Fellowship is different," said Josh Wyner,

executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. "And what they all share is a passion to advance excellence and equity in student outcomes and the commitment to ensure that the colleges they lead continuously improve."



# Irving IT wins accolades for 'Smart' project

Kudos to the City of Irving Information Technology (IT) Department, which has been named a winner in IDC Government Insights' sixth annual Smart Cities North America Awards (SCNAA). Irving's IT Department was recognized in the Next-Generation Emergency Services category for the city's early adoption of Motorola's Critical Connect solution. Winners in the SCNAA illustrate best



City of Irving

practice examples of how forward-thinking municipalities are effectively le-

veraging technology and innovation to offer sustainable, new services and

economic opportunities to meet the needs and expectations of diverse communities.

This innovative, cutting-edge technology allows Irving's first responders, as well as agencies that are part of the regional network, to access the city's Land Mobile Radio (LMR) system through push-to-talk. The system enhances interoperability by providing the capability for

Irving's LMR system to connect with other systems anywhere in the country. While there are other push-to-talk solutions available, Critical Connect was selected because it provides enhanced security and mission critical availability.

The project is part of Irving Connects, the City of Irving's Smart Cities program, under the Safety pillar of Enhanced Emergency Response. The goal

is to enhance emergency responses, minimizing the threat to life and property.

Irving Connects focuses on using data and technology to improve government efficiency, bolster economic development and enhance overall quality of life in Irving. This program allows the city to focus on using data and technology to address pressing challenges.

## Mayor Johnson names Garrett Boone as Greening Czar

Mayor Eric L. Johnson on Tuesday named Garrett Boone the City of Dallas's first-ever Greening Czar. Boone will lead Mayor Johnson's priority initiative to transform vacant, unused, and underused City-owned land into green space.

This announcement supports a bigger dream of Mayor Johnson, "A dream of a greener and greater Dallas for all!"

Boone, Co-Founder & Chairman Emeritus of The Container Store, is a successful entrepreneur, environmentalist, conservation-

ist, and philanthropist.

For decades, he has championed transformational park projects across Dallas. He serves on a variety of boards of organizations leading efforts in Dallas to protect the environment and create beautiful outdoor gathering spaces, including The Boone Family Foundation, the Trinity Park Conservancy, and Greenspace Dallas.

"I selected Garrett Boone because of his unmatched passion for green spaces," Mayor Johnson said. "I respect him immensely and trust he will bring the right

stakeholders to the table to determine the highest and best uses of available parcels of city-owned land in Dallas — be it transformation into a playground, sports court, pocket prairie, community garden, or traditional park."

In March 2023, Mayor Johnson appointed Boone chair of the City of Dallas's Parks & Trails Subcommittee formed as part of the 2024 Bond Program development process — a position the mayor said will complement Boone's new role.

As Greening Czar, Boone

will review the inventory of city-owned land that Mayor Johnson requested Dallas City Manager T.C. Broadnax produce in November 2022 following his State of the City Address. Boone will be responsible for developing a plan to transform properties on the list into enhanced green spaces. The mayor said he will

rely on Boone to develop a vision and then identify the public and private resources required to achieve meaningful results soon.

"I look forward to working with Mayor Johnson, the residents of Dallas, and local partners to create the most park-laden city in the world," Boone said. "Dallas is full of natural beauty

hidden in plain sight. This initiative will help elevate neighborhoods."

During the news conference, Ray Garvin, The Trust for Public Land's Texas Director of Philanthropy, praised Boone's support for "big, bold projects" like the Five Mile Creek Greenbelt,

See GREEN, Page 8

## Abounding Prosperity to honor the memory of recently passed founder

Several services have been planned to celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Kirk Myers-Hill.

Kirk Myers-Hill founded Abounding Prosperity, Inc. in 2005 and was a tireless advocate for the health and wellness of the Black family, particularly Black LG-BTQ+ community members in Dallas. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Abounding Prosperity, Inc. via the website at [aboundingprosperity.org](http://aboundingprosperity.org).

Please see the full schedule below:



Visitation  
Thursday, April 13, 2023  
5 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
The Hall of State at Fair Park  
3939 Grand Avenue,

Dallas, TX 75210  
Funeral Service  
Friday, April 14, 2023  
11 a.m.  
Cathedral of Hope  
5910 Cedar Springs Road, Dallas, TX 75235  
Celebration of Life Party  
Friday, April 14, 2023 8 p.m. – 12 a.m.

Thrive  
1015 Elm Street, Dallas, TX 75202

This celebration party honoring the life of Kirk Myers-Hill is free and open to the public.

vice, her counsel and her friendship. I will miss her.

I also want to thank her husband Ian and her children Jake and Maris for yet again sharing Susan with us.

action and results, and the integrity, humility and humor with which she does this work.

I thank Susan for her ser-

## RICE, from Page 3

and colleague is the seriousness with which she takes her role and the urgency and tenacity she brings, her bias towards

**HIT THE TARGET.**

**VOTE FOR MARGARET**

FOR PISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES, PLACE 4

POL. ADV. PD FOR BY MARGARET TURNER-CARRIGAN FOR PISD BOARD

**EARLY VOTING**

**APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup> UNTIL MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2023**

**ELECTION DAY**

**MAY 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

**ELECT Margaret Turner-Carrigan**

Pol. Adv. Pd. by Margaret Turner-Carrigan for PISD4.



# 'Shop Talk,' expressing oneself through art

By Marland Mosley, Jr.  
Contributing Writer

It can be extremely hard for someone, civilians in particular, to express themselves without having a sense of fear and anxiety. There are many instances where someone might express how they're feeling, and the end result is the person feels less than or like they don't belong in their community, or even the world. Expression can be looked at as someone telling a story or conveying a message towards someone. Whether it's good or bad, you should be allowed to express yourself, because someone else might feel the same way as you.

Even though there are some who look down on others, there is a space where people you can come and be free and express yourself without any consequence. In an interview with Irving Police Officer Brandon Porter, Jimmy McGee (owner of 1Nice Cut Barbershop) artist Trey Wilder, Bharathi Dev, Lakeem Wilson, Liffort Hobley, Kat Warwick, and Sumi Srikanth, unpack what it's like for people in a community to express themselves.

