

North Dallas Gazette



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District 4 candidates seek to improve Garland

RUTH FERGUSON
NDG EDITOR

Speaking by phone last week, BJ Williams stated he was running for office as a result of his commitment to community service for most of his 40 plus years in Garland. A retired human resources manager, one of his stated key priorities is the

ability to be a consensus builder in an effort to get things done for the benefit of Garland residents.

"I want to move Garland to the other level. It is not enough to brag about being labeled an all American City," according to Williams. He also stated that he believes he is the best-qualified candidate in the race, touting



BJ Williams

his achievements, which include serving as the Chairman of the Planning Commission.

He has been persistent in his attempt to learn more about the needs and concerns of District 4 constituents.

"I have knocked on every door in my district," Williams shared, which includes about

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Ninth Circuit Rules - AZ's Proof of Citizenship Requirement for Voter Registrants Violates Fed Law

Ninth Circuit Rules that Arizona's Proof of Citizenship Requirement for Voter Registrants Violates Federal Law PASADENA, Calif. ­-- In a decision of national significance, the United States Court of Ap-

peals for the Ninth Circuit today ruled that voter registration provisions of Arizona's Proposition 200 violate the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA). The ruling blocks an unnecessary and burdensome requirement

for voter registration that could prevent eligible citizens from exercising their fundamental right to vote.

The court ruled that the NVRA-mandated mail-in federal voter registration form must be accepted by

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Rep. Ellison and ACLU urge Senate to end racial profiling

Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN) and Anthony D. Romero, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union, testified before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights at a hearing focused on racial profiling in America. The hearing was held Tues., April 17 and was the first Senate hearing on racial profiling



Keith Ellison

since before 9/11. The Trayvon Martin case, along with recently passed state anti-immigrant laws and increased surveillance of Muslim and South Asian communities, underscore the need to prohibit racial profiling in America.

"Racial stereotyping is simply not good policing," Ellison told the Senate Judiciary Committee. "It threatens

the values Americans hold dear."

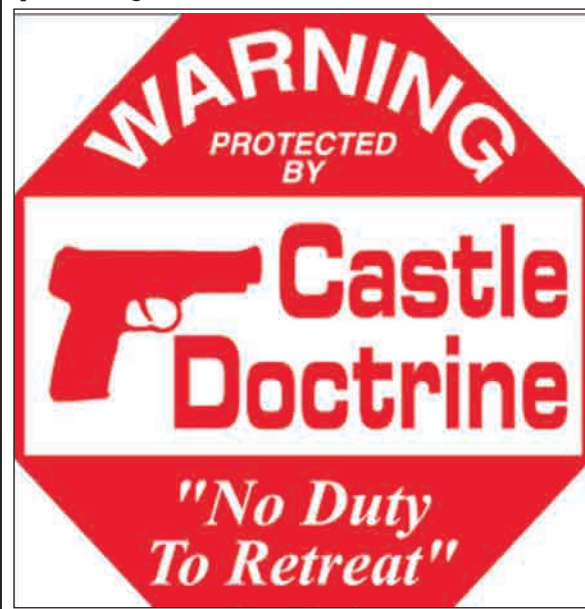
Ellison is the first African-American elected representative from Minnesota, is also a Muslim.

"Given the unique circumstances of my election and given that I'm one of two [Muslims] out of 535 [members of Congress], the issues

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COVER STORY

Are minorities in Texas under greater risk of racial profiling via the Castle Law Doctrine?



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2012 DeSoto SolJazz Festival "Where People, Music & Culture Become One!"

For more information see pg. 10
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COMMENTARY

Financing auto purchases: yo-yo scams in car finance

BY CHARLENE CROWELL

Throughout 2011, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) convened a series of roundtable forums that explored abusive auto lending practices. Now in 2012, the Center for Responsible Lending, a participant in those roundtables, has issued a new research report on deceitful practices that take advantage of unsuspecting customers. In particular, the report shows that consumers with low-incomes and poor credit

scores are the most likely target for these abuses. By preying upon consumers who are the least able to walk away from deals, the opportunity emerges to make more expensive loans and take consumers' trade-in and/or down payment.

The report, *Deal or No Deal: How Yo-Yo Scams Rig the Game against Car Buyers*, is the first national insight into the prevalence of 'yo-yo scams'. This deceitful dealer practice begins when car dealers encourage

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People In The News...



Dr. Christopher J. Perkins



Nnemkadi Ogwumike



Shella Gillus

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Dr. Christopher J. Perkins

Dr. Christopher J. Perkins was appointed by Dallas County Commissioners Court as the new Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) Health Authority on Tuesday, April 17, 2012.

Dr. Perkins, board certified by American Osteopathic College of Occupational and Preventive Medicine, specializes in public health and community medicine.

In his new position as

medical director and health authority, he will provide leadership on public health functions including surveillance and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases.

"We are very fortunate to have Dr. Perkins as our new medical director for Dallas County Health and Human Services," said Thompson.

Dr. Perkins, a native from Dallas, is looking forward to returning to the

area.

Dr. Perkins earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Arlington and his medical degree from the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth. He completed his residency at the Palm Beach County Health Department in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Dr. Steve Wilson, DCHHS STD Medical Director, has been serving as the interim medical director/health authority. "Dr.

Wilson's service to this department can always be counted on and for that we are appreciative," Thompson said.

According to the mission statement of the DCHHS, they are designed to protect the health of the citizens of Dallas County through disease prevention and intervention, and through promotions of a healthy community and environment. This is done



through assessment, community input education, disease monitoring, regulation, and health services that help control the spread of disease.

For more information about their services, visit <http://www.dallascounty.org/department/hhs/home.html>.

Nnemkadi Ogwumike

Three-time All-American and two-time Pac-12 Player of the Year Nnemkadi Ogwumike was selected with the No. 1 overall pick in the 2012 WNBA Draft on April 16 by the Los Angeles Sparks. The selection made Ogwumike the first Stanford player to be taken first overall in the draft's history.

Ogwumike closed out one of the best four-year careers in Stanford history at her fourth-straight Final

Four two weeks ago. She is one of just four Stanford players to accumulate both 2,000 points and 1,000 rebounds during her career.

Ogwumike twice earned the conference's top honor, being named Pac-10 Player of the Year as a sophomore in 2010 and claiming the first Pac-12 Player of the Year award in 2012. She was thrice named to the WBCA Coaches' All-America Team (2010-12) while also earning three All-America

nods from the Associated Press (Second Team from 2010-11, First Team in 2012). In 2011 and 2012, Ogwumike was named to both the USBWA and John R. Wooden Award All-America Teams.

Also a consensus national player of the year finalist, Ogwumike was named the 2012 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award winner at the Final Four in Denver.

Ogwumike was also a three-time Pac-12 Tournament Most Outstanding Player and was named

NCAA Regional Most Outstanding Player in each of the past three seasons: 2010 (Sacramento), 2011 (Spokane) and 2012 (Fresno).

She was a consensus first-team All-American as a senior this past season, setting Stanford single-season records with 809 points scored and 22.5 points per



game. Ogwumike also grabbed 10.2 rebounds a

game, becoming, along with younger sister Chiney Ogwumike (who averaged 15.0 points and 10.1 rebounds a game in 2011-12), the first Stanford players to average a double-double for a complete season since Nicole Powell averaged 20.2 points and 11.2 rebounds in 2003-04.

She grabbed 10.2 rebounds a game, becoming, along with younger sister Chiney Ogwumike (who averaged 15.0 points and 10.1 rebounds a game in 2011-12).

Shella Gillus

Shella Gillus, a nationally recognized Dallas author of "The Loom", will be the featured author at the 38th Annual Melrose



Arts and Crafts Festival on the historic grounds of the Melrose Plantation in

Natchitoches, La. April 21-22.

Gillus, whose book received nominated for an "NAACP Image Award in the 'Outstanding Literary Work - Debut Author' category, has scheduled a series of readings at the weaving house on the plantation grounds. The location is a perfect venue for Gillus whose book centers around "the loom room," the place on every plantation where slaves, particularly after

years in the tobacco and cotton fields, spent their days weaving and making

clothes for their masters' family.

"This is going to be very emotional for me," said Gillus who wrote the book while juggling her family - her husband, Stacey, and two children, Spencer and Staci. "The Loom Room has such a special meaning in America's history, but rarely gets talked about. My book tries to shed light on this part of slavery that played such an important role in so many lives."

Gillus' book, "The Loom" (Guideposts 2011, paperback \$14.99) is a suspenseful, historic romance tale of a slave who passes for white and uses the wisdom of the elders to achieve her freedom is gaining national attention because its an engaging, well-written page-turner rich with colorful detail

and crisp dialogue. The novel focuses on the story of Lydia, a woman who knew that her life as a slave on a Maryland plantation would end at the loom room. Gillus weaves her own tale, integrating the harsh, revealing truth of this nation's troubled racial past with the broader, universal themes of love and freedom.

Gillus, a member of the Screen Actors Guild who has been two-time guest on the Oprah Winfrey Show, has received a top rating from RT Book Reviews, the popular book industry magazine, which gave the novel an impressive rating of 4.5 stars. The reviewer noted, "Gillus' strong characters may be broken in spirit, but they trust that God will rescue them and show them freedom on the other side."

The former Miss Black Heritage and 1st runner-up Miss Black Arizona was also crowned Miss Conge-

niality, the Copper Bowl Princess and member of the University of Arizona Homecoming Royalty.

