



# North Dallas Gazette

"Most respected Voice of the Minority Community"

Visit us online at [www.northdallasgazette.com](http://www.northdallasgazette.com)

## New White House plan could reduce or eliminate accumulated interest for 30 million student loan borrowers

By Charlene Crowell

Multiple recent announcements from the Biden administration offer new hope for the 43.2 million borrowers hoping to get relief from the onerous burden of a collective \$1.727 trillion dollars of student loan debt.

On April 16, the federal Education Department initiated a regulatory change that could give an estimated 30 million student loan borrowers, including Black and Latino borrowers, up to \$20,000 in interest forgiveness if they have:

- Paid on their loans for 20 years or longer;
- Balances that in repayment are now larger than the original amount borrowed; or
- Enrolled previously in income-driven repayment.

If approved as presented, forgiveness could commence this fall. Further, and unlike some other programs, no relief application would be required.

It is worth noting that according to the Education Data Initiative, 2023 marked the first-ever annual decline in student loan debt, which should be credited to the Biden Administration's efforts over the past three years.

A related White House fact sheet



Responding to a wide call for relief from debilitating debt, the White House administration has been seeking a program to alleviate financial burden. (Courtesy photo)

underscored the significance the interest reduction plan could have on the nation's racial wealth gap.

"Four years after graduation, Black bachelor's degree borrowers, on average, owe more than they borrowed," said the White House. "These plans would not only help create more financial stability for millions of working and middle-class families, they would also help address the disproportionate debt burden on communities of color and advance racial equity."

In a related briefing on the initiative Education Secretary Miguel Cardona spoke directly to the nation's needs and the plan's benefits.

"We're delivering as much relief

as possible for as many borrowers as possible as quickly as possible," said Dr. Cardona. "And what does that really mean for people?"

"It means breathing room," answering his own question. "It means freedom from feeling like your student loan bills compete with basic needs like grocery or health care... Student loan forgiveness isn't only about relief for today's borrowers. It's about social mobility, economic prosperity, and creating an America that lives up to its highest ideals."

In a related effort to inform communities of this latest White House initiative, Vice President Kamala

See DEBT, Page 13



### How are we doing toward that goal?

- See Page 3



### Researchers find new hope for cancer

- See Page 4



### CASA seeks bilingual volunteers

- See Page 5



### District 6 continues to thrive

- See Page 6



### Louisiana's new all-white city is approved

- See Page 7



### Film Review: The Long Game is a winner

- See Page 9



### Broadway Dallas' new exhibit

- See Page 10



### Sister Tarpley: Planning for Success

- See Page 14

### 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](http://www.northdallasgazette.com)

### People In The News ...



Rep. Summer Lee



Rep. Donald Payne, Jr.

*NDG Quote of the Week: "For Africa to me... is more than a glamorous fact. It is a historical truth. No man can know where he is going unless he knows exactly where he has been and exactly how he arrived at his present place."*

- Dr. Maya Angelou



## Rep. Summer Lee

By Lauren Victoria Burke  
NNPA Contributor

Rep. Summer Lee (D-PA), who was formally targeted for defeat by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) won her primary challenge on April 23.

Rep. Lee won easily over a primary candidate recruited by AIPAC, 61 percent to 31 percent. On the last weekend of the primary campaign, Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez campaigned alongside Lee.

Along with the NRA



and Planned Parenthood, AIPAC is one of the most powerful and influential lobbying groups in U.S. politics. Back in September 2023, it was revealed that AIPAC was recruiting can-

didates to primary Black members of Congress who spoke out in support of stipulations on U.S. aid to Israel. Israel receives over \$3.3 billion annually from the U.S.

AIPAC has many Republican donors but the group has also funded members of the CBC. The list includes Maryland Rep. Rep. Glenn Ivey, House Democratic Caucus Leader Hakeem Jeffries of New York, Rep. Valerie Foushee of North Carolina, Ohio Rep. Shontel Brown, and New York Rep. Rep. Ritchie Torres.

Though Torres' Bronx New York district is 54 per-

cent Hispanic and 30 percent Black, with an average household income of only \$42,000, Torres is one of the loudest and most energetic defenders of Israel in the U.S. Congress.

Rep. Lee, who represents parts of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County in Pennsylvania, is the first member of "The Squad" to face a 2024 primary challenge during the 2024 election cycle. Lee's district is 72 percent white and 15 percent Black. Her decisive victory will likely signal how strong progressive power is currently and how voters view the current conflict in

the Middle East. Rep. Lee supports Medicare-for-all, the Green New Deal and a ceasefire in Gaza.

After the October 7, 2023 attack by the militant Palestinian terrorist group Hamas that killed over 1,300 Israelis, the Israeli government led by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared war on Hamas. Since October 2023 over 30,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza by the Israeli Defense Forces. Many elected officials on the left are defining Israeli's military reaction against Palestine "genocide."

"The Squad" in congress

is made up of the most progressive Democrats who often speak out on what they view as anti-corporate politics focused on principle. But their positions on the Middle East, which tend to speak out against the decisions of the Israeli government, have put them at odds with AIPAC.

Rep. Lee's challenger, a member of the local City Council, Bhavini Patel, made her vocal support of Israel a cornerstone of her campaign. She was critical of Congresswoman Lee for her position on the Is-

See LEE, Page 14

## Rep. Donald Payne, Jr.

Rep. Donald Payne Jr., a Democrat from New Jersey, has died at the age of 65, according to Gov. Phil Murphy.

Payne had been hospitalized since early April after suffering "a cardiac episode based on complications from his diabetes," according to a statement released last week by his office. The statement further noted that Payne was receiving treatment at a local hospital. According to the New Jersey Globe, Payne was unconscious and on a ventilator after suffering a heart attack on April 6.



"With his signature bowtie, big heart, and tenacious spirit, Donald embodied the very best of public service," Murphy wrote in a statement on Wednesday. House Speaker Mike Johnson, a Louisiana Republican, and Minority Leader

Hakeem Jeffries, a New York Democrat, expressed their condolences and offered prayers to Payne's family and friends. Jeffries described him as a "highly effective public servant and compassionate leader."

Payne was running for reelection in New Jersey's 10th Congressional District. He was first elected to the House in 2012, following his late father, Rep. Donald Payne Sr., who died of colon cancer. Payne ran unopposed in the Democratic primary. Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Chairman Steven Horsford (D-Nevada) and members of the CBC issued the following state-

ment regarding Payne's death.

"Today, the Congressional Black Caucus mourns the loss of our dear colleague and friend, Representative Donald M. Payne, Jr., and we are holding his family and loved ones in our hearts during this difficult time,"

the statement read.

"Representative Payne served the people of New Jersey and our country honorably for six terms in the U.S. Congress. He was an advocate for racial justice, equal rights for all, reproductive freedom, free college tuition, and public transportation. He was also

a fierce proponent of improving the lives of working families, expanding voting rights, lowering the costs of prescription drugs, and combating the climate crisis.

"Representative Payne was an effective leader in

See PAYNE, Page 6

## Marilyn Mosby

A petition gathering momentum has already netted more than 2,700 of the 3,000 signatures its organizers aimed for, with backing from notable figures like the National Congress of Black Women's E. Faye Williams. The petition calls on President Joe Biden to grant a full pardon to former Baltimore State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby, who is facing 40 years in federal prison when she's sentenced next month on fraud charges.

Petitioners claim the Department of Justice (DOJ) has sought to make an example of Mosby; a progressive prosecutor known for championing change in communities of color.



According to the petition, rather than focusing on pressing issues like the Tulsa Race Massacre, DEI attacks, or hate crimes, the DOJ's pursuit of Mosby and other elected officials has been criticized as a distraction from more significant concerns.

A federal jury in February

convicted Mosby, 44, on the federal charge of making a false mortgage application when she was Baltimore City State's Attorney, relating to the purchase of a condominium in Long Boat Key, Florida. The jury acquitted her of making a false mortgage application to purchase a home in Kissimmee, Florida.

Prosecutors allege that Mosby made a false statement on an application for a \$428,400 mortgage to purchase a condominium in Long Boat Key, and, as part of the application, she falsely stated that she had received a \$5,000 gift from her husband for the property. The DOJ said Mosby

See MOSBY, Page 4



### SPECIAL OFFERING

- ★ HomeStart Program
  - ★ Minimum down payment options starting at 3%
  - ★ Available for ITIN Applicants
  - ★ \$2,500 Closing credit available<sup>1</sup>
- ★ 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

<sup>1</sup> NDBT homeownership course is required in order to be eligible for credit

Member FDIC 





## Visit Our Website

www.northdallasgazette.com

**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

**Production**

David Wilfong

**Published by**

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

**Special Projects to the Publisher**

Clinique Hill

**Contributing Writers**

Jackie Hardy  
Lori Lee  
Terri Schlichenmeyer



**Publisher's Office:**

[publisher@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:publisher@northdallasgazette.com)

**Sales Department:**

[marketing@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:marketing@northdallasgazette.com)

**THANK YOU!**  
from North Dallas Gazette!

Thank you for choosing our newspaper today. The North Dallas Gazette is formerly the Minority Opportunity News, Inc. founded in 1991 and continues to this day to deliver hard-hitting coverage that is in the best interest of the minority community. We have worked extremely hard to earn your respect and we are respectfully asking you to please consider "liking" us online. Feel free to weigh in on the things you believe we are doing well and share how we might improve our coverage.

