



North Dallas Gazette

"Most respected Voice of the Minority Community"

Visit us online at www.northdallasgazette.com



Time to focus on Black Business

- See Page 3



Obesity Bill of Rights is unveiled

- See Page 4



NAACP names Image Award nominees

- See Page 5



PVAMU grabs global award for excellence

- See Page 6



A memorable night in CASablanca

- See Page 7



The political power of the diaspora

- See Page 8



Film Review: 'Luther: Never too much'

- See Page 9



Sister Tarpley: A Heartfelt History Lesson

- See Page 14

Coveted Hot Seat: The race for Texas' 32nd Congressional District

By Allen R. Gray
NDG Contributing Writer

The announcement that Texas' 32nd Congressional District incumbent Colin Allred would be making a bid for Ted Cruz's Senatorial chair created a field of hopeful replacements that was a plentiful as the contenders for the Republican presidential nomination.

The redistricting of the 32nd District in 2021 produced a visual rendering that resembles a Rorschach ink blot drawing for which there is no definitive interpretation. That mapping is what causes it to be coveted by hopeful Democratic politicians, because the district that was once solidly Republican suddenly shifted its color from red to Democratic blue.

In 2013, the district was 52% White, 25% Hispanic (white and other), and 12% Black. The 2021 redistricting caused the 32nd District to become a district that made whites a little less than 50% of the district residents, Hispanic became approximately 20% or residents, and Blacks became 14% of the total residents.

The alluring value of the 32nd District is that with its boundaries—which zigzag from southernmost parts of Balch Springs to northern reaches of Plano—are



As U.S. Rep. Colin Allred prepares to square off against longtime U.S. Senator Ted Cruz, Democrats are lining up to try to keep the district on the blue side of the political aisle. (Photo: Dan Dennis / Unsplash)

jerrymaned in a way that makes it a sure win for some deserving Democratic candidate. That was not always the case.

Republican Pete Sessions was the 32nd Congressional District incumbent from 2003 to 2019, that was until Sessions was ousted by upstart Allred in the 2018 general election. Allred's surprise victory caused that drastic shift in the political hue.

All totaled, there were at least fifteen hats tossed into the ring for the March 5, 2024, Democratic and Republican primaries.

- Clayton Chapman (Independent)
- Callie Butcher (Democrat)
- Raja Chaudhry (Democrat)

- Alex Cornwallis (Democrat)
- Kevin Felder (Democrat)
- Julie Johnson (Democrat)
- Zachariah Manning (Democrat)
- Jan McDowell (Democrat)
- Justin Moore (Democrat)
- Christopher Panayiotou (Democrat)

*Plus, a field of four perspective Republican challengers

At one point, even State Representative Rhetta Bowers set her sights on the Congressional throne. Then she pulled out of the race just as quickly as she had jumped in.

Julie Johnson is of the opinion

See RACE, Page 12

Inside...

- People in the News 2
- Op/Ed 3
- Health 4
- Community 5
- Education 6
- Feature 7-8
- Entertainment 9-10
- Marketplace 12-13
- Religion 14-15
- NDG Book Review 16



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

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

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

People In The News ...



Marcia L. Fudge



Niani Finlayson

NDG Quote of the Week: "Never be limited by other people's limited imaginations."

—Dr. Mae Jemison

Marcia L. Fudge

In an exclusive interview conducted by Greer Marshall, broadcast producer of “Let It Be Known,” the National Newspaper Publisher Association’s (NNPA) morning news show, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary and former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, Marcia L. Fudge, discussed the transformative impact that the Biden-Harris administration’s policies have had on homeownership and affordable housing for Black families.



Marshall and Fudge discussed several issues that are vital to Black Americans who find themselves at a crossroads as they endure the real and disproportionate negative impact of the nation’s current state of

housing.

Even in today’s robust economy — or perhaps because of it — many African Americans struggle with finding and securing affordable housing, especially those who live in large cities.

While still historically low, interest rates have combined with shrinking availability and heightened competition to make homeownership elusive for many who could have easily acquired a new home and kept up with the related mortgage payments less than a decade ago.

However, according to

Fudge, the administration’s policies and actions can mitigate some challenges renters and homeowners face. One initiative is The Road Home, a suite of programs and services that helps families and individuals move into housing and focus on short-term solutions that lead to long-term stability.

Fudge discussed The Road Home while outlining various programs and resources available through HUD, stating, “These initiatives aim to assist with housing opportunities and community development for Black residents, all while balancing environ-

mental justice concerns with improving Black homeownership and housing conditions.”

The programs include Housing navigation, veteran services, rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, investments in short-term residences for the unhoused, and landlord programs (partial listing).

Elaborating on initiatives aimed at providing emergency rental assistance and addressing homelessness among people of color, Fudge said, “The discontinuation of the Road Home Program and intentional changes in underwriting at

HUD and FHA signify a crucial shift, empowering Black and brown individuals on their path to homeownership.”

The PAVE (Property Appraisal and Valuation Equity) taskforce is part of the administration’s plan to help overcome fair housing and homeownership challenges that disproportionately affect people of color. “Through the PAVE task force, we are committed to addressing appraisal bias and taking decisive legal action against appraisers who undervalue properties,” em-

See FUDGE, Page 14

Niani Finlayson

The “white lady walks into the police station, and then shoots it up and still is alive.” Also, “she called for help and ended up dead. My gosh, our system is jacked.” Black people, “we must wake up. What we have here is classic case of a Klansmen disguised as someone who is supposed to protect and serve.”



The comments were many of the more than 9,100 on an Instagram post detailing the deadly shooting of a distressed Black woman who called 911 for assistance from an allegedly abusive ex-boyfriend. In December, Deputy Ty

Shelton and another officer arrived at the home of 27-year-old Niani Finlayson who reported a domestic violence incident, noting that her boyfriend had abused her nine-year-old daughter.

When Shelton and his

partner arrived, a distressed and scared Finlayson was holding a knife and threatening to stab her ex-boyfriend if he wasn’t removed from the home. On bodycam footage released recently, Shelton is heard ordering his partner to taser Finlayson, but within a split second and with Finlayson’s daughter just a few feet away from her mother, Shelton unleashes four shots into the Black woman who was pronounced dead a short time later.

Reacting to the body-worn camera footage, the victim’s father, Lamont Finlayson, expressed dismay at the shooting.

“When you look at the bodycam, you just have to shake your head and say, ‘Oh my God, what happened? What happened?’” he told KTLA-TV’s Lauren Lyster. “They’re supposed to be there to save her life, not to kill her. You throw the taser down and just automatically go

for your weapon within one second. When I look at that, I’m saying, ‘Why is he still on the force?’ Where does this guy come from, where’s his training?”

In response to the case, the sheriff’s department said that with all deputy-involved shootings, there is

a thorough review process, including by the Office of the Inspector General, the L.A. County District Attorney’s Office and more, where every aspect of the shooting is evaluated.

However, it wasn’t the first time that Shelton was

See FINLAYSON, Page 12

Lloyd Austin

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin found himself back in the spotlight as he was urgently admitted to an emergency hospital on Sunday afternoon for symptoms related to a bladder issue, just weeks after his previous hospitalization. The 70-year-old cabinet official’s decision to withhold information from the White House about his earlier health episode has triggered a renewed wave of criticism and scrutiny.



The latest incident, detailed in a report by USA Today, saw Secretary Austin move to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center for treatment—the announcement, made by

Pentagon press secretary Air Force Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder disclosed that Austin is undergoing treatment for symptoms indicating a severe bladder issue, raising concerns about the gravity of his health condition.

This recurrence comes on the heels of Austin’s

earlier hospitalization, a matter that was not promptly disclosed to the White House, Congress, and other Pentagon officials. The deliberate delay in communication has intensified scrutiny and fueled outrage among right-leaning media pundits and lawmakers.

During his prior hospitalization, Austin delegated his duties to his deputy, but the decision to withhold pertinent information from key stakeholders has ignited widespread criticism. Shortly before 5 o’clock, Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder announced that Kathleen

See AUSTIN, Page 4

SPECIAL OFFERING

- ★ **HomeStart Program**
 - ★ Minimum down payment options starting at 3%
 - ★ Available for ITIN Applicants
 - ★ \$2,500 Closing credit available¹
- ★ **Community Home Equity**
 - ★ Use equity for home improvements, debt consolidation, etc.
 - ★ 1st and 2nd Lien options available

Brenda Peralta
Mortgage Loan Officer
972.716.7379
NMLS: 2029954

PROUDLY SERVING NORTH TEXAS SINCE 1961.

DALLAS | ADDISON | FRISCO | LAS COLINAS | PLANO

972.716.7230 | ndbt.com

¹ NDBT homeownership course is required in order to be eligible for credit

Member FDIC



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

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

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

Publisher's Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

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

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

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

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

Allen R. Gray

Published by

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Contributing Writers

Jackie Hardy

Special Projects to the Publisher

Clinique Hill

Lori Lee

Marland Mosely, Jr.

