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Voters decide school, transit issues

DISD: Bond supporters declare victory. Here's what \$6.2 billion would pay for

By SILAS ALLEN Staff Writer silas.allen@dallasnews.com

Supporters of Dallas ISD's proposed \$6.2 billion bond issue declared victory about 45 minutes after polls closed Saturday, thanking voters for demonstrating their faith in the district.

The bond package held a solid lead shortly after polls closed. If the proposal pass-

es, residents would see a school property tax increase of about \$2.79 a month on a \$500,000 home, which is the average home value in the district. District leaders would use money from the bond issue, which is the largest in Texas history, to build more than two dozen new schools, among other projects.

Dallas ISD board Presi-

dent Joe Carreón said the early vote returns were encouraging. Taken together, the four proposals represent a big step forward for public education in Dallas, he said. The bond issue would allow the district to maintain the momentum it built through previous bond issues in 2020 and

See TWO Page 12A

Frisco voters are choosing a new mayor for the first time in nine years. 13A Voters favoring most Lancaster ISD and Arlington ISD bond proposals. 12A

DART: Addison, University Park favor staying; Highland Park leans to leave

By LILLY KERSH Staff Writer lilly.kersh@dallasnews.com

Dallas Area Rapid Transit, under pressure for months, appeared to be fending off breakaway efforts Saturday in early voting, holding its ground in two cities while facing a potential loss in a third. Voters in Addison, Highland Park and Univer-

sity Park confronted a stark question: stick with Dallas Area Rapid Transit or walk away from a network they've been part of for more than 40 years.

Ballots in all three cities were still being counted as of 10 p.m. Partial returns showed most voters in Addison and University Park favored staying in the system, but those in Highland

Park supported cutting ties with the agency.

If the three cities leave, DART's rail, bus stops and other operations there would end almost immediately, reshaping public transportation in North Texas as growth accelerates and demand rises.

Some local leaders and See PARTIAL Page 13A

AVIATION

Travelers stuck after Spirit folds

Southwest Airlines, American rush to assist customers left in the lurch following collapse

By JORDAN PARKER Staff Writer jordan.parker@dallasnews.com

U.S. airlines are rushing to help thousands of travelers who may be stranded after infamous budget carrier Spirit Airlines ceased operations after almost 34 years.

The budget airline, known for its bright yellow aircraft and bare bones fares, had been working through its second bankruptcy as losses mounted. In recent days it had made a desperate plea to the Trump administration for a bailout, but talks fell apart.

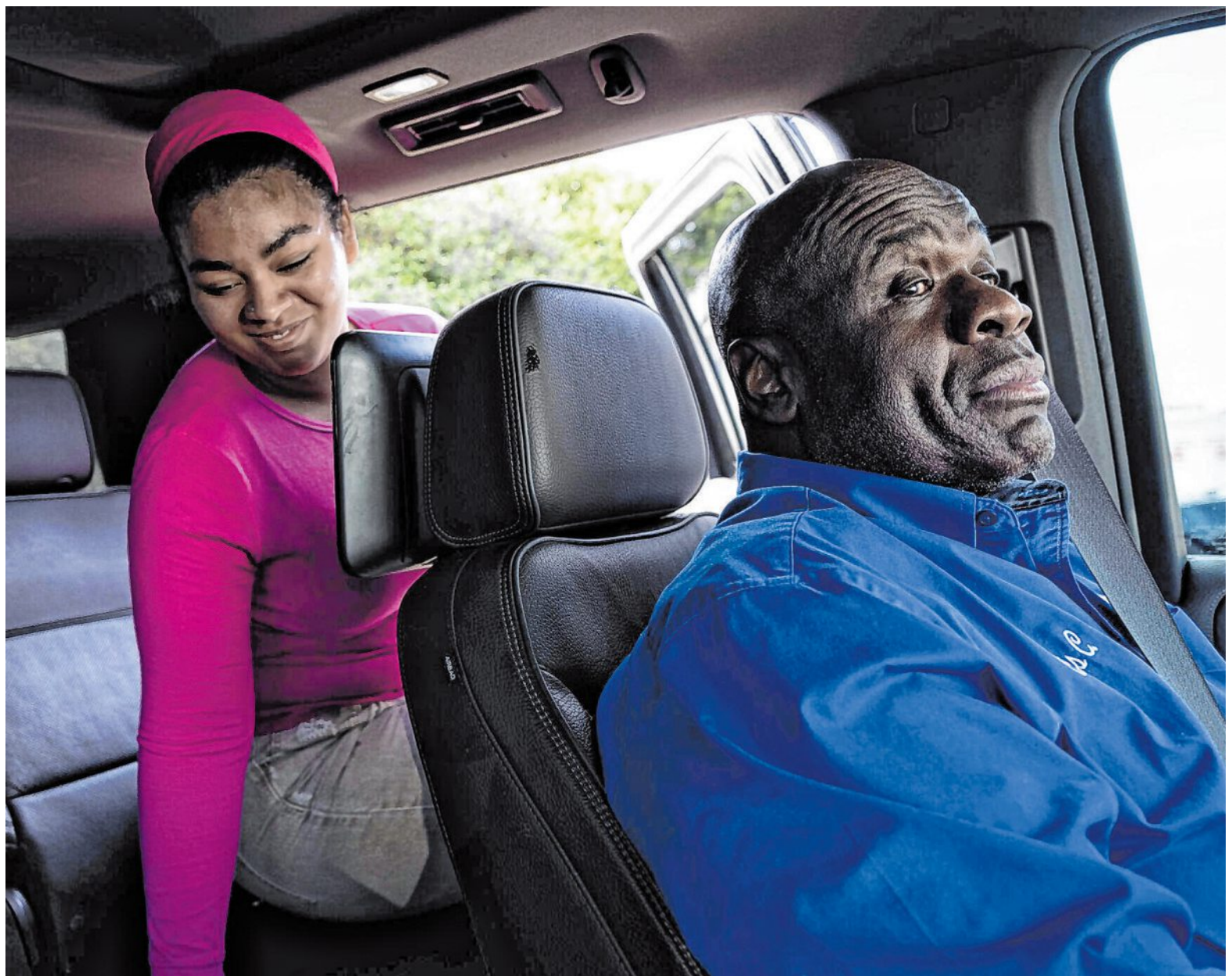
Early Saturday morning, Spirit's last flight NK1833 landed at DFW International Airport from Detroit, marking the end of an era for budget airlines. "For more than 30 years, Spirit Airlines has played a pioneering role in making travel more accessible and bringing people together while driving affordability across the industry," Dave Davis, Spirit's president and CEO, said in a statement.

