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# First contacts are made on support for non-city-owned arts organization facilities

By David Wilfong  
NDG Special Contributor

The decision to increase support to the AT&T Performing Arts Center (ATTPAC) from the City of Dallas to the tune of \$15 million over the next 10 years drew heavy debate on the city council. Specifically, Councilmember Scott Griggs expressed disappointment when the matter was laid out for the Arts, Culture and Libraries Committee on Sept. 19.

When the full council met for its briefing two days later, Griggs had introduced a budget amendment to allocate funds for the purpose of supporting smaller, non-city-owned arts organizations as well. Griggs' plan laid out a grant program for \$400,000, citing the need for the city to look at the broader scope of arts activity occurring outside the major arts district in downtown.

"It's not only the big arts organizations that make Dallas great, but it's many of our small ones, and they've got needs also," Griggs said. "Just like we did for the children's theater a few years ago, and so I would like to add some funds for small, non-city-owned arts and cultural facilities. A grant program



*TeCo, which operates the Bishop Arts Theater in Oak Cliff is one of a handful of local facilities set to benefit from a \$400,000 city grant for non-city-owned arts and cultural facilities. The initiative rose out of the issue of the \$15 million bailout for the ATTPAC. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)*

to help them with their needs since they're a part of our ecosystem here."

The amendment set aside \$400,000 from the maintenance budget for cultural arts. Jennifer Scripps, director of the Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, cited past precedent being organizations in their own facilities with a value of \$1 million or more. According to Scripps, there are four organizations in the city which meet that criteria; TeCo (Bishop Arts Theatre Center),

Anita Martinez Ballet Folklorico, The Creative Arts Center of Dallas and Theatre Three.

The move was not without its critics. In addition to it being a late addition to the budget process, there was also concern for the impact it would have on city facilities.

"Is this a thing that we're going to forego maybe roof repair, AC, foundation, carpet or anything like that in lieu of programming?" Deputy

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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](http://NorthDallasGazette.com)



## Irving church feeds 2,000 families

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## A guide to new Medicare benefits

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## Black Nativity is back for 11th year

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COMMENTARY

## Senators demand study of gov't advertising in Black-owned media

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Contributor

(D-N.J.), Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.), Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii) and Cory Booker (D-N.J.) each signed the letter.

Five U.S. Senators have joined the fight for accountability in the federal government's advertising practices – or lack thereof — when it comes to minority-owned news outlets.

A letter penned by the senators demands that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) investigate the advertising habits of federal agencies.

Sens. Robert Menendez

In the new letter sent this month on United States Senate letterhead to Comptroller General Gene Dodaro, a request is made that the GAO issue a report on federal advertising contracts and sub-contracts with minority-owned publications, pub-

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Lee Daniels



Trish Ahjel



Chief David O. Brown

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## Lee Daniels

By BAI Staffers  
Black AIDS Institute

The Black AIDS Institute's Heroes in the Struggle Gala and Award Celebration honors, in a star-studded event and photographic tribute, individuals who, over the past year, have made a heroic contribution to the fight against HIV/AIDS.

He is the Academy Award winning filmmaker of films like *Precious: Based On The Novel Push By Sapphire*, *The Paperboy*, *Lee Daniels' The Butler* and



*Monster's Ball*, and the producer of the hit television series *Empire* and the soon to be released *Star* on Fox, but since the earliest days of the epidemic writer/director/producer Lee Daniels

has also been an HIV/AIDS activist.

"People know me as Lee Daniels the filmmaker. But they don't really know of my early beginnings when I had a nursing agency prior to that, as I was directing theater," says Daniels, 56. "I had the first nursing agency under contract with AIDS Project Los Angeles over 30 years ago. I had people taking care of people with HIV, because people didn't want to touch them. So I lived on the front line. That's a whole different life and something I'm really proud of."

After a prodigious career that brought us films like

*Shadow Boxer* and *The Woodsman*, in 2009 Daniels brought to the big screen an AIDS story that no one wanted to talk about through the character of 16-year-old Claireece Precious Jones, played by then-newcomer Gabourey Sidibe, who learned that her father had died of AIDS and that she was HIV positive. "It began a conversation that had not been had until then—at that point it was considered a White gay disease, for sure," Daniels says, recalling his own surprise upon discovering so many Black women and children when he visited New York City to do research. "I wanted people to understand that it wasn't just a gay man's disease, but it was an epidemic that affected the African American community in a very big way—way beyond the gay sphere."

*Precious* was nominated for six Academy Awards, including nominations for Daniels in the category of "Achievement in Directing" and "Best Motion Picture of the Year," and wins in the categories of "Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role" and "Best Writing, Adapted Screenplay." The film won the Best writing, adapted

Screenplay Oscar, and an Oscar for former Heroes in the Struggle honoree, Mo'Nique, Best Supporting Actress.

Daniels was the first African American to be nominated for a Director's Guild of America Award for "Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Feature Film" on behalf of *Precious*. The film won both the Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award in the U.S. Dramatic Competition at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival, only the third film in Festival history to do so. It was also nominated for

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## Trish Ahjel

(BlackNews.com) -- Just like Terry McMillan's *Waiting to Exhale* did in the 90's, the spotlight on friendships and relationships for young black professionals has been catapulted to the forefront with *Chocolate Soufflé* - a new novel by Brooklyn-born author, Trish Ahjel. The 80's and 90's are sometimes called the "golden age" of black urban culture, with the advent of legendary radio, music and nightlife, when it was not uncommon to leave the clubs in the early hours, grab



a nap and a shower and head straight to the office. This was also a time of opportunity and exploration for the first post-civil rights era generation, and they were sure to enjoy the fruit of their par-

ents' labor and plant seeds for posterity. Out of the ashes of much destruction during the late 1980's in urban America, there comes a story of relational evolution and personal growth.

*Chocolate Soufflé* takes readers on a journey of seduction, humor and purpose: showcasing New York City when the World Trade Center still stood proudly, AIDS was sending shock waves through the city, graffiti was rampant and the nightlife thumped to the rhythm of disco, house, reggae and hip hop. Ahjel's book puts you in the epicenter of a leg-

endary urban culture - from the artists and fashion to the answering machines and pagers. Her novel not only keeps the reader turning pages with her fluid prose and urban vernacular, it encourages readers to move beyond its pages and affirm themselves as "Cocoa Risers," her name for fans of the novel. She goes so far as to encourage her supporters to "improve the global condition and work in community." Ahjel uses the hashtag #sexyfunnymart to promote her belief that women should show up in the media and in their personal rela-

tionships as the complex individuals they are and not as pared down versions of themselves. She also uses #CocoaRisers to remind her fans of their power to create a community to exact change, in other words, to "rise up." This realization was notably brought to film recently with Spike Lee's *Chi-Raq* which gives a satirical rendition of a similar concept: women have the power to change the world.

The book chronicles the lives of three young black professionals as they search for love, success and relevance in a rapidly changing

world. It takes you to the corporations, clubs and conversations of the time, while still giving you permission to peek through the bedroom door.

There is Aura Olivier, whose parents and two siblings emigrated from the Caribbean island of St. Lucia when she was only two years old, born with sickle-cell anemia. Tall, dark and beautiful with a jet black mane of hair, Aura's quite accustomed to the attention of men but fears she will not find a man who can love her

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## Chief David O. Brown

Retired Dallas Police Chief David O. Brown will present the address at SMU's December Commencement at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 17 in Moody Coliseum. A Dallas native and a 33-year veteran of the Dallas Police Department, he gained national attention for his handling of a gunman's July ambush of five police officers who died working to protect participants in a downtown Dallas protest march.

Brown, who retired Oct. 4, was sworn in as Dallas' 28th police chief in May 2010, commanding a department with more than 4,000 employees and an annual operating budget of \$426 million dollars.

Building and maintaining



strong, transparent relationships with the community was Brown's focus since becoming chief. During his tenure, Brown transitioned the department to a community policing-focused organization and implemented policies and training to ensure citizen and officer safety. He also expanded several community outreach programs and youth cen-

tered programs.

Brown implemented policies and training to ensure citizen and officer safety during interactions, and emphasized the importance of de-escalation training for his officers. Under Brown's leadership, the Dallas Police Department reduced the use of deadly force by more than 40 percent and reduced excessive force complaints by more than 80 percent.

Brown joined the department as a police officer in 1983. Before taking over as chief, he was named first assistant police chief under Chief David Kunkle in 2005, and then named as interim Dallas assistant city manager in 2007. In that position he directed operations in the areas of Code Compliance, Environmental & Health Services, Equipment

& Building Services, Library Services, Park & Recreation, and Cultural Affairs.

Brown holds a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree in business administration. He is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy, FBI National Executive Institute, Senior Management Institute for Police, the National Counter-Terrorism Seminar in Tel Aviv, Israel and the United States Secret Service Dignitary Protection Seminar in Washington, D.C. Chief Brown also holds Master Peace Officer and Police Instructor certifications from the State of Texas. In March of 2017 he will receive the J. Erik Jonsen Ethics Award from SMU's Maguire Center for Ethics.

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## Trump will make the Middle East great again too

By Armstrong Williams  
NNPA Columnist

The election of Donald J. Trump signals very dark days ahead. Not for the American people, of course, but for our nation's enemies and adversaries in the Middle East.

The American people turned out to the polls in record numbers for the election, and they delivered the future President Trump an undeniable and strong mandate to lead. With the Republican Party in control of both the House and the Senate, Trump is poised to avoid the gridlock that has perpet-

ually plagued Washington, and actually get things done.