Jacqueline Murphy

Dwain Price

Terri Schlichenmeyer

Account Executive

Sterling R. Bradford

Production

David Wilfong



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

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

A call to focus on Black business participation in the modern economy

By Robert Blackwell, Jr.
Founder, TESC.Love
Founder and chairman of the
Board, EKI-Digital

The recent Supreme Court ruling declaring race-based university admissions unconstitutional marks a significant turning point in the pursuit of a color-blind society. As we contemplate the implications of this decision, it is imperative that we consider what comes next. One area that warrants attention is the elimination of race-based considerations in procurement.

Unfortunately, in this realm, the Black community bears the brunt of blame, without reaping commensurate benefits.

Drawing from a review of the 2010 census data, a stark reality emerges: Majority-owned companies with employees generated annual revenues of \$9.1 trillion, while women-owned businesses contributed \$1 trillion. Other ethnic groups such as Asian and Hispanic Americans registered revenues of \$455 billion and

\$276 billion, respectively. In contrast, Black-owned businesses accounted for a mere \$98 billion. This disparity underscores a direct correlation between entrepreneurial-led business participation, and community wellness outcomes.

The absence of real business participation opportunities for Black entrepreneurs perpetuates a cycle of poverty and its accompanying symptoms, including inadequate education, healthcare and safety. While well-intentioned lectures and nominal grants are offered, these gestures fail to translate into genuine business opportunities. It's disheartening that our community's talent goes largely untapped due to a lack of meaningful engagement with Black entrepreneurs.

Now, as the Supreme Court ruling paves the way for the end of race-based procurement considerations, we face a critical juncture. Failing to develop a new strategy that focuses on non-race-based approaches will have detri-

mental consequences for the already fragile state of Black businesses. Therefore, we all have, in my opinion, a moral responsibility to actively seek and secure avenues for increased Black business participation. No business can survive without paying customers, and access to a customer is significantly more important than access to loans and equity in most cases.

We must strive for a new era—a fourth great American movement—dedicated to demonstrating that the free enterprise system can work for everyone. It is imperative that we emphasize full Black business participation in the modern economy, where wealth creation and community well-being are intertwined. The benefits of entrepreneurial involvement extend far beyond job creation. A thriving entrepreneurial class not only provides opportunities for adults to be sure, but also fosters aspirations among young people, essential for the vitality of any community.

We are all in this together; our fate is intertwined. It is time to shift our focus to the modern sectors of the economy where wealth is created. Only by doing so can we mitigate the consequences of economic disadvantage and uplift our fellow citizens. When we fix the demand side of the business participation, we will fix the supply side, creating a pathway of success for younger entrepreneurs to get the opportunity and mentoring they need from the successful entrepreneurs that preceded them. Let's "Just do Business" and forge new pathways to success for Black entrepreneurs. The entire country will benefit.

Robert Blackwell, Jr. is chairman of the Board of EKI-Digital, a leading digital transformation consultancy firm based in Chicago. He is also the founder of TESC.Love, a movement of people of goodwill dedicated to proving that the free enterprise system works for everyone.

Disturbing disparities in homicide rates highlight urgent need for action on Black women's safety

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

The startling and enduring differences in murder rates between Black and white women in the United States have been highlighted in a new analysis published in the Lancet medical journal, which serves as an eye-popping reminder of Malcolm X's well-known observations on the struggles Black women in America endure.

In one of his most famous lectures delivered over sixty years ago, Malcolm X declared, "The

most disrespected person in America is the Black woman. The most unprotected person in America is the Black woman. The most neglected person in America is the Black woman." Those words continue to echo today and is especially meaningful as this new data has revealed disturbing trends in violence against Black women.

The Lancet's report, released as African Americans observe Black History Month 2024, analyzed homicide rates among Black women aged 25 to 44 across 30 states. The study, based on data collected

between 1999 and 2020 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, highlights a stark reality: Black women in this age group are disproportionately murdered compared to their white counterparts.

In 2020, the homicide rate among Black women was 11.6 per 100,000, a stark contrast to the rate of 3 per 100,000 among white women. Shockingly, this inequity has remained virtually unchanged since 1999, prompting concerns about the efficacy of ongoing efforts to address racial and structural inequities.

The study revealed dis-

turbing trends at the state level, with racial inequities in homicide rates increasing in 11 states since 1999. Wisconsin emerged as the state with the highest racial inequity, where Black women aged 25-44 were 20 times more likely to die by homicide than their white counterparts in 2019-20.

In Alaska, Black women had three times the homicide rate of white women in 1999-2003, and twice the homicide rate of white women in 2019-20. Of

See WOMEN, Page 13

Keep up with the news

O N L I N E

www.northdallasgazette.com

Historic obesity bill of rights unveiled amidst surging obesity rates nationwide

By Stacy M. Brown
 NNPA Senior National
 Correspondent

In response to a relentless surge in obesity rates nationwide, a powerful alliance of leading consumer advocates, aging experts, and public health groups have introduced the groundbreaking Obesity Bill of Rights for Americans. The initiative, with the National Consumers League (NCL) and the National Council on Aging (NCOA) at its forefront, aims to transform obesity care by enacting significant changes in federal, state, and employer policies.

The Obesity Bill of Rights is the culmination of a yearlong, meticulous fact-finding effort involving experts and communities, marking a crucial turning point in the battle against the United States' most pervasive and expensive chronic disease. Shockingly, even a decade after the American Medical Association (AMA) classified obesity as a severe disease requiring comprehensive care, it continues to be largely overlooked and untreated.

"Our aim with the Obesity Bill of Rights is to designate quality obesity care as the inherent right of all adults, empowering those with the disease to demand unbiased treatment, regardless of their size or weight," Sally Greenberg, CEO of the National Consumers League, said in a news release.

Developed in collaboration with leading obesity specialists and backed by nearly 40 national obesity and chronic disease organizations, the Obesity Bill of Rights establishes eight fundamental rights. These rights are designed to ensure that individuals with obesity undergo screening, diagnosis, counseling, and treatment according to medical guidelines, eradicating pervasive weight bias and ageism within the healthcare system.

The staggering statistics surrounding obesity underscore the critical need for this initiative. Presently, only 30 million out of an estimated 108 million adults living with obesity have been diagnosed, and a mere 2% of those eligible for



The Obesity Bill of Rights is the culmination of a yearlong, meticulous fact-finding effort involving experts and communities, marking a crucial turning point in the battle against the United States' most pervasive and expensive chronic disease. (Photo via NNPA)

anti-obesity medications have received these treatments. Officials noted in a news release that the consequences of untreated obesity include worsening outcomes for over 230 obesity-related chronic diseases, approximately 400,000 premature deaths annually, and an estimated \$1.72 trillion in direct and indirect costs to the U.S. economy.

"These rights collectively ensure that adults with obesity have reliable, accurate information about their disease, respectful and nondiscriminatory care from medical professionals, and insurance that provides access to all treatments deemed appropriate by their health providers," stated Ramsey Alwin, NCOA President and CEO.

NCL and NCOA have started the Right2ObesityCare grassroots movement to drive the radical change that the Obesity Bill of Rights envisions. Officials said the movement aims to engage individuals with obesity, caregivers, health professionals, community leaders, employers, and a network of obesity and chronic disease organizations to foster the adoption of the Obesity Bill of Rights in clinical settings.

The online hub, www.right2obesitycare.org, will serve as the epicenter for mobilizing stakeholders, focusing on national and state policy efforts. Right2ObesityCare will develop national "obesity goals" for fully implementing the Obesity Bill of Rights by December 31, 2029. Plans include

regional town halls, workshops, advocacy forums, and meetings with federal and state legislators and regulators.

Additionally, the American Psychological Association (APA) said the health crisis in Black communities are intricately linked to a myriad of societal elements, including but not limited to disparities in stable and affordable housing, income inequality, and limited access to quality education. Each of these factors, individually or collectively, can significantly influence an individual's chances of leading a longer and healthier life. A complete picture of the obesity epidemic emerges when access to affordable, wholesome food and secure spaces for physical activity is unequal, APA officials noted. Statistics show nearly 48 percent of African American adults are clinically obese, with a detailed breakdown exposing 37.1 percent of affected men and 56.6 percent of women, in contrast to 32.6 percent of whites.

Meanwhile, the Obesity Bill of Rights has garnered initial endorsements from 36 prominent organizations, including the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the American Nurses Association, and the Obesity Action Coalition. The coalition's efforts have also received support from influential policymakers such as Rep. Brad Wenstrup (R-OH) and Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI), who are championing the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act (TROA) to expand access to obesity treatments.

"Obesity is a chronic condition – not a personal or moral failing," Moore asserted. "We need to ensure our health care system treats it as a disease, so that Americans with obesity can access holistic, high-quality care that meets the full spectrum of their needs. I am

proud to be a co-lead of the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act, which puts us on a path toward effectively treating obesity, helping create healthier outcomes for Americans and supporting enhanced quality of life for Medicare beneficiaries who need comprehensive care."

AUSTIN, from Page 2

Hicks had taken over as deputy secretary of defense.

The Pentagon's statement emphasized the urgency of Austin's hospitalization for symptoms

related to a bladder issue. The White House, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Congress have all been informed about the unfolding situation.