Have a wonderful day!  
Thurman R. Jones, Publisher  
North Dallas Gazette

Most Respected Voice of the Dallas Minority Community

**Editorial Department:**

[editor@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:editor@northdallasgazette.com)



**SUBSCRIBE:**

- Library of Interviews
- Community Leaders
- Arts, Entertainment

To subscribe to NDG's Video Channel scan the QR code at right...



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.

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

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

# How Are We Doing Toward That Goal?

By W. Steven Barnett, Ph.D. Senior co-director, founder National Institute for Early Education Research

Despite strides in preschool enrollment across the country, access to quality early education remains inequitable and heavily skewed by geography, according to our new National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) analysis. State-by-state disparities in preschool access, quality, and funding are widening each year as some states take leaps forward while others still do not have a program. How each state chooses to move forward—and whether the federal government helps—will determine how much real progress is made in helping America's three- and four-year-olds access quality preschool.

NIEER just released its 2023 State of Preschool Yearbook, which annually tracks state-funded preschool enrollment, funding, and quality across states. This year's report shows that during the 2022-2023 school year states enrolled over 1.63 million children in preschool, marking a 7% surge compared to the preceding year. Preschool enrollment reached 35% of four-year-olds and 7% of three-year-olds, with state expenditures reach-

ing \$11.73 billion, an 11% increase from 2021-2022 when adjusted for inflation.

Despite progress, most states still need to catch up to their pre-pandemic level of preschool enrollment. We believe the research is crystal clear that children who attend high-quality preschools are better prepared when they enter kindergarten, laying a foundation for later success. However, programs must be high quality to deliver those results, and in 2024, states are more uneven than ever in their preschool funding and quality standards.

Every family should have the opportunity to enroll their three- and four-year-olds in a quality pre-k program, no matter where they live or their economic situation. We encourage state and federal leaders to help families gain access to high-quality, full day, adequately funded early learning opportunities that will help children develop and parents earn a living. Our new report finds that state-funded preschool programs have bounced back unevenly from the COVID-19 Pandemic. A record number of 16 states plus the District of Columbia are now committed to universal preschool, yet most of those states are far from reaching that goal. A

key question for the future is whether states will increase investments enough to keep promises regarding program expansion and quality, including adequate pay for the workforce.

Across states, spending ranges from more than \$16,000 per child to barely \$2,000 per child. Only five states met all ten research-based minimum quality benchmarks recommended by NIEER (Alabama, Hawaii, Michigan, Mississippi, and Rhode Island). More than twice as many children attend preschool programs meeting fewer than half of NIEER's quality standards benchmarks than programs meeting nine or 10. Legislators in several states are currently considering pre-k funding increases for the next fiscal year, including major proposals in Massachusetts and Michigan and a New Hampshire bill that would create a state-funded preschool program in that state.

Last month, Georgia state lawmakers approved a nearly \$100 million package to make critical quality improvements while expanding the state's lottery-funded pre-k program, including salary parity for pre-k lead and assistant teachers with K-12; capping class size at 20 children; and increasing

classroom start-up grants. Our new report calls on the federal government to offer states financial incentives to support high-quality preschool education. Over the last 21 years, NIEER's State of Preschool publications have found that red and blue states alike are increasingly prioritizing preschool yet struggling to pay for it. Given the long-term return on investment of quality preschool, helping states pay for quality preschool expansion should be an area of bipartisan consensus in Congress.

NIEER estimates an additional \$30 billion could allow states to provide a quality full school-day preschool program to all four-year-olds. If the federal government increased support for preschool education to the states by just \$1.5 billion per year over the next ten years, the federal government would cover half that cost in 10 years. "With the pandemic in the rearview, it's time for state and federal leaders to choose whether and how they are going to support high-quality preschool," said Allison Friedman-Krauss, Ph.D., the report's lead author. "Will this be the turning point needed for the country to make real progress towards

See GOAL, Page 6

## Savings are now available to go solar in Texas



**Colin Allred**  
U.S. Rep. Texas  
32nd Dist.

Last week, Texas was awarded nearly \$250 million in grant awards to deliver residential solar projects to serve over 40,000 households statewide with-

in five years. I had urged the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to support the Texas Solar for All Coalition's application for funding because it will significantly increase access to solar energy, create good jobs in disadvantaged communities, and help folks save on their electricity bills.

Texas is already the number one solar producer in the nation, and this will help us continue to lead. Solar for All grants were made possible by the Inflation Reduction Act I helped pass, which lowers energy costs and helps us reach our climate goals and reduce pollution. The Texas Solar for All program will also support workforce training, support minority and women-owned businesses, and collaborate with communi-

ty-based organizations.

This award is a huge win for Texas and will help folks feel the cost-saving benefits of solar. I was proud to support Texas Solar For All and will continue working toward an all of the above energy strategy to lower costs and create jobs. You can visit ([www.energy.gov/save](http://www.energy.gov/save)) to learn more about potential energy savings available now.

ty-based organizations.

This award is a huge win for Texas and will help folks feel the cost-saving benefits of solar. I was proud to support Texas Solar For All and will continue working toward an all of the above energy strategy to lower costs and create jobs.

You can visit ([www.energy.gov/save](http://www.energy.gov/save)) to learn more about potential energy savings available now.

Keep up with the news  
O N L I N E

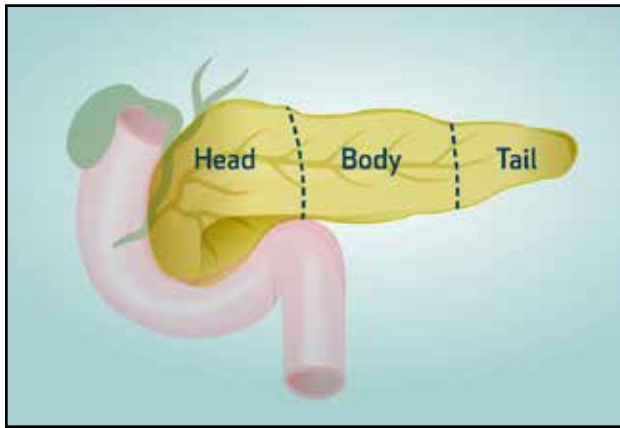
[www.northdallasgazette.com](http://www.northdallasgazette.com)



# Researchers at Houston Methodist find difference in pancreatic cancer cells, offering new hope for immunotherapy effectiveness

(Newswise) — A new study has found that pancreatic cancer cells are different based on their location in the pancreas, providing new information about tumors that could lead to better targeted treatments.

Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) is an aggressive cancer, and the diagnosis has dramatically increased over the last decade. It is currently the seventh leading cause of cancer deaths in men and women globally and projected to be the third leading cause of cancer-re-



Houston Methodist

lated deaths world-wide by 2030. This increase is due to several factors such as an increase in obesity and diabetes.

Houston Methodist's section chief of gastrointes-

tinal medical oncology, Dr. Maen Abdelrahim, served as first and concept generating author for the article titled, "Comparative molecular profiling of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma

of the head versus body and tail," published in NPJ Precision Oncology, an online journal in the Nature family of publications. The research team discovered that the anatomical location of the pancreatic tumor is a contributing factor for the outcomes of systematic therapy interventions.

Abdelrahim and his collaborators established a hypothesis that there is a difference in microenvironments of tumors in the pancreatic head versus the body and tail, particularly the immunotherapy recep-

tors found on each section of the pancreas.

"By focusing on biology around the tumor and taking its location on the pancreas into account we can better evaluate our treatment options," said Abdelrahim. "Rather than treating patients under the umbrella of pancreatic malignancy, a shift to a tumor location-based model can seriously alter how clinicians set up preliminary treatment plans."

The team hopes this finding will help clinicians develop a more specific

treatment plan and improve patient outcomes.

Abdelrahim's collaborators on this study were Benjamin A. Weinberg, Abdullah Esmail, Anup Kasi, Nestor F. Esnaola, Joanne Xiu, and Yasmine Baca.

The Cockrell Foundation and Houston Methodist Hospital Foundation support this research.

For more information about Houston Methodist, visit our newsroom, On Health and Leading Medicine blogs and follow us on X, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and TikTok.

