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Mayor Rawlings seeks help, input for key improvements to South Dallas sector

By David Wilfong
NDG Special Contributor

Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings told members of the minority press last week that when he was seeking his current office, the top priority on his list was South Dallas.

“It really was the opportunity I saw in South Dallas,” Rawlings said of why he ran for mayor. “I felt that North Dallas was going to be alright, even if we tried to screw it up a little bit. I think it’s going to be solid. And downtown, it wasn’t at a tipping point, but it was pretty close to being at a tipping point.”

With that, Rawlings introduced the “Grow South” initiative, dividing the southern section of the city into seven zones and taking strategic aim at the needs and steps necessary for improvement and revitalization of what many have identified as an underserved swath of the DFW metroplex.

“The big headline is, in a couple of years we grew faster than North Dallas grew,” Rawlings said. “But when you include downtown, we’re probably about the same rate. In the last four years we have increased the value – that’s one way you would look at this – of southern Dallas by \$1.5 billion. The City of



Mayor Mike Rawlings held a press conference for minority publications on the issues facing South Dallas last Thursday afternoon at the NYLO Dallas hotel. Rawlings outlined two projects he feels are pivotal for the future of the southern sector. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

Dallas’ value is about \$100 billion, and so in southern Dallas we’ve increased it by about that much.”

Advances in retail Rawlings cited were the Walmart project on IH-35 and the recent investment in Southwest Center Mall, which has recently been the subject of private investment. Also growing rapidly is the North Oak Cliff area and the development in the Inland Port.

On the negative side, the Fair Park area is not seeing the growth Rawlings would like. East Oak Cliff and other nearby areas are also in

need of improving economic performance.

“I think we’ve cleaned up a lot of what’s on Lancaster, but there’s a lot more to be done,” Rawlings said. “Also, what I call the ‘Education Corridor’ which is where UNT Dallas is through Paul Quinn, we’ve got the Blue Line that’s going to be coming in there and we’re going to try to break ground on some new development there hopefully by the end of the year.”

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NDG 10



Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

Grambling and Prairie View game is fast approaching!
Check out NDGTV’s interview of Al Walsh from last year’s event!



The state of healthcare in Texas

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DART expands service for Texas state fair

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Jubilee theatre presents WORKING

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COMMENTARY

What you need to know about voting on Nov. 8

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

Are you ready to vote? Are you registered? These may seem like simplistic questions, especially for those who are aware, but every year some folks are denied access to the polls, because they didn’t register on time, or they moved and their address does not match the address the registrar of voters has, or SOMETHING. The Presidential election is likely to

be a nail-biter, and there are local races that are also close. Your best bet is to make sure you know what the requirements for voting are in your state. Check out www.vote.com; the site lists the requirements for all 50 states. A few states allow voter registration on the day of an election, but most states require you to register between 11 and 30 days before the vote. Some states allow online registration.

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LaToya Watkins



Dr. Orlando Richard



Lisa W. Wardell

On the GO??? But still need to be in the KNOW!!! Bookmark NorthDallasGazette.com on your phone or mobile device!!!



LaToya Watkins

Editor's Note: NDG has had the pleasure of working with Ms. Watkins in the past and we are delighted to see her on-going success!

UT Dallas alumna and author LaToya Watkins BA'06, MA'11, PhD'15 recently joined the ranks of writers including Alice Walker, Thornton Wilder and James Baldwin as a fellow in The MacDowell Colony.

Watkins, who received her doctoral degree in aesthetic studies, took note of the selective program while attending a writer's confer-



ence in 2014.

"I thought it was a pretty long shot for me when I looked at some of the people who had been here," Watkins said.

She was referring to the

more than 60 Pulitzer Prize winners who have participated in the artists' colony in Peterborough, New Hampshire. The program has awarded fellowships to more than 7,000 artists and writers, among them Leonard Bernstein, Jonathan Franzen and Alice Sebold.

Founded in 1907 by Marian MacDowell, pianist and wife of American composer Edward MacDowell, the colony is set on a farm and includes 32 studios. In 1997, the program was awarded the National Medal of Arts for "nurturing and inspiring many of this century's finest artists."

"The mission of The MacDowell Colony is to nurture the arts by offering creative individuals of the highest talent an inspiring environment in which they can produce enduring works of the imagination," reads the program's mission statement. "The sole criterion for acceptance to The MacDowell Colony is artistic excellence."

Watkins was awarded the fellowship in 2015, and she headed to New England this year, from May 16 to June 2, focusing her energy on her current writing projects.

During her time at the colony, Watkins found a wellspring of productivity.

She submitted the first draft of her first novel, as well as the first half of her second book.

"This experience is quite different for me," she said. "I have found it to be a positive experience, and I kind of get sad when I think about coming out from this place, re-entering into the world and how I'm going to handle that and still take some of these lessons with me."

Watkins said that while residents have communal spaces to eat breakfast and dinner, most of her days were spent working in her studio deep in the woods.

"It took me some days to

get used to it," she said. "Writing is all there is to do. There's no internet or phone connection on most of the property. For most of the day, you are completely disconnected from the world. There's even a pretty big space around you and the other colonists."

With a family at home, including three teenagers, Watkins said she felt guilty at first to be unplugged from her close-knit group and the demands that come with it.

"I found the isolation liberating," she said. "I was able to produce writing that

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Dr. Orlando Richard

As it becomes increasingly common for older workers to report to younger supervisors, a new study from the Naveen Jindal School of Management at UT Dallas examined how disparities in experience and education influence subordinates' commitment to their organizations.

Dr. Orlando Richard, associate professor of organizations, strategy and international management, found that status incongruence — which occurs when a subordinate is older or has more education, work experience



and/or organizational tenure than their supervisor — negatively affected transformational leaders' ability to foster attachment to the organization among their subordinates. The study was pub-

lished in the journal *Personnel Psychology*.

"Transformational leadership is supposedly the best type of leadership to inspire followers," Richard said. "But what happens when your boss is less experienced or younger than you? You are less likely to respond to their leadership style. It also affects the level of commitment you have to the organization because you feel you are more qualified than they are."

The researchers found across two different contexts — both in the United States and Turkey — that status incongruence weakened the re-

lationship between transformational leadership and affective commitment.

Transformational leadership inspires subordinates to work for the good of the organization by motivating them through the leader's strategic vision, communication of the vision and commitment toward the vision.

Affective commitment is an attachment that an employee would have toward an organization, Richard said. Companies want their employees to have a sense of loyalty, and commitment has implications for productivity, performance and retention rates.

"From an HR standpoint, I think it's important to make sure that you have the right leader in place because if employees feel that the wrong person is in charge, there could be negative consequences for the organization down the road," Richard said. "No one wants to work for someone who they feel doesn't have the credentials."

The study also examined how the effects of a transformational leadership style and a supervisor's gender predict a subordinate's commitment.

In Turkey, the effect was stronger for men than women, while in the United States, the effect was stronger

for women than men.

Men were penalized when they had less experience and education, and tried to display transformational leadership. When they were on par, their subordinates were more committed to them if they displayed transformational leadership styles.

"These relationships in the U.S. context are important for women in leadership positions," Richard said.

María del Carmen Triana at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and İlhami Yücel at Erzincan University in Turkey were co-authors on the paper.

Lisa W. Wardell

DOWNERS GROVE, Ill. — (BUSINESS WIRE) — DeVry Education Group's president and CEO, Lisa W. Wardell, and board directors Lyle L. Logan and James D. White were named to Savoy Magazine's Power 300: 2016 Most Influential Black Corporate Directors list. Savoy's Power 300 features a directory of 300 influential African-American directors serving on the boards of public companies, highlighting their success and achievement.

"It's an honor to be listed among some of the nation's most accomplished African-American corporate leaders and influencers," Wardell



said. "Lyle and James bring a wealth of management and governance experience to DeVry Group's board, contributing to the strength of our institutions and the success of our students."