The controversy surrounding the delayed disclosure raises fundamental questions about transparency within the Defense Department and the communication protocols governing the health status of high-ranking officials.

north.texas.irish.festival
 42nd
 Roth Mór an tsaoil

north texas
IRISH festival

March 1-3, 2024
 FAIR PARK | DALLAS, TX
NTIF.ORG

PRESENTED BY THE SOUTHWEST
 CELTIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION

Tom Thumb | Albertsons
DISCOUNT TICKETS FOR SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT TOM THUMB AND ALBERTSONS

DALLAS | DART | FAIR PARK | GUINNESS
let's go. DALLAS

55th NAACP Image Award nominees unveiled

LOS ANGELES – The NAACP unveiled the full list of “55th NAACP Image Awards” nominees with Netflix and Amazon leading the pack with 55 and 27 nominations respectively.

The winners will be revealed during the two-hour LIVE TV special, airing Saturday, March 16, 2024 at 8:00 PM ET/ PT on BET and CBS.

Colman Domingo leads the nominations across the motion picture categories with three nominations. Ayo Edebiri received the most nominations in the television and streaming categories with two for Abbott Elementary and The Bear.

Victoria Monét and Usher received the most nominations in the music recording categories, earning six and five nods, respectively. RCA Records received an impressive 20 nominations, the most across record labels. HarperCollins Publisher and Penguin Random House lead nominations across literary categories seven and four nods, respec-



tively.

“We are thrilled to celebrate the achievements of this year’s nominees, whose outstanding contributions across film, television and streaming, music, literature, podcasts, and more have inspired us all,” said Derrick Johnson, President and CEO of the NAACP. “The NAACP Image Awards stand as a tribute to their creativity, talent, and dedication to authentic storytell-

ing and are a testament to the richness and diversity of our community.”

“As we reflect on the rich legacy of the NAACP, we take pride in honoring the artistic brilliance of this year’s nominees. We are excited to illuminate and celebrate the extraordinary talent within our community,” said Scott Mills, President and CEO, BET Media Group

By visiting www.naacp-imageawards.net, the pub-

lic can vote to determine the winners of the “55th NAACP Image Awards” in select categories. Voting closes February 24 at 9:00 p.m.

Winners will be revealed during the “55th NAACP Image Awards” telecast on March 16, 2024, on BET and CBS. NAACP will also recognize winners in non-televised Image Awards categories March 11–14th, which will stream via naacpimageawards.net. For information and updates, please follow NAACP Image Awards on Instagram @NAACPImageAwards.

The “55th NAACP Image Awards” is proudly presented by this year’s incredible partners and sponsors. We extend our thanks for their invaluable support and commitment to promoting excellence in the Black community.

Globally recognized as one of the most distinguished multicultural awards shows, the “55th NAACP Image Awards” will continue a tradition of

excellence, uplifting values that inspire equality, justice, and progressive change, and highlighting artists committed to that purpose.

One of the most iconic annual celebrations of Black excellence, the NAACP Image Awards draws the biggest and brightest stars in Hollywood. Previous years’ attendees and winners include Angela Bassett, Will Smith, Viola Davis, Beyoncé, Nicco Annan, Ruth E. Carter, Glynn Turman, Quinta Brunson, Nia Long, Keith David, Jennifer Hud-

son, Stacey Abrams, Tabitha Brown, Dwayne Wade & Gabrielle Union, Tems, Erica Campbell, Chris Brown, Bruno Mars Anderson. Paak Silk Sonic, Rihanna, Quavo, Takeoff, Sheryl Lee Ralph, Zendaya, Yara Shahidi, Issa Rae, Janelle Monáe, Tracee Ellis Ross, Serena Williams, Kerry Washington, Method Man, Dominique Thorne, Austin Scott, Tyler James Williams, Kyla Pratt, Jabari Banks, and many more.

The full list of nominees can be found at www.northdallasgazette.com.



Ronnie Smith
Mortgage Loan Officer
Capital Federal Credit Union

346-237-0221

FHA conventional

VA down payment assistance for homeownership

NMLS#1978090

MADD and Diageo North America team up to tackle impaired driving in the U.S.

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) — Mothers Against Drunk Driving® (MADD) and Diageo North America have agreed to a new partnership to collaborate on public awareness and education campaigns aimed at ending drunk driving.

In late 2023, MADD created the MADD Network, a first-of-its-kind campaign that aims to unite diverse supporters of MADD who share the commitment of creating a future of No More Victims. Diageo, which has a proven track record of effective programming to prevent impaired driving, is an inaugural member in the launch of the MADD Network.

Their first partnership initiative will be to jointly send a clear “don’t drink and drive” message to football fans throughout the

U.S. and beyond as the big game approaches, encouraging everyone to celebrate and enjoy the game safely while refraining from drinking and driving.

“In recent years we have witnessed a surge in drunk driving. Just since 2019, alcohol-related traffic fatalities have increased by 31%. MADD and Diageo are acutely aware that lives are at stake,” said MADD CEO Stacey D. Stewart. “We all want to savor the big game, but no one should get behind the wheel after consuming alcohol, marijuana, or other drugs and substances that can impair driving. Our partnership will help carry this message far beyond what either of our organizations could reach alone.”

Having a great time before, during and after the

big game is wonderful, say MADD and Diageo, but no one should put lives at risk by drinking and driving. Impaired driving deaths and injuries are a concern that affects Americans in both urban and rural areas and from all walks of life.

Impaired driving has increased by 14% two years in a row and has caused 13,000 deaths in a single year for the first time since 2007. Every 79 seconds, someone in the U.S. is killed or injured by a drunk driver — and that number does not include the deaths and injuries caused by drivers who were impaired by cannabis or other controlled substances.

MADD has helped save nearly 400,000 lives and served nearly 1 million victims in the last 43 years. MADD recently celebrated

the greatest legislative vic-

See MADD, Page 5

We Buy Ugly Houses



- Pretty Houses
- Ugly Houses
- Divorce
- Inheritance
- Problem Tenants
- Need Repairs
- Vacant House
- Fire Damage
- Estate Sale
- Behind on payments

CALL 972-665-0170

We Buy Houses ... Fast!

PVAMU earns global award for international education efforts

(PVAMU) Prairie View A&M University has received the prestigious 2024 Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization from NAFSA: Association of International Educators. The University is the first HBCU to receive the honor.

NAFSA is the world's largest nonprofit association dedicated to international education and exchange. The organization serves the needs of more than 10,000 members and international educators worldwide at more than 4,300 institutions in more than 170 countries.

Named after the late Senator Paul Simon of Illinois, the awards celebrate outstanding commitment and accomplishment in campus internationalization.

The Award for Campus Internationalization recognizes U.S. colleges and



universities making significant, well-planned, well-executed, and well-documented progress toward comprehensive internationalization—especially those using innovative and creative approaches.

“Being selected for the Senator Paul Simon Award in the Comprehensive Internationalization category is a high honor,” said Dr.

Godlove Fonjweng, executive director of International and Intercultural Programs at PVAMU. “It highlights the University’s total commitment to comprehensive internationalization. As the first HBCU to ever win the award and one of a limited number of institutions to win it nationwide, it feels great to be recognized in such a very

public way at the national and international levels.

“This recognition is part of the global footprint we seek to showcase during our ongoing internationalization journey. It is the result of hard, persistent and collaborative work, combined with a significant investment of institutional resources, which was started by our Quality Enhancement Program Committee and sustained by the talented and dedicated staff in our Office of International Programs. I appreciate all our campus stakeholders, including faculty, students and staff in various departments, whose cooperation and support made this possible. Now is the time to sustain and build on this success,” Fonjweng continued.

NAFSA Executive Director and CEO Fanta Aw said, “I am pleased to

recognize such a diverse and dynamic group of institutions for integrating international education into their teaching, partnerships, systems, culture and student success models. With minority-serving institutions, large land-grant universities and a community college district counted among this year’s winners, these institutions demonstrate that the principles and practices of internationalization thrive within a variety of structures, geographies and student populations. We commend these colleges and universities for their exemplary work in advancing the intercultural skills of their students, faculty and staff in today’s dynamic landscape.”

Highlights of PVAMU’s work and commitment to internationalization include:

- Investing in faculty-led study abroad programs;
- Pioneering passport access;
- Implementing the Peace Corps Preparatory Certificate program;
- Developing the B-GLOBAL (Broadening Global Learning Opportunities Building Academic Leaders) program; and
- Partnering with international universities to offer subsidized, affordable and faculty-led programs for a wide range of majors and semester-long programs with transfer credits to diverse destinations.

As Houston is home to the third largest concentration of consular offices in the U.S., PVAMU’s Office of International Programs also recently launched the Consular Tour Program, promoting faculty-led stu-

See PVAMU, Page 11

House Education Committee approves College Cost Reduction Act

(American Council on Education) The House Education and the Workforce Committee recently voted along party lines to pass the College Cost Reduction Act (CCRA) (H.R. 6951), an overhaul of federal student aid, lending, repayment, and accreditation processes that is meant to be a significant step toward reauthorizing the Higher Education Act of 1965, last updated in 2008.

