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Opening of Lincoln Experience is a homecoming for graduate of Dallas' Arts Magnet

By David Wilfong
NDG Special Contributor

On Aug. 24 the Lincoln Motor Company unveiled its new "Lincoln Experience" at The Star, Dallas Cowboys' world headquarters in Frisco. The Lincoln Experience is intended to be the ultimate car clubhouse, where visiting patrons can enjoy a cup of coffee and peruse the latest offerings.

The interior of the Lincoln Experience is filled out in style. The walls and floors reflect luxury, and surround a beverage station formed in an abstract homage to a vehicle hood. Color swatches are displayed like modern art on the walls, and interactive multimedia stations help visitors familiarize themselves with anything Lincoln. Of course, floor models of the latest Lincoln vehicles also reside in the two-level center.

When it came time to introduce the latest Navigator, a young man stepped forward and began by proclaiming himself, "the biggest Dallas Cowboys fan in this room." Earl Lucas, chief exterior designer for the Lincoln Navigator, grew up in Dallas – Oak Cliff to be specific – and the opening of the new center was a special day for him.



Earl Lucas, a graduate of the Booker T. Washington High School for performing and Visual Arts, introduces the newest Lincoln Navigator to the press at the opening of the Lincoln Experience in Frisco. (Photo by David Wilfong)

"Dallas is my home," Lucas said. "My parent's only sister, and friends still live there. To come home and be part of the opening of the Lincoln Experience Center is a narrative that I could have never written for myself. Growing up in Oak Cliff – if someone would have told me that I would be designing cars for Lincoln, I would have told them, 'I don't believe you.' I grew up a big-time Dallas Cowboys fan and to see the Lincoln Experience Center as part of that campus just outside the Cowboys Ring of Honor ... warms

my heart and makes me feel a sense of accomplishment. God is good."

Lucas is a graduate of Dallas ISD's Booker T. Washington, a high school that once served as the African-American high school in Dallas, but in recent years is known as "Arts Magnet." Graduates have included many famous musicians who are household names, but Lucas was a part of the visual arts program, whose alumni may not be seen as often on TV, but who make

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Dr. Isha James



Helen Giddings

READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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Dr. Isha James

FORT WORTH — Earlier this week, Dr. Isha James was asked who were amongst those who have greatly inspired her to become the virtuous woman for whom she is widely known.

As usual, the woman who is responsible for giving her life undoubtedly topped the list.

“My mom is the most intelligent and sweetest person I know,” James told Making Headline News. “She taught me to be smart, have a good work ethic, pray at all times and to carry myself like a lady.”



Much to James’ delight, it is due in large part to her mother’s unyielding love, coupled with those valuable life lessons she’s learned throughout the years that have contributed mightily to her being widely recognized

as a woman of excellence and substance, one who understands wholeheartedly the divine purpose for which God has created her.

“I love the idea that I can share my Pearls of Wisdom from both my life’s journey and my professional journey with others and watch them use that to flourish in their own way,” James said. “I’m a born leader, but I also love to lead by example, so I love to see the idea that others are willing to go the course.”

A native of Fort Worth, Texas, James’ wealth of wisdom both as an accomplished Corporate America professional and a Godly woman have seemingly been cherished and commended

by countless individuals across the country, thanks in large part to her flourishing empowerment and life-enhancing business venture.

Known in the Corporate America sector for her collaborative and engaging mindset, James is Founder and CEO of Extraordinarily Empowered, a Life Coach/Motivational Speaking oriented venture whereby her key focuses are geared largely toward helping women and girls focus on their inner self, most notably through learning from their past while embracing their future — all while simultaneously building confidence self-esteem and an overall positive self-image

and self-awareness.

Armed with a stellar Corporate America track record that spans more than two decades, James — whom ironically, is a former competitive track and field athlete — credits the assortment of experiences and life lessons she’s faced in her selected industry for having played a monumental role in her desire to empower women from various walks of life.

“I give students valuable information to encourage their ambition and empower confidence,” said James, a Texas Southern University alumna who holds multiple degrees in business and education. “I am always re-

minding them that you are not your circumstances. In my working environment, I’m known for talking and being able to successfully take on a project and running with it through execution.”

For what it’s worth, inspiring young ladies to fully execute — or follow through on — life’s toughest of challenges is often amongst James’ key objectives, particularly when duty calls for her to share of her wealth of wisdom before the masses.

“In my empowerment talks and presentations, I am able to speak to audiences of all sizes and customize my presentation topics based off of what is needed,” James explained.

Helen Giddings

The fourth edition of Who’s Who In Black Dallas will be unveiled at a networking reception and program at the Hyatt Regency Hotel Friday, Sept. 29 beginning at 6 p.m., officials announced today. Who’s Who In Black Dallas will be celebrating the achievements of African Americans in the metropolitan Dallas area. Over 200 people will be highlighted in the publication.