It's a new day in America, and we should expect tremendous changes when it comes to how America approaches conflict in the Middle East. President Obama withdrew from the region, minimizing American power and diminishing our much-needed presence and leadership. President Trump will bring that indispensable leadership back to the Middle East, and the world will be better for it.

Notably, the presidency of Donald Trump signals a rekindling of the historic ties that have bound America to

its closest ally and the only true democracy in the region, the Jewish state of Israel.

Trump has a strong affinity for the Jewish people. It's not just politics—it's personal. His daughter Ivanka is a convert to Judaism, and his Orthodox Jewish son-in-law Jared Kushner has been a trusted advisor on the campaign trail. Trump has spoken with pride about his Jewish grandchildren.

His affection for Israel will be reflected in his policies, too. Trump's Israel advisors recently issued a position paper noting that his administration will veto any

United Nations vote that unfairly singles out Israel. It shames UNESCO for its clear egregious bias against Israel. It pledges that he will move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem and recognize the holy city as the uncontested capital of Israel. Trump has also derided the idea that a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can be imposed from outside parties, including the UN.

And Trump is not the only rock solid pro-Israel leader on his ticket. During his time serving in Congress, Vice President-elect Mike Pence

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lic relations firms, advertising agencies, and media companies.

“News outlets and media companies owned or published by people of color are critical to ensuring that diverse viewpoints are presented to the American people,” the letter stated.

The letter continued: “As one of the largest advertisers in the United States, the federal government should play an active role in ensuring that minority-owned media outlets have fair opportunities to compete for and be awarded federal advertising contracts.”

Menendez said that contracting opportunities through the federal marketplace has proven to be a valuable way for firms to stay competitive in a rapidly evolving marketplace.

Dr. Benjamin Chavis, the president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), applauded the new letter by the senators. He noted the joint effort between NNPA and the National Association of Hispanic Publications (NAHP) in pushing for a new federal advertising study.

“The NNPA and NAHP thank Senators Booker, Schumer, Menendez, Hirono and Gillibrand for helping to push for this strategically important GAO inquiry,” Chavis said.

“2017 should be the year of greater economic equity and parity with respect to more inclusiveness in the billions of dollars spent annually by government departments and agencies on advertising.”

Earlier this year, Democratic Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton and many of her colleagues in the House formally requested an investigation into how federal government agencies spend advertising dollars.

Jonathan Sanchez, the associate publisher and chief operating officer of the East Los Angeles-based Eastern Group Publications, Inc., which boast a loyal readership of about 500,000 subscribers, the news is more than welcome.

Earlier this year, after Norton's letter, Sanchez said he was appreciative that action was finally being taken.

“I have been working on this issue for years and I am glad this is finally becoming a reality,” said Sanchez.

Sanchez has supported efforts by NNPA and NAHP that calls lawmakers to sponsor a new report that will help determine why minority media companies have been excluded from the lucrative advertising deals government agencies have made with other news organizations.

Norton's letter came a little more than one month after she held a press conference on Capitol Hill with leaders from the NNPA and NAHP.

At that press conference, Norton called on the GAO to perform a new study and update a 2007 report that revealed government agencies spent \$4.3 billion in advertising but just a pittance of that amount was spent with minority media publications.

The Congresswoman also secured the support of many others in the House of Representatives.

Congressional Black Caucus Chairman G.K. Butterfield, California Rep. Karen Bass, New York Rep. Yvette Clarke, Ohio Rep. Marcia Fudge, Michigan Rep. John Conyers, Georgia Rep. John Lewis, and California Rep. Maxine Waters – all Democrats – were among those who signed Norton's letter and called for action.

“We believe that this request is particularly timely, because GAO will be conducting an audit of spending by federal agencies on public relations and advertising,” Norton said. “We ask [the GAO] to take this opportunity to consider how much is spent with newspapers and other media companies that are owned by people of color and whose audiences are largely African-American or His-

panic.”

In 2007, GAO considered spending on advertising contracts with minority-owned businesses by five agencies – the Department of Defense, Department of the Treasury, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of the Interior, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration – and found that just five percent of the \$4.3 billion available for advertising campaigns went to minority-owned businesses.

Norton and others have asked for an update from the GAO as well as more accountability.

The federal government is the largest advertiser in the nation and it plays an important role in supporting minority-focused publications that reach African-American, Latino, Asian-American and Pacific Islander communities, said Rep. Barbara Lee, D-California.

“Historically, there has been a lack of adequate federal government funding granted to disadvantaged and minority-owned advertising agencies,” said Congressional Black Caucus Chairman G.K. Butterfield, (D-N.C.). “This issue shows the systemic problems that exists across numerous arenas in both the public and private sector.”

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## Despite progress, colorectal cancer claims thousands of black lives

By Dr. Patricia Maryland  
NNPA Guest Columnist

Few diseases cause as much pain and suffering as cancer. While survivors, activists, policymakers and healthcare professionals have been successful in raising awareness for some types of cancer, others are not as high profile. Among them: colorectal cancer, the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men and women combined in the U.S. Even less widely known is the fact that African-Americans have the highest incidence and mortality rates for colorectal cancer.

The disparities are impossible to ignore. African-Americans are about 25 percent more likely than Whites to be diagnosed with this form of cancer, and about 50 percent more likely to die from it. This is particularly troubling when considering that, in many cases, colorectal cancer can be prevented and is highly treatable, if it's detected early, according to the American Cancer Society.

While we're still working to understand why African-Americans are more susceptible to this type of cancer, one of the causes of the disparity in mortality is that minorities lag behind in

screening for colorectal cancer. Researchers at the University of Texas have shown that African-Americans are less likely than White patients to receive a colonoscopy — the most common form of colorectal cancer screening — even when controlling for health insurance coverage and access to quality healthcare providers.

Both patients and providers bear some responsibility for the lower rates of colorectal cancer screening among African-Americans. On the patient side, African-Americans may not know that they are at a heightened risk of experiencing colorectal cancer earlier than other groups. In the African-American community, the share of colorectal cancer cases that occur before the generally recommended screening age of 50 is almost twice as high as among Whites. That's why experts advise African-Americans to begin screening at age 45, five years earlier than other demographics.

But encouraging early and proactive screening is complicated. The invasiveness of the procedure, coupled with fears of pain, often causes African-American patients to rule it out as a preventive measure.

What's more, a lack of access to a physician they trust leads many members of the African-American community to delay this important procedure until it's too late.

In addition, healthcare providers sometimes contribute to the low colorectal cancer screening rates among African-Americans. A recommendation from a physician has been shown to increase the likelihood that a patient will get a colonoscopy, but according to the American College of Gastroenterology, African-Americans are roughly one-third less likely than Whites to get such a recommendation.

These racial and ethnic disparities illustrate the need for a patient-centered, culturally competent approach to healthcare. As with many diseases, a broad range of factors determine a person's risk of developing colorectal cancer. Genetics, family history, personal medical history, diet, weight and physical activity all can have an impact.

That's why healthcare providers must treat each patient in a way that takes into account all of the influences on their health. This includes their race and ethnicity, which in the case of colorectal cancer is a criti-

cal factor in determining whether a physician should recommend a colonoscopy, when a patient's screening should start and concerns a doctor should address about the procedure.

Training healthcare professionals to understand the unique colorectal cancer risks of African-Americans, as well as the unease with which many view colonoscopies, is an important step toward increasing screening rates and catching more cases in their early stages. There's also a need for a broader conversation about increased risk and the need for prompt, diligent colorectal cancer screening in the African-American community.

This disease is expected to claim the lives of over 7,000 African-Americans this year alone. It's time to make sure the impact of colorectal cancer is just as widely known as that of other forms of cancer. And it's time to replace misperceptions and fear by embracing a culture of health that puts awareness and prevention first. Fortunately, incidence and mortality rates for colorectal cancer have been on the decline among both African-Americans and other racial groups across the board, but substantial gaps in health

outcomes remain. Healthcare providers and the African-American community must work together to ensure that all patients have and take advantage of the opportunity to access a colonoscopy or other

screening procedure that could save their life.

*Patricia A. Maryland, Dr.PH, is the President of Healthcare Operations and Chief Operating Officer of Ascension Healthcare, a division of Ascension.*

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# Irving church feeds more than 2,000 families for Thanksgiving

Dayspring Family Church, located at 618 N. Belt Line Road in Irving, Texas and Sonjia B. Dickerson Ministries reached their goal of providing food boxes to over 2,000 families for Thanksgiving.

Boxes were distributed to churches last Friday, and to individuals and families on last Saturday.

The food boxes included turkeys, chickens, dressing, vegetables, etc., and each box had enough food to

feed a family of seven. Participants who came from all over the DFW Area and as far as Waco, Texas, also received clothing, shoes and prayers.

"Last Saturday was an amazing miracle that could have only been orchestrated by God", says Sonjia B. Dickerson. "We thank God for the opportunity to serve our community and look forward to doing more."

The church has been providing this service for more

than 20 years. Dayspring Family Church is also a partner with the North Texas Food Bank.

Dayspring Family Church's Senior Pastor is Bishop Kevin Dickerson, and his wife Sonjia B. Dickerson serves as the Pastor.

The ministry was founded in 1994, and, it is designed to cross denominational, racial and ethnic barriers.

Dayspring Family Church is dedicated to di-

recting families to Jesus Christ and teaching them how to be equipped and available for service in the work of the Lord.

The church also has a food pantry through the North Texas Food Bank and has been servicing residents of Irving for more than 10 years.