Unfortunately, the rushed timeline between the 223-

page bill’s introduction and the markup left little room for thorough analysis and stakeholder input. ACE and other higher education associations sent a letter on Tuesday expressing their concern over the lack of time for stakeholder input and other problems with the bill. You can also read a brief summary of the bill here and full details of the hearing in Inside Higher Ed.

On the plus side, before the markup the bill’s spon-

sors updated the legislation to restore the Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant, a change which we strongly advocated for. They also eliminated a provision that would have created a boosted Pell Grant program for students in their third and fourth years of study.

Other aspects of the version of the CCRA as introduced continue to be problematic. The proposed value-added earnings vs. total price formula, risk-

sharing mechanisms, and changes to the need analysis formula raise concerns about unintended consequences, which could disproportionately impact low-income students and institutions serving underrepresented groups. Additionally, caps on loan limits, the termination of PLUS loans, and a focus on “student achievement outcomes” over “student achievement” pose significant challenges for both students and institutions.

ACE is continuing to analyze the managers amendment introduced by Rep. Burgess Owens (R-UT) to determine other potential changes to the introduced version of the CCRA.

The bill now moves to the full House, and the timeline for a vote there is unclear. It is unlikely to be taken up in the Senate, reflecting broader political disagreements over the future of federal student aid and higher education reform.

Ahead of Wednesday’s hearing, Democrats on the committee issued their own HEA plan, called the Roadmap to College Student Success. A package of six bills, the roadmap is aimed at making college more affordable, improving access to high-quality programs, and increasing overall student support services, with provisions on free community college, doubling the Pell Grant, and fighting student food insecurity.

Spelman College receives record-breaking \$100 million gift for scholarships and academic advancement

Renowned businesswoman and philanthropist Ronda Stryker and her husband, William Johnston, Chairman of Greenleaf Trust, have bestowed a monumental gift of \$100 million to Spelman College. The ex-

traordinary donation is the largest single contribution ever made to a historically Black college or university (HBCU).

According to a news release, Stryker, a devoted Spelman College Trustee

since 1997, has dedicated decades of her life to the advancement of women through higher education, championing opportunities for marginalized groups. The \$100 million gift coincides with Spelman College

commemorating 100 years since its official naming in 1924, marking a historic occasion in the institution’s rich legacy.

Officials said a significant portion of the \$75 million donation is earmarked for

establishing endowed scholarships to support future students. Officials continued that the move aligns with Spelman College’s commitment to attracting the brightest minds and dismantling financial obstacles that may

impede qualified students from pursuing education at the esteemed institution. The remaining \$25 million will go towards initiatives such as the development of

See FUNDS, Page 12



Check us out on Facebook!

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



More than 400 make the journey to CASAblanca to pack annual fundraiser for area kids in need

More than 400 Dallas-area young professionals packed The Hall on Drag on Feb. 2 for CASAblanca, a casino party -- dubbed "Red Carpet Affair" -- benefiting the children served by Dallas CASA.

The sold-out event featured a live band, dancing and a silent auction, plus blackjack and craps tables and a roulette wheel. Guests dressed in tuxedos and glittering formal dresses enjoyed a signature cocktail, the Queen of Hearts featuring orange liqueur, cranberry juice and champagne, a fried rice station and cheesecake lollipops. They ended the night with Whataburger honey butter chicken biscuits.

The event was hosted by Dallas CASA Young Professionals, a vibrant and growing auxiliary group supporting Dallas CASA and its mission. It was co-

chaired by Brooke Donelson, Hannah Harpole and Amanda Rodriguez.

It included a fun silent auction items, including a year of Whataburger, Aero tickets to Cabo or Aspen, original art, dinners out, wine tastings, beauty treatments, jewelry, sports, adventure and other experiences. Blackjack, craps tables and a roulette wheel kept the action moving all night. The Special Edition band likewise played all night for a dancing crowd.

Alto and Fetii provided promo codes for guests to get to and from CASAblanca safely and timely. Alto is for smaller parties and Fetii is for large groups on a party van.

The Dallas CASA Young Professionals seeks to raise awareness of child welfare issues. Many Young Professionals members are also Dallas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advo-

lates) volunteers, and Dallas CASA is proud to have a young volunteer base. In 2023, 49% of new sworn advocates were in their 20s and 30s. The Young Professionals are growing, too, with a 66% growth in membership in 2023.

Dallas CASA's community volunteers are trained and supervised to advocate for children who have experienced abuse or neglect and are living in the protective care of the state.



Cody Lo and Valeria Reynosa hit the dance floor during the 2024 CASAblanca red carpet event to raise funds benefiting Dallas CASA, which aids children in the legal system after experiencing abuse or neglect. (Ray Carlin / Courtesy photo)



The gaming tables stayed pretty busy throughout the night during CASAblanca 2024. (Ray Carlin / Courtesy photo)

GOLDBERG, from Page 2

an academic focus on public policy and democracy, enhancements to student housing, and the provision of flexible funding to address critical strategic needs.

"We are invigorated and inspired by this incredible act of generosity," said Dr. Helene Gayle, president of Spelman College. "This gift is a critical step in our school's mission to eliminate financial barriers to starting and finishing

a Spelman education. We can't thank Ronda Stryker enough for her selflessness and support as both a trustee and friend. There's no doubt that Spelman College is better because of her."

The \$100 million donation is a testament to Stryker and Johnston's commitment to education and a significant leap forward for Spelman College in its pursuit of becoming need-blind, Gayle remarked.

Join State Senator Royce West in supporting Senator Nathan Johnson

100% Pro-Choice

State Senator Nathan Johnson stands up to the extremists to deliver for Texans.

- Bringing jobs to community areas that need it most
- Defended and funded our public schools -- even as Gov. Greg Abbott tried to defund them
- Provided healthcare coverage for hundreds of thousands of uninsured Texans
- Authored laws to reduce gun violence
- Fought to restore abortion rights alongside Planned Parenthood
- Ended decades of injustice in misdemeanor drug cases
- Stood up to the extremists to protect voting rights
- Passed critical legislation to build a \$2 billion statewide backup power system

STRONGLY ENDORSED BY TRUSTED LEADERS:

- Texas State Senator Royce West
- Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price
- Dallas Mayor Pro Tem Tennell Atkins
- Dallas Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn King Arnold
- U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk
- Texas State Representative Carl Sherman
- Former Superintendent of DISD Michael Hinojosa

Democratic Primary: March 5 | Early Voting: February 20 - March 1

Political Advertising paid for by Nathan Johnson Campaign • PO Box 670994 • Dallas, TX 75367

How diaspora communities might affect upcoming elections around the world

By Lori Lee
NDG Contributing Writer

Those who have chosen to live outside their countries of citizenship often continue to care about their home countries, including their elections.

These dispersed populations, the diaspora, can be consequential to elections, especially when the elections are close or in countries with proportionally large diasporas, such as El Salvador, with at least 20% living abroad.

While three quarters of countries in the world allow their citizens to vote abroad, about a quarter of those make voting difficult, explained Senior Fellow and Co-Founder of the



Mexican citizens who live abroad or are born abroad can now register and vote with ease electronically, by mail, or at the consulate's office. (Filip Gielda / Unsplash)

Migration Policy Institute Kathleen Newland.

For countries where voters are required to travel home to vote, plane fares can effectively exclude them. Immobility can also make registration, voting,

and gaining information on the right to vote difficult. This is especially true for women in some countries, said Newland.

In countries where voting systems are more advanced, access may not be

an issue, said Newland. However, some countries, such as the U.S., treat overseas voting in a hands-off manner, failing to inform their citizens who live abroad of how to register or vote. The U.S. falls into this category, said Newland.

The proverbial melting pot that is the U.S. has more immigrants than any other country in the world. Having maintained a healthy flow, effectively absorbed into society, the flow has increased to produce pressure more recently, even quadrupling since the '60s.

There are now 11 million Mexican citizens living and working in the U.S., said Diana Alarcón González, chief advisor to the mayor

and foreign affairs coordinator for Mexico City.

This expansive diaspora could be a powerful influence on Mexican elections, said González. Yet potential voters seldom participate, this, despite that Mexican citizens who live abroad or are born abroad can now register and vote with ease electronically, by mail, or at the consulate's office.

With the election of Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador in 2018, only about 90,000 people voted from abroad, said González. Obrador, who won by a large margin proposed a transformation of the Mexican government, with goals of eradicating corruption and improving wellbeing for

the Mexican people. The election of this opposition party was an important sea change for Mexico, said González.

The upcoming June 2 election will be equally historic for Mexico, with close to 20,000 positions open, including the presidency, she said. After combining second, third, and fourth generations, about 30 million of 98 million potential Mexican voters will be living abroad. One in ten Mexicans live outside of Mexico, while about 98% of those live in the U.S., the Wilson Center reports.

Many who are a part of the Mexican diaspora

See DIASPORA, Page 11



Amplifying artists of every age.

Black History Month 2024

AARP celebrates artists over 50 of every form. Through our Brain Health work, we know that art keeps us mentally sharp, as it connects us and preserves our collective story. We're uplifting these dynamic artists who have mastered their craft in the areas of costume design, dance and hip-hop music.