# A child's first three years hold the power to unlock bright, strong futures

The first three years of a child's life lay the foundation for lifelong health and well-being. From the moment they're born, babies soak up every interaction and experience from their environments and love from their caregivers. Babies' brains grow rapidly during those earliest days, weeks, and months, forming 1 million neural connections every second. Understanding the significance of these early stages lies at the heart of ZERO TO THREE's mission. As the premier organization that translates the science of early childhood into action, we recognize the profound impact these early experiences have on shaping the trajectory of a child's life and our collective future.

When we're born, we have billions of neurons. But they're not, for the most part, connected. Connections between synapses—or signals sent through the brain—are strengthened through repeated positive experiences. These connections are vital in helping babies learn the essentials they



ZERO TO THREE brought together families from all 50 states and Washington, D.C. at the end of April for its Strolling Thunder™ rally on Capitol Hill that urged policymakers to take bold action now on maternal health, infant and early childhood mental health, early learning and childcare, housing, and economic security. (Photo via NNPA)

need to survive and thrive. As science has provided us a window into how the brain develops and can be nurtured, it has also documented how the early years can lead to profound and lasting gains in school achievement and lifelong success...or not. Research shows that early adverse experiences become integrated into our bodies, impacting lifelong development, emotional success, and mental and physical health. This stark reality is one where disparities in access to resources and high-quality care create barriers to success, perpetu-

ating cycles of poverty and inequality.

There are 11 million infants and toddlers in the United States, and each is born with unlimited potential. In communities across the country, families are striving to give their children a good start in life. They share a common desire for their babies to be healthy, happy, and secure. Yet far too many families face considerable obstacles. Decades of underinvestment in systems for supporting the health and well-

See CHILD, Page 6

**CITYMENCOOK**  
**SAVOR THE DATE**  
 FATHERS DAY  
 SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024 3-6 PM

*Nourish Your Appetite...  
 Entertain Your Heart...  
 Replenish Your Soul...*

Central Business District, Dallas TX  
 For sponsorship/participation  
 Access: [www.citymencook.com](http://www.citymencook.com)  
 Email: [whatscooking@citymencook.biz](mailto:whatscooking@citymencook.biz)  
 Call: 214-233-6199



# Dallas CASA seeks bilingual Spanish-speaking volunteers

Dallas CASA needs more bilingual Spanish-speaking volunteers to serve children who have been victims of abuse or neglect and are living in foster care.

Hispanics represent 55% of the child population in Dallas County and 32% of the children removed from unsafe homes and served by Dallas CASA, but only 13% of Dallas CASA volunteers are Hispanic.

For a child who speaks Spanish or had grown up in



Dallas CASA

a Hispanic household, foster care can be an especially lonely and frightening place when there is a language and cultural barrier. A Dallas CASA volun-

teer who is bilingual can not only bring comfort to the child but foster better and more timely communication with parties on the case leading to better long-term outcomes for children and their families.

On Thursday, May 9 from 6-7 p.m. CASA will host a special online program aimed at increasing participation from Spanish-speaking volunteers.

Guest speakers will include Juan Nevarez, ex-

ecutive vice president at Scout Energy Partners, and Amanda Paredes, senior brand supervisor at The Infinite Agency. Nevarez and Paredes will share their experiences as Dallas CASA volunteers and how being able to speak Spanish and understand a child's culture has allowed them a closer connection with families and children they are assigned to advocate for.

To register, go online to DallasCASA.org

Dallas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) seeks to protect children, restore childhood and help child victims of abuse or neglect achieve their full potential.

The agency's trained and supervised community volunteers are assigned by judges to advocate for the best interests of children who have experienced abuse or neglect and are

See CASA, Page 13

# Democrat's victory in New York shrinks House Republican majority as Marjorie Taylor Greene's move to oust Speaker Johnson

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

Democratic State Senator Tim Kennedy clinched victory in the special election for New York's 26th Congressional District, effectively reducing the

House Republican majority to a mere one-seat margin. Kennedy's win could prove pivotal in balancing power and intensifying party-line struggles within the chamber.

"We need to elect pro-democracy, anti-MAGA candidates all around the

country this November," Kennedy declared. His victory occurred amid heightened Republican Party tensions brought on by MAGA Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene's (R-Ga.) motion to remove Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.).

The motion by the po-

larizing Greene to remove Speaker Johnson amplified the deep-seated divisions within GOP leadership, even among supporters of the twice-impeached and four-times indicted former President Donald Trump.

Both Greene and Johnson are far-right Trump

supporters.

Greene has expressed anger over Johnson's deals to keep the government open by agreeing with the White House and most members of Congress and the Senate to avoid a shutdown.

Further inciting her ire was Democratic leader Ha-

keem Jeffries of New York, who pledged his party's support to back Johnson's removal.

While support for Greene's call to oust Johnson seems to have little support from Republicans, the GOP caucus appears in disarray.

## MOSBY, from Page 2

made the false claim to secure a lower interest rate. They said her husband did not give her the \$5,000; instead, she transferred \$5,000 to him, and he then moved the \$5,000 back to her.

Mosby's record as a prosecutor is lauded in the petition, which highlights her

groundbreaking achievements. As the youngest chief prosecutor of any major U.S. city in 2014, Mosby introduced innovative programs offering alternatives to incarceration for non-violent drug offenders and initiated one of the nation's few Youth and Prevention departments.

However, prosecutors also won a perjury conviction against Mosby for withdrawing funds from her retirement account, an action her supporters argued that several other Baltimore City employees also took during the pandemic without facing prosecution. Further, Mosby's supporters say the charges against her are unjust, particularly compared

to the DOJ's typical pursuit of cases involving much more significant sums.

The petition also highlights the role of federal prosecutor Leo Wise in targeting Mosby. The petitioners' said Wise is known for his history of profiling and pursuing Black elected officials, and his involvement in Mosby's case is suspect.

The petitions also argue that Mosby's confrontation with the twice-impeached and four-times indicted former President Trump over potential federal agent deployments to Baltimore following George Floyd's murder is a catalyst for the subsequent federal investigation against her.

The petition invokes Ar-

ticle II, Section 2 of the United States Constitution, which empowers the president to grant pardons. Advocates argue that it's time for Biden to rectify perceived injustices, particularly those stemming from the previous administration's DOJ. White House officials did not return messages this week about the matter.

## LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission scratch ticket games will be closing soon:

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
2523	<b>20X</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 4.95	\$2	5/18/24	11/14/24
2492	<b>Veterans Cash</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 4.40	\$2	6/19/24	12/16/24
2431	<b>Special Edition Loteria</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 4.38	\$3	6/19/24	12/16/24
2534	<b>Wild 7</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 4.17	\$5	6/19/24	12/16/24
2387	<b>Premier Cash</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 3.94	\$30	6/19/24	12/16/24

Texaslottery.com is the official source for all pertinent game information. Game closing procedures may be initiated for documented business reasons. These games may have prizes unclaimed, including top prizes. In addition, game closing procedures will be initiated when all top prizes have been claimed. During closing, games may be sold even after all top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. For help with a gambling problem, ncpgambling.org. © 2024 Texas Lottery Commission. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

**TEXAS LOTTERY**

## 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!



# District 6 continues to thrive as the 2023-24 school year comes to an end



**Joyce Foreman**  
Dallas ISD  
District 6

## District 6 Teacher of the Year

Dallas ISD recently held the 2023-2024 State of the District. During the

ceremony, we celebrated “the best of the best” and witnessed dynamic performances and memorable student presentations. Congratulations to Chantrelle Lovett-Andrews from Umphrey Lee Elementary School who won the 2024 Elementary Teacher of the Year. Her unwavering dedication to her students, staff,

and parents truly make her deserving of this honor.

## Pre-K enrollment season is here

The enrollment period for pre-K for the 2023-2024 school year began April 1. Pre-K education provides a strong foundation for your child’s future, equipping them with essential social and emotional skills and

boosting their learning potential. I invite you to explore all of the great offerings for pre-K in District 6 at [www.dallasisd.org/prek](http://www.dallasisd.org/prek) and take the first step towards a bright educational future for your student.

## Career Institute South breaks ground on renovation project

Charmaine & Robert

Price Career Institute South recently broke ground on renovations and additions to the campus, a significant step forward in our commitment to expanding access to career-focused education. CI South offers specialized programs in construction and carpentry, plumbing, electrical and solar technology, and other

industry-aligned pathways. It currently serves District 6 students at David W. Carter High School and Justin F. Kimball High School.

The renovations to CI South are scheduled to be completed by May 2025.

## Early Voting reminder

Early Voting: April 22-30  
Election Day: May 4

# Mother, daughter to graduate Dallas College on the same day

Tiffany Gardner was excited about launching her college career.