For more information about Dayspring Family Church, visit [www.dayspring-familychurch.org](http://www.dayspring-familychurch.org).



Members of Dayspring Family Church display some of the hundreds of turkeys distributed to area families at Thanksgiving.

## Facebook's 'ethnic affinities' is digital racism and it's time to end it

By Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.  
NNPA President and CEO

Racism is a malignant, powerful, and harmful reality for millions of persons of color throughout the world. Here, inside the United States, racism is institutionalized and we have the evidence that this dreadful, racially discriminatory system of oppression now has been digitized thanks to Facebook.

We must oppose all

forms, nuances, and modes of racism. I am defining "digital racism" as the deliberate and systematic exclusion and discrimination of people from any Internet access, benefit or policy-making procedure based on race, color, ethnicity, or any other social or cultural factor.

I know when this is read, some of you will be shocked while others will be in some form of denial. Such was the case when I

first coined the term "environmental racism" over 30 years ago. But the truth is the truth. And the truth is therapeutic.

Racial and ethnic cleaning at Facebook is the manifestation of digital racism on one of the most powerful social media platforms in the world. The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) is opposed to racial and ethnic

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Mayor Pro Tem Erik Wilson asked.

While the funds were not for programming, city staff advised that it would indeed come from maintenance, and that city-owned facilities were currently sitting on an approximately \$7 million inventory of maintenance needs.

Wilson spoke firmly against making the move, but it received support from eight council members and passed.

This week, those smaller arts organizations got their first bit of communication from the city in regards to receiving the funds set aside. Teresa Wash is the executive director of TeCo Theatrical Productions, Inc. and said she received an e-mail from Griggs on Monday to get the ball rolling on the process.

"(Griggs) said he is prioritizing a meeting with the

cultural affairs commission to finalize the program," Wash said. "Then he will meet with our board to give us an update fairly soon, so we're hoping by the end of the year we will have guidelines and know a bit more about how that funding is going to be rolled out.

"For organizations like ours, non-city-owned facilities could use this money to reduce construction debt or a number of other maintenance, if you will, responsibilities as it relates to our facilities."

Wash said that the organizations in question will be required to file applications for the grants, outlining how their need fit into the scope of purpose for which the funds were set aside.

"There are four arts organizations that are eligible, but of course we won't know until the application process who applies for the

money," Wash said. "I would suspect that all four of us will apply, but that's just an assumption I would be making."


At the time of the ATTPAC request, there were numerous voices in the Dallas arts community who felt that the money would be better spent across a wider swath of the Dallas arts scene. While many were disappointed in the ultimate decision to go forward with the ATTPAC's bailout and its \$15 million price tag, some smaller organizations will see a benefit after all.

"I really appreciate Dallas looking at funding in a more equitable way," Wash said. "There are a lot of resources available for city-owned facilities, but this is the first time that funding has been available for those organizations that did not need the help of the city to renovate or build their theaters.




Area families file into the event, where in addition to food, Dayspring Family Church members distributed clothing and other essential items for the holidays.

Register Nov. 28  
through Jan. 11.  
Classes begin Jan. 17.



northlakecollege.edu



**North Lake College**

DALLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT



# Dallas ISD to hold first-ever districtwide showcase of school offerings

Dallas ISD is hosting its first-ever districtwide showcase of school offerings at this Saturday's Discover Dallas ISD Fair at Ellis Davis Field House, 9191 S. Polk St.

Discover Dallas ISD will highlight the wide range of education options available to Dallas families.

"In North Texas, our schools offer more educational options than are available anywhere in the Metroplex, and we have a track record of improving graduation rates and preparing students for college and careers," said Stephanie Elizalde, Dallas ISD chief of School Leadership. "We



want parents to see and experience what our schools are doing to put more students on track for academic and career success."

Here is more information on the first-of-its-kind event.

**What schools will be represented at Discover Dallas ISD?**

Representatives from all 228 district schools will attend to meet and talk with parents, share printed information and answer questions. Subject area experts representing the various programs and services offered by the district will host information booths to help parents select the program or school that best fits their child.

**What is the purpose of Discover Dallas ISD?**

By bringing together under one roof all of the options Dallas ISD offers students, the event will equip parents with knowledge about the many different

types of schools and academic programs available for their children.

**What programs will be highlighted?**

The following programs are among those that will be highlighted at Discover Dallas ISD:

- Pre-K;
- Personalized Learning Schools;
- STEM/STEAM Schools;
- Early College High Schools and Collegiate Academies;
- Dual Language Schools;
- Magnet Schools;
- Single-Gender Campuses;
- Montessori Schools;

• International Baccalaureate schools;

• Neighborhood schools.

**When and where is Discover Dallas ISD?**

The Discover Dallas ISD Fair is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3.

Elementary schools will be featured at Ellis Davis Field House, 9191 Polk St., and secondary schools will exhibit at the nearby STEAM Middle School at D.A. Hulcy, 9339 S. Polk St.

To ensure adequate parking and to provide families sufficient time to visit booths and collect information, it's suggested that families attend the fair according to the following schedule:

lowing schedule:

• 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Families with last names A-L

• 12:30 to 4 p.m. Families with last names M-Z

**What else will Discover Dallas ISD feature?**

The fair will also feature demonstrations of career and technical and STEM programs like robotics and culinary arts as well as the district's outstanding fine and performing arts programs.

To learn more about the Discover Dallas ISD Fair, visit [www.dallasisd.org/discoverdallasisd](http://www.dallasisd.org/discoverdallasisd), or call (972) 925-3959.

# Collin College professor honored for work in humanities

Collin College Professor of Communication Studies Sherry Rhodes, of McKinney, has been honored with the Community College Humanities Association Distinguished Humanities Educator Award for the group's southwestern division. Rhodes received the award at the group's annual conference in November.

The Community College Humanities Association is dedicated to preserving and strengthening the humanities

in two-year colleges and draws professors across many disciplines to present at its conferences. It is the only national organization of its kind for two-year colleges.

Rhodes is a member of CCHA and has co-presented Reader's Theatre workshops at both CCHA regional and national conferences. Each workshop has focused on creating awareness about social and political issues that affect women. This year, the

workshop focused on The Dignity Initiative, a district-wide campaign at Collin College to stop violence against and oppression of women.

"It is just such an amazing honor to be recognized for my work, not only at the college as an instructor, but also for the Dignity Initiative," Rhodes said. "I am absolutely passionate about the Dignity Initiative and our efforts to stop violence against women. To be recognized

for that is just such a blessing."

Collin College serves more than 53,000 credit and continuing education students annually and offers more than 100 degrees and certificates. The only public

college in the county, Collin College is a partner to business, government and industry, providing customized training and work force development. In addition, the college operates the Collin Higher Education Center,

which serves 3,100 additional students each year in partnership with The University of Texas at Dallas, Texas Woman's University, Texas A&M Commerce, Texas Tech and the University of North Texas.

# Jarvis Christian College freshman crowned National Top Model

HAWKINS, TEXAS -- Jarvis Christian College freshman Natasha Coleman-Ball recently was crowned National Top Model in the National American Miss Pageant in Anaheim, California.

Along with the title, Natasha also received a cash scholarship and her photos

will be featured in Pageantry magazine and also in National American Miss promotional brochures.

For her community involvement, Natasha -- a Business major and also Miss Pre-Alumni -- will work with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program and participate in

fundraising for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and Breast Cancer Awareness.

A resident of Upper Marlboro, Maryland, Natasha qualified for the national competition after winning the state title of Miss Maryland Teen in August.

# SMU grad awarded Marshall scholarship

(SMU) -- SMU graduate Rahfin Faruk has received a prestigious Marshall Scholarship. The highly selective scholarship is awarded each year to up to 40 intellectually distinguished Americans to advance knowledge in the scholars' chosen fields and to promote understanding of

Britain.

Faruk earned Bachelor's degrees from SMU in economics, political science, public policy and religious studies in 2015, graduating summa cum laude. A President's Scholar, he was selected to serve as the voting student member of the SMU

Board of Trustees. He led the University's student newspaper, The Daily Campus, and the Tower Center Student Forum, where students examine politics and public policy. In 2014 he was one of only 59 U.S. college students awarded a Truman Scholar-

**See SMU, Page 7**

## LEGAL NOTICE

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

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1708	Queen of Spades Overall Odds are 1 in 4.46	\$2	2/1/17	7/31/17
1788	Triple the Money Overall Odds are 1 in 4.29	\$2	2/1/17	7/31/17
1763	Wild Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 3.47	\$5	2/1/17	7/31/17
1791	Texas Rangers™ Overall Odds are 1 in 4.05	\$5	2/1/17	7/31/17
1792	Houston Astros™ Overall Odds are 1 in 4.05	\$5	2/1/17	7/31/17
1719	The Big Money Super Ticket™ Overall Odds are 1 in 3.45	\$10	2/1/17	7/31/17
1745	\$500,000 Money Mania Overall Odds are 1 in 1.00	\$20	2/1/17	7/31/17

For detailed odds and game information, visit [lottery.org](http://lottery.org) or call 800-575-4388. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education and welfare. PLAY RESPONSIBLY. For help with a gambling problem, [cogambling.org](http://cogambling.org). © 2016 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.





# Teen conference for girls planned in Irving

Girls in middle school and high school are invited to register for the 2017 Imagine You! Conference, which will be held on Saturday, Feb. 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lively Pointe Youth Center.