Wardell was appointed president and CEO in 2016, and has been a member of DeVry Group's board of di-

rectors since 2008. Prior to her current position with DeVry Group, Wardell was executive vice president and chief operating officer for The RLJ Companies, a diversified holding company with portfolio companies in the financial services, asset management, real estate, hospitality, professional sports, film production and gaming industries.

Savoy also named Lyle L. Logan, executive vice president and managing director at Northern Trust Global Investments to its list of 2016 Most Influential Black Corporate Directors. Logan joined DeVry Group's board in 2007. In addition to serving as a board director, Logan currently chairs the board's audit and finance

committee.

James D. White, former chairman and CEO of Jamba, Inc., was also named to Savoy's 2016 Power 300 list. White joined DeVry Group's board in 2015. In addition to serving as a board director, White currently chairs the board's external relations committee.

"Savoy continues to be at the forefront of comprehensive coverage of the professional success and achievements of African-Americans," said L.P. Green, II, CEO and publisher of Savoy Magazine. "It is our duty to chronicle these inspiring executives, their distinguished careers and the corporations that demonstrate inclusive board composition in Savoy."

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This is why we have to invest in effective teachers

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

While millions of children (and teachers) welcome the call to go back to school in August and early September, all is not well in classrooms and school districts around the country. Even though every school district is not facing challenges, many urban school districts – where the majority of African American and Hispanic students are enrolled – face challenges that may either disrupt education in the classroom or affect the terms and conditions of work for teachers. Meanwhile, some school districts are experiencing teacher shortages and an unhealthy reliance on substitute teachers. Teachers are leaving the profession more rapidly than before. And teachers of color, especially men of color, are woefully under-represented in the ranks of K-

12 teachers. Indeed, African American men represent just 2 percent of all teachers. Eighty-three percent of all teachers are white, despite the fact that inner-city classrooms, particularly, are overwhelmingly black and brown.

In Chicago, teachers have returned to school without a contract for the second year in a row, and the Chicago Teacher's Union will take a strike vote, proposing a strike in October. Meanwhile, the CEO says that unless the CTU agrees to concessions, there will be classroom cuts. The Chicago Public School district has already “tightened its belt” by laying off more than 500 teachers and 500 school-based workers. These workers may not be out of jobs, as they can apply for other open jobs in the Chicago Public School district, but a massive July lay-off is not the best way to ap-

proach August with a positive attitude. Chicago is not the only school district with challenges. Dozens of school districts have financial challenges, which is partly, because cities and states have implemented austerity budgets that are allocating insufficient funds to schools.

One of the major challenges for school districts and for teachers is the way that teacher pay lags behind pay in other professions. According to the Economic Policy Institute, “public school teachers’ weekly wages were 17 percent lower than those of comparable workers – compared to just 1.8 percent lower in 1994.” Those who teach must have a passion for their profession, and for students, but passion can often be dampened by low pay. Some young people who would be great teachers choose alternative, better paying, careers. And veteran

teachers, who may have experienced pay freezes, because of fiscal austerity, may choose to make mid-life career changes, because more attractive financial opportunities beckon.

Why can't we pay teachers fairly? If the teaching profession is considered as important as any other (and some might argue that it is more important than many) why does teacher pay lag so much behind other professions? As Lawrence Mishel and Sylvia Allegretto note in their EPI study, “An effective teacher is the most important school-based determinant of education outcomes.” The teaching profession needs to offer pay at a level to attract the best and the brightest to our nation's classrooms. Otherwise, as a recent study shows, few students aspire to be teachers

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tration, most allow registration by mail (with requirements about the date a registration is postmarked), and almost all allow in-person registration.

The terms and conditions of voting are still being negotiated in some states so it makes sense to stay on top of voting rules. A federal appeals court recently kicked discriminatory North Carolina voting terms to the curb, saying that that state discriminated against African Americans with “surgical precision.” Efforts to reduce the number of days available for early voting, or to eliminate Sunday voting, disproportionately affect African American voters. North Carolina Republicans are deliberate and mindful in their attempt to sideline African American voters, since most African Americans are Democrats. They want to deliver their state to Donald Trump and they want to ensure that Senator Richard Burr and Governor Pat McCrory, both Republicans, are also re-elected.

North Carolina isn't the only state with electoral shenanigans. Texas, Kansas,

Georgia and Alabama have also implemented restrictive measures that are being appealed by civil rights groups, the League of Women Voters, the NAACP and others. Disputes revolve around things like absentee ballots, and issues of whether ballots will count if they are cast in the wrong precincts. In our “Democracy,” it seems that we do more to discourage voters than encourage them, and while the voting process could be seamless, plans to prevent as many as 50,000 Kansas voters from going to the polls, for example, make no sense in a “participatory democracy.”

Some folks don't want it to be participatory, though. Republicans now control most state legislatures, and have been passing voter suppression laws since 2010, when they began to take control of state houses. Civic participation organizations, like the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, the National Coalition for Black Civic Participation, and others, are fighting back, preparing to have people available to help voters, es-

pecially in battleground states, and with hot lines (1-866-OUR-VOTE) and other forms of voter assistance. In an election that is likely to be close, it is important that every voice be heard.

I'm still not clear why polling suggests that this vote is so close. Secretary Hillary Clinton, for all her imperfections, is a stunningly superior candidate to the bumbling Donald Trump who just recently praised Russia's Vladimir Putin as a “better leader” than President Obama. Now, that's just downright unpatriotic, not to mention short-sided, and tone-deaf. While folks are running Colin Kaepernick down for being unpatriotic, Trump gets away with comments that border on the treasonous, and is still considered a “credible” candidate for President. Really?

Donald Trump goes to one Black church and gets all kind of mainstream media coverage. Hillary Clinton visits numerous Black churches, and the mainstream media is absent. Donald Trump blusters his way through an interview with Matt Lauer on national security, and is hardly challenged and, certainly, never inter-

rupted. Hillary Clinton offers substance to an extremely biased Lauer who was, at best, unprepared for the interview. Instead of getting kudos on her performance, too many have noticed that Hillary didn't smile. National security is no laughing matter, folks.

We have stark choices in this election, but some of us won't be making choices because we won't be prepared to vote on November 8. Now is the time to make sure you are prepared. Are you registered? Where will you vote? Will you be out of town or unable to get to the polls on November 8? Can you do early voting or vote via an absentee ballot? These aren't questions to ask on November 5, they are questions to ask now. Don't shake your head on November 9 and say you didn't like the outcome if you didn't bother to vote on November 8. The stakes are high!

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book “Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy” is available via www.amazon.com for book-ing, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.julianmalveaux.com.

Snapshot look at the state of health care in Texas

More Americans have access to health care today, but cost and quality vary widely from state to state. According to the Pew Charitable Trusts, state health costs depend on a number of factors, ranging from federal legislation to the overall health of residents to the number of “public charges” such as prisoners and recipients of social assistance. And often, policy makers have no hand in determining or swaying the amounts that residents shell out for health expenditures.

How does Texas Compare?



State of health care in Texas (WalletHub)

Health Care in Texas (1=Best; 25=Avg.): (Info via WalletHub)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23rd – Average Monthly Insurance Premium • 27th – Number of Hos- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pital Beds per Capita • 42nd – Number of Physicians per Capita • 28th – Number of Dentists per Capita • 43rd – Physician
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Medicare Acceptance Rate

- 51st – % of Adults Aged 18 to 64 with Health Insurance

- 50th – % of Children Aged 0 to 17 with Health Insurance

- 16th – % of At-Risk Adults Without a Routine Doctor Visit in Past Two Years

- 47th – % of Adults Without a Dental Visit in Past Year

- 5th – % of Medical Residents Retained

For every American, that amount is about \$9,523 annually and expected to rise in the coming years, accord-

ing to the most recent data from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. In 2014, health spending accounted for 17.5 percent of national GDP. By 2025, that figure will increase by an estimated 2.6 percent. An international comparison of health expenses reveals that Americans even pay the highest for certain prescription drugs and some common medical procedures compared with patients in other wealthy countries.