The North Dallas Gazette is pleased to announce Ruth Ferguson, editor of the North Dallas Gazette (NDG) is one of the honorees included in



this year’s edition. Initially, a freelance writer, Ferguson transitioned to the editor’s role in the fall of 2007.

“I am honored to be recognized by the selection committee,” Ferguson stated. “Each year it has been amaz-

ing to learn more about the contributions of the previous honorees. It is a privilege to be included in the 2017 edition.”

This is the second time a member of the NDG team has been recognized. Previously, NDG’s Publisher Thurman R. Jones was featured for his contributions to the media, political and business community.

Joining the celebration for the fourth edition will be State Senator Royce West, Managing Partner of West and Associates LLP and Effie Dennison, Senior Vice President and Director Community Development and Corporate Social Responsibility for Texas Capital Bank. West

penned the Foreword and Dennison wrote the Introduction for the fourth edition.

“Recognizing the achievements of African Americans in Dallas is significant. Sharing my thoughts among those affiliated with Who’s Who In Black Dallas is very heartwarming,” said West.

“I was thrilled to be invited to write the Introduction for the fourth edition of Who’s Who,” said Dennison who has been previously recognized in the Corporate Brass section in Dallas. “I have been an admirer of the many talented people in this city for a long time and am encouraged about recognizing African American contributions.”

“We are excited to be doing the fourth edition of Who’s Who In Black Dallas and are equally excited to have Senator Royce West and Effie Dennison penning the Foreword and Introduction for this edition,” says Carter Womack, Chief Operating Officer of Who’s Who Publishing.

Started last year as an added feature is the issuing of three awards — Eddie Bernice Johnson Trailblazer in honor of the long-serving Congresswoman; Comer Cottrell Entrepreneur in honor of the late Hair Care Manufacturing Entrepreneur and Community Impact. State Representative Helen Giddings will receive the Trailblazer, Curtis

Ransom, owner of numerous KFC’s franchises will get the Comer Cottrell Entrepreneur Award and John Proctor, chair, Regional Black Contractor Association, advocate for African American business inclusion, the Community Impact Award.

The reception is open to the public at a cost of \$75 per person that includes a copy of the book. To RSVP go online to <https://shoprealtimesmedia.com/shop/uncategorized/whos-who-in-black-dallas-4th-edition-unveiling>. Pre-order of the publication is also available for \$39.95 by going to website — www.whoswhopublishing.com or calling (313) 963-8100.

NDG Readers Sound Off...

DeMarcus Lawrence starts Cowboys season off with a strong performance

Kudos, accolades, blessings etc. to Demarcus Lawrence and all the other young men who have hit the NFL lottery. May they survive injuries, NFL politics, competition, CTE and any other obstacles. I wish them big money, peace, and a long life.

But I am one of thousands who will be boycotting the NFL this year. When an organization will stop a US citizen from working in the field of his choice because he wants to exercise his constitutional

rights, that organization does not deserve my support. The NFL has apparently conspired to stop (a former Super Bowl quarterback) Colin Kaepernick from working in the NFL.

I will not watch any NFL games this year — especially those that the Dallas Cowboys play in.

-- Anonymous

White Coach threatens to choke a Black student for wearing, "I Can't Breathe." t-shirt

I know this article is leading towards racism but my daughter is white as snow and in just the first

few weeks of school this coach has treated my child like crap so much at this point that im looking to contact the district about it... From my perspective it looks less of a race issue and more of a power issue... Domination of those he feels are weaker than himself... This guy is a mess..

-- J Stew

Rep. Eric Johnson applauds Speaker Strauss call for removal of Confederate plaque

I am confident Governor Abbott and the other members of the State Preservation Board will agree that

this plaque must go...and soon. #txlege

-- Rep. Eric Johnson via Facebook

I can't believe it's still up. Of course I can't believe it went up in the first place.

-- Phannessa Adams-Holt via Facebook

A Hole in One?

I live in Oak Cliff, I didn't know that the bond package doesn't do much for Oak Cliff when Oak Cliff needs so much. ---- Edward H. Sebesta via Facebook

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By Carolyn Arnold

The Community Meeting at the Golf Club of Dallas was an eye-opener and just might be the catalyst that is needed to jumpstart Community Involvement and Community Growth. The meeting was hosted by Councilmember Casey Thomas, District 3 and was designed to get feedback from the Neighborhoods regarding the sale of the Golf Course and the proposed housing development for 500 homes... The debate as to whether this was another attempt for a "Grow South/Neighborhood Plus Project" or not lingered throughout the evening.

This situation was a reminder of the proposal made by another developer in the mid-2000s who wanted to build affordable homes in the Southern sector near the Glen Oaks community. The assumption was made this community would be an easy target and no one would care. Needless to say, the plan was abandoned because the community turned out in the same manner as the Golf Club residents and neighbors.

In the words of Fannie

A Hole In One?