Jimmy McGee, owner of 1Nice Cut Barbershop, and advocate for Shop Talk, says he believes bringing people together is his super power. He was a little hesitant to work with the police because of the uncertainty and uncomfortableness that lies within the inner communities, but once he took



a chance on the Irving Police Department, it became easier to involve himself with them. He also says that there aren't enough answers to the questions being asked by young African American men today.

Brandon Porter became an advocate for Shop Talk because he understands the importance of the citizens of Irving and other communities to come together with police and collide. He explains he has been involved in law enforcement for nine years in Pine Bluff, Ark, where the relationship with the community wasn't there. He explains that the kids there feel their only options are go to jail, or work in the city's factories. Porter says the barbershop is a focal point of the community because it's where people have reservations about life, express how they feel, and have a sense of togetherness. While it's never easy for law enforcement and the community to come together, Shop Talk can be an inspiration for you to get involved in your

communities and to feel less alone in life's journey.

Speaking of inspiration, artist Trey Wilder always tries to inspire others. He put together a piece called "Dream Flight," symbolizing that people always have to dream. At first glance, you just see a boy with a helmet on looking up, but if you look deeper, it can be interpreted as you need to dream big, probably dream more, or even just dream. The "Dream Flight" piece can symbolize hope, prosperity, and confidence that you can do anything you put your mind to. Wilder's motto is always to stay inspired and be an inspiration for others. Throughout his art, you can see how much of an inspiration he is to the community. He also said something that was intriguing, "When you stop learning, you die." This isn't saying that you die physically, but mentally, as in your mind stays stagnant, and you're not constantly evolving, not reaching higher heights. Wilder embodies a lot of



what Shop Talk represents, he expresses his thoughts through his artwork, he's being an inspiration for the community, and he is making an impact on the barbershop.

1Nice Cut Barbershop was one of the first places to endorse Shop Talk, because of Jon Pluckett. He got his start as a police officer in Memphis, Tenn. 23 years ago. As he was working there, he noticed that there was a disconnect between police officers and kids. In 2015, he joined Tony Brinker, founder of One Community USA, to help bridge the gap between law enforcement and citizens. One Community USA makes plans to take Shop Talk national because it is a widespread problem. To be able to walk into dif-



ferent barbershops to get law enforcement involved positively in the community, you'll surely bring hope for a more peaceful community.

Another artist, Bharathi Dev, expresses hope all throughout her work. Her artwork is tailored to a lot of African American children, though she is of Indian descent. One of her pieces "Your Life is in Your Hands" actually symbolizes hope and perseverance. The piece is an African American girl using a sculpture to create something. Dev tells us that we're in control over our lives. We control our destiny, and we're the sculptor of our lives. She also has another piece, "Make A Wish," inspired by her younger daughter, Moksha,

that also inspires hope, and the dreaming of your life into existence. She wants to be an inspiration towards others and to be that ray of hope for younger children. Her artwork hangs up inside 1Nice Cut Barbershop, open for anyone to see.

Expression and Shop Talk go hand-and-hand, in a sense of that you have the freedom to express yourself and voice your opinions in any shape or form.

The shop's owner, McGee, said he used to feel it was weird working with the police, because of the stigma they had, and even where he grew up, in New Orleans. He describes that in 1994, New Orleans was once called the murder capital, where people from left and right were gunned down all because there were certain resources that were closed off to the kids. And when you close off certain opportunities from kids, sometimes you leave them no choice but to gravitate towards violence. Shop Talk and expression coincides with one another in a sense that you're free to express yourself; people

See ART, Page 9

## GREEN, from Page 7

which will provide convenient access to parks, trails, and green spaces to nearly 187,000 residents of Oak Cliff — one of Dallas's most historically underserved neighborhoods.

"The Trust for Public Land team stands at the ready to help Garrett Boone lead Mayor Johnson's vision for a parks renaissance in Dallas," Garvin said.

According to The Trust for Public Land, the City of Dallas and its nonprofit partners have brought new parks and trails within a 10-minute walk of nearly 300,000 residents since 2014. And ample opportunities for the addition of parks, trails, and green spaces remain in Dallas. A newly released national survey found that Dallas

has more vacant land than any other major city in the U.S., with close to 91,000 acres of vacant property available for development.

Mayor Johnson said he is excited about the launch of the effort. "Creating new green spaces out of land the City of Dallas already owns can improve the quality of life of countless residents, children, and families across Dallas."

### We Recommend

#### The Dallas Morning News

**Michael Cook ... has a firm grasp of district challenges and a practical approach to problem-solving.**

Cook, who holds a master's in business from Cornell University, has the obvious expertise to tackle the district's financial challenges...

**Cook offered us more practical solutions to the most serious issues, such as the teacher shortage.**

Overall, Cook's emphasis on helping solve the district's deficit problem, better measuring student achievement... are just what the Plano school board needs.



**MICHAEL COOK, PLANO ISD PLACE 5**  
**VOTE: EARLY APRIL 24TH - MAY 2**  
**ELECTION DAY: MAY 6TH**

Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Michael  
Cook for PISD



# Film Review: 'Chevalier' is one film worth watching

By Dwight Brown  
NNPA Film Critic

(\*\*1/2) It's not the same as it was. This retelling of 18th century French violinist-composer Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges' life is steeped in history but rocked with a modern imagination.

Screenwriter Stefani Robinson's ("Atlanta") research and ingenuity resurrects Bologne (Kelvin Harris Jr.) as a European superstar, given the honorary title Chevalier de Saint-Georges. Queen Marie Antoinette (Lucy Boynton) confers him an officer of the King's Guard and welcomes the mixed-race artist into her court.

It's quite an ascension for a Creole child born in



Kelvin Harris Jr in Chevalier (Photo via NNPA)

1745 on the Caribbean isle of Guadeloupe, son of a teen slave named Nanon (Ronke Adekoluejo) and a white French plantation owner. Joseph, as a boy (Reuben Anderson) and violin virtuoso, is torn from his mother, brought to France by his father and left at the La Boëssière Academy. There he studies music, math, literature, and fencing with the

sons of white aristocrats. Not that it is easy -- Emotionally, psychologically and physically, he's abused.