This conference is aimed at promoting a positive self-image and enriching the

personal development of today's young women. Topics will include health and wellness, overcoming and preventing bullying, and entrepreneurship.

Girls will also learn to shop on a budget and sharpen negotiation skills as they visit the fashion thrift shop. Lunch will be pro-

vided and participants will receive valuable information and free giveaways.

Admission to the Imagine You! conference is free, but spaces are limited. Registration is on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, please call 913-735-3717.



# Money Magazine names Plano #3 among Best Places to Live in the U.S.

What do you see when you look up at Plano's western sky? Lots of cranes—and the constellation of office buildings they're planting on the horizon.

Thanks in part to corporate tax incentives, Plano is already home to J.C. Penney and Frito-Lay, as well as a regional hub for Bank of America, PepsiCo, Cigna, and Intel. They'll be getting new neighbors soon, with Toyota moving its North America headquarters in next year and Liberty Mutual, JPMorgan Chase, and Fannie Mae importing part of their operations. With 200,000 jobs and another 20,000 expected within five years, Plano isn't just living up to its nickname, "A great place to do business." It's giving Dallas, 20 miles south, a run for its corporate

money.

What makes Plano a great place to work is that it's also a great place to live and raise a family. It has the lowest crime rate of any Texas city and some of the lowest taxes in the region. On a \$301,850 home (the median in 2016), the annual property tax is about \$6,000.

Tre Wilcox moved from Dallas to Plano last year because he thought his daughter, Alexis, 15, would flourish right along with his cooking-class business. "Kids play in the streets until the lights come on," says Wilcox. "If Alexis forgets her key, the neighbors always let her stay in their house until I get home. There's definitely that sense of community."

That's even more remarkable given that many resi-

dents are, like Wilcox, new in town. Those transplants have helped make Plano remarkably diverse. About 43% of residents are non-white, and 80 languages are spoken in its well-regarded schools. Almost 95% of high school graduates pursue higher education. Last year, Plano High's robotics team even went to a world championship event.

While Plano has an eye on the future, it's also embracing its past. The city's Great Update Rebate program offers up to \$5,000 for renovations to moderately priced homes 35 years and older. Down-town, which had lost much of its charm after World War II, is a destination again. Galleries and restaurants line the brick-paved streets, and there's a new outdoor stage in McCall

Park.

"We have 300,000 residents, but I'm always running into people I know," says Stacey O'Mahony, a middle-school teacher. "I feel like Plano is the largest small town in America."

# Irving seeks volunteer to fill ICVB Board vacancy

The City of Irving recently opened applications for its Convention and Visitor's Bureau Board as the result of a vacancy. Interested applicants must be a registered voter and have been an Irving resident for at least one year. Applications will be accepted through Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2016, and interviews will be conducted Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2016.

The ICVB Board is composed of a 25-member board of directors, which consists of 13 voting members and 12 nonvoting members, three of which



are ex officio members. ICVB Board meetings are held the fourth Monday of each month at 11:45 a.m. at a pre-announced Irving location. The board of directors makes recommendations to the City Council about convention facilities,

assists with attracting visitors to the city and hires the ICVB executive director. It is a policy-making board.

Interested members of the public can apply online at [www.srvch-webapp3/boards\\_commissions\\_admin/Default.aspx](http://www.srvch-webapp3/boards_commissions_admin/Default.aspx).

**North Dallas Gazette**  
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**Dallas Independent School District**

**NOTICE TO PROPOSERS**

Prospective vendors or their representatives may obtain an electronic PDF format of various Procurement Proposal documents online from the Dallas ISD website homepage at <http://www.dallasisd.org/> at the "Supplier Opportunities" link.

Suppliers are encouraged to register with Dallas ISD. The registration link is located on the Procurement Services / Supplier Opportunities page at <http://www.dallasisd.org/Page/17251>.

**\*MWBE POLICY ENDORSEMENT\***

Dallas ISD is committed to the ideals of equal opportunity in all its business endeavors. It is the goal of Dallas ISD that at least 30% of the work performed under each contract will be provided by minority or woman-owned business enterprises.



**ADDISON**

**Addison hosting two toy drives**

This year Addison is sponsoring two toy drives, one that benefits Addison children and one that benefits the entire North Texas area. For many years, the Addison Fire Department has been collecting toys for Toys for Tots. Last year, they were able to donate 63 overflowing boxes of toys and bikes to children throughout North Texas. Residents can contribute to the Fire Department's efforts by bringing a toy to the Resident Open House on Dec. 4 or donating at any municipal building, except the Police Department.

The Police Department is launching a new campaign this year called Santa Cop, which is specifically focused on collecting toys for Addison children in need. Donations for Santa Cop can be made in the lobby of the Police Department or at the WaterTower Theatre.

If you would like to serve as a drop off location for Santa Cop donations or need more information, please contact Lt. Keith at [dkeith@addisontx.gov](mailto:dkeith@addisontx.gov).

**CARROLLTON  
Free old fashioned  
Christmas at A.W.  
Perry Homestead**

As the cold weather begins to blow through Car-



rollton, it brings with it celebrations and traditions for Christmas. Enjoy an old-fashioned Christmas evening at the A.W. Perry Homestead Museum (1509 N. Perry Road) for free from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, December 2. Informal tours of the historic home throughout the evening. Bring the kids for an old-fashioned carriage ride, making tree ornaments, or to play in the small farm animal petting zoo. Indulge in cookies and hot chocolate as you listen to Victorian carolers strolling the grounds spreading holiday cheer. For more information, visit [cityofcarrollton.com/museum](http://cityofcarrollton.com/museum) or call 972-466-6380.

**Metrocrest Resale  
Store requesting  
donated goods**

The holiday season is upon us and Metrocrest Services needs your help.

Metrocrest Resale (2661 Midway Road, Suite 207) generates about 13 percent of overall income each year for the nonprofit, benefiting local families in need. The store relies solely on the community to donate clothes, household items, furniture, and more. Metrocrest Services encourages you to clean out your closets and garage, and donate your unwanted items to Metrocrest Resale. Any and all donations are appreciated and items that cannot be sold are recycled. Donations are accepted Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. at the rear of the building. To request pick up of your donations, call 972-250-1900. For more information, visit [metrocrestservices.org](http://metrocrestservices.org).

**GARLAND  
Jingle Bell 5k Run**

Lace up your holiday running shoes for the 8th Annual Jingle Bell Run. The Naaman Forest High School Class of 2019 will host the event at 8 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at the Downtown Garland Square. Participants can preregister online or on the day of the race.

After the race, stick around to shop at vendor booths along the square until 2 p.m. Guests can also support the Garland Pet Adoption Center by donating items from Garland An-

imal Services' holiday wish list.

Learn more at [GarlandTX.gov](http://GarlandTX.gov).

**Pancakes with Santa**

Mark your calendars for a morning of holiday fun and endless pancakes. The Kiwanis Club of Garland and the Citizens Fire Club of Garland will host Pancakes with Santa from 7 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 10, at the Central Fire Station, 1029 Austin St. Cost is \$6 per person and includes all the pancakes you can eat, sausage, milk or coffee, and a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus! Tickets can be purchased at the event or in advance by emailing [Bailey-Hebert@att.net](mailto:Bailey-Hebert@att.net).

**LEWISVILLE  
Call for volunteers  
for annual Old Town  
Holiday Stroll**

The City of Lewisville is now accepting volunteer applications for the annual Old Town Holiday Stroll scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 3, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Volunteers are needed for various event activities, especially parade route assistance. To learn more about the different volunteer opportunities, visit [www.signup.com/go/7o6y1h](http://www.signup.com/go/7o6y1h).

Applications for the Huffines Auto Dealerships Lewisville Christmas Parade are available online at [cityoflewisville.com](http://cityoflewisville.com). Dead-

line to submit applications is Monday, Nov. 21. The parade begins at 12:30 p.m. at Cowan Street, and will travel east on the west bound side of Main Street toward Old Town Lewisville, following Church Street to Mill and then turning right and heading south to Purnell. Prime viewing areas will be set up along Church Street in the downtown corridor.

Along with the parade, highlights of Holiday Stroll activities from 1 to 6 p.m. include community performances, holiday activities, photos with Santa, interactive children's games, Santa Paws Village, and the Lewisville Lights! Old Town lighting ceremony.

New this year is the addition of the Holiday Stroll Farmers Market. It will be located on Charles Street and will be open from noon to 6 p.m. The market is being organized by Four Seasons, the company behind multiple successful farmers markets in North

Texas.

**RICHARDSON  
Volunteers needed  
for Santa's Village**

With less than two weeks until opening, Santa's Village is critically short on volunteers! It takes more than 100 volunteers a night to bring the Village to life. While many of the individual buildings are staffed by specific organizations and corporate sponsors, individual volunteers are needed to greet attendees, keep the lines outside the houses moving and spread holiday cheer. Shifts are 3 1/2 hours each evening.

Any individuals or groups wishing to volunteer should visit [www.cor.net/santasvillagevolunteers](http://www.cor.net/santasvillagevolunteers) and fill out the volunteer request form. Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age and volunteers under 18 must have parental permission before volunteering. For more information, contact Lisa Carter at 972-744-4587.

**SMU,** continued from Page 6

ship, which recognizes "change agents" who are committed to public service.

As a Marshall Scholar, Faruk will pursue Master's degrees in development finance at the University of Reading and in comparative social policy at the University of Oxford. He intends to focus on financial inclusion, ensuring that individuals, particularly the most vulnerable, and businesses have access to useful and affordable financial products and services that meet their needs in an ethical and sustainable way.