Lou Hamer, delegate to the 1964 Democratic Convention, "I am sick and tired of being sick and tired" might have been the theme of the evening. She was tired of pushing for equality and being denied and ignored. The challenges the Southern part of Dallas still face appeared to weigh heavily on the hearts, minds, and souls of those who spoke. Many in attendance have vested history in the community and remembered the days of a "fully serviced neighborhood" with restaurants, grocery stores, bakeries, and other forms of businesses.

The question was asked as to whether or not the City of Dallas could purchase the Club through the Bond package. The citizens of Dallas are being asked to support a \$1.5 billion bond in November, this bond has very little benefit to the Southern Sector. The answer should be clear. Citizens should decide whether or not due diligence has been given to make sure all communities are served through this initiative. Voting is the key to addressing the shortfall of any Bond package.

Dallas County Elections

shows 1,277,177 registered voters as of September 2017. It is interesting to note, less than four percent of the voters are making decisions which impact our communities on most elections. Yes, there is always a method for including a project of this nature. It is interesting to note, every councilmember has received \$10.5 million in discretionary funds for this bond. Can you imagine what could be done with this project if the three or four of the Southern Sector councilmembers utilized a portion of their funds for this project?

The reflection of civil rights issues in Dallas alone, should encourage the grassroots not to give up. The history of the Golf Club, formerly the Oak Cliff Country Club is definitely a starting point. African-Americans began to buy homes, some adjacent to the clubhouse and still could not gain membership. It seems now, we are back to square one. The neighbors will not have a say on the present zoning of R-5 which will allow single-family homes to built on the green space.

The actual building was

built with a Special Use Permit and must undergo a zoning change to accommodate the plans of the developer. Thus, the need to notify the public about the plans. The power of the people can determine the future of the project by engaging in communication with the councilmembers, including the Mayor and speaking at the zoning meeting before the Zoning and Planning Commission. Please note, every councilmember has a zoning commissioner.

So where do we go from here? Some folks say they are sick and tired of hearing about the need to vote. The choice to remain silent, sit on the sidelines and not vote is a decision in and of itself. This community, young and old have the power to make a change to fight apathy and complacency. Don't know if the meeting at the Golf Club can be considered as a hole in one, but it is certainly worth it to stay in the game.

Carolyn Arnold, President – Oak Cliff Leadership Council, Former Dallas City Councilmember. Follow Carolyn King Arnold on Facebook

How racism impacts people, families and communities of color

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - The statistics are troubling. People of color are far more likely to suffer from inequity. Inequity that can be traced directly to racism, a side effect and the enduring legacy, of slavery. The legacy of slavery has insinuated itself into the very fabric of our society via the criminal justice system, housing, and education.

Ta-Nehisi Coates, a national correspondent for The Atlantic wrote an article titled: The Case for Reparations, that addressed all of the ways in which the ideals of slavery and racism have endured in the United States through policy created by the U.S. government and the prime opportunity that now exists for our country to make amends.

The most important thing

that the article did was to explain how we got where we are today. How we moved into segregated neighborhoods, why children of color now go to schools with fewer resources and how our communities were built on inequity.

As planners and public health workers, health equity is often a lens through which we aim to address the barriers and health outcomes that typically only affect people and communities of color. These barriers impact every part of their daily lives and are reinforced by the choices made by local policy makers and practitioners in many sectors.

The article and infographic written by Living Cities, provides a snapshot in the daily life of a family named The Reddings. Of

particular interest are the parts of their day that are impacted by health, transportation, housing, and environmental challenges that exist at the structural, institutional or individual/implicit bias levels of racism. The areas addressed by the infographic are:

- Health**
 - 46% of maternal deaths of African-American women are preventable
 - 33% of maternal deaths of White women are preventable
- Transportation**
 - Black workers have the longest average commute time: 50.8 minutes, which causes high transportation and child care costs
- Housing**
 - 43.05% is the home ownership rate of Black families

- 71.65% is the home ownership rate of White families

Environmental

In New York City, communities of color bear exposure to:

- 30% of the exposure of city waste
- 70% of sewage sludge

To read more about The Reddings and the impact of racism on their daily lives, the article and infographic can be found on Medium: A Day in a Life: How Racism Impacts Families of Color. For more information about Living Cities, check out their website: <https://www.livingcities.org/>.

For more information about how to address and close racial opportunity gaps, check out Living Cities' Racial Equity and Inclusion page.

Texas awarded more than \$17 million for home visit services to pregnant women and parents

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced \$17,095,280 in funding to Texas through the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV Program).

These funds will allow Texas to continue to provide voluntary, evidence-based home visiting services to women during pregnancy, and to parents with young children up to



Joe Green / Flickr

kindergarten entry.

“The MIECHV Program helps parents and care-

givers connect with services and resources and improve the skills they need

to support their families’ well-being and provide the best opportunities for their children,” said HRSA Associate Administrator for Maternal and Child Health Michael Lu, M.D., M.S., M.P.H.