Years later, Joseph Bologne is a champion fencer who stabs his competitors and pierces their egos. He also plays the violin like it's an extension of his being and is so sure of himself he challenges Mozart to a violin duel. In a crowded

concert hall, his virtuosity embarrasses Wolfgang Amadeus. That success and being embraced by the Queen gives him confidence but not security. He flirts with high society but is stymied by France's Code Noir, a set of laws regarding slavery that hinder Black people from gaining status or class.

Competing to be the head of the Paris Opera exacerbates Joseph's very weighted struggles. When his mother comes to stay and the proletariat rebel against the Queen's iron grip, he finds his bearings. The immigrants and workers edging towards liberty inspire him. Nanon helps him see the errors of his superficial lux life after he buys her expensive made-

to-order clothes: "All the money you paid for those dresses could have fed the whole city."

Robinson's blend of fact and fiction with hints of today's racial/identity issues are thoughtful. The composer's works were banned by Napoleon, and details about him are skimpy, compared to a Mozart, so fabrication is necessary and useful. Her intellectual and emotional grasp of injustices in today's world and what must have been unfairness in 18th century Europe seem perceptive and intuitive. Indignities and life ironies are seen and also heard in profound dialogue. As Joseph fathoms the complexities of marriage, he states his paradox: "Can't marry a white

woman of my class, and if I marry a black woman, I will lose my class."

The Chevalier/Mozart face-off never happened. It's just one of many melodramatic devices designed to draw today's audience into the complex world Bologne encountered and thrived in, until he didn't. His friend and advocate Philippe (Alex Fitzalan) is an activist. A love affair with the chanteuse Marie-Josephine de Comarieu (Samara Weaving) blossoms. Powerplays with her jealous husband Marquise De Montalembert (Marton Csokas) hint at danger, and being trolled by a lecherous, vindictive prima donna (Minnie Driver) leads to

See FILM, Page 10

## ART, from Page 8

will assist you should you need help. Shop Talk exists because of guys like Jimmy because even though he grew up not trusting the police and was skeptical about working with them, he realized in order for change to happen, law en-

forcement and people in the community have to come together to reach common ground so that both parties can coexist peacefully.

There are still many problems that lie between law enforcement and civilians, but with events like Shop

Talk, they can coincide with each other and bridge gaps. It's not often that you see artwork portrayed in a barbershop or have police come in the shop, so when you see a police officer giving inspiration to the youth, or being inspired through artwork, the sky's the limit to what the community will

become. It once seemed like a longshot to have law enforcement and people in the community get along,

but now with programs like One Community USA and Shop Talk, there are endless possibilities and more

resources to strengthen the gap between people in the community and law enforcement.

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SPRJ55189



# Anchors away! Tucker Carlson out at Fox; Don Lemon fired from CNN

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

Two controversial news anchors at competing cable networks are out of jobs.

Fox News has announced it has severed ties with race-baiting and MAGA supporter Tucker Carlson just one week after the network settled a defamation suit for \$787.5 million in part because Carlson joined others in promoting the Big Lie that included claims that Dominion voting machines were fraudulent.

Dominion had alleged that statements made on Carlson's show after the



Two controversial news anchors at competing cable networks are out of jobs. (Photo via NNPA)

2020 election were defamatory.

The company claimed that messages between Carlson and his team were

proof that they knew claims Dominion's ballot-counting machines were used to manipulate the presidential election in favor of Demo-

crat Joe Biden were false.

"We thank him for his service to the network as a host and prior to that as a contributor," Fox News said in the statement.

The company did not offer an explanation for Carlson's departure.

At CNN, Don Lemon announced on Twitter Monday that he was absolutely "stunned" by the network's decision to fire him.

Lemon's termination comes during a year in which the longtime anchor and host repeatedly has run into controversy.

In February, Lemon startled viewers and co-hosts when he implied that GOP

presidential candidate Nikki Haley, 51, was past her prime.

Earlier, Haley made comments suggesting that political candidates over 75 should submit to mental competency tests, remarks Lemon and co-hosts Poppy Harlow and Kaitlan Collins didn't appear to agree.

"Nikki Haley isn't in her prime, sorry," Lemon said. "When a woman is considered to be in her prime — in her 20s, 30s and maybe her 40s."

"Prime for what?" Harlow replied.

Lemon then challenged his colleagues to Google

when a woman is past her prime.

Harlow provided Lemon with an out, offering that he may have been referencing childbearing years.

"Don't shoot the messenger, I'm just saying what the facts are," Lemon replied. "Google it."

In March, a story published by Variety listed allegations against Lemon that he mistreated female colleagues at CNN.

"I am stunned," Lemon wrote. "After 17 years at CNN I would have thought someone in management would have had the decency to tell me directly."

## FILM, from Page 9

sabotage. These subplots and characters fill out the violinist's story.

Emmy Award-winning director Stephen Williams ("Watchman") uses Robinson's script as if it's a sketch for an oil painting. He adds color, movement, details and style, recreating 18th century Paris/Versailles as vividly as any artist could. Shonda Rhimes' popular Netflix series "Bridgerton" set the precedent for historic multiculturally cast dramas. So, what's on view feels natural.

Under Williams' guidance, the visuals are flaw-

less, evocative and beautiful. Costume designer Oliver Garcia ("The Favourite") uses tones, patterns and textures impeccably on clothes that are natty and so French. Salons, concert halls and boudoirs feign places where the rich and snooty congregate (production designer Karen Murphy, "A Star is Born"), nothing looks out of place (set decorator Lotty Sanna) and the spectrum of colors aptly recreate the period's aesthetics (art director Gemma Randall).

As your eyes peruse France, the camera (Jess

Hall, "Bridgeshead Revisited") is perfectly placed, from a distance or up close. During opera or symphony scenes, performances and audience reactions are neatly clipped together making the footage fresh and kinetic (editor John Axelrad, "The Lost City of Z"), not staid and stodgy. Between Robinson's use of spicy language (f—k), Williams' vibrant direction, the populous rebellion and the rhythmic pacing, the film starts with a zest and maintains a quixotic feel for 1h 47m.