With 20 years of managerial experience, handling payroll, compensation and other procedures for a medical practice, she had no idea it would count as college credit.

“I didn’t get to go to college. I didn’t even get to graduate high school. When I was a teen, my mom got into a horrible car wreck that left her disabled and unable to work. Our whole lives changed,” she said. “I had to grow up fast.”

When she enrolled at Dallas College, Gardner signed up for the Dallas College Prior Assessment Program, which gave her a leg up —



Dallas College

crediting her for knowledge and experience she had acquired in the workplace. “If you have work experience, you can earn your associate degree faster by using your professional skills to get closer to graduation,” she said. “Dallas College confirmed what I’d already learned.”

By using prior learning assessment, students can save over \$1,100 in tuition and fees and earn up to 15 credit hours in a single semester, according to Dallas College officials. Dallas College evaluates and offers credit for work experience, military service and professional development and ap-

plies it to academic achievement.

“Learning is a lifelong process,” said Gardner, a mother of two who refused to see challenges as burdens. “I am so grateful that I will not only graduate from college, but graduate with my daughter. This is not something I ever would have thought possible. I grew up with lots of adversity, but I worked hard and never gave up.”

Tiffany’s hard work has rubbed off on her daughter, Angelika, 20, who will receive her associate degree at the same time. Both are graduating with honors from Dallas College, Angelika by way of the Dallas College Promise program,

and Tiffany through the Parent Promise program.

Mother and daughter, both receiving associate degrees in Business Administration, are scheduled to walk together during one of Dallas College’s graduation ceremonies on May 10, 6 p.m., at Curtis Culwell Center in Garland.

Their mutual story of drive and passion includes Tiffany and Angelika collaborating to pick out and complete their courses. “I love helping Angelika plan for her future. I believe in her, her abilities and what her future holds,” Tiffany said. Angelika watched her mother work full time and conquer school assignments. Angelika helped care

for her teenage brother with autism while completing her own coursework.

Angelika, who is a certified make-up artist, has plans to continue her education by earning a certificate in cosmetology and becoming a licensed esthetician, and one day opening her own spa. She has already found some success on social media as an influencer for makeup artistry and cosplay.

Her inspiration, of course, is her mother. “She is my life coach and my success coach. She’s always been my rock,” Angelika said.

Dallas College will host six commencement ceremonies over three days from May 9-11.

## CHILD, from Page 4

being of young children and the insidious impacts of systemic racism often stand in their way. In the U.S., roughly 2 million infants and toddlers live in poverty.

About 40% live in families without enough income to make ends meet.

When parents and caregivers receive the support, they need to foster close

connections and healthy relationships with their babies, they can serve as a buffer against the impacts of ongoing and inherited trauma many families face every day. That’s why ZERO TO THREE is leading the Think

Babies™ movement, advocating for policy changes to address urgent priorities — maternal health, infant and early childhood mental health, early learning and child care, housing, and economic security. Families

from all 50 states and Washington, D.C. came together on April 30 for the 8th annual Strolling Thunder™ rally on Capitol Hill, urging policymakers to take bold action now. Our collective message is clear: By invest-

ing in policies that support the well-being of babies, we can ensure all children have an equal opportunity to thrive throughout life and build a brighter, stronger, healthier future for our nation.

## GOAL, from Page 3

high-quality universal preschool? Will programs serve both three- and four-year-olds? Will invest-

ments be enough to ensure that programs are effective? Will states support an equitable mixed-delivery model

for preschool incorporating both existing childcare programs and public schools?

“How will states recruit, support, and retain preschool teachers? These

decisions will impact millions of children for years to come.”

W. Steven Barnett, Ph.D., is the senior co-director and founder of the National

Institute for Early Education Research ([www.nieer.org](http://www.nieer.org)). His work primarily focuses on public policies regarding early childhood education, childcare, and

child development. Barnett earned his Ph.D. in economics at the University of Michigan and has authored or co-authored more than 300 publications.

## PAYNE, from Page 2

Congress having served as the ranking member and chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on

Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, as well as the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Pre-

paredness, Response, and Recovery.

“Prior to joining the Congress in 2012, Representative Payne, in the footsteps of his father Rep. Donald Payne Sr., dedi-

cated his life to serving his community as a member of the New Jersey City Council, as a president of the South Ward Young Democrats, as a Garden State Parkway toll collector and

for the Essex County Educational Services Commission.

“Representative Payne will be remembered by all those who knew him for his kindness and gener-

osity. He leaves behind a legacy and commitment to service that New Jerseyans and our country will not soon forget.”

He is survived by his wife and three children.



# Check us out on Facebook!

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





# Louisiana Supreme Court approves formation of new, all-white St. George City

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National Correspondent

Deep-seated racial and economic tensions will be present in the new chapter of Baton Rouge's history because of the Louisiana Supreme Court's historic decision approving the creation of the City of St. George. The decision follows a protracted legal battle initiated by affluent white residents seeking to carve out their own municipality from the broader cityscape, citing concerns over governance, public safety, and educational quality.

Encompassing a sprawling 60-square-mile expanse in the southeast of East Baton Rouge Parish, St. George is poised to emerge as an autonomous



Encompassing a sprawling 60-square-mile expanse in the southeast of East Baton Rouge Parish, St. George is poised to emerge as an autonomous entity with its own mayor and city council, catering to an estimated population of 86,000 residents. (Photo via NNPA)

entity with its own mayor and city council, catering to an estimated population of 86,000 residents. Advocates tout the move as necessary to address high crime rates and underperforming schools.

However, critics argue that the decision heralds the creation of a de facto segregated enclave, further entrenching racial and economic

disparities within the Baton Rouge community. The polarizing debate underscores broader societal challenges and raises profound questions about equity and inclusion. It also has all the earmarks of America's dark history of racial segregation, which preserves the economic ad-

See CITY, Page 10

# Dallas County Criminal District Attorney's Office urges public not to fall victim to fraudulent arrest scam

The Dallas County Criminal District Attorney's Office has received multiple reports about unsuspecting members of our community getting calls from people claiming to be the Dallas County Sheriff's Office or any law enforcement, telling them there is a warrant for their arrest for failing to appear for grand jury duty that will need to be paid immediately or the victim will be arrested. This is a scam.

The DA's Office wants

to make it clear that law enforcement will never ask for payment over the phone, through wire transfers, gift cards, or websites not affiliated with law enforcement. If you get a call that you suspect is fraudulent, don't make a payment through these methods.

If you get a call about a criminal or civil accusation that you don't recognize, it probably is not true. Law enforcement officers will not threaten you or your

family members with additional criminal charges.

If you get a call that you suspect is fraudulent, you are urged to contact the respective law enforcement agency to determine if the call is legitimate. You should not confirm any identifying information about yourself to the scammer.

Those who believe they have been a victim of a similar scam are advised to contact their local law enforcement agency.



**AVAILABLE NOW!**

## A NEW WAY TO PAY YOUR WATER BILLS

Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) customers can now use **DallasGo**, the new online payment platform for paying water bills and other City of Dallas bills.

**DallasGo** has replaced ePay to offer customers a more convenient bill paying experience.

For more information on **DallasGo**, visit [dallas.gov/DallasGo](https://dallas.gov/DallasGo). Customers who have additional questions or need assistance may send an email to [dallasgo@dallas.gov](mailto:dallasgo@dallas.gov) or call DWU Customer Service at 214-651-1441, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

PRESENTED BY




# Ride DART

to the Older Americans Month Information and Health Fair

**Thursday, May 16**  
**10 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**CENTENNIAL HALL AT FAIR PARK**  
GREEN LINE TO FAIR PARK STATION

COMMUNITY PARTNERS





Community Council




DART.ORG/SENIORS

MEDIA PARTNERS














# Duncanville student sounds off in vocal competition in Arkansas

Jeffrey Berry, a senior of Duncanville High School, competed against nine other contestants in a four state (Ar.,La.,Ok., and Tx.) competition by singing one of his favorite classical vocal songs, "Vaghissima Sembianza" (A charming Resemblance) by composer,

Stefano Donaudy. He electrified the audience with his vocal range and melodies to the delight of judges, family, friends, and the Omega men. His next musical demonstration will be at the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. International Conclave

in Tampa, Florida, on June 29, 2024, beginning at 6:00PM. Mr. Berry will once again represent the Alpha Iota Iota Graduate Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. located in North Dallas (northdallasques.com).



Jeffrey Berry performs during recent competition. (Courtesy photos)



Lawrence Prince, Jeffrey Berry and Horace Satisfield take a moment to savour the accomplishment.



Contestants included vocalists from Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas.