“In these voluntary programs, trained nurses, social workers, early childhood educators, or other trained professionals meet regularly with expectant parents or families with young children in their

homes, building strong, positive relationships with families who want and need support.”

The MIECHV Program serves almost 42 percent of U.S. counties with high rates of low birth weight infants, teen births, families living in poverty or infant mortality.

Three-fourths of families participating in the program had household incomes at or below 100 per-

cent of the Federal Poverty Level.

Administered by HRSA, in partnership with the Administration for Children and Families, the MIECHV Program gives pregnant women and families, particularly those considered at-risk, necessary resources and skills to raise children who are physically, socially, and emotionally healthy and ready to learn.

Parkland experts encourage men to seek education on prostate cancer

Prostate cancer is a leading cause of cancer death in men in the United States, third only to lung and colorectal cancers. Though potentially serious, in most cases it can be successfully treated, especially if detected early. National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month each September offers men the opportunity to discuss the disease, its prevention and possible treatments with their healthcare provider.

“We want our patients to seek information about this form of cancer and the im-

portance of screenings that could help save their lives,” said Yair Lotan, MD, Medical Director of the Urology Clinic at Parkland Health & Hospital System and Professor of Urology at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

The American Cancer Society (ACS) estimates that in 2017 there will be 161,360 new cases of prostate cancer diagnosed and 26,730 deaths. According to the organization, more than 2.9 million men in the U.S. diagnosed with the disease are still alive today.

In many cases, prostate cancer is slow growing, and often people who suffer from it don’t show symptoms. “The vast majority of men are diagnosed when they have no symptoms and although urinary symptoms can occur, they are not common. That’s why screenings are important,” Dr. Lotan said.

Prostate cancer can often be found early by performing a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test and a digital rectal exam. If these exams suggest the possibility of cancer being present,

providers perform other exams, such as a transrectal ultrasound guided prostate biopsy to confirm the diagnosis.

Older men are more prone to develop prostate cancer. The ACS estimates about 6 cases in 10 are diagnosed in men aged 65 or older and it is rare before age 40. The average age at the time of diagnosis is 66. In addition, African-American men and Caribbean men of African ancestry are more likely to

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Rep. Eric Johnson applauds Speaker Strauss call for removal of Confederate plaque

AUSTIN – Texas House Speaker Joe Straus (R-San Antonio) has sent a letter to the Texas State Preservation Board calling for the removal of the “Children of the Confederacy Creed” plaque from inside the Texas Capitol. He stated in his letter that the plaque contains “incorrect information about our history” and called for its removal “as soon as practicable.”

“I applaud Speaker Straus for doing the right thing by calling for the plaque’s removal. The other members of the Texas State Preservation Board are well educated, honest folks. I think once they’ve all taken the time to



This plaque with the Children of the Confederacy Creed currently hangs in the Texas State Capitol. (Image: Courtesy of Rep. Eric Johnson)

read the plaque and compare it to the historical record, they will come to the same conclusion Speaker Straus and I did,” stated Representative Eric Johnson in a statement

in response to Speaker Straus’ letter.

The plaque was put in place in 1959, nearly 100 years after the end of the Civil War applauding the ef-

forts of the Confederate soldiers. It includes the following statement:

“We, therefore, pledge ourselves to preserve pure ideals; to honor our veterans; to study and teach the truths of history (one of the most important of which is, that the war between the states was not a rebellion, nor was its underlying cause to sustain slavery), and to always act in a manner that will reflect honor upon our noble and patriotic ancestors.”

Rep. Johnson recently posted via Facebook his concerns about the plaque, which he must pass every day on his way to his office at the State

Capitol lauding the Confederate efforts. Reportedly Governor Gregg Abbott has agreed to meet with Rep. Johnson to discuss the plaque and other Confederate symbols at the State Capitol. However, as of this morning, the meeting date and time is not confirmed.

This progress comes on the heels of the removal of the statue of General Robert E. Lee in Dallas. Also, Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings’ Task Force on Confederate Monuments continues to meet to address the other statutes and monuments throughout Dallas. The committee recently voted to recommend the park

revert back to its previous name, Oak Lawn Park. These are decisions Dallas has been slow to arrive at because according to *NDG* Senior Columnist Ed Gray Dallas is asleep at the wheel of history and justice because it is good for business.

“We still have work to do, obviously, but this is a very positive step in the right direction. With Speaker Straus’s support, I am confident the plaque will come down soon. Once again, Speaker Straus has demonstrated the kind of principled leadership for which he is now known,” Johnson added.

Richardson’s Cottonwood Art Festival hosts Artstop craft area for kids

Children of all ages will have the opportunity to create mini masterpieces at the City of Richardson’s Cottonwood Art Festival, to be held Oct. 7-8. Festival organizers of the semi-annual, prestigious show will once again host ArtStop, a place for kids and families to let imaginations run wild and watch the

world of art come to life.