Harris does a great job displaying the angst and bravery of a man straddling

two worlds. Understated for the most part but ready to roar, when necessary. E.g., when he confronts the deceptive Marie Antoinette: "Your people are starving in the streets! You are a traitor, a fraud!"

Adekoluejo, as his knowing mom weaving the lover, Boynton, the shallow Queen, and Csokas, as a belligerent officer, are all as wonderful or disdainful as they should be.

The violin is the scene stealer. Legato, staccato, solo, or flanked by other instruments, its sounds are wondrous as it performs the composer's music (updated by Michael Abels) or the entrancing score by Kris Bowers ("Green Book," "King Richard,") especially in the final concert ("Violin Concerto No. 9"). Its only competition is a cello that moans during Joseph and Marie-Josephine's first kiss

scene. Musically, it will be hard for audiences to distinguish what once was and what is new.

"Chevalier" is a fitting coda for an artist who deserved a biofilm. In this world, it's enough. Framing a story, the same as it was or should have been, it's enough.

In theaters April 21st.

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

## STUDY, from Page 4

They are also taking a microscopic look at properties of HDL cholesterol, including analyzing hundreds of proteins associated with transporting cholesterol and how varying associations, based on one protein or groups of proteins, may improve cardiovascular health predictions.

"HDL cholesterol has long been an enigmatic risk factor for cardiovascular disease," explained Sean Coady, a deputy branch chief of epidemiology within the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)'s Division of

Cardiovascular Sciences. "The findings suggest that a deeper dive into the epidemiology of lipid metabolism is warranted, especially in terms of how race may modify or mediate these relationships."

The authors conclude that in addition to supporting ongoing and future research with diverse populations to explore these connections, the findings suggest that cardiovascular disease risk calculators using HDL cholesterol could lead to inaccurate predictions for Black adults.

"When it comes to risk

factors for heart disease, they cannot be limited to one race or ethnicity," said Pamir. "They need to apply to everyone."

The REGARDS study is co-funded by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke and the National Institute of Aging and received additional support from NHLBI.

To learn more about cholesterol and heart health, visit <https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/blood-cholesterol>.

To learn about heart-healthy living, visit <https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/heart-healthy-living>.





## MAY 6, 2023 GENERAL ELECTION CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES COUNCIL DISTRICTS / BALLOT ORDER

**Council District 1**

1 Mariana Griggs  
2 Albert Mata  
3 Chad West

**Council District 2**

1 Sukhbir Kaur  
2 Jesse Moreno

**Council District 3**

1 John Sims  
2 Joe Tave  
3 Zarin Gracey  
4 August Doyle  
5 Denise Benavides

**Council District 4**

1 Carolyn King Arnold  
2 Jamie Smith

**Council District 5**

1 Terry Carrillo  
2 Jaime Resendez  
3 Yolanda "Faye" Williams

**Council District 6**

1 Tony Carrillo  
2 Omar Narvaez  
3 Sidney Robles Martinez  
4 Monica R. Alonzo

**Council District 7**

1 Tracy Dotie Hill  
2 Adam Bazaldua  
3 Marvin E. Crenshaw  
4 Okema Thomas

**Council District 8**

1 Subrina Lynn Brenham  
2 Davante "Shawt" Peters  
3 Tennell Atkins

**Council District 9**

1 Kendra Denise Madison  
2 Paula C. Blackmon

**Council District 10**

1 Kathy Stewart  
2 Brian Hasenbauer  
3 Sirrano Keith Baldeo  
4 Chris Carter

**Council District 11**

1 Jaynie Schultz  
2 Candace Evans

**Council District 12**

1 Cara Mendelsohn

**Council District 13**

1 Gay Donnell Willis  
2 Priscilla Shacklett

**Council District 14**

1 Joseph F. Miller  
2 Amanda Schulz  
3 Paul E. Ridley

**Council District 15/Mayor**

1 Eric Johnson  
Write-in



## DALLAS COUNTY EARLY VOTING DATES / TIMES / LOCATIONS

**April (abril) 24-28**

Monday-Friday (*lunes a viernes*)

8a.m. to 5p.m.

**April (abril) 29**

Saturday (*sábado*)

8a.m. to 5p.m.

**April (abril) 30**

Sunday (*domingo*)

12p.m. to 6p.m.

**May (mayo) 1-2**

Monday – Tuesday (*lunes y martes*)

7a.m. to 7p.m.