"I am incredibly humbled to receive this opportunity to

study in the United Kingdom and thank the British people for this scholarship," Faruk said. "My life's goal is to create an economically and financially inclusive world, which I believe can beget socioeconomic progress in critical areas like education, health and housing. With the support of the Marshall Scholarship, I will explore how different technologies, models and approaches can transform painful paradoxes – like the poorer you are, the more you pay – for billions of people."

SMU nominated Faruk for the Marshall Scholars program, which was established

in 1953 by the British government to express thanks to the United States for Marshall Plan aid received after World War II. Faruk is SMU's second Marshall Scholar; the first at SMU was Rebekah Hurt in 2005.

"We're so pleased that Rahfin's exceptional achievements have been recognized by the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission," SMU President R. Gerald Turner said. "Rahfin is an SMU world changer. While excelling in multiple rigorous majors, he left a substantial mark of leadership on campus and in our community. We expect that, as a Marshall Scholar, he will serve as a

strong ambassador for our country and continue to make a difference."

Faruk, who grew up in Richardson, Texas, currently works in Washington, D.C., as a consultant at FSG, a nonprofit social impact consultancy that helps organizations across sectors better engage with society. He also has worked at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington as a research assistant to Jim Hollifield, director of the John G. Tower Center for Political Studies at SMU and professor of International Political Economy in Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences.

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# TeCo marks 11 years of Langston Hughes' *Black Nativity*

Each year, TeCo Theatrical Productions invites a new director to bring a fresh perspective to its celebrated holiday production of *Black Nativity* by Langston Hughes. This year nationally touring artist Lisa B. is at the helm of the artistic staff.



Lisa B. is directing TeCo's *Black Nativity* this year.

Lisa B. is a talented actress, director, acting coach and producer who trained at Texas Tech University and holds a BBA in Management and an MBA in Entrepreneurship.

She has worked extensively in regional and urban theaters across the country sharing the stage with

celebrities such as Kim Fields, Tyson Beckford, Tisha Campbell-Martin and Angie Stone to name a few. Her select directing credits include *The Greatest Doubt* (Potter's House Ft. Worth), *Men & Parts and Conflict & Resolution* (Ginesys Productions), *Wonderful World* (Soul Rep Theatre), *Puberty* (Bishop Arts Theatre), *A Raisin In The Sun* (Sankofa Players Theatre), and a national tour of *By Any Means Necessary* starring Tisha Campbell-Martin from the hit TV show *Martin* (Mar-

velous Ent.). Lisa is also a well-versed businesswoman who serves as President/CEO of 4U Entertainment and she also holds a Real Estate Broker License.

Under Lisa B.'s directorship, *Black Nativity* will be rich in movement infused with colorful dialogue and led by insightful narrative wrapped in gospel songs and folk spirituals.

Since its first stage performance in 1961 on Broadway this story has become a family tradition not only in

the African-American community and a staple in professional theatres across the country.

Michael Hubbard returns this year as Musical Director with a powerful ensemble of soloists and professional artists who reside here in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. The performance will also feature students from W. E. Greiner Arts Magnet Middle School theater department.

*Black Nativity* by Langston Hughes previews

Thursday, Dec. 8, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bishop Arts Theatre Center and all seats are \$12.

Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$22 at the door and can be purchased by calling (214) 948-0716 or by visiting [www.bishopartstheatre.org](http://www.bishopartstheatre.org). Discounts are available for groups of 15 or more.

Free parking is available along Tyler and at the corner of 10th & Tyler behind Grace Temple Baptist Church.

# Rover Dramawerk opens 17th season with *Things My Mother Taught Me*

Rover Dramawerks kicks off their 17th Season with the comedy, *Things My Mother Taught Me* by Katherine diSavino. Performances will be at Rover's theatre in Plano, located in Ruisseau Village at 221 W. Parker Rd, Suite 580, at the northwest corner of Parker and 75. Performances run Jan. 12 through Feb. 4, 2017 on Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m. and on Saturdays at 3

p.m. and 8 p.m.

When Olivia and Gabe (played by Shauna Holloway and Ben Scheer) move into their first apartment together, everything that can go wrong does go wrong: from both sets of parents (Joe Porter and Ivy Opdyke, and David Noel and Nancy Lamb) arriving to help them move to their moving van being stolen. Combine all this with a surly

building super (Martin Sinise) and the young couple finds themselves asking: Is this really how we want to start our lives off together?

Rover's Artistic Director Carol M. Rice serves as director and costume designer, and Darcy Koss is stage manager. Set design is by Abigail Kipp-Roberts, with lighting design by Maxim Overton and sound design by Jason Rice. Props are de-

signed by Kristin M. Burgess.

Thursday, Jan. 12 is Preview Night, with all seats \$10.00 in advance online or "pay-what-you-can" at the door. Following the show on Friday, January 13, Rover will host their First Friday INSIDERS reception, where patrons can meet the cast,

director, and designers. Tickets for this performance are \$32.00. All other tickets for *Things My Mother Taught Me* are \$22.00 Friday and Saturday nights and \$16.00 on Thursdays and matinees.

Tickets for *Things My Mother Taught Me* may be ordered online at

[www.roverdramawerks.com](http://www.roverdramawerks.com) and season tickets are now on sale for Rover's 17th Season, including seven mainstage shows and two new works festivals.

For more information about Rover Dramawerks, please visit them online at [www.roverdramawerks.com](http://www.roverdramawerks.com) or call 972-849-0358.

# DTC's *A Christmas Carol* now on stage

Dallas Theater Center's hit production of the holiday classic *A Christmas Carol* returns to the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre. DTC's Diane and Hal Brierley Resident Acting Company member Sally Nystuen Vahle (Medea, Clybourne Park) will be DTC's first female to play Ebenezer Scrooge in the classic tale that follows a magical journey of hope and redemption.

*A Christmas Carol* began on Wednesday, Nov. 23 with a Pay-What-You-Can performance and will through Wednesday, Dec. 28. Press Night will be Wednesday, Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets to *A Christmas Carol* are on sale now at [www.DallasTheaterCenter.org](http://www.DallasTheaterCenter.org) and by phone at (214) 880-0202.

"This year's production of *A Christmas Carol* is the classic story we all know and love; the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, a human being fallen from grace, who rediscovers humanity, tolerance and our collective re-

sponsibility to our fellow man and woman," said Director Steven Michael Walters. "But this year, Sally Nystuen Vahle - who I believe is one of the greatest actors working in the American Theater today - will play cranky, old Scrooge. And I promise you, she will not disappoint. Given the times we live in, watching a woman in a position of power find redemption is every bit as palpable as the more traditional route; and it's every bit as true to the essence of what *A Christmas Carol* is all about."

Joining Vahle in the cast are Diane and Hal Brierley Resident Acting Company members Adam A. Anderson (*All the Way, King Lear*) as Beau/Undertaker's Man; Chamblee Ferguson (*Deferred Action, All the Way, A Christmas Carol 2015*) as Mr. Fezziwig/Mr. Dilber; Tiana Kaye Johnson (*Dreamgirls, The Mountaintop, The Book Club Play*) as Ghost of Christmas Past; Liz

Mikel (*Bella: An American Tall Tale, Romeo and Juliet, A Christmas Carol 2015*) as Ghost of Christmas Present/Mrs. Fezziwig and Alex Organ (*Constellations, Dreamgirls, All the Way*) as Bob Cratchit. Additional cast members include Cameron Cobb (*A Christmas Carol 2015*) as Topper/Old Joe; Joseph Holt as Second Gentleman/Musician; Lydia Mackay (*A Christmas Carol 2015*) as Marley/Young Marley and Gabrielle Reyes (*Bella: An American Tall Tale, Dreamgirls*) as Young Scrooge/Lucy.

DTC is continuing the partnership with North Texas Food Bank for the ninth consecutive year. During performances of *A Christmas Carol*, DTC will provide a location in the Wyly lobby for patrons to donate canned goods. Last year, DTC presented more than \$138,000 to NTFB, providing more than 414,000 meals for those in need across North Texas.

It's a "Mixed Nuts" Holiday at DCT!

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NOV 18 - DEC 21

Ages 5 and up



**The Nutcracker**

NOV 18 - DEC 21

Ages 4 and up



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Directed by Eric Schaeffer

Musical Adaptation by Eric Schaeffer

Musical Adaptation by Eric Schaeffer

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# Black on Black Mingle & Jingle by Dallas Black Dance Theatre to kickoff holiday fun

The Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) brings you a holiday party like no other. Join the dancers and staff for Black on Black – a full dance and holiday experience they promise will bring good tidings and cheer on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 9-10.

It all takes place in the creative space of DBDT's studios, 2700 Ann

Williams Way in the Dallas Arts District. Enjoy the artistry, creative talents and innovative works choreographed by DBDT and DBDT: Encore!.

The schedule for the festivities are:

- 6:30 p.m. – Mingle at the reception with complimentary light bites and cocktails

- 7:30 p.m. – Enjoy the

choreography and talented performances of DBDT & DBDT: Encore! DBDT dancers Claude Alexander III, Kayah Franklin, Sierra Jones, Keon K. Nickie, Zion Pradier, Sean J. Smith, Jasmine White-Killins, Christen Ashley Williams, McKinley Willis and Kimara Wood will showcase their choreography talents.

8:30 p.m. – Jingle at the free after-party with DBDT dancers and a live DJ. Take home holiday memories from their photo booth or a caricature sketch.