Celebrate Black artists that make your community thrive this Black History Month and beyond.

Nasha Thomas
National Director, AileyCamp
Master Teacher

Doug E. Fresh
Hip-Hop Legend

Ruth E. Carter
Award-Winning
Costume Designer



Discover more today at
[AARP.org/BlackCommunity](https://www.aarp.org/BlackCommunity)

NDG Film Review: 'Luther: Never Too Much' is one for the fans

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

(**1/2) At a young age, Luther Vandross knew music was his calling and there could be no other day job.

Vandross: "I really don't want a plan B. It's going to be this or I'm going to be 80 years old trying to do this!"

That drive and determination is on view in every frame of this enlightening bio/doc along with his silky voice, vocal gymnastics and knack for penning a catchy tune.

Director Dawn Porter (John Lewis: Good Trouble) guides and assembles the precious collection of live performances, TV clips and Luther interviews.

She questions those who knew him (Jamie Foxx), sang with him (Fonzi Thornton), dueted with him (Mariah Carey), man-



Courtesy Sundance Film Fest

aged him (Clive Davis) and were his idols (Dionne Warwick). The stars around him reminisce, but he is the sun, the brightest light.

His first big break (singing with the in-house Apollo Theater group "Listen My Brother"), second break (singing on "Sesame Street"), third break (doing vocals arrangements on

David Bowie's classic album "Young Americans") and fourth break (writing and singing jingles for commercials) prepared him for his solo career and Grammy Award recognition.

The cinematography (Bryan Gentry) and editing (Mark Fason) add a professional touch. Porter

seems to navigate through Vandross' life sensitively. Issues with weight, diabetes, a stroke and his longing for a loving partner are mentioned.

His urge for his music to crossover is put in perspective when he says he wants what Billy Ocean, Tina Turner and Lionel Richie achieved. Then there are his hits: "Superstar," "Give Me the Reason," "Endless Love," "Here and Now" and of course "Never Too Much."

It's sad but gratifying to learn why his monster

cross-over hit "Dance With My Father" was so special to him. It's a fitting coda to a touching documentary. A very illuminating recollection of a man who could sing anyone under the table and any audience into submission. This beautifully crafted Luther Vandross diary brings the house down. It's got "Love Power."

For more information about the Sundance Film Festival go to: <https://festival.sundance.org>

Visit Film Critic Dwight Brown at DwightBrown-Ink.com.

DOING THE RIGHT THING

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

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

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION:

Friday, Mar 1	12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Thursday, Mar 14	6:00-7:00 p.m.
Thursday, Mar 7	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Friday, Mar 22	12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

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

DART CELEBRATES

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

#DARTCelebratesHeritage

Hip Hop icons head Rock & Roll Hall of Fame nominees

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior National
Correspondent

In a harmonious blend of iconic lyrics, Mary J. Blige's soulful anthem "No More Drama" Eric B. & Rakim's timeless declaration in "Paid in Full" and A Tribe Called Quest's rhythmic wisdom from "Can I Kick It?" intertwine to create a symphony of musical mastery.

Showcasing a diverse lineup of influential artists, the trio of hip-hop icons heads the list of nominees for the 2024 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

Indeed, Mary J. Blige's impassioned plea for liberation from turmoil has always set the stage among hip-hop and R&B royalty. At the same time, Eric B. & Rakim's poetic verses on pursuing success resonate powerfully in rap. A Tribe



Showcasing a diverse lineup of influential artists, the trio of hip-hop icons heads the list of nominees for the 2024 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. (Photo via NNPA)

Called Quest's laid-back groove and infectious call to action infuse the narrative with unity and self-expression. Hip-hop has taken a front seat in the Hall, which has become a celebration of popular music from all genres.

The complete list of nominees comprises Mary J. Blige, Mariah Carey, Cher, Dave Matthews Band, Eric B. & Rakim, Foreigner, Peter Frampton,

Jane's Addiction, Kool & the Gang, Lenny Kravitz, Oasis, Sinéad O'Connor, Ozzy Osbourne, Sade, and A Tribe Called Quest.

The 2024 induction ceremony will stream live on Disney+, with an exclusive airing on ABC later and availability on Hulu the following day, officials announced in a news release.

Eligibility for nomina-

See Hip Hop, Page 12

BEETLEJUICE
The Musical. The Musical. The Musical.
"A JOYFUL, EBULLIENT ANTIDOTE TO REALITY!"
—ROLLING STONE
BROADWAY'S DEARLY BELOVED MUSICAL COMES TO DALLAS
FEB 20 - MAR 3
MUSIC HALL AT FAIR PARK
BroadwayDallas.org
Germania Insurance BROADWAY SERIES
PRESENTED BY BROADWAY DALLAS
PHOTO BY MATTHEW MURPHY

Check us out on Youtube!

7 MOST COMMON MEDICARE SCAMS
Medicare's Open Enrollment runs Oct. 15 - Dec. 7, 2023
NDG



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

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

NNPA Salutes FCC for enhancing opportunity for Black owned and other minority owned FM broadcasters through geotargeting

(BUSINESS WIRE)-- The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), representing the Black Press of America and 250 Black owned media companies throughout the United States of America, resolutely joins with the U.S. Black Chamber of

Commerce (USBC) to salute and thank the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for moving forward in the authorization process for FM Broadcasters' geotargeting. Ron Busby, the President and CEO of USBC, stated, "This is a needed boost for

the broadcasting industry, especially for small and medium-sized broadcasters, many of whom are African American." Bobby R. Henry, Sr., Chairman of the NNPA, affirmed, "We acknowledge and support the FCC's progress on this important

initiative to further enable Black-owned and minority-owned FM broadcasters to acquire geotargeting." NNPA President and CEO, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., emphasized, "The leadership of FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel, and FCC Commission-

ers Geoffrey Starks and Brendan Carr continues to be exemplary and outstanding by supporting this consequential rule change that will surely benefit minority-owned businesses who will now be able to utilize the benefits of FM geotargeting."

The NNPA also stressed the noteworthy importance of the bipartisan support of the proposed FCC rule change. Chavis concluded, "This bipartisan effort by the FCC bodes well for the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to inclusion and diversity."

PVAMU, from Page 6

dent visits to consular offices to enhance students' understanding of diplomatic staff responsibilities and diverse cultures. The program establishes connections between the University and the broader in-

ternational community. "I am elated to congratulate the Office of International Programs on being awarded the prestigious National Association of International Educators Senator Paul Simon

Award," said Dr. Michael L. McFrazier, interim provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs. "This recognition reflects our commitment to promoting global engagement and providing transformative opportunities for both our students and our com-

munity. We are proud to be the first HBCU and one of a select group of higher education institutions in the U.S. to receive this coveted award that recognizes our comprehensive internationalization efforts to prepare students for success in an increasingly interconnect-

ed world." "This recognition highlights the hard work and dedication of our faculty and International Programs staff," said Dr. Nathan Mitchell, professor and director of B-GLOBAL. "They are some of the most creative and passionate

people I have ever worked with. Every day, they work to broaden the perspectives of our students and create great spaces to learn." To learn more about NAFSA's Senator Paul Simon Award and the 2024 recipients, visit www.nafsa.org/SimonAward.

DIASPORA, from Page 8

maintain ties in Mexico and therefore take an interest in the Mexican government. And because Mexico allows dual citizenship, Mexican citizens can have their feet firmly planted in two countries, with high stakes in each country, said González. Mexicans living abroad send important resources to Mexico, and they have a right to express their views, she said.

ister to vote from abroad. Mexicans who live abroad can register to vote at any Mexican embassy or consulate, said González, and the deadline for registration is February 20 in order to participate in this June's elections.

everyone. Taiwan has already held a high-stakes election this year, the Democratic Progressive Party's (DPP) William Lai winning the presidency and holding a congressional majority, while losing its majority in the legislature.

Taiwanese who live abroad tend to be businessmen and students, which relate more to the older parties in Taiwan that support closer ties with Beijing over independence.

The collapse of Hong Kong increased support for democracy and resulted in protests in the U.S. supporting Taiwan, she explained. Mainstream media coverage of these protests

has only helped the pro-democracy movement, said Xiaoping. If there is a walk, Asian hate waves will be perpetuated, as people brace for an unpredictable future, said Xiaoping.

There are a number of reasons why citizens living abroad would care about their home country's elections. Mexico recently became America's largest trading partner (Statista), and the relative efficiency of the Mexican government can affect migration patterns and organized crime in the U.S.

The Indian diaspora will not be enough to affect the outcome in India, where incumbent Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to win big, explained Dr. Arvind Panagariya, a professor at Columbia. Modi has remained popular, despite having served two terms, with an expanding economy that is expected to become the third largest worldwide in a few years, he said.

The DPP, which amended its charter to allow a Taiwanese vote on whether to become an independent country, has toned down its image as the independence party, said Rong Xiaoping, a reporter for the Sing Tao Daily in New York. The party is now represented as simply wanting to allow the people a choice rather than pressing for independence, she said.