But higher costs don't necessarily translate to better care and treatment here at

home. The Kaiser Family Foundation found in its latest analysis of global health care quality that the U.S. remains outperformed by several of its peers “on a large number of measures,” despite improved performance in others. In particular, the U.S. lags in “life expectancy at birth; cost-related barriers to health care access; the prevalence of retained surgical items or unretrieved device fragments; and burden of disease, which takes into account years of life lost due to premature death and years of life lost to poor health or disability.”

Brain study shows belief's role in how nicotine affects smokers

How the brain responds to nicotine depends on a smoker's belief about the nicotine content in a cigarette, according to new research from the Center for BrainHealth at The University of Texas at Dallas.

The study, recently published in *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, found that smoking a nicotine cigarette but believing that it lacked nicotine failed to satisfy cravings related to nicotine addiction. Contrary to their expectations, researchers found that to satisfy nicotine cravings, smokers had to not only smoke a cigarette with nicotine but also believe that they were smoking nicotine.

“These results suggest that for drugs to have an effect on a person, he or she needs to believe that the drug is present,” said Dr. Xiaosi Gu, assistant professor



in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences and the study's lead author.

The scientists used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to capture neural activity in the insula cortex, a region of the brain that plays a role in diverse functions such as bodily

perception and self-awareness. The insula cortex is also associated with drug cravings and addiction, Gu said.

Twenty-four chronic, nicotine-addicted smokers participated in the double-blind study. Over four visits, participants were twice

given a nicotine-containing cigarette and twice a placebo. With each type of cigarette, they were once accurately told what type they had and once told the opposite.

“We examined the impact of beliefs about cravings prior to and after smoking while also measuring neural activity,” said Gu, who also serves as the head of the Computational Psychiatry Unit at the Center for BrainHealth.

Each visit, participants underwent an fMRI scan and were administered a cigarette, but each visit tested a different condition:

- Believes the cigarette contains nicotine but receives placebo.

- Believes the cigarette does not contain nicotine but receives a nicotine cigarette.

- Believes the cigarette contains nicotine and receives nicotine.

- Believes the cigarette does not contain nicotine and receives placebo.

“We expected the presence of nicotine to show some sort of craving response compared to conditions where the subjects did not receive nicotine despite the belief about the nicotine given, but that was not what we found,” said Read Montague, co-author of the study, director of the Human Neuroimaging Laboratory and the Computational Psychiatry Unit at Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute.

After smoking the provided cigarette, participants completed a reward learning task while undergoing fMRI scans. They rated their levels of craving be-

fore smoking the cigarette and after the task.

The fMRI scans showed significant neural activity that correlated to both craving and learning signals when participants smoked a nicotine cigarette and believed its nicotine content was genuine. However, smoking nicotine but believing it was a placebo did not produce the same brain signals.

Results from this study support previous findings that beliefs can alter a drug's effects on craving, providing insight into possible avenues for novel methods of addiction treatments.

The work was supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health, the Kane Family Foundation, the Wellcome Trust and The Dallas Foundation.

New partnership to help families raise drug free kids

The Partnership for Drug-Free Kids, a national non-profit committed to helping families struggling with their son or daughter's substance use, announced last week that Partnership for a Drug-Free Texas, an initiative of Drug Prevention Resources, will become their newest Alliance Partner.

Based in Dallas, Drug Prevention Resources is the oldest drug prevention agency in

Texas. Its mission is to unite students, families and communities in a common desire to power change and flourish in positive, drug-free environments. Since 1991, Drug Prevention Resources has provided drug prevention and life-skills training to more than 78,000 at-risk youth and families. Through this partnership, the agency will help educate families about teen substance use and strategies

they can use to help their loved one.

“Our team is thrilled to serve as the Texas state-wide partner for the Partnership for Drug-Free Kids,” said Becky Vance, President and CEO of Drug Prevention Resources. “Both our organizations believe it is vital to empower families with information, support and guidance to get the help their loved one needs and deserves. Using the na-

tional Partnership's incredible creative and messaging to reach Texas families is a national, state and local win.”

“We are grateful to have Drug Prevention Resources join our network of partners working to reduce substance use among teens,” explained Teri Christensen, SVP, Director of State and Local Operations at the Partnership. “Through this collaboration, we are able to reach families

across Texas with the messages and resources to help protect the health of young people.”

As teen medicine abuse reaches alarming levels, the Partnership for a Drug-Free Texas initiative will help educate parents and caregivers on comprehensive steps to safeguard medicines, dispose of them properly and talk with their kids about the dangers of abuse.

To learn more about Drug Prevention Resources, please visit www.drugpreventionresources.org.

IMPACT Communities is a community coalition that serves the Garland, Rowlett and Sachse area by educating youth and their families on the health and legal consequences of substance abuse. It is a program of Drug Prevention Resources, Irving, TX.

Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program hosts monthly legal clinics

In the month of September, the Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program (DVAP), a joint initiative of the Dallas Bar Association and Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas, will hold Legal Clinics for Dallas County residents who meet

certain financial guidelines. All clinics begin at 5:00 p.m., with the exception of the Veteran's Clinic, which begins at 1:30 p.m.

Schedules and locations are as follows:

- East Dallas (Grace United

Methodist Church—4105 Junius at Haskell) Sept. 15

- South Dallas (Martin Luther King, Jr. Center—2922 MLK Blvd.) Sept. 27

- West Dallas (2828 Fish Trap Rd., Dallas, TX 75212) Sept. 22

- Garland (Salvation Army—451 W. Avenue D, Garland, TX 75040) Sept. 15

- Friendship West Baptist Church (2020 West Wheatland Rd., Dallas, TX 75232) Sept. 21

- St. Phillip's Community

Center (1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Dallas, TX 75215) Sept. 20

The clinics offer free legal advice and consultation in civil matters for those who qualify under Legal Aid's income eligibil-

ity guidelines. Applicants are asked to bring proof of income, identification, legal papers, etc. with them to the clinic. For more information, log on to www.dallasvolunteerattorneyprogram.org.

Focus on food and fun, not stress and driving at the fair

There's more fried food and more fun at the 2016 State Fair of Texas Sept. 30 through Oct. 23., and DART has more ways for you to "Celebrate Texas Agriculture."

Fair days are always busy days on DART Rail and buses. DART will make the following changes beginning Monday, Sept. 26:

- Extra Green Line trains between Victory and Lawnview stations from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays and 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekends; all trips will feature 3-car trains;
- Orange Line extended to Parker Road on all trips, weekdays and weekends;
- Added Green and Blue



line service after 7 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays;

- Extra buses on Routes 60 and 409 Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays.

- Trinity Railway Express (TRE) will operate on all

four Sundays during the fair.

Direct access to Fair Park

Ride DART's Green Line to two stations: Fair Park, located on Parry Avenue at the entrance to the fair-

grounds, and MLK, Jr., located south of R.B. Cullum Boulevard and convenient to the Gate 6 entrance and the Cotton Bowl stadium. Extra Green Line trains will be available approximately every 15 minutes between Victory and Lawnview stations from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays and 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on weekends.

Connect to Green Line

All DART Rail and Trinity Railway Express (TRE) passengers can transfer easily to the Green Line. Trains going to the fair will say "Fair Park," "Buckner" or "Lawnview."

Orange Line passengers

from Irving transfer to the Green Line at Bachman Station. Southbound Orange, Red and Blue line passengers transfer at Pearl/Arts District or St. Paul stations. Northbound Red and Blue line passengers transfer at Akard Station. TRE passengers transfer to the Green Line at Victory Station. Details are at TrinityRailwayExpress.org.

The Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) will be adjusting its schedule during the fair. Customers should check DCTA.net for departure and arrival times and to ensure smooth connections at Trinity Mills Station to DART's

Green Line.

Day Pass and GoPass app

Purchase a Local Day Pass for \$5, good for DART Rail, local buses and riding the TRE from CentrePort Station. Tarrant and Denton County customers need to purchase a Regional Day Pass for \$10. Passes are available at ticket vending machines located at all DART and TRE stations and on the GoPass app available for both Apple and Android.