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A national calamity or a caring economy: Failure to invest in young children threatens our country's future

BY RIANE EISLER

We're being told that fiscal responsibility requires big cuts in education, nutrition, and health care for millions of children. This shortsighted and uncaring thinking is not only a nightmare for those directly affected; it is an imminent threat to America's economic future.

We have to let our policy makers know that fiscal responsibility requires caring economic policies. Here's why.

Experts agree that a nation's most important asset

is what economists call "high quality human capital" – flexible, creative, educated people who can adapt to our globalized knowledge-service economy. Brain science shows that the years from 0 to 5 are critical for healthy brain development. An overwhelming body of research shows that to ensure that we have this high quality human capital we must invest more in care and education for our children. Indeed, studies have long shown that this is the most cost-effective invest-

ment a nation can make.

Other developed nations are investing heavily in early childhood education because it is an investment in their economic success. But our nation has gone in the opposite direction – despite all the evidence that not making this investment will lead to an economic calamity.

A substantial body of research shows that high-quality pre-K education prepares children to succeed in school and enroll in college or career training. It further

shows that this not only prevents the enormous financial costs of remedial work, delinquency, crime, and other problems, but also leads to better jobs, higher incomes, and greater contributions to our tax base and our economy.

Yet the State of Pre-school 2011 study found that rather than increasing our national investment in these essential programs, real spending on state pre-K education declined by about 15

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would-be buyers to leave with a car before finance terms are finalized. With only a conditional sales agreement in place, consumers are encouraged to accept "spot delivery, taking the vehicle home. The unsuspecting consumer leaves with the car, trusting the dealer will finalize the terms discussed.

For car dealers, spot delivery diminishes the likelihood of the consumer shopping elsewhere for a better deal. Yet for consumers, this practice often leads to problems never anticipated.

"Yo-yo scams occur when a dealer leads a car buyer to believe financing is final," says CRL senior researcher Delvin Davis, author of the report. "The dealer lures the consumer back to the dealership, claims the financing fell through, and then pressures the consumer to agree to a new loan at a higher interest rate."

CRL's study found that consumers who returned to these dealerships, were often pressured to sign finance contracts with worse terms than those originally mentioned. The report also showed that consumers trying to walk away from the now-worse deal often faced threats of legal action, criminal charges of auto theft, loss of down payment or fees for mileage, wear and tear.

Unfortunately for low-wage consumers with few available choices for financing, many still take the bad deal. When CRL examined the demographics of con-

sumers experiencing yo-yo scams, once again communities of color were disproportionately harmed. After accounting for poor credit and low-incomes, Latino and African-American consumers were prey to yo-yo scams more than white Americans or even consumers ages 25 or younger.

According to CRL, the majority of consumers wind up with a second finance contract with a higher interest rate. *Deal or No Deal* is CRL's follow-up to an earlier report that found yo-yo scam victims on average received

an interest rate that was five percentage points higher than what someone with the same risk level would normally pay.

Until laws or regulation change the ways auto financing operates, it might be better for consumers to adjust how they actually shop for a new or used car. Just as consumers now shop for the best mortgage rate available, making a comparable comparison of available auto financing terms would remove third-party transactions that now benefit dealers instead of consumers.

Beginning with a sober

and objective figure for what is affordable will empower consumers.

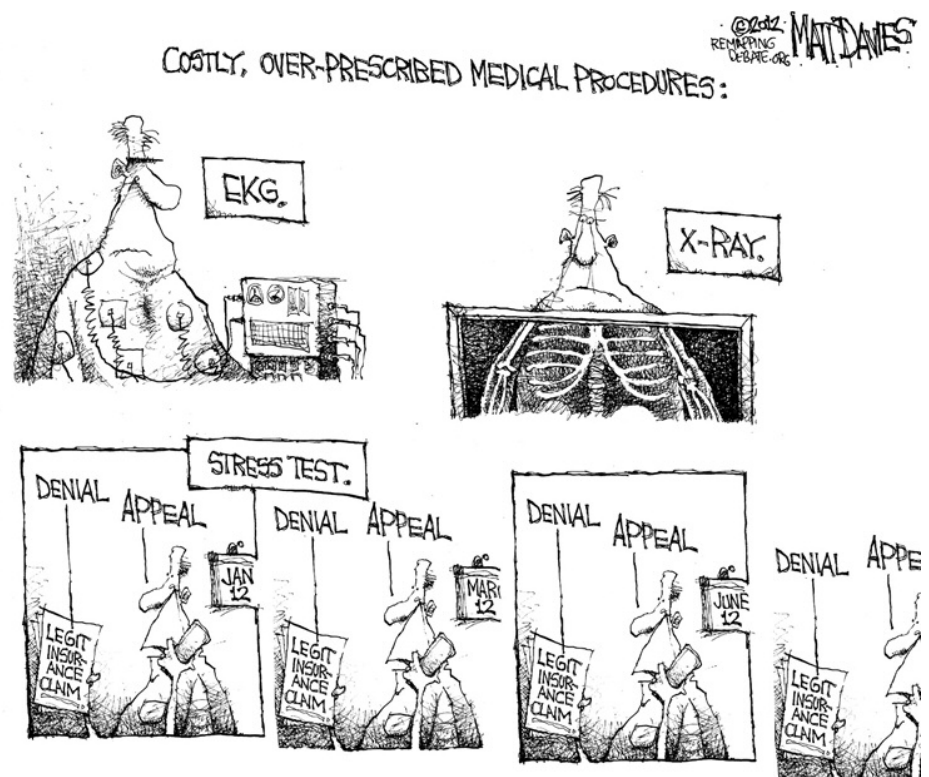
Secondly, if financing is settled before the search for a vehicle begins, consumers can give themselves negotiating power by offering dealers a cash transaction.

In other words, consumers can choose to seize their purchasing power, rather than forfeit it to car dealers.

Charlene Crowell is a communications manager with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at: Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

Clinical oversight

Greater attention is being paid to medical procedures that, in some circumstances, are performed unnecessarily. But, Matt Davies observes, not to all of them.



Thousands to walk for stronger, healthier babies in Fort Worth

More than 6,000 people, representing 100 companies and organizations, will participate in the Fort Worth March for Babies on Saturday. The opening ceremonies will begin at 8:30 a.m., while the four-mile walk from Farrington Field to Trinity Park is scheduled to start at 9 a.m., rain or shine.

March of Dimes helps moms have healthy, full-term pregnancies while researching the problems that threaten the health of babies. Premature birth, the No. 1 killer of newborns, is the most urgent infant health problem in the United States today. It affects more than half a million babies annually. In the Dallas-Fort Worth area, 1 in 8 babies is born prematurely each year.

Jack Wharton, the president of PlainsCapital Bank Downtown Fort Worth, is leading the efforts to raise \$905,000 as the 2012 March for Babies chairman.

"The March of Dimes

has made a tremendous impact on me personally, and particularly in the lives of my twin sons after their premature birth," Wharton said. "They received surfactant treatment, which was developed by March of Dimes researchers -- it helped their lungs develop during their 7 weeks in the neonatal intensive care unit. And, for this reason, I truly believe in this foundation's mission, and I'm grateful for its efforts to help give babies a healthy start in life."

Funds raised by March for Babies help support professional education, research grants, prenatal education programs and advocacy efforts at the local, state and national levels; including the Fort Worth Division (Hood, Jack, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant and Wise counties).

In addition to taking a high toll on families, more than \$26.2 billion is spent annually as a result of premature births in the U.S., in-

cluding medical expenses, education costs and lost productivity.

"Beyond the personal impact, it is a business imperative for corporations and executives to support March of Dimes because their work affects all babies," Wharton said. "The costs of treating children who are born too soon are staggering. The more we can do to minimize the already high cost of health insurance for families, the better we are able to prosper and provide job security. There is usually just one degree of separation from someone affected by premature birth or birth defects, so executives should view their support of March of Dimes as direct support for its employees and the well-being of their families."

To participate in March for Babies, visit marchforbabies.org, or call (817) 451-9174 to sign up as an individual; to start or join a team; or to donate to the effort.

Parkland cancer program receives accreditation

Parkland Health & Hospital System's cancer program has been awarded a three-year accreditation from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC). Based on an all-day site survey, Parkland received seven commendations for the practice standards established and monitored by the CoC, without any deficiencies.

Accreditation by the CoC is given only to those facilities that have voluntarily committed to providing the highest level of quality cancer care and that undergo a rigorous evaluation process and review of their performance.

Cancer services at Parkland are a collaborative effort between Parkland staff and The University of Southwestern Medical Center, which includes cancer specialists such as board certified

physicians, mid-level providers, nurses, genetic counselors, social workers, nutritionists, pharmacists, pastoral care workers and other support staff.

"At Parkland, staff works diligently to provide a comprehensive cancer care program to treat and care for all cancer patients and we are

honored by this recognition," said Josh Floren, executive vice president and chief of hospital operations, Parkland. "Thanks to our entire cancer team, we will continue to reach out to the community to increase access to cancer care and decrease disparities throughout North Texas."

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Irving hosting health fair on Saturday

The 11th Annual Irving Immunization Roundup and Health Fair is this Saturday, April 21 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Brown Elementary, at 2501 W. Tenth St.

They are offering free immunizations for children from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.,

and an "Ask the Doctor" booth. Height and weight measurements will be taken, as well as vision and hearing and dental screenings. They will provide lead and tuberculosis (TB) education, a CHIP/Medicaid booth to help families fill

out paperwork.