| VC#   | Location<br>Edificio              | Voting Area<br>Lugar De Votación | Address<br>Dirección   | City<br>Ciudad | ZIP<br>Codigo Postal |
|-------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| E0001 | MLK Jr Recreation Center          | Gym                              | 2901 Pennsylvania Ave  | DALLAS         | 75215                |
| E0003 | Crosby Recreation Center          | Broadway Room                    | 1610 E Crosby Rd       | CARROLLTON     | 75006                |
| E0004 | Elections Training / Warehouse    | Vote Center                      | 1460 Round Table Dr    | DALLAS         | 75247                |
| E0008 | First Baptist Richardson          |                                  | 1001 N Central Expy    | RICHARDSON     | 75080                |
| E0009 | Cedar Hill Collegiate High School |                                  | 1515 W Beltline Rd     | CEDAR HILL     | 75104                |
| E0036 | Addison Conference Center         | Lobby                            | 15650 Addison Rd       | ADDISON        | 75001                |
| E1022 | Oak Lawn Branch Library           | Auditorium                       | 4100 Cedar Springs Rd  | DALLAS         | 75219                |
| E1029 | Richland Campus-Dallas College    | G100 Guadalupe Hallway           | 12800 Abrams Rd        | DALLAS         | 75243                |
| E1052 | Lochwood Branch Library           | Black Box                        | 11221 Lochwood Blvd    | DALLAS         | 75218                |
| E1074 | Samuell Grand Recreation Center   | Computer Lab 111                 | 6200 E Grand Ave       | DALLAS         | 75223                |
| E1088 | Skyline Branch Library            | Auditorium                       | 6006 Everglade Rd      | DALLAS         | 75227                |
| E1096 | Pleasant Grove Ctr-Dallas College | PG 108/109                       | 802 S Buckner Blvd     | DALLAS         | 75217                |
| E1116 | Harry Stone Recreation Center     | Multi-Purpose Room 104           | 2403 Millmar Dr        | DALLAS         | 75228                |
| E1301 | Florence Recreation Center        | Event Center                     | 2501 Whitson Way       | MESQUITE       | 75150                |
| E1303 | Eastfield Campus-Dallas College   | G Building, Lobby                | 3737 Motley Dr         | MESQUITE       | 75150                |
| E1708 | Garland Center-Dallas College     | Conference Room A&B              | 675 W Walnut St        | GARLAND        | 75040                |
| E1723 | South Garland Branch Library      | Program Room                     | 4845 Broadway Blvd     | GARLAND        | 75043                |
| E2005 | Marsh Lane Baptist Church         | Fellowship Hall                  | 10716 Marsh Ln         | DALLAS         | 75229                |
| E2027 | Our Redeemer Lutheran Church      | Parlor Room                      | 7611 Park Ln           | DALLAS         | 75225                |
| E2052 | Fretz Park Library                | Black Box Theater                | 6990 Belt Line Rd      | DALLAS         | 75254                |
| E2060 | Audelia Road Branch Library       | Auditorium                       | 10045 Audelia Rd       | DALLAS         | 75238                |
| E2220 | University Park UMC               | Caldwell Room 120                | 4024 Caruth Blvd       | DALLAS         | 75225                |
| E2305 | Farmers Branch Manske Library     | Meeting Room                     | 13613 Webb Chapel Rd   | FARMERS BRANCH | 75234                |
| E2307 | Brookhaven Campus-Dallas College  | H125                             | 3939 Valley View Ln    | FARMERS BRANCH | 75244                |
| E2407 | Josey Ranch Lake Library          | Meeting Room 150                 | 1700 Keller Springs Rd | CARROLLTON     | 75006                |
| E2604 | Valley Ranch Library              | Meeting Room                     | 401 Cimarron Trl       | IRVING         | 75063                |
| E2805 | Coppell Town Center               | Atrium                           | 255 E Parkway Blvd     | COPPELL        | 75019                |





**MAY 6, 2023 GENERAL ELECTION  
CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES  
COUNCIL DISTRICTS / BALLOT ORDER**

**Council District 1**

1 Mariana Griggs  
2 Albert Mata  
3 Chad West

**Council District 2**

1 Sukhbir Kaur  
2 Jesse Moreno

**Council District 3**

1 John Sims  
2 Joe Tave  
3 Zarin Gracey  
4 August Doyle  
5 Denise Benavides

**Council District 4**

1 Carolyn King Arnold  
2 Jamie Smith

**Council District 5**

1 Terry Carrillo  
2 Jaime Resendez  
3 Yolanda "Faye" Williams

**Council District 6**

1 Tony Carrillo  
2 Omar Narvaez  
3 Sidney Robles Martinez  
4 Monica R. Alonzo

**Council District 7**

1 Tracy Dotie Hill  
2 Adam Bazaldua  
3 Marvin E. Crenshaw  
4 Okema Thomas

**Council District 8**

1 Subrina Lynn Brenham  
2 Davante "Shawt" Peters  
3 Tennell Atkins

**Council District 9**

1 Kendra Denise Madison  
2 Paula C. Blackmon

**Council District 10**

1 Kathy Stewart  
2 Brian Hasenbauer  
3 Sirrano Keith Baldeo  
4 Chris Carter

**Council District 11**

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2 Candace Evans

**Council District 12**

1 Cara Mendelsohn

**Council District 13**

1 Gay Donnell Willis  
2 Priscilla Shacklett

**Council District 14**

1 Joseph F. Miller  
2 Amanda Schulz  
3 Paul E. Ridley

**Council District 15/Mayor**

1 Eric Johnson  
Write-in



**DALLAS COUNTY EARLY VOTING DATES / TIMES /LOCATIONS**

**April (abril) 24-28**

Monday-Friday (*lunes a viernes*)

8a.m. to 5p.m.

**April (abril) 29**

Saturday (*sábado*)

8a.m. to 5p.m.

**April (abril) 30**

Sunday (*domingo*)

12p.m. to 6p.m.

**May (mayo) 1-2**

Monday – Tuesday (*lunes y martes*)

7a.m. to 7p.m.

| VC#   | Location<br>Edificio                | Voting Area<br>Lugar De Votación | Address<br>Dirección        | City<br>Ciudad | ZIP<br>Codigo Postal |
|-------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| E2941 | Sachse City Hall                    | Courtroom                        | 3815-B Sachse Rd            | SACHSE         | 75048                |
| E3007 | El Centro Campus-Dallas College     | C BLDG-STUDENT CTR MAIN AREA     | 801 Main St                 | DALLAS         | 75202                |
| E3008 | George L Allen Sr Court Building    | Main Lobby                       | 600 Commerce St             | DALLAS         | 75202                |
| E3043 | Paul L Dunbar Library               | Auditorium                       | 2008 E Kiest Blvd           | DALLAS         | 75216                |
| E3064 | Friendship West Baptist Church      | Banquet Hall Foyer               | 2020 W Wheatland Rd         | DALLAS         | 75232                |
| E3073 | Highland Hills Library              | Auditorium                       | 6200 Bonnie View Rd         | DALLAS         | 75241                |
| E3090 | Jonsson Central Library             |                                  | 1515 Young St               | DALLAS         | 75201                |
| E3106 | A E Sims Cedar Hill Rec Center      | Lobby                            | 310 E Parkerville Rd        | CEDAR HILL     | 75104                |
| E3202 | Duncanville Library                 | MTG RM 1-3                       | 201 James Collins Blvd      | DUNCANVILLE    | 75116                |
| E3309 | Lakeside Activity Center            | Large Room                       | 101 Holley Park Dr          | MESQUITE       | 75149                |
| E3400 | Balch Springs Civic Center          | Meeting Room                     | 12400 Elam Rd               | BALCH SPRINGS  | 75180                |
| E3500 | Sunnyvale Town Hall                 | Council Chambers                 | 127 N Collins Rd            | SUNNYVALE      | 75182                |
| E3605 | Disciple Central Comm Church        | Youth Room 104                   | 901 N Polk St               | DESOTO         | 75115                |
| E3809 | Lancaster Veterans Memorial Library | Meeting Room                     | 1600 Veterans Memorial Pkwy | LANCASTER      | 75134                |
| E3921 | Seagoville City Hall                | Foyer                            | 702 N Hwy 175               | SEAGOVILLE     | 75159                |
| E3940 | Wilmer Community Center             |                                  | 101 Davidson Plz            | WILMER         | 75172                |
| E4029 | West Dallas Center-Dallas College   | Main Lobby                       | 3330 N Hampton Rd           | DALLAS         | 75212                |
| E4050 | Mountain Creek Library              | Auditorium                       | 6102 Mountain Creek Pkwy    | DALLAS         | 75249                |
| E4064 | Martin Weiss Recreation Center      | Auditorium                       | 1111 Martindell Ave         | DALLAS         | 75211                |
| E4071 | Oak Cliff Government Center         | Main Lobby                       | 702 E Jefferson Blvd        | DALLAS         | 75203                |
| E4086 | Grauwylar Park Recreation Center    | Room A                           | 7780 Harry Hines Blvd       | DALLAS         | 75235                |
| E4113 | Mountain View Campus-Dallas College | E Bldg, East Foyer               | 4849 W Illinois Ave         | DALLAS         | 75211                |
| E4502 | Betty Warmack Library               | Empower Room                     | 760 Bardin Rd               | GRAND PRAIRIE  | 75052                |
| E4516 | Crosswinds High School              | ROOM 104                         | 1100 N Carrier Pkwy         | GRAND PRAIRIE  | 75050                |
| E4607 | Irving City Hall                    | Main Lobby                       | 825 W Irving Blvd           | IRVING         | 75060                |
| E4633 | North Lake Campus-Dallas College    | L137 A/B                         | 5001 N Macarthur Blvd       | IRVING         | 75038                |
| E4642 | Irving Arts Center                  | Suite 200                        | 3333 N Macarthur Blvd       | IRVING         | 75062                |