Nestled in the center of the festival, ArtStop is an area decorated with colorful life-sized paint brushes, chalkboard easels and pottery wheels. Staffed by more than 200 volunteers, children can create and decorate a sculpture hat, paint a canvas masterpiece, add to an enormous

woven web or practice their hand at sculpting clay on a real potter’s wheel.

Additional activities will include:

- Crazy Cool Caps- Kids can create their own colorful, over-the-top hat using ribbons, glitter, feathers, pom-poms, foam shapes and more.
- Throwin’ Mud - It’s OK

for children to play in the mud at this activity station guided by ArtStop’s own master potters as kids learn to throw a pot or form a vase on an electric potter’s wheel.

• Tile Treasures – Mosaics made from trinkets and tissue are as unique and creative as the children who make them and the tiles make wonderful

keepsakes.

• Rollin’ and Recyclin’- The “Green Team” is back with more ideas and ways kids and families can recycle or be creative with the stuff we usually throw in the trash. This “Art from the Park” activity is free.

Considered a part of Richardson life for over 40

years, the festival features something for everyone. In addition to ArtStop activities, attendees can view hundreds of museum-quality art exhibits, listen to live music, and sample a variety of festival-favorite eats and treats. Food and spirits are available for purchase in the Lakeside Courtyard.

NDG Movie Review: Kingsmen 2 is not so golden after all

By Joe Farkus
NDG Contributing Writer

The sequel to 2014’s surprise hit *Kingsmen: The Secret Service* is aptly named *Kingsmen 2: The Golden Circle* delivers the same dizzying CGI action sequences and punchy humor as its predecessor. Opening with a car chase through the streets of London, head-spinning hand-to-hand combat, and over-the-top special effects all in one sequence, the film sets its tone firmly where fans of the first installment would expect. But it is from this point, however, that things become

much less consistent.

After *Kingsmen* – directed by an English director and starred by a largely English cast – found unexpected success and favorable reviews in the U.S., the choice was made to include actors Channing Tatum, Jeff Bridges, and Halle Berry as the *Kingsmen*’s American counterparts in a clear attempt to provide even greater appeal to American audiences the second go-around. Many moviegoers will be disappointed to find that one the film’s supposed stars – Tatum – spends much of the film in a vegetative state with little actual

screen time.

The attempts at including American cultural aesthetics, and particularly cultural and social aspects of the American South, come across as hokey and downright insulting at times. While still entertaining, it is impossible to ignore the almost patronizing efforts to appeal to American audiences; rather than complement the distinct and bold comedic tone, they distract from it.

Director Matthew Vaughn’s generous usage of one particular guest star absolutely saves the second half of the film from its pre-

dictable plot. Elton John serves as a shockingly hilarious and potent addition to the cast with moments that serve as the film’s comedic highlights.

As with most sequels, *Kingsmen 2* does not live up to its remarkably fresh predecessor. Audience members looking for a flashy action flick this autumn will still find entertainment value despite its gimmicky attempts at pleasing American audiences.

Kingsmen 2 opens Sept. 22 in theaters nationwide. Parents, please note this film is rated R for mature audiences only.



Halle Berry is part of a star-studded cast in *Kingsmen 2: The Golden Circle*

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be diagnosed than men of other ethnicities and it is recommended for them to seek screening earlier starting age 45.

Dr. Lotan said men should have the opportunity to make an informed deci-

sion regarding screenings, possible diagnosis and treatment. “Patients should have an open and honest conversation with their providers to discuss the risks, uncertainties and possible benefits of screening proce-

dures,” he said.

“The good news is that most men who are appropriately screened are diagnosed with curable disease. Also, some men are found to have non-aggressive disease and don’t need treatment and can just be monitored,” Dr. Lotan said.

Men diagnosed with prostate cancer should consult with their physicians and carefully weigh a number of factors before making a treatment decision. Factors to consider include age, expected life span, other health conditions and stage of cancer.

Treatment options include active surveillance, surgery, radiation, chemotherapy and cryosurgery.

For more information on prostate cancer, visit the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org/cancer/prostatecancer/detailedguide/.

Men needing to discuss prostate cancer with a physician can contact any of Parkland’s Community Oriented Primary Care health centers, which can be located by visiting www.parklandhospital.com/phhs/locations.

District 6 signals great promise for the 2017-18 school year



Joyce Foreman
Dallas ISD
District 6
Trustee

The results are in, and I'm proud to announce that there are no low-performing schools in District 6! Thanks to the tireless efforts of dedicated principals and teachers, and the partnership of hopeful parents, our students are continuing to demonstrate their potential for academic success.

Through the implementation of improvement-oriented programs and initiatives, campus-es across District 6 are experiencing sig-

nificant turnarounds. For instance, T. W. Browne Middle School is celebrating its status as a "met-standards" school, reflecting impressive growth in student performance. Campus leaders attribute this positive trend to data-driven strategies and customized professional development for teachers and staff. Browne is just one of several District 6 schools that are going the distance to support our students and improve our schools. I commend them for their commitment to excellence.