The kid's area will include various activities for the children and there will be free helmets given away by TMA's Hard Hats for Little Heads.

All services are offered free of charge.

ELLISON,

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that come my way have often to do with religious profiling," he said Tuesday. "I'm very happy to talk about how America can be one America and I think racial profiling can be a barrier to that."

Ellison and the ACLU urged Congress to pass the End Racial Profiling Act, which would ban the use of racial profiling and provide training to help police avoid responses based on stereotypes and unreliable assumptions about racial minorities.

Police organizations have indicated their opposition to the proposed legislation. They believe it will lead to increased tension with minority communities.

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Peace Conference in Dallas this weekend

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson representing the 30th Congressional District of Texas will host her annual Peace Conference in Dallas on Saturday, April 28 from 12 – 2 p.m. The event will be held at the Trammell & Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art located at 2010 Flora Street in Dallas.

The 2012 Dallas Peace

Dialogue, Women, Technology, and Peace Building event will highlight how Facebook and Twitter has catapulted social protests. The discussion will shed light on how social media platforms brought to the world conscience uprising around the globe. The panel will include representatives from the United States Institute of Peace, the founder

of the Global Room for Women, and other distinguished guest.

The event is open to the public. If you would like to attend please rsvp to Fatima Hasani Ali by Thursday April 25 by 5 p.m. by calling 214-922-8885 or by e-mail at Fatima.HasanAli@mail.house.gov. Parking will be available for \$5 at the Trammell Garage.

Lewisville Lake Symphony brings "Spring Romance" to MCL Grand

Lewisville Lake Symphony will close the 28th season of its popular Symphony Series with "Spring Romance" on Friday, April 27, and Sunday, April 29, at Medical Center of Lewisville Grand Theater.

Show time is 7:30 p.m. Friday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$25 for

adults, \$20 for seniors and \$10 for students. To order tickets, visit Lewisville-Symphony.tix.com or call 800.595.4849. Advance tickets cannot be purchased at MCL Grand.

The program will include Copland's *Clarinet Concerto*, Demase's *Harp Concertino*, and Bloch's

Concert Grosso #1 for strings and piano. Featured artists will be John Scott on clarinet and Laura Logan on harp.

Aaron Copland's *Clarinet Concerto* was commissioned by jazz clarinetist Benny Goodman in 1947 and was completed in 1949.

See ROMANCE, Page 10

Sims Recycling Solutions to attempt to break a world record at the Dallas Cowboys Stadium

Recycle your e-waste and receive a discount on a ticket for a self-guided stadium tour

Sims Recycling Solutions, the global leader in electronics reuse and recycling, will host a free electronics recycling event to encourage the community to recycle their electronics. Anyone who drops off an electronic device for recycling will receive a coupon good toward the purchase of a discounted ticket for a self-guided tour of the Dallas Cowboys Stadium. This event will be held on April 21, 2012, at the Dallas Cowboys Stadium located at One Legends Way,

Arlington, TX 76011 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This site will be one of five involved in an attempt to break an official Guinness World Record for the most consumer electronics collected within 24 hours - multiple locations.

Self-guided tours of the Dallas Cowboys Stadium give fans access to the most popular areas of the world's largest domed structure, including the football field, the locker rooms and the post-game interview room. Fans also

have the opportunity to admire the contemporary works of art on display throughout Cowboys Stadium. Sims Recycling Solutions will be inside the stadium at this time with an artist who will create art pieces from used and recycled electronics. A trained technician will also be there to demonstrate the first step of recycling your old e-waste, taking it all apart. From there, visual aids and explanations will help you learn about the process Sims Recycling



Dallas Cowboys Stadium

broader objective of this campaign is to raise awareness about the ongoing importance of properly recycling e-waste. Electronics represent the fastest growing waste stream in the United States. Recycling them contributes to a sustainable future and the health of the planet by keeping thousands of pounds of waste out of landfills, saving water and energy and reducing pollution."

This e-waste collection event will be set up as a drive-through and drop-off event. Staff will be on hand to conveniently and quickly collect items from community members' vehicles. Please visit us.simsrecycling.com/Earth-Day2012 for more information.

Solutions uses to recycle your electronics.

"This community electronics collection event in celebration of Earth Day is special for two reasons: Through the simple act of dropping off broken or old devices, the residents of Arlington can do their part to protect and preserve the

environment and they can participate in an exciting attempt to break a Guinness World Record," stated Steve Skurnac, President, Sims Recycling Solutions, Americas. "While the goal of this one-day event is to collect a record-breaking number of electronic devices, the

Fundraiser benefiting injured Marine's scheduled for June in Irving

Nearly 2,000 runners are expected for the third annual Wounded Warrior Half Marathon on Sunday, June 10, 2012, in Las Colinas, Texas. In addition to the Wounded Warrior Half Marathon, there will also be a 10K and an escorted Military Mile Fun Run followed by a party with food, drink and live music provided by Texas-born country music recording artist Dave Roberts, a Captain Cobra Pilot with the Marines who served in Afghanistan.

The event, presented by Dallas Athletes Racing, will honor the nation's men and women of the military and 100 percent of dona-

tion and corporate sponsorships goes towards the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, which provides assistance to Marines and Sailors injured in post 9-11 combat, and ReserveAid, which gives financial support to Reserve Service Members from all branches of the military.

The Third Annual Wounded Warrior Half Marathon, 10K, and Military Mile Fun Run will kick off with registration at 5:45 a.m. on Sunday, June 10 at Williams Square in Irving, TX 75039

Registration fees are: Half Marathon \$65 - \$85; 10K Run/Walk \$35 - \$55; Military Mile Fun Run \$10

For more information and registration, visit www.DallasAthletesRacing.com or call 214-502-9837.

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Summer 2012 registration open at TSTC

Summer registration for new students at Texas State Technical College Waco (TSTC) has kicked off. Interested students can register from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and continues through Friday, April 27. Summer classes are set to begin Monday, May 7.

TSTC offers nearly 100 programs in everything

ranging from Laser Electro-Optics and Mechanical Engineering Technology, to Welding, Aircraft Dispatch, Network Security and more. Students also can choose online training, while high school students can enroll in dual credit classes and get a jump on their college degree. A complete listing of summer

classes is available at www.waco.tstc.edu/classes.

Students seeking financial aid for the summer semester should contact the TSTC Financial Aid Office immediately at 254-867-4814. The TSTC Web site, www.waco.tstc.edu, provides additional details and an online application.

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percent in the past 10 years. This means that spending per child nationally is \$715 lower than even the 2001-2002 level.

"A decline of this magnitude should serve as a wake-up call for parents and policy leaders about how well we are preparing today's preschoolers to succeed in school and later find good jobs in a competitive market," said Steve Barnett, director of the non-partisan National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) at Rutgers University, warned.

We must see to it that our policy makers heed this warning. They need to know about this report. They need to know about the proven success of hundreds of small programs across the country, such as the early childhood education pilot programs supported by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

They also need to know about the need for new economic measures that are more accurate and inclusive than the much touted GDP or Gross Domestic Product: measures such as the Social Wealth indicators now being developed. When GDP keeps rising at the same time that joblessness is dangerously high and childcare and educational budgets are slashed, it is clear that we urgently need better measurements that give policy makers and the public a more accurate picture of the true economic health of the country and our citizens, of what really counts for long-term national economic competitiveness.

Social Wealth indicators show the enormous economic value of care and education for children. They identify low-cost, high-value investments for developing our people's capacities – our human

capital -- so that our country can achieve a healthy economy, a better quality of life, and a strong democracy through caring business and government policies and practices across the board.

The federal \$500 million Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge that is providing grants to nine states for improving quality is a step in the right direction. But we urgently need more -- and it is up to us to demand that local, state, and federal governments invest in our most precious national asset: our children.

There's an old saying that

a stitch in time saves nine. This is a time-tested wisdom. Our policy makers must adopt it in light of the enormous costs of not investing in care and education for our nation's future workforce. The proven benefits of this and other truly fiscally responsible investments are overwhelming.

Riane Eisler is President of the Center for Partnership Studies and the best-selling author of The Chalice and the Blade: Our History, Our Future and The Real Wealth of Nations: Creating a Caring Economics. © American Forum. 4/12



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Early voting, May 14-25**

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students; and \$2,000/private four-year college and students.

Applicants should visit TADC's website at www.txadc.org to review eligibility requirements, complete the scholarship application online, print,

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Applications MUST BE postmarked no later than July 16, 2012. If you have questions, please contact Janice Jackson at 214.630.2511.



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Dallas Bar Association 'Law Day' Luncheon honors local Judiciary

Nearly 250 local judges and lawyers will be on hand Friday, May 4, as District Judge Sam Lindsay presents the keynote address at the annual Law Day Luncheon sponsored by the Dallas Bar Association.

Law Day is celebrated each spring in bar associations across the country. This year's theme is "No Courts, No Justice, No Freedom." In addition to honoring our local judiciary, one of the goals of Law Day is to assure that today's youth are equipped with the understanding and the skills necessary to effectively function within our country's democracy. Law Day also teaches the youth of today to become engaged in the law and to consider how the law can better serve the needs and interests of the people.

Additionally, students from Dallas ISD who have won essay and art contests

related to this year's Law Day theme will receive their awards at the luncheon.