\*\*Those City of Dallas residents who are in Denton County, please access the following website for Denton County Early Voting locations, dates, and times:

<https://www.votedenton.gov>

\*\*\*Those City of Dallas residents who are in Collin County, please access the following website for Collin County Early Voting locations, dates, and times:

[www.collincountytx.gov/elections](http://www.collincountytx.gov/elections)

or call Parris Long, Elections Manager (City of Dallas) at (214) 670-3742.



## TALK, from Page 1

to happen or that they just want to show their authority. That isn't the case with the Fort Worth Police Department. He says that "you got to come to them, relax and be yourself."

You can't expect change if you're just sitting in an office all day. You have to go where they gather and feel safe and let them know that you're not a threat. And there's no better place to have two worlds collide than a barbershop. He goes on to mention that "There's no rank in Shop Talk; everybody is the same."

In order for change to happen, a simple conversation needs to be had, and an understanding needs to be set in order for both parties to bring about change in the community. He also stated a famous quote that says, "The greatest predictor of any relationship is proximity."

Having the police enter your place of business can be innervating, or even scary, but Chief of Police Neil Noakes makes it known that he brings no harm, that he intends to help the city of Fort Worth, and that he lets people know that he's in the community to serve the people, not just police them.

He also doesn't just talk about it but actually goes from door to door, has that one-on-one with different homeowners, and relieves them of the fears that they may have.

When asked about his

line of work, he says "I'm not special, just blessed and try to be a blessing to those around me." In some ways, he sets the premise of what Shop Talk is about. Nothing is off limits when talking with him, and he is more than a police officer. He is for the community and just as human as everyone else.

Deputy Chief of Community Safety Partnership Roy Hudson is definitely one for the community, being that he's born and raised in Fort Worth. He impacts Shop Talk by giving back, building trust, and being part of the community by eliminating the fear that some people may have. He has always been involved in the Fort Worth Community, so being a part of Shop Talk was easy for him. He also teaches kids what to do when stopped by a police officer and is involved in mentor programs, cadet programs, and an athletic team.

Hudson will not stop, by any means, bringing about change in the community. He shows up for the people, willing to help the people, and he does not label everyone he comes across as criminals or a threat. It's been shown too often that policemen, or people in command, view people in their community as targets, or as another statistic; Hudson makes sure that everyone in the community is heard, respected, and seen.

Another person who makes sure that people



are heard and seen is Tony Brinker, founder of One Community USA. She started in 2015 as a non-profit organization in New York City after experiencing people marching down the street begging for change. She says the purpose of One Community USA is to talk about issues like police brutality, better schools and churches, or just about life in general. She says the best way someone can reduce violence is by simply talking to one another. A young man and a police officer could stare each other

in they face, and they can have a mutual disliking for each other. A simple conversation can dissolve their discomfort, and they can actually grow to respect each other.

Shop Talk is something that brings people from all walks of life together, no matter the race, religion, or background. Everyone is considered equal when they participate in Shop Talk. A barbershop, for some, is simply a place people go to cut hair; for others, it's a safe space people go to receive counseling, groom boys into

men, and let people know their voices are heard.

It's a natural feeling to

be afraid of law enforcement in this day in age, but to have organizations like One Community USA, and the FWPDP active in their communities, it'll make for an easier tomorrow.

We can't bridge the gap between law enforcement and citizens within a day, but with organizations like One Community USA, and Shop Talk, there is hope that people from all over can coincide together and not be afraid of one another.



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## DaCosta, from Page 2

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## The Princess Hath Thus Spoken

In December of last year, our second great-grandchild entered our family. Our first great-grandchild was a boy, and this one is a girl.

Like all our children, grandchildren and great-grandson, this great-granddaughter was a blessing to our family. If only children would stay young for the rest of their life! I have learned that the thing is to enjoy them while they are young.

Being retired, we have more time to spend with our grandchildren and great-grandchildren. I'm sure this is one of the great blessings that our Heavenly Father bestows upon us.

Because the mother of this great-grandchild, our granddaughter, is a working nurse, she went back to work following her maternity leave. That being the case, the grandma (mother) and great-grandma daycare operation kicked in.

These relationships get

confusing, and I try to keep them separated. Still, the grandmother, our daughter, is also a working nurse and therefore does not have that much time for the daycare operation.