Leave the kids at home because you must be 21 years and older to attend this holiday party. For tickets and more details visit [DBDT.com](http://DBDT.com).



## Fireworks and performances expected to attract thousands to ATPAC

More than 550,000 energy-efficient LED holiday lights, totaling 35 miles in length, will dazzle crowds during the Reliant Lights Your Holidays event on the AT&T Performing Arts Center campus on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016.

Local dignitaries will flip the switch to illuminate the

display of lights across the Center's campus and its 43 trees in Sammons Park. That will also ignite a spectacular fireworks display over the Center.

The lighting display is a continuation of the three-year sponsorship by Reliant at the AT&T Performing Arts Center. Those in attendance will

be treated to performances by RaeLynn and A.B. Quintanilla y Elektro Kumbia, and a fireworks display. Entertainment is presented by the David M. Crowley Foundation. Savvy Shields, Miss America 2017, will be available for photos and autographs. Santa Claus will also be available for free photos.

## AHJEL, continued from Page 2

despite her illness. Aura must learn to deal not only with the pain of her disease, but with her own shame and insecurity because of it, while struggling to be successful in the world of corporate advertising.

Eddie Ryder, is a recent immigrant from Abaco, Bahamas, who left his mother on the island to come to the U.S. with his philandering father. Tall, handsome and wild-haired, Eddie easily follows in his father's womanizing footsteps until he begins to stop seeking his father's approval and start questioning his example. Despite a successful career as a model, he eventually becomes bored by his easy access to women and begins to consider what he really wants out of life.

Sophia Boyd is a voluptuous, light-eyed beauty,

who moved to New York City from Mississippi to attend the Fashion Institute of Technology to study clothing design. Her friendship with a lesbian leads her into an array of personal dilemmas, while the weight of her parents' troubles in a too-long marriage seems to rest on her shoulders.

Ahjel says of her book, "There aren't many books portraying the issues young black urban professionals faced during the 1980's and 1990's in New York City when drug use, crime and AIDS were rampant. How do you navigate that environment and still find love and professional success? My book gives the reader a sexy, funny, smart look inside the lives of each character and shows where they came from and how they drew on their roots to handle

both the blessings and challenges in their lives." She then concludes, "Chocolate Soufflé stands alone as a fun romantic drama that is both seductive and thought-provoking.


The characters aren't just outlined in the book - they are multifaceted and vividly brought to life."

Trish Ahjel was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. Her father was born in Jamaica and her mother in St. Lucia. She attended Stuyvesant High School in Manhattan, and holds a Bachelor's degree from the Metropolitan College of New York and an MBA from Long Island University. She currently lives in Atlanta, GA with her daughter and their two dogs. This is her first novel.

For more details about the author or the book, visit [www.trishahjel.com](http://www.trishahjel.com) or purchase the book at Amazon.com.

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# Alternative funding is an option for minority business owners

(BlackNews.com) — Minority business owners continue to face challenges when applying for loans from traditional banks and lenders, but entrepreneurs should consider alternative financing as a primary lending source. This is a much easier way to secure funds without facing race-based discrimination and/or appli-

cation denials.

## Research on minority business lending

A recent study conducted by researchers at Brigham Young University, Utah State University and Rutgers University revealed that treatment of minority business owners seeking small business loans varied greatly from that of white business

owners. The researchers used nine “mystery shoppers”, three black, three white and three Hispanic small business owners who wore the same professional clothes, had similar backgrounds and sought \$60,000 loans for similar businesses.

While the participants presented similar credentials, the study found that

black and Hispanic business owners were given less information on lending terms, offered less application help and were asked more personal financing questions.

Additionally, a 2016 report by The Kauffman Foundation on access to capital by race found that minorities are disproportionately impacted by lack of ac-

cess to capital and cost of capital. The report also found that profitability of black entrepreneurs was negatively impacted at three times the rate of white entrepreneurs due to lack of access to capital.

## Alternative financing options

Alternative financing companies (such as Timestar Lenders) offer minority business owners more op-

See FUNDS Page 12

## TRUMP, continued from Page 3

was one of the most stalwart supporters of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

A devout Christian, Pence has said that his support for Israel is rooted deeply in his faith. Among his many laudable achievements in office, Pence signed one of the strongest laws against the anti-Semitic Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement. He advocated for robust military aid to Israel, and he led bids to place conditions on funding for the Palestinian Authority.

With Donald Trump in the White House, Israel can be assured that the United States will fight alongside it to protect the Jewish state from the many perils of its neighborhood.

Both Trump and Pence have repeatedly spoken of the dangers of the disgraceful Iran deal. Both have opposed the agreement, which hands \$150 billion to a thugish, terrorist regime. Trump has pledged to revisit this misguided and dangerous deal and address its many shortcomings.

While negotiating this deeply flawed agreement, Obama bent over backwards to give Iran concession after concession and Secretary of State John Kerry was outfoxed and maneuvered, time and again. The unelected mullahs in Iran must surely feel much more uneasy about the future.

Donald Trump has been making deals throughout his entire illustrious career, and he is a master of negotiation. With him in the Oval Office, the world should expect an end to America’s bad deals with tyrannical dictatorships that put our allies in danger.

Now, America’s interests will be put first.

Meanwhile, U.S. allies in the Middle East should be breathing a collective sigh of relief. No longer will our country be so quick to turn its back on long-time friends. Countries like Egypt that are fighting terrorists should be gratified that the most powerful country in the world will be led by someone who understands, and is unafraid to confront, the existential threat that radical Islamic terrorism poses to the democratic way of life. In fact, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi was among the first foreign leaders to call and congratulate the President-elect.

Moving forward, America is going to be smarter and more strategic in the choices it makes in the international arena. Gone are the days when America draws a red line in Syria and backs away from it, showing dangerous and bloodthirsty regimes that America is afraid to live up to our commitments and that we lack the moral courage to follow through on our pledges.

A lack of leadership in the Middle East created a vacuum filled by nefarious actors, including ISIS. We will not make that mistake again. There’s a new Commander-in-Chief in town, and our enemies should be frightened.

As President Trump looks to “Make America Great Again,” that includes demonstrating to our closest allies in the Middle East that we stand with them. It will mean showing them that America is not just a paper tiger, and that we are unafraid to stand strong against

tyranny.

The Obama Administration purposefully and irresponsibly showed hostility toward allies, including Israel, and that damaged our standing in the world. As we transition to the Trump Administration, our friendships across the globe will be restored. Americans should take comfort in knowing that President Trump will boldly lead, and that our essential relationship with our partner Israel will be stronger than ever.

Mr. Williams is Manager / Sole Owner of Howard Stirk

*Holdings I & II Broadcast Television Stations and the 2016 Multicultural Media Broadcast Owner of the year. Watch our Right Side Forum every Saturday Live Newschannel 8 TV 28 in DC, 10:30 am – 11:00 am and repeats 6:30 pm EST. Read Armstrong Williams, author of the brand new book Reawakening Virtues, content on RightSideWire.com and Come join the discussion live at 6-8 p.m. and 4-6 a.m. est. on Sirius/XM Urban-View 126, Become a fan on Facebook, and follow him on Twitter.*



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## Companies that hire employees to fit in run the risk of their falling down, Harvard professor says

For those lucky enough to find a career doing what they love, work is a daily joy that challenges the mind and stokes the flames of passion. But for too many, work can feel like a transactional necessity, a soul-crushing exchange of time, effort, and freedom for a paycheck.

According to a 2015 Gallup Poll, 68 percent of employees said they didn't feel engaged at work, a figure that's held steady for well

over a decade. But typically, when people join an organization, they're excited and eager to dive in. So what grinds the honeymoon down and turns it into an ordeal?

"I hear a lot of people saying, as soon as they get in, they feel the pressure to conform" to company culture and norms, said Francesca Gino, a Harvard Business School professor who studies workplace behavior and wondered why employees

became disenchanted with work.

To conform, many employees deliberately or unconsciously express emotions, offer opinions, or agree with ideas that appear popular, even if they're not accurate reflections of their true selves. Or they may go along with prevailing notions and standards without questioning the status quo to seem like agreeable "team players."

In the short term, fitting can seem appropriate, easing what can be an unnerving transition into a new environment. But Gino's research suggests that tamping down individuality triggers feelings of inauthenticity. Over time, that can create anxiety that leaves people unenthusiastic and uncommitted to their jobs.

Ultimately, that can prove

See FIT, Page 13

## Texas Comptroller shares economic impact of Alliance Global Logistics Hub

On the Cowtown leg of the Good for Texas Tour: Ports Edition, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced today that operations at Alliance Global Logistics Hub support an estimated 67,000 jobs, generate \$10.9 billion in economic activity and add \$6.4 billion to the state's gross domestic product.

"While Alliance does engage in some trade, the bulk

of its economic activity results from its role as one of two intermodal logistics facilities in Texas," Hegar said of the inland port.

"These facilities serve as important logistics hubs, providing tenants access to runways, major highways and railways. Ongoing capital investments and recently announced expansions are strong indicators of Alliance's economic po-

tential."

Hegar met with local officials and members of the community to announce Alliance's economic impact based on the results of a study recently completed by the Comptroller's office. Alliance is part of the larger Dallas-Fort Worth Customs District, which includes Oklahoma and a large part of Texas.

Trade in the district has

seen steady growth in recent years.

The Good for Texas Tour: Ports Edition will wrap up Dec. 15 in Houston. In all, Texas has 29 ports of entry that facilitated more than \$631 billion in trade in 2015. Trade through Texas supports an estimated 1.6 million Texas jobs and adds \$224.3 billion to the gross state product.