I am thrilled that T. L. Marsalis, Thomas Tolbert and Leslie Stemmons elementary schools have received all six of the TEA

distinction designations for the 2017 STAAR testing season, the highest recognition an elementary school can receive from the state! These schools are an example of the stellar academic performance taking place across District 6.

Also to be commended are the staff and students of Justin F. Kimball High School for their acts of kindness in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. Thanks to a schoolwide donation drive organized by students, many received tangible support during this difficult time. It's always heartwarming to see our students demonstrate a sincere concern for others. I'm inspired

to see them take a project from idea to implementation. It's evidence that we're growing a generation of compassionate leaders and problem-solvers in our community.

The ideals of leadership and community aren't new to District 6. The David W. Carter feeder pattern is rich in history, academic accomplishment, and neighborhood pride. A unique feature of District 6, this network of schools is one of the few predominantly African-American feeder patterns in all of Dallas ISD. And while I fully celebrate the growing diversity of students districtwide, it's important to acknowledge the

cultural traditions of academic excellence, professional success and community involvement in our own backyard.

See how many TEA distinction designations District 6 schools earned:

Elementary Schools

- Jimmie Tyler Brashear - 5 out of 6 distinctions
- Umphrey Lee - 3 out of 6 distinctions
- Thomas L. Marsalis - 6 out of 6 distinctions
- Ronald E. McNair - 2 out of 6 distinctions
- Maria Moreno - 1 out of 6 distinctions
- Leslie A. Stemmons - 6 out of 6 distinctions
- T.G. Terry - 3 out of 6 distinctions

- Robert L. Thornton - 2 out of 6 distinctions
- Thomas Tolbert - 6 out of 6 distinctions
- Adelle Turner - 5 out of 6 distinctions
- Mark Twain - 2 out of 6 distinctions
- Daniel Webster - 1 out of 6 distinctions

Middle Schools

- T.W. Browne - 4 out of 6 distinctions
- STEAM at D.A. Hulcy - 2 out of 6 distinctions
- Boude Storey - 1 out of 6 distinctions

High Schools

- Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Collegiate Academy - 2 out of 6 distinctions
- Justin F. Kimball - 1 out of 6 distinctions

UT Dallas recognized for value, diversity by *U.S. News & World Report*

The University of Texas at Dallas is among the best values and most diverse campuses in the newly released 2018 *U.S. News & World Report* Best Colleges rankings.

UT Dallas is listed as the second best value out of all public schools in Texas, and is tied for 11th nationwide and second in the state in terms of campus ethnic diversity.

"UT Dallas is committed to providing an inclusive, welcoming campus for all students," said Dr. George Fair, vice president of diversity and community engagement and dean of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies. "We're proud to be recognized for our efforts to enhance, embrace and celebrate diversity. Diversity challenges stereotypes, encourages critical thinking and teaches students how to communicate with people from different backgrounds."

U.S. News & World Report evaluated nearly 1,400 U.S.-based colleges on up to 15 measures of academic quality. The calculation of best value takes into account academic quality and



UT Dallas earned high marks for its value and campus ethnic diversity from *U.S. News & World Report*. (Photo: UT Dallas)

the 2016-2017 net cost of attendance given an average level of need-based financial aid.

The publication's diversity rating factors in the total proportion of minority students, leaving out international students, and the overall mix of groups.

"UT Dallas thrives because of its richly diverse student body and its faculty and staff who are committed to student success," said Dr. Jessica Murphy, associate professor of literary studies in the School of Arts and Humanities and newly appointed dean of undergraduate education. "These

two rankings help confirm that we are headed in the right direction."

Earlier this year, UT Dallas was ranked 32nd in Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine's list of the best values among the nation's public universities. In Forbes magazine's 2017 list of the best value colleges, the University ranks third among public universities in Texas.

Also, UT Dallas ranks No. 1 in the United States among universities founded less than 50 years ago, according to Times Higher Education.

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ESSA
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CHS wind symphony wins national recognition

The CHS Wind Symphony is the national winner in the 2017 Mark of Excellence / National Wind Band Honors Project. The "Mark of Excellence" music competition is entered with recordings that honor music programs and their ensembles for high standards in performance.



The Foundation for Music Education sponsors this project. Ensembles are judged by nationally respected adjudicators, with the top quarter being named as National Winners and the second quarter receiving Commended Honors. This year, 278 of the finest musical ensembles in the nation

entered the competition. The project received entries from 38 states.

The participating groups received written comments and suggestions from the adjudicators and a compilation CD of the winning performances.

Creekview Director of Bands, Arturo Denis, said, "the performance of the Creekview Wind Symphony represents the very

highest level of music teaching, learning and performing.