For the second year you can buy your State Fair of Texas general admission

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The two projects the mayor refers to as "enablers" of development in South Dallas include the Trinity Parkway, along with the Trinity Park itself, and Fair Park.

Rawlings noted a park design has been put together at an estimated cost of \$250 million which he believes will be a major boost for the city. The parkway which goes along with the Trinity park has drawn a bit of criticism from residents in the past, but Rawlings said changes have been made which he thinks will make the project more acceptable.

"We have shrunk the footprint of the parkway," Rawlings said. "It is now a four-lane parkway, and it is still connecting the largest job area, which is the hospital and the Love Field area, to South Dallas/Fair Park and on to Pleasant Grove. This is very important because we understand that transportation is becoming a bigger and bigger issue for people that

are, let's call them 'the working poor.'"

Fair Park is the other issue that is on the top of the mayor's to-do list.

"Fair Park has been a major disappointment to South Dallas/Fair Park, and it has just kind of done nothing," Rawlings said. "We've under-funded it and we've really underplayed it and under-leveraged Fair Park."

The State Fair has a contract with the city until 2028 on Fair Park, and Rawlings said the land purchases and concrete sprawl has caused hard feelings in the neighborhood. He is seeking to devote a public/private partnership to raise private funds to revitalize Fair Park by building a park, pushing back the fencing and "put the 'park' back in Fair Park."

Rawlings said he believes the biggest part of growing South Dallas is to "debunk myths" about the quality of life in South Dallas.

"It needs to get on the

radar screen of this city," Rawlings said. "I think the saliency of southern Dallas, because of a lot of different things, is much better today than it has ever been before."

Some other issues still facing South Dallas are commercial owners and landlords who do not reinvest in their properties. Rawlings said the area also needs more neighborhood organizations to enhance the "culture of clean," noting the city has knocked down more than 1,100 condemned homes to that effect. Stray dogs have recently become a major issue.

And finally, the perception of the quality of schools in Dallas continues to be a problem.

"I was very disappointed that (Tax Ratification Election) didn't pass at the school board," Rawlings said in regards to the recent decision by the Dallas Independent School District's board of trustees not to seek a tax increase in the November election.

Dallas ISD pre-K program hits 11,000 students for first time in history, surpasses projections

For the first time in the Dallas Independent School District history, pre-K enrollment has topped projections to serve more than 11,000 students. As of today, there are 11,175 prekindergarten students enrolled in Dallas ISD, and some continued pre-K growth is expected over the course of the 2016-2017 year.

Superintendent Michael Hinojosa set a goal to increase pre-K enrollment by 7 percent over last year; en-



Pre-K students at Tom C. Gooch Elementary School read together. (Photo: Dallas ISD)

rollment numbers as of today represent a 7.3-percent increase of 762 stu-

dents. "This reinforces that if we provide quality pre-K

options for families, they will take advantage of them for the benefit of their children," said Derek Little, assistant superintendent of Early Learning.

The district's Early Learning department led targeted recruitment campaigns that directly interfaced with community members. Marketing efforts included: robocalls, a billboard campaign, door-to-door visits, yard signage in neighborhoods, broadcast PSAs, and printed collat-

eral.

The biggest gains were made among the pre-K 3-year-old program, which saw a growth of 534 more students than last school year, when 302 total students were enrolled.

This school year also marks the first time the district has offered full-day, tuition-based pre-K.

"We will continue to market and communicate that Dallas ISD is a great choice for pre-K," said Little. "Our

goal is to continue spreading the word with community partners that Dallas ISD, in conjunction with its partners, provides a suite of early learning opportunities, including full day for four-year-olds, half day for three-year-olds, and tuition pre-K at a competitive rate."

Dallas ISD still has available pre-K seats across the district. Go to www.prek-dallas.org to learn more or register.

SMU's rating improves now tied with UT Austin as state's second best school

SMU rose to its highest ranking among the nation's universities in the 2017 edition of U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges, released online today.

Among 220 institutions classified as national universities, SMU ranks 56, up from 61 a year ago.

The new ranking again places SMU in the first tier of institutions in the guide's "best national universities" category. In Texas, only Rice



University ranks higher. SMU and the University of Texas-Austin were tied. Among private national universities, SMU ranks 39.

SMU's increase was one of the five largest among the top 100 universities. Since 2008, SMU's 11-point increase is one of the four largest among schools in the top 60.

For the rankings, U.S. News considers measures of academic quality, such as peer assessment scores and ratings by high school counselors, faculty resources, student selectivity, graduation rate performance, financial

resources and alumni giving. SMU ranks 24 among all national universities in alumni giving at 25 percent.

In other ranking categories, SMU ranks 32 as one of the best national universities for veterans.

"It is gratifying for SMU to be recognized for its positive movement among the best national universities," said SMU President R. Gerald Turner. "The ranking is an example of the momen-

tum of the Second Century Campaign and the University's Centennial Celebration.

"We appreciate external recognition of our progress and believe it's valid, but we also know that rankings do not portray the whole picture of an institution and its strengths. We encourage parents and students to visit the institutions they are considering for a firsthand look at the academic offerings,

the campus environment and the surrounding community to best gauge a university."

The rankings of 1,374 institutions, including national universities, liberal arts colleges, regional colleges and regional universities, are available now at www.usnews.com/colleges and on newsstands Sept. 23. Find the "Best Colleges 2017" guidebook in stores Oct. 4.

Cedar Valley College Responds to Closure of ITT Institutes; Information Session Scheduled for Sept. 20 at Lancaster Campus

In response to the recently announced closures of ITT Institute campuses, Cedar Valley College has scheduled an information session for affected students at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20. The session will take place in Building L.

ITT had campuses located in DeSoto, Arlington and Richardson. The session is designed to help students learn what op-

tions are available to them at CVC or other Dallas County Community College District institutions.

"We certainly want to be responsive in this difficult situation and let students know that Cedar Valley College and DCCCD are here for them as an option to continue their journey in higher education," said Jarlene DeCay, CVC dean of student success.

CVC offers a wide array of business and technical programs that lead to Associate degrees and/or short-term Level 1 certificates, including:

- Business Management
- Computer Information Technology
- Marketing
- Computer Graphics
- Automotive Technology
- Logistics, Supply

Chain Management, and Manufacturing Technology

• Heating and Air Conditioning
Those unable to attend the Sept. 20 session are welcome to attend regularly scheduled advising sessions that are held weekly during the course of the semester, Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10:30 a.m., in Building L.

Students who want additional information can contact Johnathan Moss, CVC senior advisor, at 972-860-5251 or JMoss@dcccd.edu, and may also refer to a special web page established by the Dallas County Community College District at: www.dcccd.edu/CD/CESPP/Pages/ITT-Students.aspx.

National Pan-Hellenic Council hosting Happy Hour

National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. - Dallas Chapter presents the Happy Hour Fundraiser benefiting NPHC-Dallas philanthropic activities including scholarships and more in Dallas and surrounding areas.

The Dallas Devine Nine Happy Hour Fundraiser will be held on Sept. 23, 5:30-8 p.m. at the On the Border located at 3230 Knox Street in Dallas.

WATKINS, continued from Page 2

wasn't influenced by my roles here. I could go off of life experiences that weren't always connected to me as a mother, teacher, wife or daughter."

Watkins said the experience of strong women remains her favored subject

matter. In 2014, she received the Pushcart Prize for her short story "The Mother," which explored the black matriarchal experience in West Texas.

"I'm intrigued by women who are the bearers of history and those who shape

history through their memories and their words," she said. "Women as mothers and what they teach their children and how they choose to mother has always been something I'm drawn to."

She credits her experience in the creative writing program at UT Dallas, and

specifically her mentorship under program director Dr. Clay Reynolds, as instrumental in building her confidence as an author.

She has published a dozen short stories. Last December, she released her latest, "The Peeling," which she wrote in one of her writing workshops at UT Dal-

las.