The luncheon will be held at the Pavilion at the Belo Mansion (2101 Ross Ave. in downtown Dallas), at noon, Friday, May 4, and is open to the public. Open seating begins at 11:45 a.m. Garage parking is available (enter from Olive Street).

RSVPs and advance payment are required. Tickets are \$35 per person, and can be purchased online at

www.dallasbar.org or by contacting Amy Smith at asmith@dallasbar.org or (214) 220-7484.



Sam Lindsay

Local author hosting book signing on April 21

Barbershop Tales is a compilation of humor, politics and sports collected from various barbershops in North Texas by author Edward Harris. He is hosting a book signing Saturday, April 21, from 3-5 p.m. at the Pan - African Connection located at 828 Fourth Ave in Dallas.

The author shares his views and the view-



Edward Harris, Author

points of the many characters that frequent the barbershops on a daily basis. According to the author they include community leaders, preachers, players and liars. Harris points out they all have something to say about government, money, women and the neighborhood.

For more information, visit www.bigtex-harris.com.

Eat This! Cinco De Mayo Challenge

Enchiladas Restaurants will host the 1st Annual Enchilada Eating Contest on May 5th to celebrate Cinco De Mayo; a celebration of Mexico's victory over France in the Battle of Puebla, and for Texas residents - Great Tex Mex Food. The world record for the most enchiladas eaten will be at stake.

The contest will showcase

Dallas' Biggest Stomachs or the best technique in an all out race to win the grand prize trip for 2 to the Caribbean by eating the most enchiladas in a 10 minute challenge.

"We are having fun with the eating contest yes, but this day, it is a valid, meaningful celebration for Mexican Americans, Cinco De Mayo is much like St. Patrick's Day for Irish

Americans -- a day to celebrate its heritage," according to Nick Campos the Enchiladas General Manager and contest organizer.

The deadline for contestants to enter is April 27 (\$10 fee benefits Lake Highlands High School). Contestants can enter by calling Nick Campos at Enchiladas, 214-363-8969

See CHALLENGE, Page 10

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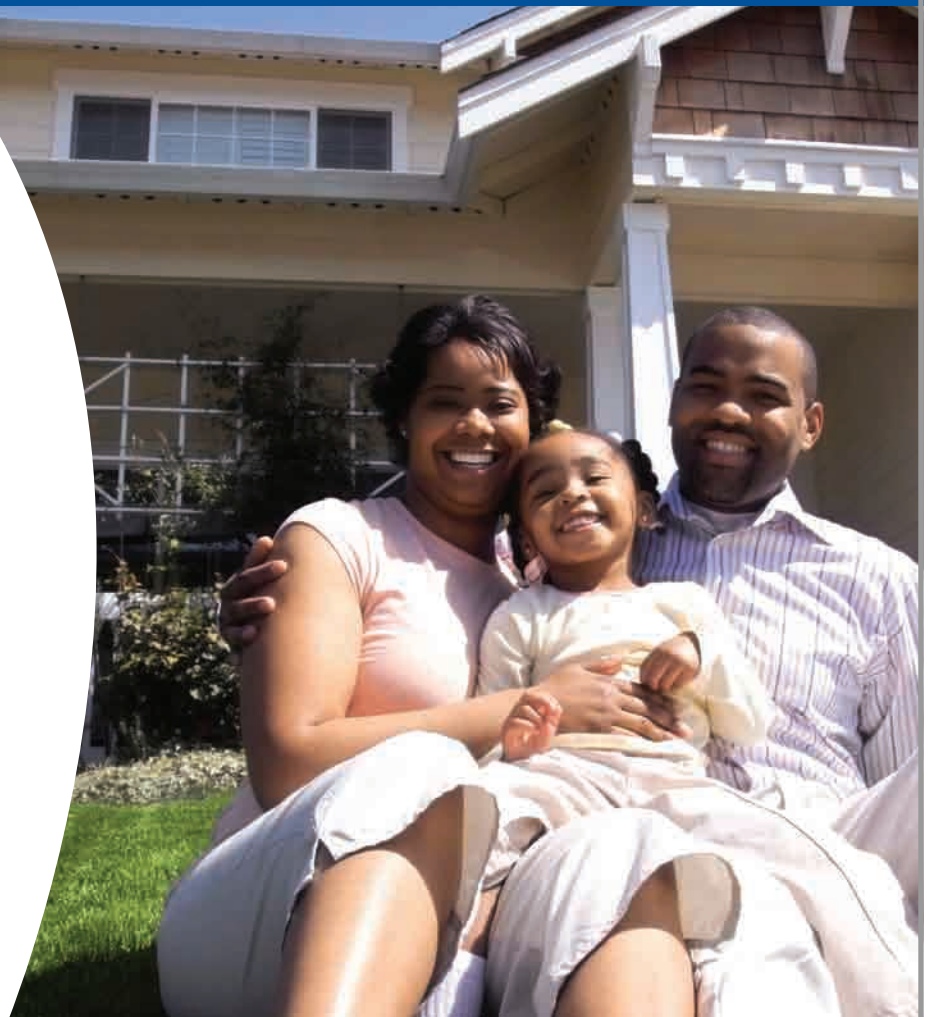
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Ongoing

Every two weeks on Monday the Plano City Council holds its **City Council Meeting** at the Plano Municipal Center, Council Chambers, 1520 K Avenue, Plano, from 7pm – 9:30pm. FREE and open to the public. Info: planotx.org.

Harwood 609, 609 Harwood Street, Dallas, has **Salsa Night** every Thursday night starting at 9:30pm. Info: harwood609jazz.com or 214-740-0609.

Be Fit Frisco presents weekly **Fitness in the Square** sessions Thursday evenings 6:30pm – 7:30pm at Simpson Plaza in front of City Hall, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd, Frisco. FREE. Info: friscotexas.gov.

The Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood Street, Dallas, hosts **Jazz in the Atrium** every Thursday 6pm – 8pm. Performance included with general admission \$10 and under. Info: dallasmuseumofart.org or 214-922-1200.

Harwood 609, 609 Harwood Street, Dallas, hosts an **All You Can Eat Sunday Brunch with Smooth Jazz Sounds of Majik Touch** every Sunday at 11am. Info: harwood609jazz.com or 214-740-0609.

Want to become a better public speaker? **Toastmasters International** has helped people for decades in a mutually supportive, positive, and fun environment. See what it is like for FREE!!! Mtgs are every Monday at 5:45 p.m. Info: 214-566-4086 or <http://texins.freetoasthost.org/>

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce general membership meeting, monthly every 2nd

Thursday, 6:30 p.m., at various locations within Collin County. Speakers, Power Networking, Business Referrals, www.cblackchamber.org or 469-424-0120.

Through April 26

VNA Bereavement Luncheon at noon at the Church of the Incarnation on 3966 McKinney Avenue in Dallas. RSVP 214-689-2633

Through April 29

Texas Discovery Gardens' gallery space unveils a new **exhibition, "Echoes of Remembered Gardens,"** by Dallas artist Susan Lecky; admission applies. \$8 / adults, \$6 / ages 60+, and \$4 / ages 3 to 11. Free for members or on Tuesdays (butterfly house admission regular price).

Through September 23

Sandy Lake Amusement Park in Carrollton. Admission is \$2 and children under 3 years old is free (see family coupon for free admission online) and coupons for rides are \$.50. Info: www.sandylake.com

Through December 8

New Life Skills Certificate program for African Women each Saturday morning from 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Audelia Branch Library located 10045 Audelia Rd. (at Church St.) in Dallas. Info: hellen.fissahaie5@gmail.com

April 19

DFW International Dinner with the Mayors at the Fairmont Hotel - 1717 North Akard Street Dallas at 6 p.m.

Irving Int'l. Women's Consortium Presents 6th Annual Purse Auction at 6 p.m. at the Las Colinas Country Club, 4400 N. O'Connor Blvd., Irving; Tick-

ets \$50 Info: www.IIWC.net or 972-831-8866

April 20

Shakespeare's Spring Soirée at Samuel Lynne Galleries, 1105 Dragon Street in Dallas, event features jazz and starts at 7 p.m.

April 21

Irving Black Arts Council Presents High School Drama at 8 p.m. at the Irving Arts Center - Dupree Theatre, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. Tickets: \$20 Advance/\$25 Night of Performance, Info: www.irvingartscenter.com or 972-252-ARTS (2787)

2012 March for Babies at White Rock Lake in Dallas; Info: www.marchforbabies.org, 972-669-3463

Global Rhythms: Mixed Percussion Ensemble at UNT at 1155 Union Circle #311277 at Voertman Hall in Denton at 8 p.m. FREE INFO: nkolsti@unt.edu or 940-369-8625

TBAAL Comedy Night at the Muse at Clarence Muse Theatre, 650 S. Griffin St., Dallas at 9 p.m. \$15 214-743-2449

Earth Day Dallas 2012

The second-annual Earth Day Dallas begins April 21, 2012, with a two-day festival in Fair Park. Events will focus on entertaining, inspiring and educating Dallasites with various ways to think, work and live green by showcasing emerging green technology, providing eco-friendly family activities, presenting enlightening lectures from environmental leaders, a variety of music and much more. FREE – INFO: www.earthdaydallas.org/contact or 214-310-1200

DFW Int'l / Wells Fargo Program for First Time Homebuyers This free

bilingual workshop will introduce the basic steps in the purchase of a new home at the Ohrys Restaurant, 7750 N Macarthur Blvd in Irving from 3 – 5 p.m. FREE – INFO: president@dfwinternational.org or 972-661-2764

2012 Senate District 8 Convention for Dallas County at 1 p.m. at the Hamilton Park United Methodist Church (HPU MC)

Rock the Park: Battle of the Bands from 7 – 10 p.m. at The Shops at Park Lane

Short & Sweet DFW Black Filmmakers Showcase at South Dallas Cultural Center at 3400 S. Fitzhugh St., Dallas; Free for students and seniors, tickets \$10

April 25

DART: The New Orange Line & What It Means for Irving Luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at NYLO Hotel / Las Colinas, 1001 West Royal Lane, Irving

April 26

"Environmental Justice and the Maquilladora Murders" presented by Daisy L. Machado, dean of Academic Affairs and professor of church history at Union Theological Seminary in NYC. Evelyn Parker, associate professor of practical theology at SMU Perkins School of

Theology. 6:30–8 p.m., Prothro Hall at SMU Perkins School of Theology, 5901 Bishop Blvd.