## DANIELS, continued from Page 2

three Golden Globe awards including "Best Picture Drama," and was nominated for eight NAACP Image Awards, six of which it won, in categories including "Outstanding Motion Picture" and "Outstanding Directing in a Motion Picture, Theatrical or Television." The film also garnered a total of five 2010 Independent Spirit Awards, including "Best Feature" and "Best Director."

In 2012, Daniels wrote, directed, and produced *The Paperboy*, with Matthew McConaughey, Nicole Kidman, John Cusack, David Oyelowo and Macy Gray. The film, about a reporter's return to his Florida hometown to investigate a case involving a death row inmate, peeks into the fluidity and situational nature of sexual orientation and the unique rules that apply to Black men in our society.

"I'm a gay Black man. Everything I do, everything I say, everything I utter—my work—speaks to that. Even in a subliminal way, I can't help but to articulate who it is that I am," Daniels says. "Whether it's Jane Doe walking down the street, I'm going to give you the perspective of a gay, Black man—that's the lens that I see. So, *Empire* and everything you ever see of any of mine—*Butler*, *Precious*, *Monster's Ball*—is from that perspective. I'm winking at the camera."

*Monster's Ball*, was Lee Daniels Entertainment's feature film debut, and made Daniels the sole African-American producer of an Oscar-winning and Oscar-nominated film.

Probably Daniels' most biographical work is his hit television show *Empire* on Fox. In one scene during season one, Lucious Lyons,

portrayed by Terrence Howard, is so outraged that his son Jamal is gay he literally throws Jamal into the trash. Daniels's own father, Philadelphia police officer William Daniels, was killed in the line of duty. He speaks openly about how his father tried to beat the gay out of him.

As someone who has been involved in the HIV/AIDS epidemic in his life and his art, Daniels worries about the current cultural and political climate. He recalls the 1980s—the fear, the stigma, the waiting for the other shoe to drop, the wondering when it was going to be him.

"Everyone was dying around me—all of my friends. None of them did anything I did not do and more," said Daniels. "It could have been me. That thought is never far from my mind."

The reality of the new administration casts a pall

over Daniels' hopes to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The election of Donald Trump has brought a lot of those feelings rushing back.

"It has been a very long time since I felt that scary feeling, where, OMG, I'm looking over my shoulder and wondering what are we going to do?" said Daniels.

Daniels continued: "If you had asked me prior to Trump's election, I would have said yes we could have ended AIDS in my lifetime. But I don't believe that's going to happen now.

"I think we're going to go backwards now. And that's a travesty. And it cracks my heart. But, now is not the time to give up. Now is the time to step up. Now is the time to speak out. Now is the time to resist."

Daniels said that more people need to become activists, advocates and volunteers in the fight against the AIDS epidemic.

"We need to contribute our talent, our wisdom, and



## FUNDS, continued from Page 11

tions to secure business funds and ultimately increase profitability. Loans are available for a wide range of business needs including technology improvements, emergency repairs, remodeling or general cash flow. This financing option is appealing to many small and minority business owners because the threshold to receive funding is lower and funds are dispersed within days.

For example, in order to receive a loan with Timestar Lenders, business owners must meet four criteria: Be in business for at least six months, have at least a 500 credit score, generate a minimum of \$8,000 each month in revenues and not have any open bankruptcies

although prior bankruptcies are largely accepted.

While the numbers of minority business owners continue to grow, these entrepreneurs still face large hurdles when seeking loans from traditional lending institutions. Alternative financing companies provide a much-needed funding solution for minority-owned businesses.

Entrepreneurs and business owners that are having challenges accessing the business financing they need should call (888) 405-7949 to learn more about Timestar Lenders alternative lending solutions today. For more details, visit [www.timestarlenders.com](http://www.timestarlenders.com).

our dollars," said Daniels. "For example, one of my priorities is raising money for the Black AIDS Institute. No matter who we are or where we are, we have to do our part."

The Heroes in the Strug-

gle Gala and Award Celebration will take place Dec. 1, 2016, at the Director's Guild of America in Los Angeles. To purchase tickets, go here, email [hits@blackaids.org](mailto:hits@blackaids.org) or call 213-353-3610, ext. 100.

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## Reinventing yourself can restore passion and purpose

Many Americans in the latter stage of a career – or even already in retirement – have discovered that it’s never too late to reinvent themselves.

Folk artist Grandma Moses was in her late 70s before she began her painting career. Colonel Harland

Sanders was in his 60s when he launched Kentucky Fried Chicken.

Arnold Schwarzenegger reinvented himself a couple of times, going from professional body builder to actor to governor of California.

Sometimes referred to as “encore careers,” these sec-

ond acts can reinvigorate you and give you a reason to greet each day with anticipation, says Oliver Harris, who wrote his first novel after working for more than four decades as an attorney, including as a criminal-defense lawyer in Chicago.

“In my case, I was able to

incorporate elements from my original career in law into my encore career as a writer,” says Harris, who put his knowledge of Chicago’s crime and corruption to use in his novel “JoJo” (www.readjojo.com).

See REINVENT, Page 16

## FIT, continued from Page 12

detrimental to employees and employers alike. Disengaged workers experience higher levels of boredom and stress, which can lead to burnout and greater staff turnover. Job performance also tends to suffer. Productivity, innovation, and creative thinking decline as complacency sets in and commitment to the company wanes, a distinct business disadvantage.

“There are good reasons for why people do it, and yet we don’t realize that it’s costly,” said Gino, who conducted fieldwork and case studies of maverick restaurants, investment firms, and manufacturers around the world that embrace what she calls “constructive nonconformity.”

While most businesses say they want engaged workers or will hire “new blood” to bring fresh perspectives, few give more than lip service to the importance of creativity and fresh ideas. Leaders worry that if staff freely express themselves or are allowed to handle decisions or

situations on their own, quality and other institutional standards may decline or productivity could lapse because workers will prioritize their own needs ahead of the organization’s.

“Instead, it’s just the opposite,” said Gino. “When you give people the opportunity to be who they are more often, rather than checking themselves at the door when they come into work in the morning, they actually bring out the best in themselves.”

Fighting conformity doesn’t require sweeping changes or moving people into new positions, Gino said.

“Small wins are important,” she said. Tweak existing protocols and then test them to see if they deliver positive results. “Often, the best way of driving big changes at the top is to have good evidence that small changes and a different approach toward work can have meaningful impact.”

Other helpful interventions include:

- Hiring for attitude and

personal qualities, along with specific skills;

- Asking employees to identify their strengths and then jointly determining how best to draw upon them;

- Encouraging lively debate and challenges to assumptions without combativeness;

- Modeling unconventional behavior that defies staff expectations;

- Creating an atmosphere of collaboration, not competition;

- Finding opportunities to let employees problem-solve and show their personalities.

There’s no one-size-fits-all approach, Gino says, but every industry and company can find ways to benefit from being flexible and noncon-

formist. The most successful organizations try to strike a thoughtful balance between freedom and structure, and executives or managers have clearly defined what’s fair game to tweak and what’s not.

Urging employees to be more authentic doesn’t mean lowering expectations, eliminating rules, or letting workers show up to the office in pajamas, she cautioned.

“You want people to be good in executing, but you also want people who ... don’t take procedures and traditions for granted, but ask, ‘What if they were to be different?’ Because that’s what leads to innovation, and that is also what leads you to stay engaged,” Gino said.

## Looking for energetic interns in the Dallas Area

A local community newspaper has an internship position available. The goal is to provide students and aspiring writers an opportunity to gain published clips, experience and professional feedback. The position is for 20 hours a week at \$8.50 per hour. Assignments will include covering local events, phone interviews, and rewriting press releases.



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**This Saturday, Don't Miss it!**

**December 3, 1-4 p.m.**

Back by popular demand, ladies mark your calendars; W.O.R.T.H. Women are excited to present, again, "Brush It Up, the Christmas Edition, "Let Your Inner Artist Out!" At the Carrollton Hebron/Josey Lane Library. Call the church for details.

**December 4, 9:45 a.m.**

You're invited to our Sunday Morning "Prayer and Meditation" followed by Morning Worship Service at 10 a.m. See what God is doing through and with us; you will be blessed.

**December 7, 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 5, Chapter 4." Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you. It's Time to Grow; Ephesians 4:12 & 13.

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**December 4, 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.

**December 7**

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.

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**December 7**

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.

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**December 4, 7:30 and/or 11:30 a.m.**

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**December 5, 7 p.m.**  
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**December 4, 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.

**December 7**

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.

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**December 4, 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.**

Join us for Worship Services and fellowship as we give God all glory, honor and praise.

**December 7, 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

**December 11, 2 until 6 p.m.**

Mark your calendars for our Annual Christmas Banquet. It's always fun and inspirational. Call the church for details.

Our AWANA (Approved Workman Are Not Ashamed from 2 Timothy 2:15) is held from 6:30 - 8:15 pm, now through May. Kick-off was September 7th. There is no charge for registration for new participants! This is a Bible-based program for children and youth, ages

See CHURCHES, Page 16



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# What is your mission?



Send email to: [businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com) to sign up for Sister Tarpley's weekly electronic newsletter.

What seemed to be a homeless man walking into town and after a townsman learned the man's story he discovered that the stranger wasn't what he seemed to be.

He said, "My friend Daniel wasn't homeless; he was on a mission and lived this way by choice.