Congratulations to the Senior Class of 2017 and current members of the

Wind Symphony for this accomplishment! Special recognition and appreciation to; Associate Directors, Mr. Maxwell Atkinson and Mr. Matt Neal; Mr. La-

Puma, CHS Principal; and Mr. Brett Farr, CFBISD Fine Arts Director, for their ongoing support and contributions!"

North Dallas Gazette readers can win tickets to several upcoming events

The North Dallas Gazette website is the place for readers to find hot entertainment tickets. Stay tuned to www.northdallasgazette.com to find out how you can win tickets to the following events:

Take Me to the River presents a live performance experience based on the award-winning film and record that brought together multiple generations of iconic Memphis and Mississippi Delta

musicians to record a historic new album and re-imagine the utopia of racial, gender and generational collaboration of Memphis (Stax, Hi Records) in its heyday at the AT&T Performing on Sunday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m.

State Fair of Texas - the food, the rides, the exhibits - basically the fun of fall in Dallas from Sept. 29 - Oct. 22. Over a period of 24 days, guests can enjoy 75 concerts, visit the museums, and of

course enjoy the football games.

Speaking of games, NDG has tickets for the Southwest Airlines State Fair Classic featuring the Grambling State Tigers and Prairie View A&M Panthers at the historic Cotton Bowl Stadium. Kick-off is at 4 p.m. on Oct. 7.

Visit Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette and like the page, so you can receive the latest information on each contest.

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City Briefs

Carrollton

The City of Carrollton will be hosting **Concert on the Square: The Enablers** Saturday, Oct. 7 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Downtown Carrollton at 1106 S. Broadway St. The casual outdoor park concert is free and open to the public. Families with children of all ages are encouraged to come enjoy some live music in Downtown Carrollton. For more information, go to cityof-carrollton.com.

Dallas

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church will be hosting the **Greek Food Festival of Dallas** on Friday, Sept. 22 from 12 p.m. to 11 p.m. at 13555 Hillcrest Rd, Dallas. Food samples prepared by Holy Trinity's own cooks will be available as well as a coffee and pastries area. The event will feature traditional folk dancing and music, cooking demos, children's activities, and a marketplace with art and unique



The Greek Food Festival of Dallas will return this year with a variety of food options, live music, and art for sale (Greek Festival of Dallas)

imports. The fee to enter the festival is \$6, with children getting in free if they are ages 12 or younger. For more information, go to <http://www.greekfestivalofdallas.com>.

St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church is hosting a free **Mental Health Symposium** from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Sat., Sept. 30, at St. Luke at 5710 E. R.L. Thornton Freeway. Highlights will include mental health experts, in-

formative workshops, and treatment and support resources for youth, adults, seniors, and families. The keynote speaker for the event is Christian therapist Dr. Brenda Richardson-Rowe, LPC-S, director of Dallas' Harmony Counseling Center. While the symposium is free and open to the public, pre-registration is requested at (214) 821-2970, or visit www.slcumc.org.

See BRIEFS, Page 11

AT&T PERFORMING ARTS CENTER Smoking near 181. Watching the fireworks.

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Elliott's lackluster effort is not characteristic according to Garrett

By Dwain Price
NDG Sports Special
Contributor

FRISCO – Football coaches can stomach a lot of things. But what they refuse to stomach are less than a full effort from their players.

Case in point, during the Dallas Cowboys' embarrassing 42-17 road loss to the Denver Broncos on Sunday, running back Ezekiel Elliott was heavily criticized for not at least trying to chase down two Broncos defenders who intercepted a couple of passes thrown by



Dallas Cowboys Running Back Ezekiel Elliott (Image: Dallas Cowboys)

quarterback Dak Prescott. That didn't sit well with Cowboys coach Jason Garrett.

"Obviously, one of the things that we preach to our team on both sides of the

ball when there's a turnover, everybody's involved," Garrett said. "An offensive player becomes a defensive player on a fumble or an interception.

"Zeke is one of the most natural competitors I've ever been around. He loves to play, he loves to practice and I think we've seen that through his first year of playing. And those two plays were not indicative of the kind of competitor he was, and we have to get that addressed."

Garrett wanted to make
See COWBOYS, Page 11

In The Tall Grass provides a much needed look into the lives of black trans women

By Joe Farkus
NDG Contributing Writer

"Say their names."

Addressing an issue that has been widely ignored by the general public, In the Tall Grass – a verbatim play constructed from interviews conducted by playwright, Paul Kalburgi, with those directly involved with the events depicted in the production – attempts to illustrate the despairing reality of the violence and neglect transgender women of color face throughout their lives.

The play focuses on the



In the Tall Grass gives a voice to the overlooked trans gender community in Dallas. (Courtesy photo)

murder of Shade Schuler – a young black trans woman whose body was dumped in a field close to Dallas' Medical District. Its use of verbatim dialogue leaves this production unpolished and provocative – leaving no

uncomfortable stone unturned.