## GARY CLARK JR.



WITH SPECIAL GUEST ABRAHAM ALEXANDER

**MAY 8**  
WILL ROGERS AUDITORIUM  
FORT WORTH, TX

**MAY 9**  
MAJESTIC THEATRE  
DALLAS, TX



NEW ALBUM JPEG RAW OUT NOW



LIVE NATION

GARY CLARK JR.COM

Get tickets now at livenation.com

## 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](http://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](http://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.



Jay Hernandez in *The Long Game* (photo courtesy of Anita Gallón)

## Film Review: 'The Long Game' is a historical drama worth a watch

By Dwight Brown  
NNPA Film Critic

(\*\*1/2) Watching people beg and fight for equal access and dignity is sobering. But that's what happened in the '50s before the anger and upheaval of the '60s civil rights movements. Gaining equality wasn't easy back then.

Life in small town Del Rio, Texas in 1955 is a microcosm of what's going on in the rest of the country. Those who have power and all the toys want to keep them. That's what the WWII marine veteran JB Peña (Jay Hernandez, *Magnum P.I.*) encounters when he and his wife Lucy (Jaina Lee Ortiz) move into town. Peña, who's becoming superintendent of the Latino school district, is an avid golfer. He wants to become a member of the nearby, all-white Del Rio Country Club, which has the area's only golf course. Good luck with that.

The educator thought his inroad into the club would be his endorsement by his old infantry buddy from the 141st regiment Frank Mitchell (Dennis Quaid), who is the club's teaching pro. But the Del Rio's director (Richard Robichaux) and head member (Bret Cullen) deny Peña entry based on his heritage and skin color. Being treated

badly for being brown-skinned Latinos is what the young caddies at the club face, too. They love the game but can't play on the course. They've fashioned their own Ts and greens on the harsh brush lands of South Texas. That's where they secretly practice swings, putting and the steely concentration it takes to play the game. Destiny will bring the determined leader and worthy athletes together.

America is built almost entirely on the people who jump over the high hurdles as they turn dreams into achievements. That universal spirit is captured in this based-on fact movie that's been retold by writer/director Julio Quintana whose passion is telling stories about hope. It's a style that touches on the faith-based genre but isn't specifically religious. His previous movies *The Vessel*, about the rebuilding of a school after a Tsunami, and *Blue Miracle*, children from an orphanage enter a fishing competition, attests to his penchant for heartening melodramas.

Cowritten with Paco Farias and Jennifer Stetson, the very generic screenplay doesn't paint outside the lines. The main protagonist and his wife are set up early. The teen boys, secondary protagonists, are even

more vulnerable, likable, needy and will easily earn audiences' empathy: Felipe (Miguel Angel Garcia), José (José Julián), Gene (Gregory Diaz IV), Mario (Christian Gallegos) and the group's rambunctious leader, the very sulky Joe (Julian Works). Wisely the script pans out Joe's character with a high school love interest (Paulina Chávez) and a father (Jimmy Gonzales) very skeptical of his son playing a white man's sport.

History has it, as recorded in the book *Mustang Miracle*, by Humbert G. Garcia, the boys and JB would form the high school golf team the "San Felipe Mustangs." They'd worm their way on to the Del Rio course, compete and vie for the Texas State Championship. Along the way viewers witness all the humiliation, setbacks and derision the team and its mentors faced.

At film's end, a photo of the real Mustang team is revealed. The kids looked rougher, less like they're from a Hollywood casting call. Their clothes aren't as clean and pressed (costume designers Akayla Nandi and Daniela Rivano). It's likely their houses and schools weren't as perfect (production designer Carlos Osorio

See FILM, Page 11

MAY 8 – JUNE 9  
WINSPEAR OPERA HOUSE  
BROADWAYDALLAS.ORG

Germania  
BROADWAY SERIES  
PRESENTED BY BROADWAY DALLAS



# Broadway Dallas unveils new exhibit dedicated to South Dallas' past

On Friday, May 03, 2024, from noon to 2 p.m. Broadway Dallas will share the updated lobby installation of "South Dallas Stories: Uprooted" as part of their ongoing commitment to community conversations and exploration of historical inequities in their home neighborhood in South Dallas.

Three speakers are slated for the event. Nitashia Johnson is a multi-media artist and creator of "The Beauty Of South Dallas Collection." Pat Perez is a founding member of the Friends of Juanita Craft Civil Rights House and Museum. Michael Sneed is a devoted South Dallas native and resident.

Viewers can expect to see new photography and a screening of the second iteration of "The Beauty of South Dallas" collection by Nitashia Johnson which includes documentary style interviews, illustrations of Fair Park, surrounding historic landmarks and memorabilia of the late Juanita J. Craft. As a key component to

our Racial Equity journey, Broadway Dallas has dedicated a prominent space in the Music Hall lobby to commemorate the vibrant but problematic history of Fair Park/South Dallas that centers on the stories of its community members who have been impacted by systemic neighborhood inequities.



*Grandiose: A Pleasant Amount of Self Delusion by Jennifer Monet Cowley, Artist (BroadwayDallas.org)*

## CITY, from Page 7

vantages and social dominance of whites and the politically powerful, who have utilized legal and societal barriers to maintain their elite status over other communities.

In Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963, an African American student protested segregation by sitting at a drugstore lunch counter designated for whites only. Demonstrators staged a famous protest at a Woolworth store in New York

City in 1960 to denounce segregation at the chain's Southern lunch counters. In 1921,

Racial segregation has been pervasive worldwide among mixed-race communities, excluding regions like Hawaii and Brazil with significant racial integration. According to Britannica, while social discrimination exists in these areas, formal segregation does not. Conversely, in the Southern United States, the

segregation of Black and white individuals in public spaces was legally sanctioned from the late 1800s to the 1950s under the Jim Crow laws. In response, African Americans initiated the civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s to dismantle racial segregation. The movement culminated in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which provided robust protections against discrimination and segregation in voting, education, and public facilities. Meanwhile, the genesis

of St. George dates back nearly 15 years, when residents initially sought to establish an independent school district. Over time, the ambition evolved into a broader push for municipal independence, culminating in a decisive 2019 ballot initiative in which 54 percent of residents voted in favor of incorporation.

Legal wrangling ensued, with Baton Rouge city officials contesting the move, warning of dire fiscal con-

sequences and service disruptions. While lower courts initially sided with Baton Rouge, the state's Supreme Court ultimately overturned their rulings, endorsing the viability of St. George's internal budget to sustain essential public services.

Nevertheless, lingering concerns persist regarding the economic fallout. A 2014 study by the Baton Rouge Area Chamber projected a substantial budget

deficit for the remaining portions of Baton Rouge, raising apprehensions about the city's capacity to uphold public services post-separation.

"My goal from the very beginning—and it will always be my goal — is to advocate for a united Baton Rouge," Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome told reporters. "I am committed to serving the residents of St. George."

**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, April 19 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.      Friday, May 3 12:00-1:00 p.m.  
 Thursday, April 25 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.      Friday, May 17 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

For more information or to register for this event, please visit [dallascasa.org](http://dallascasa.org)

**Vote YES! On Bonds. Together, For Dallas.**

This May, Dallas voters can approve a \$1.25 billion investment in Dallas with no new taxes. To improve Dallas today, and build a bright Dallas future, vote "YES" on all ten bond propositions.

<b>PROPA:</b> Fix Our Streets.	<b>PROPF:</b> Make Dallas Even Safer.
<b>PROPB:</b> Strengthen Parks & Trails.	<b>PROPG:</b> Attract Jobs & Growth.
<b>PROPC:</b> Protect Neighborhoods From Flooding.	<b>PROPH:</b> Expand Affordable Housing.
<b>PROPD:</b> Upgrade Our Libraries.	<b>PROPI:</b> Solutions on Homelessness.
<b>PROPE:</b> Invest in Arts & Culture.	<b>PROPJ:</b> Upgrade Information Technology

<b>HON. TENNELL ATKINS</b>	<b>FORMER MAYOR RON KIRK</b>	<b>CONGRESSWOMAN JASMINE CROCKETT</b>	<b>PASTOR BRYAN CARTER</b>

**Vote Yes!** Together, for Dallas.

**VOTE EARLY** Monday, April 22 until Tuesday, April 30. **ELECTION DAY** is Saturday, May 4. **FOR MORE INFO** visit [TogetherForDallas.com](http://TogetherForDallas.com).

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY 2024 DALLAS BOND CAMPAIGN.



# Biden-Harris Administration: Texas groups will get \$405 million to deliver residential solar, lowering energy costs and advancing environmental justice

As the Biden-Harris Administration celebrates Earth week, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced the Texas Solar For All Coalition will receive \$249.7 million and the Clean Energy Fund of Texas will receive \$156.120 million through the Solar for All grant competition to develop long-lasting solar programs that enable low-income and disadvantaged communities to deploy and benefit from distributed residential solar. This award is part of the historic \$27 billion Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, which was created under President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act to lower energy costs for families,

create good-quality jobs in communities that have been left behind, advance environmental justice, and tackle the climate crisis.