"The stories she tells are her stories, and she knows how to tell them in a way that is both true to them, true to her characters and true to herself," Reynolds said. "In doing so, she reaches all of us and makes us think and, most important, feel. The result is writ-

ing that exceeds the bounds of the moment and connects us all in the commonality of experience.

"I have no doubt that her name will very soon grace the pages of the national media and she will find herself standing firmly in the ranks of the country's great writers."

Construction underway on Irving-Grand Prairie Fire Training Facility

The cities of Irving and Grand Prairie will soon share more than a geographical border. Next year, the cities will both begin using a new training facility near State Highway 161 and Belt Line Road.

The state-of-the-art facility, which broke ground in July, is a partnership between the Irving and Grand Prairie fire departments. The facility benefits both cities by allowing their fire departments to use the same space, rather than each building its own facility — saving millions for taxpayers in each city. The estimated completion date is March 2017.

The fire facility's components will include an indoor



Rendering of the Irving-Grand Prairie Fire Training Facility

and outdoor classroom, office space, training tarmac, and various outdoor training simulators for confined space, high-angle and trench rescue, vehicle extrication and positive pressure fire attack. Also, the space will house a five-story, multi-use fire training tower, which

will simulate the various forms of construction fire-fighters and emergency services personnel encounter.

The facility will contain three fire simulators for active fire combat training, as well as various search and rescue areas. Also, it will include several acres of tarmac

for driver and equipment training.

Thanks to the joint effort of both cities, fire personnel will have the ability to train more often in a safe, updated facility.

The building is phase one of a 38.8-acre Fire-Police Master Planned Facility. Once completed, the center will include administrative offices, training and fitness facilities for both emergency services departments, police dispatch for Irving's North Station and a fire apparatus storage building.

For more information on the department's upcoming initiatives, visit CityofIrving.org/Fire or call (972) 721-2514.



GARLAND Fire Department taking applications

Garland Fire Department is recruiting candidates interested in a career as a firefighter/paramedic. Starting salary is \$51,273 and compensation includes great benefits and incentive pay. Candidates must be 18 to 35 years of age and have a high school diploma or GED.

Applications will be accepted online through 5 p.m. Sept. 15.

For more information, contact the recruiting office at GFDRcruiting@GarlandTX.gov.

MCKINNEY Voter registration event planned

In order to fully participate in the electoral process, citizens must be registered to vote. To facilitate registration, the City of Murphy is cooperating with a local resident to conduct voter registration sessions on Saturday,

Sept. 10 and Saturday, Oct. 8.

Murphy resident and certified Deputy Voter Registrar Maggie Whitt will be donating her time on both Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon at the Murphy Community Center, 205 North Murphy Road. She will assist citizens who live anywhere in Collin County in completing their registration.

In addition, Barbara Harless, chair of the Charter Review Commission, will host an hour-long review of the 15 proposed amendments on the same two days at 10 a.m. in the same location. Handouts

and light refreshments will be provided.

"Anyone who is a US citizen 18 years of age or older may register to vote," said Whitt. "It does not cost any money, and there are no out-of-the-ordinary requirements. All we need is for the individual to show up in person with either a driver's license number or a valid Social Security number."

Whitt says that persons wishing to modify their registration, by changing the name or address on their voter registration card, must also undergo the same

process as new registrants.

"When people move or get married, divorced or widowed, their name or address may change, and that requires a new registration," she said. "If the name or address on the voter rolls is not the same as the identification they provide at the polling location, they may be required to use a provisional ballot to vote. A new registration can eliminate that process."

The registration is more than 30 days before the November 8 election, fulfilling the time requirement between voting and registering.



The Inspiration Band is one of the acts set to perform in the Irving Heritage District on Friday night.

Celebrate Irving's 'hometown' feel

This annual street festival in the heart of the Irving Heritage District celebrates the hometown feel of Irving with attractions for all ages. Each year thousands of people attend this family affair, which offers live music, the Manifolds on Main Street Car Show, free rides and activities for children, food and shopping.

Special performances include The Inspiration Band at 6:30 p.m. on Friday night followed by the All Funk Show at 8:30 p.m. With music all after-

noon on Saturday afternoon.

Admission is free on both days. Friday evening features live music and free children's activities. On Saturday the festival expands to include a car show, additional children's entertainment and a Craft Marketplace with vendors selling crafts, jewelry, décor, apparel and more.

For more details, please visit <http://cityofirving.org/1301/Irving-Main-Street-Event>.

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Hard WORKING women in Jubilee's next show (Photo Credit: Photo by Cecil Fuqua)

Jubilee's *WORKING* is a musical that will appeal to the working man and woman

The characters of *WORKING* are everybody you know. The situations are everyday situations. But this musical is anything but ordinary. A different look at the seemingly humdrum lives of working people reveals a myriad variety of hopes, aspirations and dreams. Of course, to some, life is a Monday to Friday drudge, but to others there is great pride in their daily rou-

tine. A powerful contemporary score with songs by Stephen Schwartz and James Taylor among others, backed by a vital and dramatic book makes this musical a winner for all ages.

Bargain Priced \$19 Preview Performances run Sept. 30 – Oct. 6. Opening Night is Friday, Oct. 7 and performances continue through Oct. 30, 2016 (\$25-\$29). Evening performances

are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee performances are Saturday and Sunday at 3:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased

online at jubileetheatre.org, in person at the theater Box Office, located at 506 Main Street, or by calling 817-338-4411.

Snowden debuts on Dallas screens this Friday

By David Wilfong
NDG Special Contributor

Oliver Stone's espionage epic hits Dallas theater's this Friday, recounting the tale of the biggest leak of classified material in the history of the United States intelligence



services.

Snowden is a polarizing figure, with many seeing him

as an American hero and others regarding him as a traitor.

Whichever is the case, Snowden is not known as an exciting personality, and Stone does a masterful job of keeping the action moving despite dealing with a rather subdued personality as a cen-

tral character.

There are no surprises in the film, as all details covered have been reported in the media in recent months, but Stone wraps it all together in a format that is sure to keep the audience's attention for a two-hour stretch.

Brookhaven Art Dept. Presents Tanya Synar and Jennifer Hill

The Brookhaven College Art Department is pleased to present two exhibitions now on display through Sept. 23, 2016.

In the Forum Gallery, Tanya Synar exhibits an installation of sculpture and audio, with digital prints incorporating photographs and geological data. Synar earned a Bachelor of Fine Art in sculpture from Colorado State University, and a Master of Fine Art from the University of Washington.

She has been a professor of sculpture at Texas Woman's University since 2004.

In the Studio Gallery, Austin artist Jennifer Hill exhibits ceramic works. Hill attended Brookhaven College before transferring to Southern Methodist University to earn a Bachelor of Fine Art in ceramics, Magna Cum Laude, and Master of Fine Art in ceramics at Utah State University. She has taught at Portland Community Col-

lege, Kauai Community College, and since 2013 has taught at The Art School at Laguna Gloria in Austin. Recent exhibitions include Vision and Persistence, The Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Utah State University; Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, Houston, TX; Center for the Arts, Sebastopol, CA, and Currents: Past and Present, Thomas Center for the Arts, Gainesville, FL.

Receptions for both exhi-

bitions are Sept. 23, 6-8 p.m. in the Forum Gallery and Studio Gallery.

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Dallas Arboretum breaks ground on its pioneering farm-to-table Potager garden, A Tasteful Place

The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden, recently named one of the world's 15 most breathtaking gardens by Architectural Digest, broke ground on an \$8 million farm-to-table garden on the southern part of the property on Monday, September 12 at 10 a.m. Designed as a ferme ornée through the inspiration of PBS home and garden expert P. Allen Smith, SWA Architects, Buchanan Architecture and the Dallas Arboretum's horticulture team, the two-acre year-round food oasis named A Tasteful Place is one of the last two major gardens to conclude the Arboretum's Master Plan and will open in the Fall of 2017.