The great-grandmother, which is the Matriarch-Hierarchy, has more time for the daycare operation. That means the great-granddaughter is in our home quite often during the week.

I was pretty pleased with this arrangement and was glad to have a little great-granddaughter in our home as much as possible. Of course, you can never have too many of these little great-granddaughters.

After a few weeks I began to understand life as it is; I assumed things, but not always understanding, how they came into being.

At our family gathering, the new great-granddaughter was there and we were having our family dinner. Then something began to

happen that at first, I did not quite understand, but later began to comprehend the whole issue in a different light.

The little great-granddaughter was sleeping in her bassinet in one of our bedrooms. We were chatting around the table, and then suddenly, we heard it.

Waa, Waa, Waa, Waa, Waa.

Being a man, I didn't quite understand what that noise was about. All of the ladies around the table got up and marched back to the bedroom with the little baby crying.

In a few moments, they all came out, and one was holding the baby while the rest were following. They all gathered in the living room, and I watched as they passed the baby around, and everybody had a chance to hold her.

It wasn't long before that little Princess stopped crying. And if I saw that right, if not smiling, at least she

was snickering. At first, I did not quite understand what that was all about.

That was just the beginning.

Whenever The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage babysat the great-grandbaby, I noticed a similar routine.

The great-grandmother got the great-grandbaby settled down, fed her, then quietly take her back, and put her in the bassinet in the bedroom. She fell asleep, and the great-grandmother tiptoed out of the bedroom and went to the kitchen to resume her work.

Then came that familiar sound from the bedroom.

Waa, Waa, Waa, Waa, Waa.

Before the second "Waa" got out, the great-grandmother turned her back on the kitchen and scooted back into the bedroom to bow before the great-granddaughter.

As she brought the little baby out, the baby looked

at me and gave me one of her snickers. I am not sure, but I think she winked at me. Just do not let this get back to the great-grandmother.

So the great-grandmother cared for the baby, rocked it, and did everything babies need at that stage of life.

She finally went to sleep, and The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage took the baby back to its bassinet to sleep for a little while.

When she came back, I was tempted, but I did not yield to that temptation, to ask her what all that crying was about. I was tempted, but I did not yield to that temptation, to tell her what I thought was going on.

It did not take long for the little Princess to do it all over again.

Waa, Waa, Waa, Waa, Waa.

Again, the great-grandmother dropped what she was doing and went back, got the baby out of the

bassinet, brought her out, and fixed up a bottle for her lunch. So all the time, the little baby was smiling and giggling and then looking at me and winked; it seemed that way, at least from my perspective.

What I saw was the little Princess taking charge of her environment. How someone that young could know how to manipulate her environment is well beyond me. I should take a few notes from her.

Then I began thinking that perhaps this was the little Princess preparing to be a wife and mother, with the emphasis on the wife. If that is true, she has a great start at that.

I wonder what it is going to be like when this little Princess graduates to a teenager. Those are going to be the days, and I'm looking forward to them.

As I was pondering this situation I could not help

See PRINCESS, Page 14

## What Students Learned in Math Class 2023

By Daris Howard

Over the years, I have found that one of the students' greatest criticisms of any math class is their claim that they didn't learn anything. Therefore, sometimes as part of their final, I have the students list ten things that they have learned. Most observations are quite normal, but some make for interesting reading. It has been a while since I have shared any, so I thought I'd do so here.

1) I learned that night jobs + early morning classes = failure.

2) I learned that studying for a test actually helps you do better.

3) I learned that when I feel good about a test, I probably did bad.

4) I learned that 9:00 a.m. is too early for class.

5) I learned that following what a professor does on the board and being able to do it at home are two very, very different things.

6) I learned that it is enjoyable to think and talk about math when I under-

stand it. If I'm not enjoying talking about it, I don't understand it.

7) Professor Howard's cow is so cute. And she is gentle, even with a million students milking her.

8) That hard work pays off over time, but laziness pays off now, if you want to have fun. But in the end, you only get out of something what you put in.

9) I learned that I am way too shy. I had one of the prettiest girls sitting next to me for a while at the beginning of the semester, and even though she flirted with me, I still never asked her on a date. How pitiful. I have worked on it since. I'm not going to let that happen again.

10) I learned that being able to take a 3X5 card to the testing center doesn't mean you don't have to study.

11) That some people have big egos and get huffy when you sit in their normal seat.

12) I learned that historically a lot of mathematicians went insane. Tells you

something, doesn't it?

13) I learned that you shouldn't take a weightlifting class before a math class or you won't be able to think for half of the class.

14) I learned that if you are taking a test and you don't seem to be able to do a problem, sometimes if you attempt it, then what your teacher wrote will come out from the deep recesses of your brain to the end of your pen.

15) I learned too late, at the end of the semester, that I was actually supposed to take a different class.

16) I learned that cramming two chapters into one week results in minimal comprehension.

17) Believing you can do something is not a substitute for learning to do it.

18) When writing teachers emails, always use proper English. Don't act like he's your buddy. (Professor Howard sends them back and with corrections to help you learn English. Who would have guessed that from a math teacher?)

19) The last week of the

semester, I learned that Professor Howard had provided us the answers to our homework preparation quizzes so

we could check our answers.

(Daris Howard, award-winning, syndicated columnist, playwright, and author,

can be contacted at [daris@darishoward.com](mailto:daris@darishoward.com); or visit his website at <http://www.darishoward.com>.)

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# In The Valleys I Grow



**Sister Tarpley**  
NDG  
Religion  
Editor

This column is to encourage Christians or anyone to never give up on their dream or goal.

Sometimes life seems hard to bear, full of trouble, sorrow and woe. It's then I have to remember that it's "In the Valleys I Grow." Because I remember, it takes two mountains to make one valley.

If I always stayed on the mountaintop and never experienced pain, I would never appreciate God's love and would be living in vain.

I do not always understand why things happen as they do, but I'm very sure of one thing, the Lord will see me through.

My valleys are nothing when I picture Christ on the cross; He went through the valley of death, His victory is Satan's loss and our gain.



Forgive me Lord for complaining when I'm feeling so very low. Just give me a gentle reminder that's it's "In the Valleys I Grow."

Continue to strengthen me, Lord and use my life each day to share Your love with others and help them find their way.