April 28

Jazz with Nick Collione & Richard Elliott at Bishop Arts Theater Center, 215 S. Tyler Street in Dallas at 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. INFO: \$62.50 -

\$57.50, education@teco-theater.org or 214-948-0716

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.'s annual **Business Month Education and Scholarship Luncheon** from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at Crowne Plaza Dallas – Near the Galleria, 14315 Midway Road, Addison. Info: www.iota1929.org or www.iota-sw.org.

April 29

Alice in Wonderland at Eisemann Center. Tickets are \$11 - \$21 at 972-744-4650 or www.eisemann-center.com

May 3

Irving Chamber of Commerce 2012 Annual Awards kicks off at 6 p.m. at the Sheraton DFW Airport Hotel, 4440 W. John Carpenter Freeway

May 4 – June 3

Diary of a Worm, a Spider, and a Fly at Dallas Children's Theater. On opening night, kids get free ice cream with gummy worms from the Purple Cow and one free poster per family. Ticket prices are \$14 - \$26; some discounts available. 214-740-0051 or www.DCT.org

May 11 – June 17

God of Carnage at Kalita Humphreys Theater www.DallasTheaterCenter.org

May 5

2012 Bloomin' Ball at 6:00 p.m. at the Hilton Anatole Hotel in Dallas

May 12

IMAJ's Blush Concert Under the Stars! at Wales Manor Vineyard & Winery 4488 County Road 408, McKinney, \$10 at the gate or: <http://imajblushwales.eventbrite.com/>

May 18-20

The 20th Wildflower! Festival will take place at the Galatyn Park Urban Center in Richardson.

May 19

First Time Homebuyer Workshop at Farmers Branch Manske Library, 13613 Webb Chapel Rd, 2 - 4 p.m.

May 26

Dallas International Festival is a free event at the Dallas Arts District along Flora Street from Pearl to Routh from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

June 8-9

Democratic State Convention in Houston

2nd Annual Glam Galore Shopping Soiree at The Richardson Civic Center Grand Ballroom from 5 - 10 p.m.

June 9

Bill Cosby at the Winspear Opera House Info/Tickets: www.attpac.org.

June 22 – July 12

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at Wyly Theater www.DallasTheaterCenter.org

June 26-27

Michael Jackson Immortal World Tour with Cirque du Soleil at American Airlines Center, tickets are \$50 - \$150 @ www.ticketmaster.com

August 1 – 12

Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus: Fully Charged at American Airlines Center. Ticket are \$15 - \$100 at www.Ticketmaster.com

October 31

Fourth Annual Gala, "What if...?" at the Intercontinental Hotel Dallas.

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Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community

Are minorities in Texas under greater risk of racial profiling via the Castle Law Doctrine?

BY: JACKIE HARDY,
NDG CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

The outrage from the Trayvon Martin death has sparked not only national attention, but a national dis-

Black/Brown are some of the terms used within the minority community to describe when a person of color has been stopped, searched and/or presumed suspicious by an individual (i.e. police officer, store

of a crime.

In a CBS11 local news report Senator West addressed a crowd gathered at Paul Quinn University to honor the slain teen by stating, "I am going to ask the Lieutenant Governor and the Criminal Justice Committee of the Senate to study the Castle Doctrine in light of the Trayvon Martin assassination..."

On the ACLU website it defines racial profiling as the discriminatory practice by law enforcement officials of targeting individuals for suspicion of crime based on the individual's race, ethnicity, religion or national origin. Based on a 2004 report prepared by the Steward Research Group on behalf of the Texas Criminal Justice Reform Coalition, the ACLU of Texas, NAACP of Texas, and Texas LULAC it found African Americans living in Texas were likely to be stopped and searched 1.6 times more than their white-Anglo counterpart and Latinos were likely to be stopped and searched 1.4 times as much.

In 2001, the Texas State Senate passed SB 1074 requiring law enforcement agencies to annually report detailed statistics on the race of individuals who are stopped and searched in their respective jurisdictions.

Wikipedia.com reported that during a 2007 National District Attorneys Association symposium, numerous concerns were voiced that the Castle Law could increase crime. This increase of crime included criminals using the law as a defense for their criminal act, more people carrying guns, and that people would not feel safe if they felt that anyone could use deadly force in a conflict. The report also noticed that the misinterpretation of clues could result in

use of deadly force when there was, in fact, no danger. The report specifically notes as a result of the law that racial and ethnic minorities would be at greater risk due to negative stereotypes.

Tom Joyner of *The Tom Joyner Morning Show* wrote on his blog that "the Stand Your Ground law probably would not have passed if more African-Americans went to the polls because sadly, we know we are more likely to be victims when people take crime into their own hands."

According to the ACLU website, it reported a series of University of California and University of Chicago studies were conducted in the effort to recreate the experience of a police officer confronted with a potentially dangerous suspect in where the results denoted the following: participants fired on an armed target more quickly when the target was African American than when Caucasian, and decided not to shoot an unarmed target more quickly when the target was Caucasian than when African American; participants failed to shoot an armed target more often when that target was Caucasian than when the target was African American. The results also found if the target was unarmed, participants mistakenly shot the target more often when African American than when Caucasian; shooting bias was greater among participants who held a strong cultural stereotype of African Americans as aggressive, violent and dangerous, and among participants who reported more contact with African Americans.

For more information on ACLU reports on this subject got to: www.aclu.org/racial-justice/racial-profiling-definition.

FACTS ON CASTLE LAW DOCTRINE:

History:

The Castle Law originated in England during the eighteenth century where it was the belief that an Englishman's home was his "castle" and he had the absolute right to exclude anyone from his home.

Legal definitions:

The Castle Law Doctrine is an exception to the retreat rule. The retreat rule allows a person the use of deadly force while protecting his/her place of abode, its premises and its inhabitants from attack such as from a trespasser who intends to commit a felony or inflict serious bodily injury or harm. This defense justifies such conduct constituting a criminal offense. This is also termed as defense of premises, defense of habitation and dwelling defense (i.e. home, vehicle, place of business).

Stand Your Ground I is a law which places no obligation on a potential victim of crime to retreat and call police. The potential victim is instead allowed to respond to force with force even if flight is a possibility.

Conditions for use:

If the person knew or had reason to believe that the person against whom the force was used: (A) unlawfully and with force entered, or was attempting to enter unlawfully and with force, the actor's occupied habitation, vehicle, or place of business or employment; (B) unlawfully and with force removed, or was attempting to remove unlawfully and with force, the actor from the actor's habitation, vehicle, or place of business or employment; or (C) was committing or attempting to commit aggravated kidnapping, murder, sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault, robbery, or aggravated robbery; (2) did not provoke the person against whom the force was used; and (3) was not otherwise engaged in criminal activity, other than a Class C misdemeanor that is a violation of a law or ordinance regulating traffic at the time the force was used. (e) A person who has a right to be present at the location where the force is used, who has not provoked the person against whom the force is used, and who is not engaged in criminal activity at the time the force is used is not required to retreat before using force as described by this section. (f) For purposes of Subsection (a), in determining whether an actor described by Subsection (e) reasonably believed that the use of force was necessary, a finder of fact may not consider whether the actor failed to retreat.

Sources: Wikipedia and, <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/>

Other Website(s) on Texas Castle Law: http://www.rc123.com/texas_castle_doctrine.html, <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/80R/billtext/html/SB00378F.htm>



Tom Joyner

cussion over the Florida "Stand Your Ground" law; which constitutes anyone acting in self-defense is immune from any criminal charges or civil suits.

The life of Martin, a 17 year-old African-American teen and Florida resident, was shortened after facing off with Zimmerman, the alleged gunman, on February 26 while walking unarmed through a gated community in the suburbs of Orlando.

Zimmerman who volunteered as a neighborhood watchmen contacted 911 to report suspicion of Martin in the neighborhood and according to the 911 report Zimmerman claimed Martin "was acting strangely and could have been on drugs." Zimmerman told Sanford Police that he felt threatened and was acting in self-defense when he shot and killed the African-American teen.

Driving while Black/Brown and Walking while

clerk) with no probable cause. Many individuals in the minority community believe this is what led to the death of Trayvon Martin.

Although the Special Prosecutors of the Trayvon Martin case needed a few weeks to assess the facts to conclude if Zimmerman was acting in self-defense or committed a crime; one overwhelming fact that needed no further assessment in this tragic story—racism and racial profiling still exists in America.