"Potagers are productive



working gardens that are also visually beautiful. The Dallas Arboretum has already reached the heights of being one of the world's leading botanical gardens, and now is taking a pioneering step to incorporate a very useful and traditional European gardening tradition as one of its primary attractions," said P. Allen Smith. "As a Dallas landmark and international

destination, it will help reflect the movement to understand more about our food and where it comes from. A Tasteful Place will provide the opportunity for visitors to talk about resources and learn urban gardening firsthand with both modern methods and sustainable practices."

Enjoying premium views of the Dallas skyline, A

Tasteful Place will include an orchard, vineyard and raised beds of mixed flowers, vegetables, fruits and herbs, as well as shaded porches and patios overlooking White Rock Lake. The 3,600-square-foot Garden Pavilion will include a dining room and teaching kitchen to showcase local chefs preparing garden-to-table cuisine against 270-degree views of the garden. Smith has partnered with the Dallas Arboretum to develop programming that includes a year-round calendar of educational activities, tastings, horticultural demonstrations, workshops and public festivals. Visitors will be able to go into the garden with the chefs to learn how to pick the

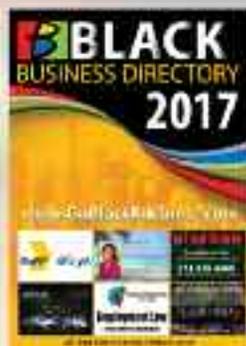
edibles, clean and prepare them. Specialized classes will be offered on ethnic foods, mother and child cooking, as well as healthy and gourmet meals. Excess harvested food not used in cooking classes or tastings will be utilized by the Arboretum's in-house catering.

"In North Texas, you can harvest food from your garden 12 months out of the year," said Mary Brinegar, President and CEO of the Dallas Arboretum. "This fruit, herb and vegetable garden will be one of the most beautiful and active in the country. Programming for A Tasteful Place will help our entire community enjoy the bounty of educational value in this garden, which is also

rich with our beloved Texas traditions of gracious hospitality and outdoor living."

The Arboretum's harvests in A Tasteful Place will be on display in four raised gardens in the Potager Quadrant intensively planted with climbing vegetables and vines, as well as other vegetables planted ornamentally and interspersed with flowers to attract pollinators and beneficial insects. Overall, the garden will have 13 distinct features.

The Arboretum still has additional ways donors can participate in A Tasteful Place, both in named features and program endowments. Those interested should contact the Arboretum at 214-515-6606.



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Working in retirement may not be so bad

Many older Americans who once dreamed of lounging around the house in retirement instead are waking up each morning to get ready for work.

A recent Pew Research Center study showed that the percentage of Americans 65 and over still employed is on the rise, having reached 18.8

percent as of May, up from 12.8 percent in 2000.

Depending on an individual's situation, though, working past traditional retirement age may not be such a terrible thing.

"Some people say they keep working because they can't afford to retire," says John Eikenberry, president

of Eikenberry Retirement Planning (www.EikenberryRetirement.com), a wealth-management firm. "Some people don't want to retire because they love what they do."

Eikenberry, 68, falls in the latter group. His keep-at-it attitude worked in his favor after a surgery in February.

"One of the people in the medical field told me that because I'm active that has helped me to rehab quickly," Eikenberry says. "They said if I was retired, typically it takes longer to rehab."

Some advantages of working in retirement include:

- Relief from financial

stress. One of the biggest worries retirees have is running out of money, Eikenberry says. With people living longer, that's a legitimate concern. Even just a part-time job that brings in a little

extra cash can help alleviate some of the stress. He has clients who work just a few days a week and that works well for them, he says.

See WORK, Page 12

AirBnB is making real progress for travelers of color

By Laura W. Murphy
President of Laura Murphy & Associates

When I was asked by Airbnb to lead their effort to fight discrimination and bias, I was skeptical. After spending decades fighting for the protection and advancement civil rights and civil liberties, I've seen many companies merely pay lip service to addressing these issues.

I also wondered how one single company could have a real impact on racial discrimination. The sad truth is that bias is deeply embedded in our culture, especially in the area of housing and public accommodations. Laws designed to prevent housing discrimination are unevenly enforced, and it remains a persistent civil rights challenge in many communities.

My time serving as the District of Columbia's first Director of Tourism left me all too familiar with the tactics used by hotels, restaurants and tour companies to ignore or even facilitate racial discrimination. And as an African American woman, I also grew up feeling the sting of racial bias. I still remember my parents' stories about The Negro Motorist Green Book and how Black families had to stay with other Black families when Jim Crow laws encouraged most hotels to deny accommodations to Black travelers.

Given that context, was it realistic to expect Airbnb to surpass others in the travel and lodging business and be a leader in overcoming entrenched industry practices and widespread bias?

What initially persuaded

me that change is possible at Airbnb was my first conversation with Airbnb's CEO Brian Chesky. "Airbnb will never be able to fulfill its mission without seriously combating discrimination on its platform. We must solve this," he said. I knew that only with such determination and commitment from the CEO and others at the highest levels would real institutional change be possible.

Brian was also forthright in admitting that his company was slow to address these problems. He and his co-founders, Joe Gebbia and Nate Blecharczyk, started Airbnb with the best of intentions, but he agreed that there was an unacceptable lack of urgency to his previous attempts to address it, and vowed that such unconsciousness will not happen again.

So I, along with key senior leaders at Airbnb began a process designed to be as rigorous, comprehensive and inclusive as possible. In addition to Airbnb's management team, I held conversations with employees at every level of the company. Some of them had already created informal working groups to identify possible solutions. We also held consultations with hosts and victims of discrimination. Nearly all of them wanted to use the site again, and for many, Airbnb remains an important source of supplemental income.

The thing that struck me the most was that employees they had to solve across the whole of Airbnb, rather than putting the full responsibility on users to self-police or raise

it to their attention.

As part of this journey I brought in experts including former Attorney General Eric Holder and Harvard professor Dr. Robert Livingston to get their input, as well as over 20 civil rights organizations and leaders who have thoroughly explored the advancement of civil rights in the sharing economy. Airbnb also engaged with federal and state regulatory agencies, who encouraged them to be

proactive. They worked with elected officials who have been fighting for civil rights in this country for decades, and who act as an important barometer of consumer concern when they hear from constituents about incidents of discrimination or bias.

These individuals and organizations provided invaluable input that formed the basis for my report, Airbnb's

See AIRBNB, Page 10



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- Several more based on your area!

Microsoft and HBCU Black Tech Pros VIP event in Dallas Sept. 22

(BlackNews.com) In partnership with Microsoft's IT Business, HBCUConnect.com is offering black technical professionals in Dallas, Texas (and surrounding areas) the opportunity to meet with representatives from Microsoft to learn more about career opportunities, network with their peers, as well as open up one on one discussions with Microsoft team members that could lead interviews as soon as the next day for high paying tech careers!

HBCU Connect has exe-



Every few months, HBCU Connect hosts networking events in various cities for African American tech professionals who may be interested in career opportunities at Microsoft.

cuted on events for Microsoft's recruitment efforts in the past, hosting a similar event in May of this

year that resulted has resulted in hires already.

This event for black tech professionals on Thursday

Sept. 22 will target software engineers, service/network engineers, Mobile Developers, Technical Support Professionals and experienced IT/Security professionals in the region. The decision to host the event in the Dallas area was based largely on the large population of black technical professionals that are members of HBCUConnect.com.

"We expect to see 100+ professionals in attendance that will be looking to land interviews with Microsoft leadership, as well as learn more about what life at Mi-

crosoft is like as an African American," said Will Moss, CEO of HBCUConnect.com. "What is really exciting about this particular event, is that Microsoft will be setting up interviews with some of the event attendees as soon as the next day, right after the event! This shows how serious Microsoft is about hiring talent from the African American professional community."

This will be a great opportunity for African Americans working in software, networking, or IT to make

new connections, expand their network, and explore new career opportunities.

The event will be held on Sept. 22 from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and will be RSVP only. Once attendance is confirmed, the exact location of the event will be shared as well as details on parking and an agenda for the evening.