February 1, 2024

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

We are currently hiring for the following positions:

- Form setter (Paving)
- CDL Drivers (Haul Truck)
- Boom Mobile Crane (CDL)
- Concrete Finishers (Paving)
- Dozer Operator (Earthwork)
- Laborer (Paving, Earthwork)
- Loader Operator (Earthwork)
- Batch Plant Operator (Concrete)
- Concrete Paving Operator (Paving)
- Motor Grader Operator (Earthwork)
- Barricade Servicer (Must have valid DL)

Available: multiple openings

Rate: Negotiable

Must have own transportation.

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

Physical and Drug Screen Required

Must have a Clear Background

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

Must apply in PERSON, Monday – Friday from 8am to 11am @ 10605 Harry Hines Blvd. Please visit our website: www.edbellconstruction.com/careers Or email your resume to: careers@edbellconstruction.com

Let us hear from you!
 If there is any news, events or anything else we need to know about, give us an e-mail at:
editor@northdallasgazette.com

PMG unveils new Dallas headquarters driven by rapid business growth

(BUSINESS WIRE)--PMG, a global independent marketing solutions and technology company, has opened doors at a new Dallas headquarters within The Link at Uptown.

The company's approximately 300 Dallas-based employees move into the property from its previous location in The Centrum. PMG occupies three upper floors and 75,000 square feet of the sleek tower developed by Kaizen Development Partners (KDP) and managed by JLL. The Link at Uptown opened last November to serve as the center point linking Uptown, Downtown and the revital-

ized Victory Park neighborhood, a massive urban transformation project to create a thriving residential, hotel and retail community within a 75-acre mixed-use development.

Local architecture firm Corgan led the design of PMG's space, with construction by K2.

At the centrally located The Link at Uptown—whose Uptown neighbors include Bain, E&Y, Hotel Swexan, Salesforce, and soon Goldman Sachs—PMG will occupy floors 18-20 with a three-story, open-air staircase connecting the floors to facilitate interactions. As an anchor tenant, PMG has

top-of-building signage.

"We're very excited for this move," said George Popstefanov, founder & CEO of PMG. "The new headquarters is a milestone moment in our 14-year history, and symbolic of our growth and incredible momentum as we kick off 2024. PMG has been built on a pioneering and innovative spirit, so we embrace being part of the Victory Park area revitalization and connecting with the broader community, as Dallas transforms into a dynamic and thriving business hub that's attracting top employers and talent from across industries."

Last fall, PMG acquired both Dallas-based Camelot Strategic Marketing & Media and UK-based Rocket-Mill, expanding the company's integrated marketing and technology capabilities internationally and adding 400 people. PMG enters its next phase of business growth with more than 900 people globally.

PMG headquarters at The Link is designed to accommodate further growth in 2024 with seating capacity for 400 people. Despite continued economic uncertainty and disruptive change across the industry, 2023 ended as a banner year for PMG in which it:

- Grew annual revenue by more than 20%
- Managed \$4 billion in media billings
- Added 19 brands to its core customer list that includes Nike, Apple, Kohler and local favorites JSX, Michaels, Omni Hotels & Resorts and Nothing Bundt Cakes
- Completed its first two acquisitions that marked its international expansion to the UK and media buying expertise in emerging areas like OTC and CTV
- Launched AI enhancements to its proprietary marketing intelligence platform, Alli
- Named to Ad Age A-

List 2023 and its Best Place to Work 2024 for an unprecedented 9x

• Hired Dentsu veteran Jon Dupuis as its first president, overseeing business growth and expansion of its creative practice

PMG's new address is: 2601 Olive St., 19th floor, Dallas, TX 75201 inside The Link at Uptown, and within walking distance of American Airlines Center and a diverse hub of entertainment, dining and transportation options. PMG will continue to operate and collaborate closely with its six other hub locations, including its founding office in Fort Worth.

HIP HOP, from Page 10

tion requires an artist or band to have released their first commercial recording at least 25 years before the year of nomination. Ten out of the 15 nominees are on the ballot for the first time,

introducing a fresh wave of talent to the prestigious recognition.

John Sykes, Chairman of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Foundation, expressed enthusiasm for the

diverse list of nominees, emphasizing the impactful contributions of hip-hop artists. "This remarkable list reflects the diverse artists and music that the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame honors and celebrates. These hip-hop artists have created

sounds that have impacted generations and influenced countless others" he stated.

The nominees were unveiled in partnership with ABC/Disney+ at the TCA in Los Angeles and through the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame's social channels.

Nominee ballots will be sent to an international voting body comprising over 1,000 artists, historians, and music industry members. The evaluation criteria include an artist's musical impact, influence on peers, career length and

depth, and innovation in style and technique.

Inductees for the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Class of 2024 will be announced in late April. The induction ceremony is scheduled to take place in Cleveland this fall.

FINLAYSON, from Page 2

involved in a domestic incident that turned deadly. According to the Instagram post, Shelton was also involved in the killing of Michael Thomas, 61, under

similar circumstances.

In the aftermath of Finlayson's shooting, the Sheriff's Department said its investigation continues as Finlayson's family

started the process of suing the department and county for \$30 million. "As she sought to be protected, instead she was executed," said Brad Gage, an attorney representing Finlayson's family. "Niana was

sitting on the ground when she was shot in the back. Niani was obviously upset that this man had injured her and her daughter but did not take any violent actions."

Authorities are ask-

ing anyone with information regarding the case to call LASD's homicide detectives at 323-890-5500. Anonymous tips can be submitted to L.A. Crimestoppers at 800-222-8477.

"They immediately treated her as the hostile one," Instagram user "af-rocrypt" wrote. "No attempt to calm anything." Another user, "cymuzik," posted about the deputy, "Trained to kill."

RACE, from Page 1

that Bowers pulling out was due to her inability to raise the funds necessary to compete in today's political climate. There is merit to what Johnson observation of funding, because to get elected to the U.S. Congress one must have not only a big political plan but also a big political bank.

When the dust had settled, only four remained.

For a recent primary debate in Richardson, there were but four remaining candidates who proved they had the plan, the bank and the cache that qualified them to participate. The results made for a highly diverse mixture of political hopefuls.

The four remaining candidates' response to a

Ballotpedia survey and/or their campaign website provided insight as to their background and those issues central to their campaign.

Callie Butcher

Butcher is a native Dallasite who earned a law degree in 2014 from the University of Texas School of Law.

If Butcher's bid for the vacated seat is successful, Butcher will become Congress' first transgender member.

Butcher's key achievement goals for the 32nd Congressional District constituents are:

1. People over Power
2. Medicare for All and Bodily Autonomy
3. LGBTQ+ Rights Now

Julie Johnson

Johnson earned a law degree from the University of Houston. Johnson is currently the Texas House of Representatives Democratic incumbent for District 115, though her political journey began with an allegiance to the Republican party.

Johnson is the most experienced politician in the race.

Johnson's key achievement goals for the 32nd Congressional District constituents are:

1. Reinstating Reproductive Rights
2. Stricter Gun Control laws
3. Quashing the extremist agenda of hate and divisiveness
4. Reduction in the Cost of Prescription Drugs and

securing the Affordable Care Act

Justin Moore

Moore is a native Dallasite who earned a law degree at SMU's Dedman School of Law, and who has experience as a Dallas County District Attorney and a Civil Rights attorney.

Moore's key achievement goals for the 32nd Congressional District constituents are:

1. Equal rights for all Texans
2. Expansion of access to affordable Healthcare
3. Addressing the issues of Climate Control
4. Providing Quality Education for all Texans
5. Community Engagement

Dr. Brian Williams

Dr. Williams, an Air Force veteran, earned a

medical degree in 2001 from the University of South Florida College of Medicine before completing general surgery residency training at Harvard Medical School/Brigham and Women's Hospital. Dr. Williams of new to politics, although, he has experience as a congressional health policy advisor.

If his bid is successful Dr. Williams will become the first trauma surgeon in the U.S. Congress.

Dr. Williams' key achievement goals for the 32nd Congressional District constituents are:

1. Subduing the "Epidemic of Gun Violence" and Advocating for Gun Safety
2. Building Safer and Healthier Communities across Texas and the nation

3. Providing Healthcare to Americans who do not have access

4. Addressing "Extremist Republicans" on basic rights

An analysis of the Texas 32nd District following the 2020 redistricting and presidential election showed that President Joe Biden claimed 65.7% of the votes, while Donald Trump claimed 32.7% of the vote. So, the winner of the four-way battle for the Democratic nomination is presumably a sure winner against a Republican challenger.

If after the March 5th Democratic primary, no candidate wins more than 50% of the vote, the top two finishers will advance to a May 28th primary runoff.

MADD, from Page 5

tory in its history —the passage of the HALT Act which requires advanced impaired driving prevention technology in all new cars. The organization continues to pass lifesaving legislation, advocate for victims and survivors and change America’s culture around drinking and driving. Today, MADD is fiercely dedicated to a future in which drunk driving is eradicated.

“We are proud to join forces with MADD on the shared commitment to address impaired driving, and extremely honored

to become the inaugural member of the MADD Network,” said Stephanie Childs, Executive Vice President, Corporate Relations, at Diageo North America. “With our combined expertise, networks and educational resources to address alcohol-related harm, together we are stronger to raise awareness and help save lives.”