In 2007, the Castle Law Doctrine was enacted in Texas (SB 378). This law has caused prominent leaders like Texas State Senator Royce West of the 23rd District (D) to rethink the serious, if not deadly ramifications this law could potentially cause for those within the minority community who statistically are at greater risk of being racially profiled when there is a possible threat and/or suspicion

Student film to be part of Dallas International Film Festival

Lincoln High School junior, LaRhonda Summerville, will have her film *Sean Bell: Police Brutality* showcased at the Sixth Annual Dallas International Film Festival, which takes place through the weekend at several local movie theaters. Summerville's film is one of 20 student films to be presented at the festival. The films were selected from student entries received from across North Texas.

LaRhonda is in the Humanities and Communications Magnet at Lincoln and currently ranks ninth in her class and plans to major in

mass communication.

LaRhonda was inspired to create *Sean Bell: Police Brutality* after hearing a poet speak about the incident depicted in the film. When she researched the story, she was astounded by the community's reaction to the shooting by police of Sean Bell in New York in 2006.



LaRhonda Summerville

The shorts will be shown again on Friday, April 20 at 5 p.m. at the Dallas Angelika.

CHALLENGE, continued from Page 7

or emailing him at nick@enchiladasrestaurants.com

A voluntary practice run and enchilada showcase for contestants and media to review and taste what they will eat in the final contest will be held at 1PM, April 21st.

There's no better way for an award winning Tex-Mex

Restaurant to celebrate great food and Cinco De Mayo.

"We've been in the community for over 30 years and we love to give back. This year celebrate this great holiday with proceeds being donated to the Lake Highlands High School Booster program. We are excited and are expecting a

few celebrity judges to confirm soon," Tony Waldrop an Enchiladas restaurant owner.

The Enchilada's Cinco De Mayo-Enchilada Eating Contest will be held at 7050 Greenville Avenue, in Dallas on May 5 at 1 p.m. (Contestants must arrive by 12:15 p.m.)

2012 DeSoto SolJazz Festival "Where People, Music & Culture Become One!"

The 2012 DeSoto SolJazz Festival (DSJF) from June 1st – 10th which focus on five major components: Family, Health, Music, Food and Fun!

The DeSoto Chamber of Commerce and the City of DeSoto teamed up with Gemstone Management to get this immense project off



the ground. Dr. Pepper, the North Dallas Gazette, Wal-

greens, Chili's, Near Future, Cedar Crest Golf Course, Mac Haik Ford, 7-11, Dikita Engineering, James Zander & Associates, Sam's Club, and the All-America City of DeSoto's hosting facilities, the DeSoto Civic Center & Amphitheater, Marriott Towne Place

See CULTURE, Page 12

ROMANCE, continued from Page 5

It sometimes is referred to as the *Concerto for Clarinet, Strings and Harp*. It later was choreographed by Jerome Robbins for the ballet "Pied Piper."

According to Goodman, he paid Copland \$2,000 for the piece with no instructions other than granting Goodman a two-year exclusivity for playing the piece. The two musicians performed the jazz-influenced concerto together multiple times after its completion, and recorded it twice.

Jean-Michel Demase is a French conductor and pianist who began studying music at age 5 and started composing at age 9. His *Harp Concertino* is generally considered one of the finest contemporary symphonic pieces featuring the harp.

Ernest Bloch was a Swiss-born American composer from the first third of the 20th century. He composed Concert Grosso #1 in 1925 in response to complaints by his students at the

Cleveland Institute of Music about "the inadequacies of tonality shaping the music for the next century."

Lewisville Lake Symphony has been recognized by the Texas Senate as one of the most respected, all-professional regional orchestras in the Lone Star State. It is one of six local groups receiving funding during 2011-12 from the City of Lewisville arts support grant program designed to foster cultural and fine arts in the community.

BILL MAHONEY for IRVING CITY COUNCIL, PLACE 6

Leadership Based on Commitment and Responsibility

We have worked hard to make Irving a community where our families can thrive and grow.

We must make certain our hard-earned efforts are successful for the future!



We must vote for the candidate who will move us forward, not backward! I am that candidate. I will be that city councilman.

I will be your voice at City Hall. I will fight to protect you and your values:

- ★ Increase support for quality education
- ★ Ensure equal access and fair treatment for all residents
- ★ Promote respect for families and for a stable community
- ★ Continue efforts to make Irving crime-free
- ★ Encourage economic vitality by supporting our key industries
- ★ Practice sound management of our budget

"I have been working for all of us through my community and civic activities. I will continue working for all of us as a city councilman. My family and I love our neighborhood and our city. I know the only way to keep it as a desirable community is to build an environment of civility and responsibility in our government. With your vote and your help, we can make this city great today—and tomorrow."

Bill Mahoney

VOTE Saturday May 12th • Bill Mahoney for Irving City Council, Place 6

Early Voting

April 30 - May 4	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
May 5 (Sat.)	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
May 6 (Sun.)	1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
May 7 - 8	7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Valley Ranch Library - 401 Cimarron
City Hall - 825 W. Irving Blvd.
Irving Arts Center - 333 N. MacArthur

Election Day

May 12 (Sat.) 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.



billmahoneycampaign@gmail.com
www.BillMahoneyCampaign.com

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Bill Mahoney Campaign

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Valerie Jones Campaign
James W. Filbeck Jr., Treasurer
3942 Buckingham Dr.
Irving, TX 75038



My family has lived in Irving for the majority of my life and I bring a parent's perspective to the School Board. My experience will enable me to bring needed leadership to the board in the coming years.

Despite huge decreases in state funding and dramatic changes in student testing requirements, our student achievement continues to rise. Irving ISD remains financially stable through conservative management of funds. We have built productive business and community partnerships and strengthened family connections.

We have accomplished much, but there is still much to do. This is no time to change the course. The Board will need an experienced voice as we continue to face the challenging issues ahead.

Please vote for me for Irving ISD School Board, Place 4.

Valerie Jones

Proven Experience. Dedicated to our Community.
Re-Elect Valerie Jones, Irving ISD School Board, Place 4
*Six years of IISD Board service, with both State and National training
*Served as IISD Board President, Vice-President and Secretary
*PTA member and community volunteer
*Married for 28 years
*Working mother of 4; 3 Irving ISD graduates and one current student
*Longtime taxpaying resident
*College graduate

Important goals.

- *Support teachers
- *Increase the Graduation Rate
- *Academic success for every student
- *Effective financial management and planning



Elect VALERIE JONES 4 for Irving ISD School Board Place 4
VoteForValerie.com

Small businesses need help

When they wanted to open a daycare center, the Frescas family went to 15 different banks in El Paso, all of whom denied them a small business loan. Suzanne and John Hermann were turned away from half a dozen banks in San Antonio when they were ready to open their bagel shop. Mike McLean was a loyal bank commercial customer for 15 years yet was turned down when he was ready to expand his successful business.

All three of these entrepreneurs had one bit of good luck, though. They belonged

to credit unions. In each case a credit union willingly stepped in to provide a loan. Now these successful business owners have joined hundreds of other small business owners across the country in asking their U.S. senators to vote to raise the cap on credit union business lending.

Now more than ever, small business owners need the help of credit unions to launch or expand their businesses. However, Congress put an arbitrary cap on how much credit unions can loan to their small business members.

Banks have no such limits. "Small business lending is restricted by an arbitrary cap of 12.25% of assets put into place by Congress in 1998," said Dick Ensweiler, president and CEO of the Texas Credit Union League. "We've been fighting to have it increased ever since."

"If there is one lesson from this economy that has come home to our family, it's the critical need to get capital flowing for small business," said Suzanne Hermann, owner of the Bagel Factory.

TWC Offers Tips for Teens and Employers as Summer Hiring Begins

As summer approaches, the number of teenagers looking for work increases dramatically. According to a 2011 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) study, the number of 16- to 19-year-olds employed or searching for work last year skyrocketed between April and July, increasing by more than 1.6 million workers to a total of almost 7 million in July 1.

"The Texas Workforce Commission is committed to helping prepare Texas' future workforce for competition in the global marketplace, and summer jobs are an important part of that equation," said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken. "These jobs can help Texas high school students learn the value of hard work and dependability while earning their own income."

TWC reminds employers, workers and parents to familiarize themselves with state and federal laws, as well as safety regulations that address child labor issues. Any

person under the age of 18 is considered a child when employed. Federal and state child labor laws are designed to protect youth against potentially detrimental occupational settings or working conditions that could interfere with their safety, health or well-being. Employers also must comply with wage and hour laws and regulations enforced by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), available online at www.youthrules.dol.gov.

"Safety should always be the most important factor concerning youths in the workforce," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. "Teenagers, parents and employers should educate themselves on the child labor laws designed to protect our children."

In Texas, certain child labor laws apply to different age groups and different job types. For example, children aged 11 or older may deliver newspapers to customers on established routes. Children

aged 14 or 15 may perform office and clerical work, some kitchen work, cashiering, bagging and carrying out customer orders, among other tasks, as long as it takes place during certain hours. Children aged 16 or 17 can perform work for any number of hours, as long as it is not deemed hazardous by DOL. Visit www.texasworkforce.org/ui/lablaw/llcl70.pdf to view TWC's child labor law poster.