For more information, details and/or to register, visit: www.hbcuconnect.com.

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AIRBNB, continued from Page 11

Work to Fight Discrimination and Build Inclusion, and the aggressive policy and platform changes Airbnb will adopt.

Everyone who uses Airbnb will be subject to a more robust and stringent non-discrimination policy and will have to commit to treat fellow users with respect. They have also hired a full-time team of engineers, designers, data scientists and more whose sole job is to work on rooting out discrimination where it happens, and preventing it from happening again.

In the meantime, Airbnb has also created a smarter, more efficient system of cus-

tomers service staff who can help users who might still experience discrimination and make sure their requests are dealt with quickly and effectively. Airbnb is also introducing "Open Doors" — if a guest experiences discrimination, Airbnb will investigate the situation right away, taking appropriate action and help ensure the guest has a place to stay. In addition, Airbnb will offer new training to help hosts learn to fight bias, and as the program develops they'll work to highlight hosts who have completed this training. These are strong and aggressive changes that will make a real difference for everyone who

uses Airbnb.

Fighting bias is an ongoing task that requires constant vigilance from all of us, and the civil rights community and I intend to hold Airbnb to their commitments. These changes are merely a first step, and Airbnb understands that no one company can eliminate racism and discrimination, but it has vowed to do its part.

I believe they will be successful, not just because of what I have witnessed over the past three months, but because solving this problem is crucial to fulfilling their mission. Airbnb is a company founded on the idea that the world is becoming a more sharing and inclusive place, and they intend to do their part in bringing more of us

together.

Laura W. Murphy is President of Laura Murphy & Associates. She is an influential national civil liberties and civil rights leader and a consummate policy strategist. She brings more than 35 years of experience in government and advocacy, including 17 years as Director of the ACLU Legislative Office where she advanced leg-

islation on free speech, criminal justice reform, national security, reproductive rights, LGBT and civil rights, and Internet privacy before Congress and the White House.

Murphy serves as a senior advisor to Airbnb, helping the home-sharing company update its policies and leading its efforts against discrimination on its platform.

WORK, continued from Page 11

• Physical fitness. It's no secret that, as people age, they tend to suffer more problems with their bodies, such as joint pains. Many jobs can keep them active and moving, making for better health.

• Mental fitness. A study published in the peer-reviewed journal *Neurology* this year found that activities that challenge your brain may help delay symptoms of dementia. "Talk to people in their 50s and 60s and you'll see that does scare us," Eikenberry says. "Work gives us the ability to keep our minds active."

Anyone considering working in retirement does

need to be aware of the financial implications with Social Security, Eikenberry says.

If you wait until your full retirement age to draw Social Security — 66 to 67 for most people these days — you can earn as much as you like.

But if you claim Social Security early — which you can do starting at age 62 — earnings are limited to \$15,720 annually. For every \$2 you make over that amount, \$1 is deducted from your Social Security.

That changes beginning with the year in which you reach full retirement age. At that point, \$1 is deducted for

every \$3 earned above a different limit. In 2016, that limit is \$41,880. But the only earnings counted are those before the month in which you reach full retirement age, according to the Social Security website.

Eikenberry is happy with his decision to remain on the job beyond retirement age and many of the clients he provides financial advice to find it rewarding, too.

"For me, there's nothing negative about working in retirement at all," he says.

John Eikenberry, president of Eikenberry Retirement Planning (www.EikenberryRetirement.com), has 42 years of financial-service experience.



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Kari's Law Now Requires Direct Access to 9-1-1

Plano's Public Safety Communications Dispatch, along with other Texas 9-1-1 agencies, are reminding business owners about a new law that took effect September 1st. It requires multi-line telephone systems (MLTS) to provide direct-dial access to 9-1-1 without having to dial an additional digit such as 9 first before getting an outside line. Senate Bill 788, also known as Kari's Law, mandates direct access to 9-1-1 from multi-line telephone systems.

Governor Greg Abbott

signed this new legislation in the aftermath of the murder of Kari Hunt in a motel room in Marshall, Texas. During an attack by her estranged husband, Kari's 9-year-old daughter tried to call 9-1-1 for help four times from the motel room phone. Unfortunately, because she did not know to first dial "9" for an outbound line, the emergency call never went through. Tragically, Kari died before help could arrive.

Since Kari's death, her father Hank Hunt and his

family have made it their mission to educate the public and elected officials across the country about the need to change multi-line phone systems to provide direct access to 9-1-1. Their concerns were heard by representatives of the Texas 9-1-1 authorities, elected officials, the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Texas joins Illinois, Maryland and Tennessee, who passed similar legislation.

"Seconds count, and

when a 9 year old little girl is mature and brave enough to attempt to dial 9-1-1 for help, she should be answered," said Mr. Hunt.

Multi-line phone system owners must now provide direct access to 9-1-1 in compliance with Kari's Law. Business owners should contact their MLTS provider to learn if their phone system is compliant. Most new phone systems merely need to be reprogrammed (not replaced) and costs, if any, should be minimal.

TEACHERS,

continued from Page 3

— only 5 percent of college-bound students were interested in pursuing a career in education in 2014. Is there any wonder? Nationally, teachers earn just 77 percent of what other college graduates earn.

Meanwhile, public education and public school teachers are often under attack. Charter schools are seen as preferred alternatives; while most research shows that charter school vary in quality. The good ones are great, but the bad ones rival the worst public schools. And school bureaucracies often snuff the creativity out of the best teachers by burdening them with preparation for stifling standardized tests that do little to engage students intellectually.

There are some who believe that "anybody can teach," which is why the Teach for America model is so troubling. Teach for Amer-

ica takes bright undergraduates, and after six weeks or so of training, throws them into inner-city classrooms, implicitly undermining the preparation that many take to get a degree in education. This notion that "anybody can teach" leads to the disdain that some have for classroom teachers, and the resulting low pay that they earn.

There are a myriad of challenges in K-12 education, a major challenge is that teachers are not too often paid sufficiently. Teachers deserve more public support than they get now. They need better pay and more autonomy. And they need to be unshackled from the frequency of the standardized tests that they must too-regularly administer. We need a pro-teacher movement.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. She can be reached at www.juliannemalveaux.com

DART,

continued from Page 5

with the GoPass app and save \$2. Just show your purchased fair ticket on GoPassSM at the gates to get in. You do not have to buy a DART transit ticket in order to take advantage of the State Fair discount ticket. Details are available at DART.org/StateFair or by calling DART Customer Information at 214-979-1111.

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September 21, 7 p.m.
Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Woodson and Pastor Brenda Patterson teaching a series on "Design for Discipleship, Book 4, Chapter 4." Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you. It's Time to Grow; Ephesians 4:12 & 13.

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www.bethelbiblefellowship.org

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September 18, 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m.
You're invited to our Morning Services as we worship, honor and praise God for His blessings.

September 21
Join us at 12 Noon with Rev. Viveca Potter teaching on the Word of God; come back at 6:45 p.m. for Corporate Prayer and stay for Senior Pastor Autry at 7:30 p.m. teaching the Word of God. Our youth will come for Food and Fellowship at 7 p.m. followed by Bible Study at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Terrence Autry, Senior Pastor

701 Centennial
972-991-0200
Richardson, TX 75081
www.Christcommunityrichardson.org

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September 18, 8 a.m.
You're invited to our main campus at 200 West Belmont Drive for morning service and a blessing from God; followed by our Sunday Worship Services at Bolin Elementary School in Allen, Texas 75002 and bring someone with you and see them blessed by God.

September 21, 12 p.m.
Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study and/or our Wednesday Night Live, Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word at the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall, 200 West Belmont Drive in Allen. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all, be prepared to grow.