Diageo has a record of implementing and supporting multi-agency drunk driving programs that address education and enforcement all over the world. In the U.S., the

company has supported initiatives aimed at reducing traffic deaths and improving road safety through a range of interventions, including partnerships with the private sector, local authorities, law enforcement, and other agencies that support the enforcement of impaired driving laws. Some of these efforts include:

- Launching the ‘Wrong Side of the Road,’ an interactive experience aimed at educating people on the consequences of impaired
- Providing educational resources available through its DRINKiQ platform, which provides information (in English and Span-

ish) about alcohol and its effects, empowering people to make responsible choices.

- Funding safe rides, designated drivers and free transportation to provide consumers with safe

- Supporting the enforcement of drunk driving highly visible laws where they exist and the establishment of effective laws where they don’t.

- Diageo brands, dedicating advertising and activations toward promoting moderation and responsible drinking.

One of Diageo’s most recent initiatives, in 2022, was the creation of the

Multicultural Consortium for Responsible Drinking (MCRD) in partnership with influential members of the Black, Latino and Native American communities to address alcohol-related harm. In the U.S., research has shown that alcohol consumption affects ethnic communities differently and through this hyperlocal community-focused effort, Diageo has provided educational resources to over 1.6 million people. MADD is proud to join the MCRD and looks forward to working with other members in our shared mission and vision.

“We all need to work to-

wards a future in which no one has to fear becoming the victim of an impaired driver.” added Stewart. “The power of the MADD Network comes from each partner — whether a corporation, a foundation, or an individual — using their own platform to help educate their unique community about the dangers of impaired driving, the need for underage drinking education/prevention, and legislative efforts that will effect real change.”

MADD and Diageo North America will announce additional details about their partnership in the near future.

WOMEN, from Page 3

the 30 states included in the analysis, eight states (Oklahoma, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Florida, New Jersey, North Carolina, and Texas) had no change in the disparity across the 20 years of inclusion. In six states (Indiana, Georgia, Maryland, Nevada, Alaska, and Virginia) the disparity decreased, with the largest decrease in Maryland, where the homicide rate among Black women was four times higher than among white women in 1999–2003, decreasing to two times higher in 2019–20. For ten states (Arkansas, Kansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Missouri, New York, South Carolina, and Wisconsin), the disparity increased.

One of the key findings of the research is the alarming increase in firearm-related homicides, with women in the USA having 2.44 times the odds of firearm-involved homicides in 2019–20 compared to 1999–2003. This trend is disproportionately concentrated among Black women in every region of the country.

“Notably, Black women are murdered 6 times more often, on average, than their white peers,” the researchers wrote. “Further,

Black women residing in the Midwest and Northeast were more likely to be killed with a firearm than Black women residing in any other area of the country. Importantly, we found the greatest inequities are in areas of the country where concentrated disadvantage is pronounced. This finding is a crucial initial step towards developing targeted solutions to reduce inequitable homicide rates among Black women.”

The researchers stressed the urgent need for action to address these disparities, suggesting that enacting federal legislation to reduce gun access is a crucial step. Additionally, they have urged policymakers to tackle long-standing structural factors contributing to elevated gun violence by implementing sustainable wealth-building opportunities, developing mixed-income and affordable housing, and increasing green spaces in communities where black women predominantly reside.

Lead author Bernadine Waller, a postdoctoral psychiatry research fellow at Columbia University’s Irving Medical Center, expressed her disappointment at the lack of comprehensive research on this is-

sue. Waller emphasized the devastating impact of high homicide rates on families, especially considering that many Black families have women as heads of households.

Approximately 45% of black women have experienced stalking and physical and sexual violence in

their lifetimes, with an estimated 51% of black female adult homicides related to intimate partner violence, according to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The Lancet’s report underscores the urgency of addressing these deeply entrenched issues to ensure the safety and

well-being of Black women in America.

“Our findings underscore pervasive racial inequities in homicide rates

among Black and White women aged 25–44 years across 30 US states between 1999 and 2020,” the authors concluded.



GARLAND
TEXAS MADE HERE

Attention Suppliers of Goods, Services and Construction

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

www.garlandpurchasing.com

972-205-2415

TISEO PAVING COMPANY

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

Performing Concrete Street Paving in the Metroplex Area

We Accept Subcontracting Bids For All Public Works Projects in the Dallas Area.

We Are Accepting Applications for Concrete Mixer Drivers and Heavy Equipment Mechanics

Equal Opportunity Employer

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

Looking for A Career Change Then We Need You!!

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

For more information call (214) 238-6855
Ask for Shun
Email: info@cbsolutionsplus.com



IRVING TEXAS

DO YOU WANT AN EXCITING AND REWARDING CAREER?

PURSUE A CAREER AS A POLICE OFFICER OR FIREFIGHTER!

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

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

www.cityofirving.org

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

Idiots Make Me Look Good, So Says the Boss

Dr. James L. Snyder

Often, I get agitated by people I call “idiots.” I don’t have an inclusive definition for what an idiot really is; I just use the word carelessly.

Especially is this true when I’m out in the neighborhood driving around. Sometimes, I’m in such a nervous frenzy when I get home, I have to sit down and drink some coffee. Often it takes 3 cups of coffee just to get my nerves to where they need to be.

Normally, I am a relatively cool, collected kind of person. Not much upsets me, and I don’t get mad very easily. But driving a vehicle out in the world today is sometimes more than I can handle.

I’m not sure if it’s just my age, but I don’t remember so many idiots driving when I was younger. Thinking about this for a moment, I wonder if somebody thought I was an idiot when driving?

Often, on some of these trips, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage will do something rather stupid, cut in front of me, and I will utter, “What’s wrong with that idiot?”

I can’t remember how often we drove past an accident, which probably resulted from some idiot driving as idiots drive.

When it comes to idiots out on the highway, there is no gender, racial, or age difference. It seems that idiots come in all flavors.

Occasionally, while driving down the highway, along comes a motorcycle weaving in and out and passing us. Sitting in the seat of that motorcycle is some old geezer laughing and giggling. I wonder if he forgot his meds that morning or maybe there was something more than coffee in his coffee that morning?

One thing is sure: they drive like idiots. I wonder if there is a training school for idiots?

One time while driving, we had a conversation that went along the line of me asking The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, “How do these idiots get a driver’s license?”

Looking at me once, she said something to the effect, “Those idiots get a driver’s license the same way you get yours.”

I don’t know what she meant by that, and I never asked her to explain.

Another place idiots are sure to show up is in places like Wal-Mart. My warning is, you better watch where you walk in Wal-Mart. How those cashiers deal with all those idiots is above my pay scale.

Recently, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I spent the day traveling for some errands we had to do, and boy, the idiots were out in full force. Several times, we came close to having an accident. The fact that we got home safe was a real miracle.

During that drive, I was a

little more agitated by these idiots than ever before. I just complained from one end to the other end about all these idiots and why they did so many stupid things.

At the height of my ranting, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, “Instead of ranting about these idiots, you should be thankful for them.”

“What? Why would I ever be thankful for some idiot?” That was a strange remark even for her.

I saw the smile on her face, and I think I heard her chuckle, but I’m not quite sure about that. Then she said something even stranger. “Just think about it. All of these idiots on the road make you look good.”

I had to stop and think about that one. I never thought of it like that, and it took me quite a while to process it.

As the silence lengthened, she then said, “If it wasn’t for all of these idiots driving like they do, nobody would recognize what

a wonderful driver you are. For that you should be thankful.”

At this point, I wondered if she was complimenting me or setting me up for something else. I have learned through the years that she knows how to control a situation.

“After all,” she said, “you’ve only had one accident in your life and that was when some idiot ran into you.”

I had to think about that for a moment, and then I recalled that accident about ten years ago. I was driving down the main street, and somebody pulled out from the side street without stopping and collided with me. That person at the time was on her cell phone and didn’t see me.

“And think about this,” she continued. “If it wasn’t for idiots driving on the road what in the world would lawyers do to make money?”

Believe me that thought never crossed my mind, and

I had to admit that she had something there.

Sometimes, I think all of these idiots out there are a hazard to real life. But then, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage had a point. These idiots make the rest of us look normal. Nobody would recognize how good we are in our driving skills if it wasn’t for them.

Let me just say, “Thank you idiots.”

Recently I ran across a Bible verse that troubled me. It was Proverbs 26:4, “Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.”

To answer an idiot I have to come down to his level, which makes me an idiot. I have a higher standard to live by; it is the Word of God.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnyderministries.com.

FUDGE, from Page 2

phased Fudge.

Before her term as the nation’s top housing official, while she was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Ohio, Fudge was passionate about addressing persistent challenges with fair and affordable housing and homeownership within Black communities. As a key member of the Biden-Harris cabinet, Fudge continues to champion policies and solutions that will address the underlying cultural, economic, and societal behaviors that sustain those challenges.

“Our administration is resolute in combating appraisal bias and fostering generational wealth building,” said Fudge. As an action item, she pledged to “... actively promote HUD programs for self-sufficiency, wealth building, and assistance in core communities for Black residents.”