Teens interested in job-search assistance and career resources should contact their local Workforce Solutions offices by visiting WorkInTexas.com. Older teens also may visit TexasInternship.jobs, the latest enhancement to TWC's arsenal of free online job resources. Visit TWC online at www.texasworkforce.org/ui/lablaw/lablaw.html, or call TWC's Labor Law Section at 800-832-9243 or 512-475-2670 to learn more about child labor laws.

GARLAND, continued from Page 1

2,000 households in the district.

The issues of concern to the voters include: public safety, neighborhood revitalization in South Garland as the houses in the area are aging, they want more information about opportunities to revitalize their property.

Statewide and national candidates are able to speak loftily about big idea issues. Local city council elections focus on the basics, they want to know what the city will do to address an aging infrastructure, the sewer system, and water supply. Also, code compliance is mentioned as issues of concerns.

Williams has served on several civic boards and committees. They include eight years on the Garland Plan Commission; chairing the City of Garland Charter Review Committee; the Garland Housing Standards Board; the Steering Committee Envisioning Garland; and as a Citizen's Legislative Advisory Committee for Texas State Rep. Angie Chin Button. He is also a graduate of the Leadership Garland program and Garland Citizen's Fire Academy. Williams was also a member of the Garland Police Department Oral Interview Panel.

According to his website Williams has received endorsements from six former city council members including Reuben Avelar and Annie Dickson. Other endorsements include ministers from several of the churches in the community and the Garland Firefighters Association.

To learn more about Williams' campaign, visit www.ABetterGarland.org for more information.

Paul Hoffman is a Dallas County native and has lived in Garland's District 4 for the last 33 years. Speaking by phone on April 19 Hoffman said, "I have been involved in community service all my life." His father is a former district judge and his mother volunteered in numerous community organizations, including the Baylor Medical Board.



Paul Hoffman

Hoffman currently serves on the City of Garland Plan Commission and was a director of the North Texas Municipal Water District board. He also currently serves on State Representative Angie Chen Button's Water and Natural Resources advisory committee.

When asked why he is running Hoffman responded, "When our current councilman termed out, he asked me to run and I picked up the mantle." He has received endorsements from State Senator Bob Deuell and former Garland Mayor Bob Day, as well as a local realtor organization.

Hoffman touted that he is, "The most qualified, the most experienced, and greatest number of endorsements from elected officials. I am able to work with people in Austin

and Washington for the citizens of Garland. And I will bring my business and technology experience to help control costs and yet bring a higher quality life, growth and services to the South Garland area, the city as a whole and the region."

When asked about community feedback received during the campaign he indicated it has been fairly positive.

"Unfortunately Garlandites are pretty pleased with how their city is running. They would love to see quality fixing of the potholes and sidewalks made more even. Also code enforcement more evenly handled and applied," is another concern he has heard.

For more information about his campaign visit <http://www.hoffman4garland.com/>.

The third candidate is Neil Sheffield, a resident of Garland for 16 years who is very concerned about his neighborhood. He lives in apartments located at Broadway and I-30.

"They are turning into a slum, that receives no police response after 3 a.m.," according to Sheffield during the NAACP's Political Forum last month.

During the forum Sheffield acknowledged that he was unlikely to win but said the citizens of District 4 would be well served by either of his opponents who he described as fine men. He is very clear that is primary goal in running for office and if elected is to address the problems within his direct neighborhood.

To learn more about Sheffield's campaign visit <http://www.neilsheffield.us/page1.html>.



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DFW Int'l Produces 2012 EST Guide For New Americans

DFW International Community Alliance has released their 2012 Guide to English Classes (ESL) for Adults, one in a series of six free Guides for New Americans. This series of guides is now available at many North Texas public libraries. The guides are also available as downloads from the DFW International Community Alliance website at www.dfwinternational.org/resource_center/.

Cesar Moncada from Verizon Reads, Inc. says, "We are proud again to partner the Metroplex's premiere support organization for New Americans, the DFW International Community Alliance, to bring you the Guide to English Classes (ESL) For Adults. This booklet represents a treasure of resources and is only a small token of DFW International Community Alliance's labor of love to welcome and help New Ameri-

cans grow, succeed, and thrive in their new homeland."

According to DFW International Community Alliance's 2010 report, 44 percent of North Texas residents are immigrants (foreign-born and their children), with one million immigrants moving here in the past 10 years. In 30 percent of the region's homes, a language other than English is used, and a total of 239 different languages are spoken.

CULTURE, continued from Page 10

Suites, Holiday Inn Express & Suites and Real Times Sports & Entertainment have also joined forces to show their support.

The DSJF Calendar of Events will showcase nightly SolJazz Happy Hour events June 1st through June 6th. There will also be a community-based Walk for Diabetes Prevention, on Saturday, June 2nd at Zeiger Park sponsored by The American Diabetes Association. Starting June 3rd through June

6th, SolJazz Karaoke Contests will also take place with chances to win finale concert tickets, drink specials, drawings and special prize giveaways!

Monday, June 4th through Thursday, June 7th The DSJF will host free SolJazz Spotlight Concerts at the DeSoto Amphitheater in the Town Center. June 8th there will be a Celebrity & Partner Golf Scramble at Cedar Crest Golf Course and a Comedy & Casino Night at The Hilton

Garden Inn Duncanville.

June 9th will highlight an All-Star lineup including Cameo, Rachelle Ferrell, Pieces Of A Dream, Doug E. Fresh, MC Lyte and more! The campus of DeSoto High School will be transformed into a megaplex to include Food Trucks, Vendors, a Health Pavilion and Kidz Zone. To close the celebration, there will be an Official Soljazz Brunch to celebrate Rejoice Sunday on June 10th.

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CIRCUIT, continued from Page 1

Arizona election officials, even if the applicants do not provide the U.S. citizenship documents required by Proposition 200. The case, *Inter Tribal Council of Arizona v. State of Arizona*, stems from a 2006 lawsuit brought on behalf of the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, State Senator Steve Gallardo, the Arizona Advocacy Network, the League of United Latin American Citizens of Arizona, the Hopi Tribe, and the League of Women Voters of Arizona, by attorneys from the Lawyers' Committee for

Civil Rights Under Law, the ACLU Voting Rights Project, and the law firms of Osborne Maledon, Stepote & Johnson and the Sparks Law Firm.

"We are elated that a strong majority of the en banc panel found Arizona's citizenship requirement violated the NVRA," said Jon Greenbaum, chief counsel for the Lawyers' Committee, who argued the case before the court. "This will enable our clients to be able to register to vote and conduct voter registration drives more easily."

The rejected proof of

citizenship provision was one component of Proposition 200, which passed in 2004. That provision required documentary proof of citizenship for all new voter registrants in Arizona and has resulted in the rejection of tens of thousands of voter registration forms. The NVRA requires that states "accept and use" a National Mail Voter Registration Form ("Federal Form") prescribed and issued by the Election Assistance Commission ("EAC"), which includes an affirmation of citizenship by the applicant under penalty of perjury. The en

banc court held today that "Arizona's rejection of every Federal Form submitted without proof of citizenship does not constitute 'accepting and using' the Federal Form."

"The court was correct in ruling that federal law does not require residents to produce unnecessary documents proving their citizenship in order to register to vote," said Laughlin McDonald, director of the ACLU Voting Rights Project. "This is an important victory at a time many states are making it harder for people to exercise their fundamental right to vote,

which is the backbone of our democracy. We hope this decision sends a message to other states that we should not be making it harder for people to participate in our political process."

Across the nation the right to vote is under attack and Proposition 200 in Arizona was one example of such efforts. Others efforts include laws that require government-issued photo IDs, limit early voting opportunities and place undue restrictions on third-party voting.

The court's decision in the Arizona case recog-

nizes Congress' broad powers to govern registration procedures for federal elections, and will enable poor, elderly and minority voters to once again avail themselves of voter registration drives and the mail-in registration process without the cost, procedural hassles and privacy concerns that go along with mailing in copies of birth certificates or other evidence of citizenship.

The case is *Inter Tribal Council of Arizona v. State of Arizona*, No. 08-17115 (9th Cir.) (en banc). The Court's 9-2 decision can be found here.



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April 22, 3 p.m.

Join us for Afternoon Worship Service as we praise and give honor to God.

March 25, 10:30 a.m.

Come to our Morning Bible Study and learn more about God's plans for you and other Christians.

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**BIBLE WAY
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April 22, 8-10 a.m.

You're invited to our Bible Class as we study the Word of God and give Him honor and praise.

**Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Sr.
Senior Pastor**

**4215 N. Greenview Drive
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www.biblewayirving.org

**CHRIST COMMUNITY
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April 28, 11 a.m.

Ladies you are invited to our Women of Wisdom meeting as we study and discuss God's Word. Call the church for details.

**Dr. Terrence Autry,
Senior Pastor**

**701 E. Centennial Blvd.
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9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

TheShip3C's Prayer Lines for those that are in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567 or they may be submitted via email to: prayerline@theship3c.org

April 29, 9:30 a.m.

Don't miss our Friends and Family Super Sunday Day. Everyone is invited to worship and praise God with us at 1550 Edelweiss Drive in Allen.

**Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed.D.
Senior Pastor
1550 Edelweiss Drive
In Allen for Sunday**

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972-359-9956
www.theship3c.org**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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"First Church"**

April 21, 8 a.m.

Come to our Men's Day Fellowship and Discussion Forum. Theme, "Men, Let us Become a Fisher of Men." Matthew 4:19 & 20.