September 25, 8 a.m. Every 4th Sunday
Calling All Youth! Join our Hype Sunday Worship (first service only) on our main campus at 200 West Belmont Drive and be blessed; followed by our Sunday Worship Services at Bolin Elementary School in Allen, Texas 75002 and bring someone with you, you will be blessed.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D. Senior Pastor
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972-359-9956
www.theship3c.org

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September 18 7:30 and/or 11:30 a.m.
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September 21, 7 p.m.
Join us in Monday School as we grow in God's Word and learn what God has to say to us.

Pastor Rickie Rush
7701 S Westmoreland Road
Dallas, TX 75237
972-372-4262
www.Ibocchurch.org

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September 18, 10 a.m.
Join us for Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory; and don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church.

September 21, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

Pastor Sam Fenceroy Senior Pastor and Pastor Gloria Fenceroy
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and praise.
September 21, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word. Come and be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and growth; it's all for His glory and His honor.

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The faithfulness of God



Send email to: businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com to sign up for Sister Tarpley's weekly electronic newsletter.

Things to Ponder: Excerpts from a message by the late **Elder Philip White of Love Chapel COGIC** in West Dallas.

"God is not a man that He should lie; neither the son of man that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? Or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?" **Numbers 23:19**

Reference verses: **Psalms 30:5; Job 5:19; and John 13:7.** The late Pastor White emphasized that everything starts and ends with God's Word, therefore we must: Pray, Believe, and then Receive.

He further stated that God said, 'If I'm not faithful—I cease to be God.' Moreover, he said that as Christians we should be living in the FOG—Favor of God.

It has been said that, "God is never late, seldom early, but always on time;" that is why we should thank Him for His schedule, for Him being on time.

And, thank Him for the lessons that we learn through waiting, through suffering, through the storms, the valleys in our life and for His faithfulness to us.

Words to Ponder: Joy runs deeper than despair. — **Corrie Ten Boom.** What is most characteristically human about us is the tension between the desire to be "free"—self-identifying and self-choosing—and to be "related" to love and be loved. —**Paul Tillich.**

We cannot change our past. We can not change the fact that people act in a certain way. We can not change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. — **Charles Swindoll.**

Wisdom is knowledge applied. Head knowledge is useless on the battlefield.

Knowledge stamped on the heart makes one wise. — **Beth Moore.**

Peace does not dwell in outward things, but in the heart prepared to wait trustfully and quietly on Him (God) who has all things safely in His hands. — **Elisabeth Elliot.**

beth Elliot.

The sea enters the rivers before the rivers can run into the sea. In like manner, God comes to us before we go to Him; and Heaven enters into our souls before we can enter into Heaven. — **Peter Drelincourt.**

Wishing will never be a substitute for prayer. — **Ed Cole.** Love is not consolation, it is light. — **Simone Weil.**

The best things are nearest: breath in your nostrils, light in your eyes, flowers at your feet, duties at your hand, the path of God just before you. — **Robert Louis Stevenson.**

No matter what you have, you could always give back a little and gain so much more, — **Beverly Mitchell.** I have but one candle of life to burn, and I would rather burn it out in a land filled with darkness than in a land

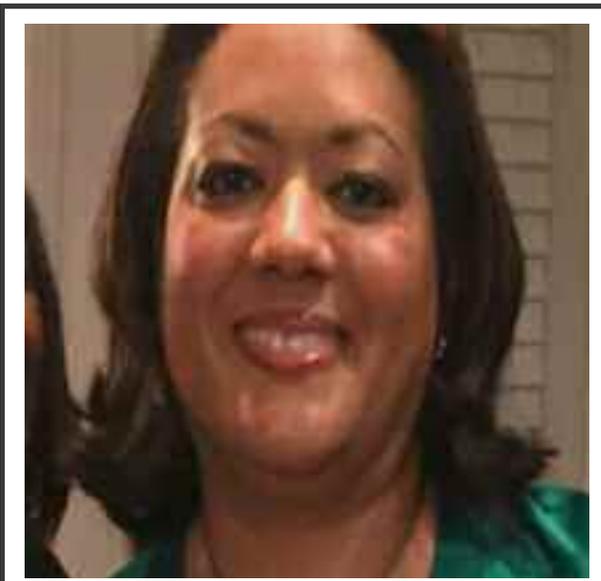
flooded with light. — **John Keith Falconer.**

None of us are saints, none of us are heroes...But I've learned to accept what goes wrong, and to turn it into a gift. — **Krista Tippett.**

I see my relationship with my Heavenly Father, with God in Heaven — as someone to look to if I want to look for guidance, to feel comfortable with my thoughts and my actions, someone to be accountable to. — **Blair Underwood.**

What About Believing In Dreams — Our deepest fear

See **TARPLEY, Page 16**



Sis Janet Callahan Ross is a true "Servant of God" not only in words but in deeds as well. She is the beautiful wife of Bro. Brad Ross and they attend Bethel Bible Fellowship Church in Carrollton. May God continue to bless your work as you honor and glorify Him.

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NDGtv North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with **Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley**



Hear what it was like growing up in a very different Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

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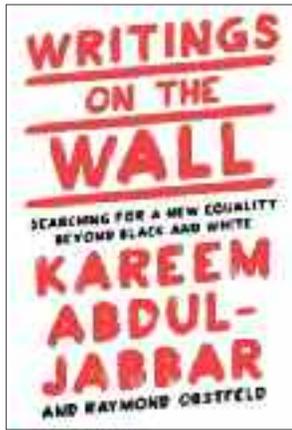
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NDG Book Review: *Writings on the Wall: Searching for a New Equality Beyond Black and White*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer



The fix won't be quick. It never is. There's no magic wand to change the things that've been on your mind lately: social issues, inequality, poverty, politics, apathy, violence. Those ills didn't arrive quick and they won't leave quick but, says Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, they can be repaired. In his new book "Writings on the Wall" (with Raymond Obstfeld), he explains...

When people ask Abdul-Jabbar what he might've become, had he not played NBA basketball, his answer often surprises them: he would've been a history

teacher. History fascinates him – especially in the way it reflects racism, religious intolerance, and gender issues. In history, as in current events, the truth is sometimes bent.

Take, for instance, poli-

tics, which is on everyone's mind. We rail and complain about issues and promises broken and we like to think it's all out of our hands. The truth is that we are the problem: we grow complacent about things we don't want, acting "like children when it comes to politics" and hoping the government will "take care of us," rather than taking steps to fix the system ourselves.

White people may deny that racism exists, says Abdul-Jabbar, while Black people know that it does. Racism didn't stop with the election of the nation's first Black president. It doesn't end with melting-pot cul-

tural appropriation. It actually comes in two forms, he says, and education is the first step in dealing with it, not eliminating it, because racism is always going to be around.

On religion, we should never lose sight of the fact that this "country was founded by religious outcasts running for their lives from persecution for their beliefs." When it comes to equality for women, we must embrace the true meaning of "feminist" and adhere to what we tell pollsters when it comes to gender. We need to look at the media and how to maximize its potential, and we must

take better care of our seniors.

"We cannot afford to just wring out hands and depend on the kindness of strangers," Abdul-Jabbar says. "We have to bring about change on our own."

Remember when your grade school teacher told you to put on your thinking cap? You'll need it again as you're reading "Writings on the Wall."

Authors Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Raymond Obstfeld don't just examine issues that are on the minds of every American. They turn them over and blow them apart, looking for solutions that can be accomplished

and chiding us gently for not already working. That makes for a thought-demanding, intellectually heavy book but it's also a worthy call to action; you may also be delighted to see that Abdul-Jabbar doesn't miss a chance to add a touch of the personal here, which includes quietly unexpected humor.

Readers with the right mindset will find this book to be informative and entertaining but be prepared to take your time get the most from it. There aren't a lot of pages inside "Writings on the Wall," but what's here is deep and wide and nowhere near quick.

TARPLEY, continued from Page 15

is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.

It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, 'Who am I to be brilliant, gor-

geous, talented fabulous?'

Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world.

There is nothing enlight-

ened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do.

We were born to make

manifest the glory of God that is within us. It is not just in some of us; it is in everyone.

And as we let our own light shine, we uncon-

sciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others. — **Marianne Williamson.**

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