"Today we're delivering on President Biden's promise that no community is left behind by investing \$7 billion in solar energy projects for over 900,000 households in low-income and disadvantaged communities," said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. "The selectees will advance solar energy initiatives across the country, creating hundreds of thousands of good-paying jobs, saving \$8 billion in energy costs for families, delivering cleaner air, and combating climate change."

"This is a game-changing opportunity for us," said Harris County Administrator Diana Ramirez. "The grant allows us to deliver better, more reliable, and more cost-effective power to our communities. What a fantastic way to celebrate Earth Day!"

"We are grateful to the EPA for selecting this multifaceted project as part of the Inflation Reduction Act and the Solar For All program," said Billy Briscoe, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the Clean Energy Fund of Texas. "This partnership with minority serving institutions of higher education will lower energy burden for low-income communi-

ties, jumpstart the green economy with the creation of jobs through workforce training programs, and provide energy resiliency after a climate event."

The Texas SFA Coalition includes Texas municipalities serving the low-income and disadvantaged community population (over 11 million people). The Texas SFA program will leverage federal funds, tax credits, and other sources to provide financial assistance and access to private capital to support residential multifamily and single family solar, battery storage, and energy efficiency deployments to improve community well-being and resilience to power system

failures. The Texas program will support workforce training to serve low-income and disadvantaged residents, support minority-and women-owned

businesses, and collaborate with community-based organizations. The coalition's SFA programs can be ex-

See SOLAR, Page 12

## FILM, from Page 9

and John Parker). And it's a good guess that the music swirling in the kid's heads wasn't so much American tunes and overly sweet violins (musical score, Hanan Townsend), but more likely Tejano (Tex-Mex) music, which isn't represented enough on the soundtrack.

This is a historical drama. The little guys against the boogeymen villains emboldened by racism and prejudice, which is manifested in white antagonists. Adult bullies and cheating high school golfers who make the lives and ambitions of the team hell, until the budding golfers find ways to reach their goals, regardless. Viewers can guess where the storyline is going but will still credit the script for tossing viable challenges in their path. Also, some may wish the whole approach was less perfect and more rough-hewn. Cinematic realism or a cinema verité filmmaking approach would have served the material better and made the footage (cinematographer Alex Quintana) more gripping. As is, the production elements are too neat. Too homogenized.

Like a Lifetime network TV production. Average instead of extraordinary.

Thankfully, there are moments when the script's character arcs are deeper than expected. JB as the make-no-waves Latino needs to grow out of his "please the white guy" comfort zone. He warns the kids: "I don't wanna hear Spanish on the course ever. We have to look and act like we belong here." Some won't like his pandering. Others will deem him pragmatic. But by modern standards his fawning seems archaic. Joe is his exact opposite. Says and does what he feels. The group is called the Mustangs, but Joe is the only one who embodies a free spirit. The man and the teen learn from each other.

There are also heated moments when the social ills that oppressed many in 1950s America are specific to JB and his kids. E.g., when the kids aren't served in a diner because they're Latino. Or JB's feelings about fighting in WWII and his cold reception back in The States: "Served my country, but when we came back. There were no pa-

rades." Sound familiar?

Easy to like all the performances. Hernandez is a leading man who should command more top-billing opportunities. Quaid is sufficient in a style of film that's become his trademark. Ortiz and Chávez play the wife and girlfriend well with characters that add a lot to the plotline. The young actor Julian Works, as Joe, has enough talent to star in a TV series. The real life of the party is the legendary Cheech Marin, of Cheech and Chong fame. As the humorous groundskeeper Pollo, he has a shaman's wisdom. "No one can stop a man who can get out of a bunker."

These kinds of stories need to be told. They fill in the blanks. The spaces where groups like Mexican Americans achieved, despite all the roadblocks and degradation. What's on view isn't easy to watch. Sometimes it's humiliating. But the inroads forbearers made, is why new generations thrive today.

When you look at the big picture, at stories like the breakthrough of the Del Rio Mustangs, films like The Long Game become treasured archives.

Noble missions. A reason to watch.

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



**JOIN US AT OUR  
SECOND ANNUAL JOB FAIR**

**May 14, 2024**  
9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Senter Park Recreation Center  
901 S. Senter Road

*The City of Irving may have the perfect job for you!*

- Variety of job opportunities currently available
- Competitive pay
- Excellent full-time employee benefits

The City of Irving does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, genetics, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression/reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws.



## Ed Bell Construction Company

An Equal Opportunity Employer

May 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)
- Pipelayer (Underground)
- Boom Mobile Crane (CDL)
- Concrete Finishers (Paving)
- Dozer Operator (Earthwork)
- Laborer (Paving, Earthwork)
- Loader Operator (Earthwork)
- Fuel Service Truck Driver (CDL)
- Concrete Paving Operator (Paving)
- Motor Grader Operator (Earthwork)
- CDL Drivers (Water Truck, End Dump)
- 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](http://www.edbellconstruction.com/careers)**  
**Or email your resume to: [careers@edbellconstruction.com](mailto:careers@edbellconstruction.com)**



# SOLAR, from Page 11

tended within the member jurisdictions and expanded to other parts of Texas during and beyond the SFA grant period.

The Clean Energy Fund of Texas (TxCEF), in partnership with the Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice at Texas Southern University (BCECJ; jointly, CEFBC), will deploy technical assistance, private capital, and grants to minority-serving institutions. Together, these organizations will facilitate the development of residential-serving community solar projects in low-income and disadvantaged communities on the frontlines of energy policy and grid vulnerability challenges. Projects will drive expected emissions reductions, household utility bill savings, generate direct shared revenues through community ownership, and mobilize private capital. Projects will deploy solar and energy storage, delivering grid and community benefits by powering community

resilience centers. These outcomes will deliver the benefits of greenhouse gas and air pollution-reducing projects to American communities. Based in Texas, TxCEF will operate in 19 states across the United States South and Southeast.

The grants are among 49 state-level awards EPA announced totaling approximately \$5.5 billion, along with six awards to serve Tribes totaling over \$500 million, and five multistate awards totaling approximately \$1 billion.

A complete list of the selected applicants can be found on EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Solar for All website.

The Solar for All program also advances President Biden's Justice40 Initiative, which set the goal that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal climate, clean energy, affordable and sustainable housing, and other investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underin-

vestment and overburdened by pollution. All of the funds awarded through the Solar for All program will be invested in low-income and disadvantaged communities. The program will also help meet the President's goal of achieving a carbon pollution-free power sector by 2035 and net-zero emissions economy by no later than 2050.

EPA estimates that the 60 Solar for All recipients will enable over 900,000 households in low-income and disadvantaged communities to deploy and benefit from distributed solar energy. This \$7 billion investment will generate over \$350 million in annual savings on electric bills for overburdened households. The program will reduce 30 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions cumulatively, from over four gigawatts of solar energy capacity unlocked for low-income communities over five years. Solar and distributed energy resources help improve electric grid reliability and climate resili-

ence, which is especially important in disadvantaged communities that have long been underserved.

Solar for All will deliver on the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to creating high-quality jobs with the free and fair choice to join a union for workers across the United States. This \$7 billion investment in clean energy will generate an estimated 200,000 jobs across the country. All selected applicants intend to invest in local, clean energy workforce development programs to expand equitable pathways into family-sustaining jobs for the communities they are designed to serve. At least 35% of selected applicants have already engaged local or national unions, demonstrating how these programs will contribute to the foundation of a clean energy economy built on

strong labor standards and inclusive economic opportunity for all American communities.

The Solar for All program also advances President Biden's Justice40 Initiative, which set the goal that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal climate, clean energy, affordable and sustainable housing, and other investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution. All of the funds awarded through the Solar For All program will be invested in low-income and disadvantaged communities. The program will also help meet the President's goal of achieving a carbon pollution-free power sector by 2035 and net-zero emissions economy by no later than 2050.

The 60 selected appli-

cants have committed to delivering on the three objectives of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: reducing climate and air pollution; delivering benefits to low-income and disadvantaged communities; and mobilizing financing to spur additional deployment of affordable solar energy. Solar for All selected applicants are expanding existing low-income solar programs and launching new programs. In at least 25 states and territories nationwide, Solar for All is launching new programs where there has never been a substantial low-income solar program before. In these geographies, Solar for All selected applicants will open new markets for distributed solar by funding new programs that provide grants and low-cost financing for low-income, residential solar.

**NDG is looking for a Journalism Intern for a 6 month assignment to cover community events on site in the Irving area.**

- Must be an aspiring writer looking to gain some experience or a school credit in Journalism.
- Must have transportation, a valid driver's license and vehicle Insurance. Assignment requires candidates to work on and offsite.
- Contract pay is \$13.75 per hour plus gas stipend.
- Hours are 12 to 15 hours per week.