April 21, 12 Noon

Join us for our Women of the Word Luncheon at First Church Fellowship Hall with guest speakers Thelma Wells, A Woman of God Ministries and Benita Arterberry, an anointed singer. Theme: Let the Word of Christ Dwell in You Richly . . ." Colossians 3:16. Call the church for details.

**Dr. Gregory Foster,
Senior Pastor**

**Rev. Tony Foster, Pastor
300 Phillips Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-235-4235
www.fbchp.org**

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April 25

Come to our Noonday Bible Study to learn more about the Word of God; and at 7 p.m. for our Wednesday Night Bible Study.

**Pastor Robert Townsend
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www.dallasmpisgah.org**

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Tuesdays in April 6:30 p.m.
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April 18, 8 p.m.

Join us in a Prayer Virgil with scriptures, songs and testimonies.

**Dr. Leslie W. Smith,
Senior Pastor**

**1010-1020 S. Sherman Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-437-3493
www.ndcbf.org**

ROCKBRIDGE CHURCH

April 22

Join us in Prayer with Pastor at 8:30 a.m. and stay for Worship Celebration at 10 a.m.

April 25, 7 p.m.

You're invited to Bible Study and Awana as we worship and praise God.

**Timothy Jones,
Lead Pastor
21 Prestige Circle
Allen, TX 75002
214-383-9993**

www.rockbridgechurch.com

**SAINT MARK MBC
IN MCKINNEY**

April 22, 9:30 a.m.

Join us in our Education Ministries, stay for our Worship Celebration at 10:45 a.m.; and you're invited to join us for our Friends and Family Day as we fellowship, worship and praise God.

**Dr. Charles Wattlely
Senior Pastor
1308 Wilcox Street
McKinney TX 75069
972-542-6178
www.saintmarkbc.com**

**SHILOH MBC
IN PLANO**

April 22, 8 a.m. And 11 a.m.

Join us in our Morning Worship times and stay for our Sunday School at 10 a.m.

April 25, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Midweek Service as we worship and praise God.

**Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor**

**920 E. 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org**

**THE INSPIRING BODY
OF CHRIST CHURCH**

April 22, 7:30 a.m.

Join us as we worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name.

April 23, 7 p.m.

Come to Monday School as we study the Word of God, worship Him and praise His Holy name.

**Pastor Rickie Rush
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April 22

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Join us in prayer early in the morning at 5 a.m. on Monday - Friday at 1-661-673-8600, Code # 142219 and please put your phone on mute. Prayer will change people, things and situations.

April 24, 7:30 p.m.

You're invited to our School of The Prophets as Pastor Voss; who is also a prophet, bring the Word of God; and we worship and praise His Holy name.

April 26, 7:30 p.m.

Join us in our Gift Stirring Night as Saints of God bring God's Word and reveal their God-given talents.

**Dr. Gregory E. Voss,
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**Sister
Tarpley**

Every morning when I turn my television on to hear the news, there are one, two or more devastating occurrences that happened during the night or very early that morning in the Metroplex area alone, not to mention state-wide or even nationwide.

If ever there was a time when Christians need to pray, that time is now. Cities, counties, states, and the world are full of trouble, sickness, sorrow, and conflict.

If we make it through these terrible times, it will only be achieved through the power of prayer. The first Century Church was a praying church. Prayer was habitual. A Jew, if he was devout, always prayed at the third, sixth and the ninth hours. For us that would be 9:00 am, 12 Noon, and 3:00 pm. Remember in Acts 10:9, Peter was praying. Prayer helps us make sound deci-

sions. Sometimes when you don't know what to do or who to talk to; that is when you should turn to prayer.

Prayer is our greatest weapon in crisis. Look in Acts 4:19-31 when Peter and John were arrested, the church held a prayer meeting. In Acts 7:59-60 when Stephen met death, he was praying. When Peter was in prison, Acts 12:5, he concentrated on prayer.

Prayer keeps you strong. In Matthew 4, Jesus was weak, but because of His prayer life and His understanding of the Word of God, He was strong. Each Christian should stay in prayer for the Lord's church, for lost souls, and especially for unity in the Body of Christ.

Prayer is love in action. There is no greater force in the universe than love. When we pray, mighty forces move. Prayer helps us overcome life's obstacles. It helps give us peace of mind, and helps us find our own strength. Prayer helps us build our spiritual house. Ul-

timately, prayer helps us to remember who we are. When we remember who we are, we become the love of God.

When we start the day with a prayer, we are energized throughout the day. When we end the day with a prayer, we fertilize our dreams, a source of healing and creativity; and we get a good and peaceful night's sleep. All prayers lead back to one source, and that source is God.

Pray for your household: Ask God to look graciously upon your household as you gather together in His name. To give them, whom He have set over your household, wisdom to direct those committed to their charge; to give to all its members, strength to fulfill His will in His daily work to which He has appointed them; grant that love and peace be with all others, that grace may live and grow among them, and that finally they may meet before His throne in Heaven and be united in His love for-

ever.

Pray for God's Peace: God's peace between neighbors, between family members, between husband and wife, between children and parents, between individuals, and between friends, all in the love of the Jesus.

Pray for the beginning of each day: As you rise up in the morning before the start of each day; as you go to work to prepare your work for the day. Pray for protection from the dangers of the day and from every stumbling block.

Pray to meet the tasks of the day: Thank God for His mercies which are new every morning. Thank Him for the gift of sleep; for your health and strength. Thank God for the vision of another day with its fresh opportunities of work and serve Him. Thank Him for all these and more than these. Before looking on the face of men you will look on His face, Jesus is the health of your countenance and your God. Not without His guidance

would you go forth to meet your duties and tasks of the day. Ask God for strength so that in all your work you may be faithful to Him in the middle of your trials; courageous in your suffering, patient in your disappointment and full of hope in Him. Ask Him to grant this for His honor and goodness' sake.

Pray at the close of the Day: Thank God for His care and protection each day, keeping you from physical harm and spiritual corruption. Place the work of your day into His hands, trusting that He will redeem your errors and turn your achievements to His glory. And ask



Sheila Tarpley Lott, author of *Without Fear or Favor* at her Inaugural book signing. Her daughter, Tyanna, is the model for the book cover.

God to work within you, trusting that He will use the hours of your rest to create in you a new heart and new soul. Let your mind, which through the day has been directed to your work, through the evening be wholly directed at God.

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Whatever comes around, goes around. Tit for tat, and all that. Whatever you do comes back to haunt you. For every action, there's an equal reaction. You always reap what you sow, and payback's a... well, you know what it is.

When James Thicke beat down Johnny Bergs for sleeping with James' wife, it seemed that Johnny got what he deserved. But in the new book *An Accidental Affair* by Eric Jerome Dickey, James

Eric Jerome Dickey's *An Accidental Affair* proves revenge is not always so sweet

might pay for the beating with his life.

He absolutely lost his temper.

When the steamy video went viral, screenwriter James Thicke went crazy. There it was, Johnny Bergs making real love to beautiful Regina Baptiste for the movie cameras. But Regina Baptiste was Thicke's wife and while every man wanted to sleep with her, Thicke was the only man who had that right.

Johnny Bergs had crossed a line. So when James Thicke found Johnny that rainy night, he pounded Johnny's handsome face into pulp.

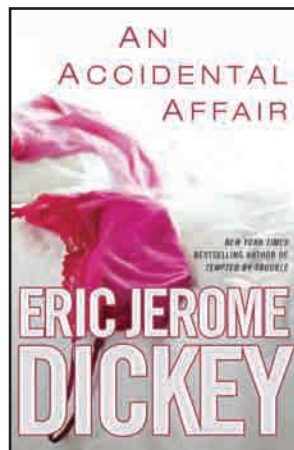
That was Mistake Number One: Johnny was rumored to

be the son of a gangster.

In order to escape the Bergs family and his feelings of anger for his wife, whom he trusted to do a love scene without actually doing a love scene, Thicke moved to a low-income apartment complex. It was a good place to hide from the Bergs, the law, and his own thoughts.

Mistake Number Two: there were too many needful women at the complex, and Thicke smelled like money. It was hard to avoid them, even when he wanted to.

But then Regina Baptiste started following James Thicke, crying and begging. She claimed that the scene with Johnny Bergs was a mis-



take. She wasn't herself. She never intended for it to happen. It was an accident.

Once upon a time, James Thicke stole Regina Baptiste

from another man. She had been living with that Norwegian, Bobby Holland, but she didn't love him and he was bad for her. Holland had gotten her hooked on cocaine, and Thicke knew that the powder would eventually be the death of her.

Which was Mistake Number Three: the death was likely to be James Thicke's...

Well, there we go. Author Eric Jerome Dickey has, once again, made me stay awake until all hours of the night, losing sleep and reading.

Yes, this is one of those kinds of books.

An Accidental Affair starts out a little rough. It seemed, at first, that it was going to be another tiresome erotica novel,

but then the story grabs you by the throat and slams you into James Thicke's world, where the only people who can be trusted are those who've signed confidentiality clauses — and even then, you're never sure.

I loved the intrigue here. I loved the touches of twisted wit. Reading *An Accidental Affair* is, in fact, like chewing on ambrosia-coated sandpaper: it's gritty, but oh-so-very tasty and if you need a copy of it for your own, you need to get to your library or bookstore now.

Because that's where you'll get yours.

An Accidental Affair by Eric Jerome Dickey (Dutton, \$26.95, 352 pages)

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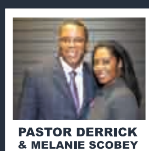
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