Responding to questions

about strategies for promoting generational wealth building and housing opportunities within Black communities, Fudge highlighted urban revitalization programs. “These initiatives breathe new life into urban areas, offering housing opportunities and fostering community development for Black residents.” Additionally, Fudge underscored the administration’s delicate balance between addressing environmental justice concerns and enhancing Black homeownership and housing conditions.

A key challenge in the successful implementation of any program is getting the word out so that beneficiaries know what resources are available to them and how they can access them. Fudge asserted that as the Black Press of America, media companies that comprise the NNPA are seen by the Biden-Harris administration

as critical in the discussion on policies addressing Black families’ home ownership and affordable housing. “The Black Press of America will play a crucial role in disseminating information about HUD programs and resources to their audience,” notes Fudge.

According to a recent statement from the White House, “Recent data show that inflation in rental markets is decelerating and more apartments are on track to be built this year than any year on record. The Administration’s actions directly lead to the creation of tens of thousands of affordable housing units.” The administration’s Housing Supply Action Plan sites “an economy where everyone has access to a safe and affordable home.”

When asked to list some of the targeted urban revitalization programs this administration has implemented to enhance housing opportunities and commu-

nity development for Black residents, Fudge explained, “Our commitment to urban

revitalization programs is about breathing new life into urban areas, providing

housing opportunities, and fostering community development for Black residents.”

Cemetery Space Broker will make you offer on your cemetery plot



Dennis Jarvis / Flickr

- Inherited plot and can't sell it?
- Bought plot years ago and your plans have changed?
- Singles space or Side by Side spaces is okay.

We will make you a "cash offer" on your cemetery plot today! If you get voice mail-leave message phone number and information on cemetery space. We will get back to you

Call Us Today!!!!!!!
972.665.0170

A heartfelt Black History lesson



Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor

Daniel Hale Williams was one of the first physicians to perform open-heart surgery in the United States and he founded a hospital with an interracial staff.

Born on January 18, 1856 in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, Williams pursued a pioneering career in medicine. As a Black doctor in 1893 Dr. Williams opened Provident Hospital, the first medical facility to have an interracial staff.

He was also one of the first physicians to successfully complete pericardial surgery on a patient. Dr. Williams later became chief surgeon of the Freedmen's Hospital.

After the death of his father a 10-year-old Daniel was sent to live in Baltimore, Maryland, with family friends.

He became a shoemaker's apprentice but disliked the work and decided to return to his family who had



Dr. Daniel H. Williams, III

moved to Illinois. Like his father, he took up barbering, but ultimately decided he wanted to pursue his education.

Dr. Williams worked as an apprentice with Dr. Henry Palmer, a highly accomplished surgeon, and then completed further training at Chicago Medical College.

He set up his own practice in Chicago's South Side and taught anatomy at his alma mater, also be-

coming the first Black physician to work for the city's street railway system.

Dr. Williams who was called Dr. Dan by patients, adopted sterilization procedures for his office, informed by the recent findings on germ transmission and prevention from Louis Pasteur and Joseph Lister.

Due to the discrimination of the day, Black citizens were still barred from being admitted to hospitals and Black doctors were re-

fused staff positions.

He firmly believed this needed to change so in May 1891 Dr. Williams opened Provident Hospital and Training School for Nurses, the nation's first hospital with a nursing and intern program that had a racially integrated staff.

The facility, where Dr. Williams worked as a surgeon was publicly championed by famed abolitionist and writer Frederick Douglass.

In 1893, Dr. Williams continued to make history when he operated on James Cornish, a man with a severe stab wound to his chest who was brought to Provident.

Without the benefits of a blood transfusion or modern surgical procedures, Dr. Williams successfully sutured Cornish's pericardium (the membranous sac enclosing the heart.)

Thus becoming one of the first people to perform open-heart surgery; Cor-

nish lived for many years after the operation.

Physicians Francisco Romero and Henry Dalton had previously performed pericardial operations outside of the U.S.

In 1894, Dr. Williams moved to Washington, D.C., where he was appointed the chief surgeon of the Freedmen's Hospital, which provided care for formerly enslaved Black people.

The facility had fallen into neglect and had a high mortality rate. Dr. Williams worked diligently on revitalization, improving

surgical procedures and increasing specialization.

Dr. Williams also launched ambulance services and continuing to provide opportunities for Black medical professionals, among other feats.

In 1895, he co-founded the National Medical Association, a professional organization for Black medical practitioners, as an alternative to the American Medical Association, which didn't allow Black membership.

Dr. Williams left Freed-

See TARPLEY, Page 16

Inspiring Body of Christ IBOC
Pastor Rickie G. Rush

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

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

Is the *silent killer* sneaking up on you?
High blood pressure often has no obvious symptoms.

February is American Heart Month

Learn more by visiting
www.parklandhealth.org/hypertension



HAPPY
A DIVISION OF CENTENNIAL BANK
\$SAVE THE CENTS

Round up. Save. It's that simple.

When you enroll in the Save the CENTS Service, we will round up the amount of each Mastercard® debit card purchase made by you or any debit cardholder on your Checking account so the next whole dollar amount in excess of the posted transaction amount and transfer the excess amount from your Checking Account to the dedicated Savings Account.

Visit
happybank.com/personal/savings/save-the-cents
to learn more!

HappyBank.com A Home BancShares Company | Member FDIC

Your wireless carrier's data rates may apply. Happy State Bank, a division of Centennial Bank personal checking account, personal savings account and debit card* required to enroll. Visit happybank.com/personal/savings/save-the-cents for full details. *Certain transaction fees, limitations and requirements may apply. Refer to product terms and conditions or see Bank for details. Replacement fees may apply. Must have Happy State checking account to receive debit card. See Bank for details.

NDG Book Review: 'If You See Them' is a great read, and so much more

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You've looked everywhere.

In the closet, beneath the sink, in the corners of drawers and storage areas. You've opened totes, then taken your search outside, turned the garage upside-down, and checked every square inch of the backyard. Nothing. That confirms it. As author Vicki Sokolik says in her new book "If You See Them," America's teens may be affected by a hidden problem.

Vicki Sokolik loved to volunteer.

Growing up in a household of means in a palatial home, she knew she was lucky. She never went without and, years later, neither did her teenagers, both of whom were



taught generosity and the spirit of giving. It was a good lesson, then when, as they were delivering holiday meals to families near their Florida home one winter, Sokolik met a woman who reluctantly revealed that she was employed but couldn't afford permanent housing on her salary.

Sokolik was touched. She swung into action,

befriended the woman, taught her financial basics, and helped her find housing. Eventually, the woman asked Sokolik to move on, to find someone else to help.

And so she did: Sokolik's son was a compassionate soul. He worried about a classmate who seemed to have little-to-nothing and again, Sokolik seized the chance to help. Alas, it didn't work out but the experience taught her and her family something important.

Some teens in America are in crisis.

Officially, they're called "unaccompanied homeless youth," but the reality is harsher: they're kids who were kicked out or chose to permanently leave home for a variety of reasons. Because they

weren't removed by social workers or the state, they're not eligible for welfare or any other assistance programs. They stay with friends or distant relatives that will have them, or they sleep on park benches. They get by, and they fall through the cracks.

Few people notice them, says Sokolik, because they do a good job at staying hidden but she knew those kids were out there. And she was going to do something about them...

For as long as there've been kids, there have been kids without a place to eat, shower, or lay their heads at night. The thing, says author Vicki Sokolik, is that those she writes about in "If You See Them" don't want you to see them.

That seems odd until you know their reasoning, and Sokolik helps with that. She shows readers how this nationwide issue happened and what's being done about it, through memories of her own life, work, family, and essays written by the "kids" she helped who are now adults. Dip in, and see how easy their tales are to read, even despite that many of them will make you wince. Still, without spoiling things, you can expect happy endings among the sad stories.

You can also expect your heart to be shattered.

This book is a gently urgent call to arms, a plea for attention, and a good read altogether. When you care about kids, "If You See Them" is a book to look for.

TARPLEY,
from Page 15

men's Hospital in 1898. He married Alice Johnson and the newlyweds moved to Chicago, where he returned to his work at Provident.

Soon after the turn of the century, he worked at Cook County Hospital and later at St. Luke's, a large medical institution with ample resources.

Beginning in 1899, Dr. Williams also made annual trips to Nashville, Tennessee, where he was a voluntary visiting clinical professor at Meharry Medical College for more than two decades.

He became a charter member of the American College of Surgeons in 1913. In 1926 Dr. Williams experienced a debilitating stroke and died five years later on August 4, 1931 in Idlewild, Michigan.

Today, Dr. Williams' work as a pioneering physician and advocate for Black doctor's presence in medicine continues to be honored by institutions worldwide.

Don't wait to renew Medicaid or CHIP

- ✓ Check your mail
- ✓ Complete the form
- ✓ Mail it back

With the new law, 4 out of 5 customers can find a health plan for \$10 or less per month with financial help.

Visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) if you lost Medicaid or CHIP.

HealthCare.gov Paid for by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