**Please send resume or inquiries to:**  
**businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com**


 **Facebook.com/**  
**NorthDallasGazette**


*Celebrating*  
 — 25 YEARS —  
*of bringing women together*


**Grace Project National Conference for Women Living with HIV**

Legacy Cares announces the 25th anniversary of what is now the largest conference for women living with HIV/AIDS in the nation. This year the Grace Project National Conference for Women Living with HIV/AIDS will host nearly 200 women living with HIV from North Texas and nationwide. The event is designed to bring formerly isolated women living with an HIV diagnosis together. Our goal is to SEE (Support, Educate and Empower) each woman and create future advocates for HIV prevention, health education and awareness.

**Will you partner with us?**




**Donate** to the Grace Project Conference and help cover the cost of conference fees and/or a plenary meal. 

**Donate** healthy snacks for conference attendees who may need to take their medications with food. 

**Donate** items to the conference arts and crafts lounge where women get to explore with creative relaxation activities. 

**May 17-19, 2024**  
**Westin Dallas Park Central**  
 127820 Merit Dr. Dallas, TX

[legacygraceproject.org](http://legacygraceproject.org)  
[iamredproject.org/graceprojectconference](http://iamredproject.org/graceprojectconference)



# Junior Achievement of Dallas names Chris Laturno as president

Junior Achievement of Dallas announced today that Chris LaTurno, past Region Senior Vice President of the Dallas Division at the American Heart Association, has been



Chris Laturno (Courtesy photo)

named President as of May 1, 2024. As President of the Junior Achievement office, LaTurno will manage the organization's work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy programs that reached over 156,000 K-12 students last year.

"We are pleased to welcome Chris LaTurno to Junior Achievement," stated Beth Garvey, Board Chair

of the Junior Achievement of Dallas Board of Directors. "Chris brings a great deal of nonprofit leadership, fundraising expertise, enthusiasm for the JA mission, and strong management skills to JA," said Garvey.

LaTurno joins the Junior

Achievement of Dallas organization bringing nine years of non-profit fundraising and leadership success advocating for the needs of the community. For the past three years, LaTurno led the Dallas Division of the American Heart Association to its most successful fundraising revenue (\$40M) in a three-year time period and delivered exceptional community impact. During his tenure, both the Cotes du Coeur (Gala) and the Dallas Heart Walk each raised over \$5 million in a single fiscal year and Go Red for Women raised over \$2 million in a single fiscal year.

Prior to the American Heart Association (AHA) in Dallas, Chris successfully led the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) chapters in Greater Fort Worth, TX and Raleigh, NC Chapters. During a six-year time frame, each chapter experienced tremendous revenue growth and research funding.

"I am proud and honored to join a prominent organization like JA with such an important mission," commented Chris LaTurno. "JA educates and inspires young people to value free enterprise, business, and economics to improve the

quality of their lives. I will work hard to ensure students experience JA's high-quality programs so they can gain the skills relevant to success in their future careers and in their lives."

Junior Achievement of Dallas (JA Dallas), a non-profit organization, impacts the lives of students by teaching life skills in budgeting, careers, and business start-ups. JA Dallas' mission is to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy through educational partnerships and proven curriculum. The organization has been in Dallas for more than 65

years and has reached over 1.5 million students.

JA Dallas is committed to serving students in under-resourced areas to grow diversity, be more inclusive, and ensure students have equitable access to JA resources. Last year, over 2,000 volunteers helped change the lives of more than 156,000 Dallas area students through JA programs. Surveys show that students who take JA have a high school graduation rate of 93% compared to 85% for the general population, and 67% have an advanced post-secondary degree. Visit [www.jadallas.org](http://www.jadallas.org) for more information.

## DEBT, from Page 1

Harris convened a roundtable discussion with community leaders on April 8 at Philadelphia's William Cramp Elementary School.

"If you've paid undergraduate loans for more than 20 years or graduate loans for more than 25 years, those loans will be completely forgiven, regardless of your income and even if you did not graduate," said Vice President Harris. "And forgiveness will be automatic for the vast majority of the 25 million people that we believe will benefit from this approach.

"And to see if you could be eligible, I would urge everyone to go to StudentAid.Gov. That's StudentAid.Gov," she urged.

Consumer and civil rights advocates welcomed

the new plan.

Wisdom Cole, the NAACP's Director of Youth and College said, "It is a proud moment to see our collective, years-long advocacy culminate in millions of Americans being unshackled from the chains of student debt."

The Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) also welcomed the administration addressing the longstanding problem of borrowers being overwhelmed by accumulating interest.

"For years, CRL has advocated for the elimination of accrued interest that prevents millions of low-income borrowers from repaying their loans and breaking free from a cycle of debt," said Mitria Spotser, CRL's vice president and federal policy director.

"We applaud President Biden's genuine efforts to recognize the burden carried by those who owe more than they originally borrowed due to the interest accrued on their federal loans and thank the administration for incorporating CRL's recommendations

into its interest relief proposal." She said the changes ensure a higher education system that is fairer and more accessible to all.

"From day one of my Administration, I promised to fight to ensure higher education is a ticket to the middle class, not a barrier

to opportunity," said President Joe Biden. "I will never stop working to cancel student debt."

Charlene Crowell is a

senior fellow with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at [Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org](mailto:Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org).

## CASA, from Page 5

living in the protective care of the state. For many children in foster care, their Dallas CASA volunteer is the only consistent, caring adult in their lives during a frightening, uncertain time.

Dallas CASA envisions a day when all children experience safe childhoods and grow into resourceful, healthy adults.

Now in its 44th year, Dallas CASA serves more

children than any of the more than 900 CASA programs nationwide. In 2023, 1,088 Dallas CASA volunteers were assigned to advocate for 2,151 children in protective care. For the past five years, the agency has been able to provide an advocate for every Dallas child in need, but each year more advocates are needed. To learn more, visit [dallas-casa.org](http://dallas-casa.org).

 **GARLAND**  
TEXAS MADE HERE

**Attention Suppliers of Goods,  
Services and Construction**

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

[www.garlandpurchasing.com](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.cityofirving.org)

The City of Irving does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, genetics, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression/reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws.



# Being Sick Is Not My Cup Of Tea

Dr. James L. Snyder

I do not have a history of being sick. I rarely even have a headache, but I must confess, I give headaches.

The last two weeks have been different for me. I have never experienced such a long stretch of sickness before. One day in the hospital and then two weeks in bed. What kind of experience is that?

The great thing about being sick, if there is anything great about it, is that you have a big excuse for not doing anything. For several days, I did not even get out of my pajamas or out of bed.

I can't imagine anybody being sick all the time; it just doesn't make sense to me.

If there is a good side—and I'm really not convinced there is—I have yet to find it. When I think things are coming to an end, the road suddenly turns right.

For several days, I coughed and sneezed and coughed and sneezed. One day, I sneezed so bad that I sneezed my brains out. No problem, I haven't missed



my brains.

Getting well is a process I'm not very familiar with. I've had to take more pills than I have ever seen in my life. And, thanks to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage I take those pills every day. She is my drug lord. I never knew drugs were so important.

There is an ongoing contest with me. That is, how soon can I get to the bathroom? The bathroom is at one end of the house, and my easy chair is at the other end. Oh boy, I've never seen such a long distance

before.

Most of the time, I made it on time, but that's for another time.

In thinking about my medication, I have found myself a little woozy when I get up to walk. It doesn't last long, just long enough to make me feel crazy.

Not only did I spend one day in the hospital, but I had several trips to the doctor's office for checkups and to monitor the medication I was taking.

At one doctor's visit, the nurse had to do blood work for me. She came and

brought all of her equipment, I looked at her and said, "Why don't you just punch me in the nose and get my blood that way. That would be easier for both of us."

The way she looked at me seemed like she was ready to punch me in the nose. But all that poking on my arm with needle after needle after needle I think she got even with me. Why is my blood so important to them? After all, it's my blood, so let me keep it.

For some reason, they can look at my blood and tell my whole health history.

The thing about my sickness is that my energy has gone on vacation. I hope it enjoys the vacation wherever it is, and I'm anxious for it to return and hear its stories.

I didn't realize how unenergetic I was until the other day when the great-granddaughter stayed with us. She was running around in circles, giggling, jumping up and down, and doing all kinds of things, and I got tired just watching her do all of those things.

I wanted to grab her, but I

didn't have the energy, and find out where she gets all that energy and ask to borrow some of it just for a day.

In pondering this, I've come to the conclusion that the older you get, the less energy you have. If I had known this when I was young, I would not have spent all of my energy so foolishly. I would have put some of it in a savings account for my senior years.