Thank you Lord for the Valleys, for this one thing I know, the mountaintops are glorious, but "It's In the

Valleys I Grow."

Forgetting Your Past: "God has made me forget all my troubles . . ." Genesis 41:51 (KJV). Have you been hurt? Are you struggling to get back on your feet? If so, begin taking these steps.

First, pray to communicate with God.

Second, refuse to be or live like a victim. When you decide to stop looking for sympathy and start

looking for solutions, you'll begin to find them. God opens new doors, but when He does, walk through them and accept responsibility for your future.

Third, isolate the problem, not the person. Everybody's not the same. Don't let what one or two people did to you affect all your other relationships! Once you are able to isolate the event, you can stop the adversary from using your past to contaminate your future.

Fourth, let God's 'perfect love' heal your scars. His love for you is the only love that is perfect enough to cast all your fears away; 1 John 4:18 (KJV). Fear of what you say? Perhaps it's the fear of trusting anyone else, or even yourself! Perhaps even the fear of being known and rejected. Only in the classroom of God's love can you build

your self-worth and learn to make healthy choices.

Fifth, don't stop with God. God's love and acceptance is the prescription that will carry you through so that you can help others too. You can keep it only if you give it away! Listen: 'Joseph named his first born "Manasseh" and said, "It is because God had made me forget all my trouble . . ." The second son he named Ephraim and said, "It is because God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering." Genesis 41:51-52 (KJV).

And what God did for Joseph, He'll do for you!

Most people love to identify with a dream or a goal in life and contributing to something worthwhile. If a dream or goal is worthwhile and the belief in it is strong enough, the strength of the dream or goal will take over and keep a person moving forward even when they become physically exhausted. An individual may give out, but he/she should never give up.

(Editor's Note: This column originally ran in April 2016.)

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## PRINCESS, from Page 13

but think of what that wise old man, Solomon, said in, Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should

go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

That wise old man understood that what a child

becomes is a result of training. Too often the child dominates the training chair which predicts what happens when that child is old.



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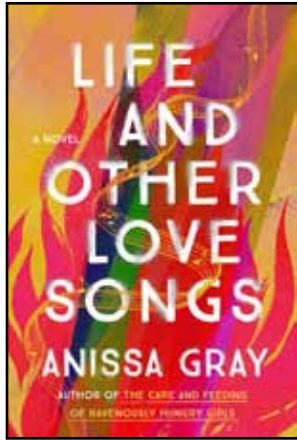
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# NDG Book Review: Take "Life and Other Love Songs" on your next retreat

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Dr. Karen Stills, vice chancellor of student success at Dallas College, has been selected to participate in the 2023-2024 class of the Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship, which begins in July. As a fellow, she will work closely with accomplished community college presidents, Aspen leaders and Stanford University faculty over the 10-month fellowship to further define and assess student success at Dallas College and clarify her vision for excellent and equitable outcomes for stu-



dents.

Dr. Stills is an equity-minded leader dedicated to illuminating education as a catalyst for hope and opportunity. "I genuinely believe

that community colleges are vehicles for transforming families' lives," she said. As a first-generation college graduate, she is passionate about ensuring success for all students, particularly those who have been historically marginalized and underserved.

With over 20 years of experience, Dr. Stills provides leadership for student success, guided pathways, career and transfer services, as well as degree audit at Dallas College. Her strategic initiatives focus on student persistence, completion, transfer and career development.

Recently, she led Dallas College's transformation from its system of more transactionally focused academic advisors to specially trained success coaches, geared to support the holistic needs of students and help them to overcome barriers to success in higher education.

Dr. Stills holds a bachelor's degree in business management from the University of New Orleans, a Master of Business Administration from Amberton University, and a doctorate from San Diego State University's Community College Leadership Program.

"What is special about the Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship is that it brings student success, equity, and transformational leadership together," said Dr. Stills. "I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn from the lived experiences of college presidents who have done meaningful work. I'm hoping to leverage this experience to strengthen my skill sets to become a better leader for my team and for the students and community we serve."

Stills will join 34 fellows from around the country who represent the next generation of college leadership. Se-

lected through a competitive process, this year's cohort of Aspen fellows is 74% women and 60% people of color. They will join a network of over 300 forward-thinking peers—155 of whom are sitting college presidents.

"Each cohort of the Rising Presidents Fellowship is different," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. "And what they all share is a passion to advance excellence and equity in student outcomes and the commitment to ensure that the colleges they lead continuously improve."

## VOTERS, from Page 5

By identifying themselves with Christian nationalists and organizations with roots to white supremacy, some Republicans have made it impossible to gain the support of Black voters.

The track record that Biden has on racial issues has also been debated in the Black community.

His efforts to pass a comprehensive voting rights package and reduce gun violence have been unsuccessful, but he has honored campaign vows to select a Black woman as his vice president and appoint one to the Supreme Court.

Additionally, Biden has fulfilled his promise to appoint a Black woman to the Supreme Court.

Biden also must overcome the problems caused by some of his supporters privately and publicly bashing Harris, an issue that has alienated some Black voters.

Four years after announcing his campaign for the 2020 election that finally resulted in the defeat of the criminally indicted and twice-impeached Donald Trump, Biden again seeks to beat back a run by the MAGA leader.

Reportedly, Biden's most prominent supporters have been invited to a financial summit in Washington, D.C., in the days running up

to his planned announcement, which has kicked off a wild race to stock the president's war chest.

The meeting, planned for

Friday, is viewed as an important first step in a campaign that is going to try its best to fly under the radar for at least one year.

After that, Biden expects to start the process of hiring

a team that will be able to function independently of the White House.

The team will include a campaign manager, communication assistants, state campaign directors, poll-

sters, finance managers, volunteers, and others.

According to reports, Julie Chavez Rodriguez, a top White House adviser and the granddaughter of the late American labor leader

Cesar Chavez, is in the running to oversee the re-election campaign.

Chavez counted as a prominent figure in the labor movement in the United States.

# VOTE YOUNG SUNG

for

## MAYOR OF CARROLLTON

### GROWING TOGETHER

Early Voting on April 24, 2023 to May 2, 2023

Election Day on May 6, 2023

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Young Sung for Mayor