"Sustaining the business required hundreds of millions of additional dollars of liquidity that Spirit simply does not have and could not procure. This is tremendously disappointing and not the outcome any of us wanted."

Florida-based Spirit's shuttering means that DFW Airport suddenly loses more

See SOUTHWEST Page 10A

TRANSPORTATION



Angela Piazza/Staff Photographer

Curtis Corbins (front), founder and owner of Southern Dallas Link, waited for passenger Brianna Lambert to climb in the backseat of an SUV in DeSoto on April 9. Corbins transported Lambert to her job in Ennis.

Reliable rides make a difference

Cedar Hill resident's shuttle service helps job seekers reach work

By WILBORN P. NOBLES III Staff Writer wilborn.nobles@dallasnews.com

For Brianna Lambert, the math is simple. No ride equals no job.

On a recent Thursday evening, shortly before six, the 20-year-old climbed into the back seat of a black GMC Denali, a full-size SUV with room for seven, outside a strip of businesses near Stanton Optical in DeSoto. Driver Curtis Corbins steered southeast toward Ennis, where Lambert works at the Sterilite plastics manufacturing factory.

It is one of several pickup runs he makes to connect residents in southern Dallas County to jobs that are not on a bus or train line.

Transportation is one of the biggest barriers facing workers in southern Dallas County, according to advocates and regional planners. Many entry-level workers, seniors and single parents struggle to reach jobs, job training, and school because Dallas Area Rapid Transit and other transit options run too infrequently, or not at all, for their needs. When owning a car is out of



Corbins, driver, founder and owner of Southern Dallas Link, parked in front of the Shops at RedBird to wait for a passenger.

reach, those transit holes turn a short trip across Dallas into a major obstacle.

Corbins and his company fill the gap by providing direct, predictable automobile commutes that higher-wage workers take for granted. They get southern Dallas workers to jobs that offer better pay and the chance for upward mobili-

ty while employers get access to a larger workforce.

C. Lee Transportation, which operates 35 vehicles and employs 63 drivers, provides up to 250 rides a day for residents heading to warehouses, medical offices, and job sites. He contracts directly with companies, who deduct a transportation fee from employees' pay-



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checks. The cost for most commuters, for example, a round trip between Dallas and Ennis, is about \$30 per day. Senior rides average \$25 per round trip.

The consistency, speed and directness of the shuttle service helps workers keep jobs they would otherwise lose due to missed or unavailable transit connections, pro-

See COMPANY Page 9A

METRO

Paxton targets H-1B visa fraud

Attorney General Ken Paxton announced he is investigating nearly 30 North Texas businesses for visa fraud, an escalation of a probe he announced earlier this year. 1B

BUSINESS

Uneven cost of 'Liberation Day'

Even after the Supreme Court ruled IEEPA tariffs illegal in February, the U.S. and North Texas will continue to live with consequences of "Liberation Day" for much longer. 1D

Sunny and warmer



Metro, back page

INSIDE

Table with 2 columns: Category and Page Number. Includes Nation/World (4-8, 11A), Obituaries (12-13B), Sports TV (2C), Markets (10D), Classified (8-9D), Jumble (10D), Abode (13E), Puzzles (10E), Jobs (1J), Editorials (1-2P), Letters (2-3P).

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