One good thing about the great-granddaughter, as I watch her running and jumping and giggling and rolling on the floor, I forget about what I'm doing at the time. I even can laugh a little.

Once I get better, and that will be TOMORROW, I will be cautious about how I use my energy. I'm going to find some way to put a little bit of energy every day into some kind of savings account to use later. I'm not sure how that works, but I'm going to take the time I have getting better trying to figure out how I can do that.

There could be a good side to all of this sickness nonsense. Once I get better and return to normal life, I

could use the experience for my own benefit.

For example, when The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage asks me to do something I'm not very anxious about, I can say, "Oh, boy. I'm starting to feel dizzy right now?"

Then, she will feel sorry for me, lead me to my chair and help me sit down. I'm not sure how long I can play this violin, but I will play it as long as I can.

Someone once said that there is a rainbow after every storm. I guess this is my rainbow.

A verse of scripture came to mind as I thought about being sick. "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16).

Prayer is the solution to every problem, even my health.

*Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnsnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnsnyderministries.com.*

## LEE, from Page 2

rael-Hamas conflict. Other members of "The Squad" such as Reps. Jamaal Bowman (D-NY) and Ilhan Omar (D-MN), are also facing primary challengers supported and funded by AIPAC.

In Michigan, a group called Michigan over 100,000 voters cast their vote as "uncommitted" in order to register a protest against President Biden's policy on Israel and in fa-

vor of a ceasefire. That 13 percent of the vote was a wake-up call for the Biden Administration on Middle East policy. Regardless, the U.S. House and U.S. Senate voted to send \$26 billion to Israel and \$60 billion to Ukraine on April 20 and April 23.

Rep. Summer Lee voted against the total of \$95 billion in tax money going overseas to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan. The legislation

also included a ban on the social media app TikTok unless they change their leadership structure.

Leadership in the Congressional Black Caucus has been almost silent on AIPAC's funding against incumbent CBC members.

*Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent investigative journalist and the publisher of Black Virginia News. She can be contacted at LBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LV-Burke.*

# 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](mailto:editor@northdallasgazette.com)

## 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**



# The Foundation of Success



**Sister Tarpley**  
NDG  
Religion  
Editor

*“Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the Lord of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel: And I was with thee whithersoever thou went, and have cut off all thine enemies out of thy sight, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great men that are in the earth.”*

### 2 Samuel 7:8-9 (KJV)

David was nearing the end of his life; and the prophet Nathan was responding to David’s idea to build a temple where the Ark of the Covenant would stay.

God was reminding David through the prophet, Nathan, of his roots and where He had brought him from.

God took David from the fields of pasturing sheep to being the Leader of a na-



tion.

He also reminded David that He had cut off all of David’s enemies for his sake and the sake of his nation. David never lost a battle; he was what we call today ‘very successful’.

Have you ever felt tempted to look at your accomplishments with pride as if you were the reason for your success?

Have you been tempted to think that your prosperity was due to your ingenuity?

Has your material success been a testimony to others that God is the ruler of all aspects of your life, even the material side?

Or, do you say, as my Pastor Brenda Patterson says at the end of her texts

and emails, “All about God! In Him-For Him To Him”

The greatest temptation for many people is the pride of ownership. If we think our success is a result of our own effort we offend God and open the door to pride, just as Satan did before he was thrown out of Heaven.

*“A man’s pride shall bring him low: But honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.”*

### Proverbs 29:23 (KJV)

After becoming a Christian, I was on my way to church one Friday evening, in the process I passed a club and said to myself, “Look at all those people going in and out of that club, they could be on their

way to a church revival like me.”

At once I heard God say to me, “If it wasn’t for My grace, you would still be doing the same thing.” From that day forward, I stopped taking credit for any successes in my life.

Success can be a greater test than any adversity you may face. It as been said that not every man can carry a full cup, a sudden elevation frequently leads to pride and a fall; and the most exacting test of all to survive is prosperity.

Success can be a breeding ground for complacency with God and pride of ownership.

Do you really understand who you are and where your successes come from? Do you understand that it is God who has given you the ability to work and achieve? God is the true source of all good things. Does your life reflect this belief?

### Good Things to Consid-

er: There are no shortcuts to any place worth going. Vitality shows not only in the ability to persist, but in the ability to start over.

Accept challenges, so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory. Excellence is not a skill; it is an attitude.

The true sign of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination. Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes. If you want to stand out, don’t be different; be outstanding.


Change is difficult but often essential to survival.


Life is ten percent what happens to you and ninety percent how you respond to it.

Your vision will become clear only when you can look into your own heart. Boldness has God, His power and His Love in it.

Proper planning can save you your most precious asset—your time. Proper planning can save you money; make your life easier, less frustrating and more fun.

*(Editor’s Note: This column was originally published in May 2017.)*

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



7701 S. Westmoreland Rd  
Dallas, TX 75237  
972.672.4262 (BOC)  
www.BOCCHURCH.org

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

## Check us out on Youtube!



Medicare’s Open Enrollment runs Oct. 15 - Dec. 7, 2023




**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!



Monday      Wednesday      Friday

**Daily stress adds up.**

Minds need maintenance. Don’t let stress take its toll.  
Visit [parklandhealth.org](http://parklandhealth.org)



Follow us on social media! | @ParklandHealth 



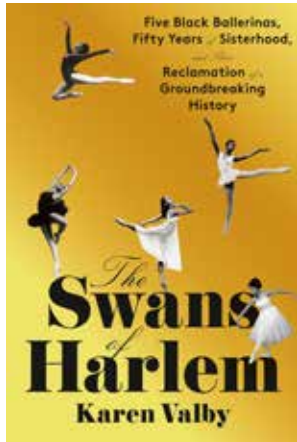
# NDG Book Review: 'The Swans of Harlem' is one to grab up immediately

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Not one movement is wasted.

Every turn of wrist, every finger curl, every softly curved step is loaded with meaning. Though there are no words to accompany this dance, the story it tells comes through loudly. You can't take your eyes off the ballerina on the stage, or her elegance or, in the new book "The Swans of Harlem" by Karen Valby, her history-making presence.

In the 1950s, long before the Civil Rights Movement, little Black girls could certainly be found in ballet classes in America but their dreams were



always squashed. They were pointed toward jazz or modern dance in short order, or were bluntly told that they'd never be ballerinas.

Dancer Arthur Mitchell didn't listen to that. "His work ethic was his super-

power," says Valby, and when presented with an opportunity with The Harlem School of the Arts, he seized it. He would "build an internationally renowned school that would" show the world that ballet had nothing to do with skin color. He started looking for dancers.

Lydia Abarca was still a teenager when she met Mitchell, and she ultimately became his go-to dancer at the Dance Theatre of Harlem (DTH). Llanchie Stevenson would dance for Mitchell until she converted to Islam as an adult. Gayle-McKinney-Griffith left Julliard to dance for him. Twenty-seven-year-

old Sheila Rohan was much older than most beginner ballerinas; she was also the mother of three kids but with the help of an older sister, she joined the DTH. Marcia Sells moved to New York City from Ohio to dance; Karlya Shelton came from Denver.

Says Valby, it would've been so easy for any of them to go home when things got hard, to return to their families, and restart live anonymous lives. Instead, they stayed for the "next curtain rising" and to blaze a path...

Not long ago, many sources insisted that Misty Copeland was "the first black ballerina." It was,

says author Karen Valby, all "Misty Copeland, Misty Copeland, Misty Copeland..." Yes, it's true that Copeland was "the first African American woman to be promoted to principal dancer at American Ballet Theatre." She wasn't the first Black ballerina, though. Not by a long shot, and "The Swans of Harlem" sets the record straight.

Valby begins by reminding readers what was at stake when her five ballerina subjects launched their careers, despite racism – but how they endured racial bias from beyond the curtains is just half the story. Valby touches lightly

upon their private lives, and heavier on the trouble they had with their mercurial teacher who is, not-so-surprisingly, celebrated. So are many beloved male "danseurs," some of whom died during the AIDS epidemic.

For the record, Copeland, too, is lauded here.

And that's pretty appealing, because readers who expect rivalry, claws-out, and divahood in a tale like this will happily find less than they might predict. Instead, you'll find a story that you'll be glad you know now, one you'll be satisfied to've read. So find "The Swans of Harlem." You want it, so don't waste a minute.



U.S. CONGRESSMAN  
**COLIN ALLRED**  
 REPRESENTING THE 32ND DISTRICT OF TEXAS

**HAVE AN ISSUE WITH A FEDERAL AGENCY?  
 GET HELP WITH:**

VA

PASSPORTS

POSTAL SERVICE

IRS

MEDICARE

SOCIAL SECURITY

**ALLRED.HOUSE.GOV**

**(972) 972-7949**