The townsman asked, "What's it like to walk into a town carrying all your things on your back and showing your sign that reads, "I will work for food?"

"It was humiliating at first; people stared and made comments. Someone once tossed a half-eaten bread slice and made a gesture; I didn't feel welcome.

Then it became humbling to realize that God used me to touch lives and change

people's concepts of other folks like me."

We finished our dessert and gathered his things. Outside Daniel said, "Come Ye blessed of my Father and inherit the kingdom I've prepared for you.

For when I was hungry you gave me food, when I was thirsty you gave me drink, a stranger and you took me in."

"Could you use another Bible?" I asked. "Yes, but I prefer a certain translation; it travels well and it isn't too heavy; I've read through it 14 times," Daniel said.

At the church I found a Bible that would work for him; he seemed very grateful.

"Where're you headed Daniel?" "I found this map on the back of an Amusement Park coupon; I figured that someone there needs a Bible; that's where I'm going."

The warmth of his spirit radiated the sincerity of his mission. Driving back to the town-square, it started raining. We unloaded his things.

"Would you sign my autograph book?" He asked. "I like to keep messages from folks I meet.

I wrote that Daniel's commitment to his calling had touched my life; and to stay strong.

I left him with a scripture from Jeremiah, "I know the plans I have for you, de-

clared the Lord, "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you; plans to give you a future and a hope."

"Thanks," he said. "We just met and we're strangers, but I love you." I said, "I love you too; the Lord is good."

"How long has it been since someone has hugged

you?" "A long time," he replied. On the busy corner, in the rain, my new friend and I embraced.

He put his things on his back, flashed his winning smile and said, "I'll see you in the New Jerusalem." "I'll be there!" was my reply.

As he walked away with his sign and Bibles, he said, "When you see something that makes you think of me, will you pray for me?" "You bet," I shouted, "God bless." That was the last I saw of him.

I left my office that evening, the cold front had settled on the town. In my

car, I reached for the brakes and saw a pair of well-worn gloves that was neatly laid. I wondered if my friend hands would stay warm that night.

Then I remembered his words, "If you see something that makes you think of me, will you pray for me?"

Today his gloves lie on my desk. They help me to see people in a new way; they help me remember my unique friend; I pray for his ministry.

"See you in the New Jerusalem," he said. "Yes, Daniel, I know I will . . ."



Mr. Paul G. Anderson, bass-baritone, tenor and entertainer, performing at the Atria Retirement Center in Carrollton, Texas.

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# Try Hot Sauce Nation, perhaps with a side of Butter

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

All the things you love will be on your table this holiday.

Steaming mashed potatoes with a dollop of butter. Turkey or ham, fresh from the oven. Green bean casserole, waiting for the toasted onions. Everything you love, piping hot and, with “Hot Sauce Nation” by Denver Nicks, you can turn up the heat even more.

Picture in your mind the first time someone ate a chili.

Denver Nicks imagines it was a cave-teenager who ate the berry, perhaps figuring that if birds could consume chilies, they were safe for anyone to eat. Red-faced, eyes watering, mouth afire, he must’ve turned to his cave-teen buddy who, of



course, couldn’t wait to eat one, too.

Truly, we love our hot stuff; its sales outdo that of every other condiment these days. We’ve loved it at least since 6000 BCE, which is when chili bits were left behind in a grave. We’ve loved it since Columbus brought chilies to the Old World, thinking they were odd-tasting green pepper. We’ve loved it

since a bloodthirsty conquistador brought chili plants to the America’s southwest in the late 1590s, and Africans brought seeds with them on the Middle Passage.

Chilies are measured by the Scoville Heat Unit (SHU), a test created more than a century ago. A regular garden-variety green pepper rates a rather boring 0 SHU.

Tabasco is 5,000 SHU. Capsaicin gets an incinerating 16,000,000 SHU but milder heats are compelling; we can’t get enough of that pain, says Nicks, in part because its burn releases dopamine and can create a thrilling hot-knife illusion for the tongue. Chilies, he says, can also clear the sinuses and bring on a kind of high. Hot-cha-cha.

Acquired taste or not, Nicks says that our North American passion for heat is growing. The popularity of Mexican, Indian, and Chinese food, although our versions are “a kind of imitation cuisine,” helps increase the trend toward hot, spicy foods in restaurants and snack foods. The number of near-combustible consumables is increasing, and on a spicy road-trip, Nicks found

that regional preferences just feed the need.

“Delicious, healthy...” he says about hot sauce. “...how’s that for a miracle food?”

Everywhere you go these days, it seems, you can find food that burns your tongue and makes your hands fan. But why now? In “Hot Sauce Nation,” you’ll see.

Spicy food, as author Denver Nicks shows, is addicting and he’s got the science to prove it. He’s also got the culinary history, taking us on a round-the-world tour to show how we’ve gone from blah to blasting our palates with flames. Readers who love hot-and-spicy will find themselves wishing they’d been along with Nicks on his road trips; he tried the hottest chilies, spiciest sauces, and took the

biggest challenges, and his mouth- (and eye-) watering descriptions makes us want that, too.

Alas, there are no recipes inside this book but that won’t matter to foodies or fans of flaming food. If you crave a taste that nearly melts your teeth, “Hot Sauce Nation” will further ignite your interest.

And since having your hot sauce with fats increases its health benefits, you’ll want to add “Butter: A Rich History” by Elaine Khosrova to your cart. In this book, you’ll learn the history of that which goes on toast and in tarts; how butter is made around the world; how it’s eaten; and its importance to many cultures. Bonus: recipes, so you can enjoy a little extra butter in your meal.

## CHURCHES,

continued from Page 14

three years old through the 12th grade. The emphasis is on memorizing the Word of God and developing a personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ in a structured, safe and fun environment.

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## DIGITAL, continued from Page 5

discrimination. We are alarmed and we resolutely join with the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) in demanding that Facebook stop engaging in racially discriminatory practices.

Earlier this month, the CBC sent a letter to Mark Zuckerberg, CEO of Facebook, concerning this issue.

“We are writing to express our deep concerns with reports that Facebook’s “Ethnic Affinities” advertising customization feature allows for advertisers to exclude specific

racial and ethnic groups when placing housing advertising,” stated the CBC.

The CBC letter was signed by Robin L. Kelly (D-Ill.), Emanuel Cleaver (D-Mo.), Yvette Clarke (D-N.Y.), and G.K. Butterfield (D-N.C., the Chairman of the CBC. Their joint statement concluded, “This is in direct violation of the Fair Housing Act of 1968, and it is our strong desire to see Facebook address this issue immediately.”

The Fair Housing Act of 1968 says it is illegal “to make, print, publish, or

cause to be made, printed, or published any notice, statement, or advertisement, with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin” (42 U.S.C. § 3604). The enactment of the Fair Housing Act of 1968 was a milestone accomplishment of the Civil Rights Movement.

“By allowing online advertisers to promote or market a community or home for the purpose of sale to select an ‘ethnic

affinity’ as part of their advertising campaign, Facebook is complicit in promoting restrictive housing practices,” the CBC letter stated. This is clearly a violation of the law.

The NNPA agrees with the CBC. This practice must be stopped immediately.

Today, we all should remain vigilant and committed to stand up and speak out against all instances of racial and ethnic discrimination. Facebook needs to right this wrong. The online and digital worlds should not be permissive of racism.

With all the technological advances to hopefully ensure that the quality of life of all people will ultimately be enhanced in the U.S. and throughout the world, we must strive to identify, call out and stop racism wherever it may arise. Therefore, we call upon Facebook to stop its digital racism and its “Ethnic Affinities” discriminatory program.

*Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. is President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and can be reached at dr.bchavis@nnpa.org.*

## REINVENT, continued from Page 13

But he didn’t completely shed his past self to take on this new identity.

“I’m still working as a lawyer, and I work nights on my writing,” Harris says. “So, I’ve pretty much added a second career into my life.”

He has tips for others who also feel the urge to reinvent themselves late in life:

- Realize that purpose is important. After years in the same profession, it’s easy to become burned out and to

operate on auto pilot as you perform the tasks of your job. Essentially, people can lose their sense of purpose. When they reinvent themselves, that purpose can be reignited. “You’re much more likely to be successful when you’re driven by a sense of purpose,” Harris says.

- Find what excites you. Harris says he always wanted to write, so it was not surprising that pounding out a novel could become a pas-

sion for him. If you’re reinventing yourself, the reinvention might as well center on something you’re passionate about. That could mean returning to college to earn a degree, learning a musical instrument, or embarking on the career you dreamed of as a child but put aside for more practical pursuits.

- Don’t convince yourself that it’s too late. It’s not, Harris says. Many years ago, the newspaper advice columnist Dear Abby received a letter from a 36-year-old college

dropout who wanted to return to school to become a doctor. But this would-be physician worried that it would take at least seven years to finish all the schooling. “In seven years I’ll be 43,” the letter writer lamented. Abby responded with a question. “How old will you be in seven years if you don’t go back to college?” As it happens, Harris spent seven years working on “JoJo,” setting aside writing time between 11 p.m. and 1:30 a.m. Burning the midnight oil paid off, so it

definitely wasn’t too late to get started, he says.

Harris believes it’s important to put your mind to its full use.

“With law I was only using part of my brain,” he says. “I wanted to use all of my brain and what I am capable of, which is why I began writing my novel.”

*Oliver Harris, author of the legal thriller “JoJo” (www.readjojo.com), has spent 45 years as a trial lawyer, prosecutor and criminal defense attorney.*