Bold performances by Mieko Hicks as trans woman and fountain of wisdom; Letitia, and Lamar

See TALL Page 10

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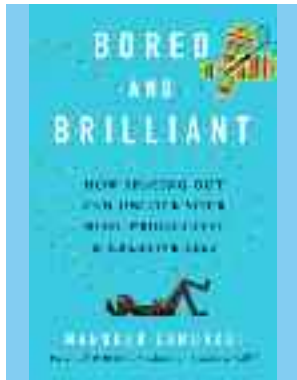
NDG Book Review: *Bored and Brilliant: Rediscovering the Lost Art of Spacing Out*

By Trri Schlichenmeyer

Pay attention!

Bet you heard that plenty when you were younger. Look up here, listen to me, watch this, eyes forward. Eventually, it sunk in: you kept your eyes open, your mouth closed, and you are the better person for it... aren't you? Peep this, pay attention – or, as in the new book “Bored and Brilliant” by Manoush Zomorodi, never mind.

A decade ago, as a new mother with a colicky baby, Manoush Zomorodi spent countless zombified hours pushing a stroller around her New York neighborhood, to



calm her son. At first, it was one of the most boring tasks she could imagine – but after awhile, she began to notice things: birds, architecture, people, and ideas.

Weeks after returning to work, she was fuzzy-

headed. That was when she understood that time off solved problems and cleared her mind; taking “a moment to reflect,” she realized that “my main accomplice was my phone.” That led to a bold experiment: Zomorodi, a radio show host, asked her listeners to join a “Bored and Brilliant Project,” in which they would agree to give up (or at least cut back on) mobile device usage.

Thousands of listeners signed on.

Boredom, she says, is the “second most commonly suppressed emotion after anger...” even though humans need to be bored. Our brains require a certain

amount of wandering to stay at peak efficiency. When we are “daydreaming” – something teens and children are more prone to doing – it activates a “default mode,” which enhances problem-solving and creativity. Says Zomorodi, “... without distraction, your mind goes into some interesting and unexpected places.”

Though it may sound funny, there are things you can do to combat a lack of boredom. Keep track of your digital habits; you’ll be surprised how much you’re on your phone. Put your device away while you’re walking, so you’re not tempted to use it on the fly.

Stop taking photos for one day. “Delete That App” you can’t live without (because, guess what? You can!). Be unconnected now and then, people-watch, look around, visit a park without your device. And finally, remember that if electronic devices are doing this to you, think about what they’re doing to your kids...

How many times in your life did you bug your mother with whines of boredom? You’ll take them all back, once you’ve read “Bored and Brilliant.”

If you’ve ever had a love-hate relationship with your overly-connected world, this is the book for you. Au-

thor Manoush Zomorodi knows your pain - it was a process for her and her Note to Self listeners to disconnect - and because she went through the same kind of withdrawal, she doesn’t promise that it’ll be easy for you, either. The stats are good here, and the tiny-step encouragement is better but it’s the honesty that’s best inside this book. The “Seven-Step Program” is also a big help.

Beware that there’s plenty of irony in reading this book on a device, but read it you should. In our heavily-connected society, “Bored and Brilliant” needs your attention.

TALL, continued from Page 9

Roheem Staton as Schuler’s heartbroken and outraged brother; Josh, bring life to the weighted emotional dialogue.

In the Tall Grass dives headfirst into the precarious world many trans women of color find themselves in – often forced into prostitution

and dangerous situations that generally put them at risk of violence and even death with a law enforcement community that all too often views them with suspicion rather than compassion.

The play follows the journey of Doug – a character seemingly based on

Kalburgi himself – as he speaks with Schuler’s friends, family and other trans activists as they depict a world so many here in Dallas and around the country are completely ignorant of.

As with any production rooted in such an emotionally potent topic, the temptation to veer into sentimentality is evident but generally

avoided. While the first act almost exclusively focuses on Schuler’s murder and the Dallas trans community’s frustration with lagging police response, the second act jumps between Schuler’s story and the effort by trans woman Tracee McDaniel to be successfully appointed to the Atlanta Citizen Review Board. While the intention

for this is apparent (trying to show progress and hope exist in the fight for trans visibility), Tall Grass would have been better served had it relied on Schuler’s story solely.

Regardless, In the Tall Grass is not only well written, produced, and performed – it is much needed. If Kalburgi’s intention is to

bring attention and focus to the lives so often casually discarded simply because they are different, he succeeds.

The Bishop Arts Theatre production is on stage until Sept. 24. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$22 at the door. Parents, please note this play is for mature audiences only.

Wear your favorite costume and bring the entire family to this silly, and only a little spooky, adventure.

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AGES 7 AND UP

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Equifax data breach leaves at least 143 million consumers credit at risk

By Charlene Crowell

Record-breaking back-to-back hurricanes in Houston and Florida brought unprecedented winds and rains affecting millions of Americans. Yet another storm just as brutal but financial in nature is also raging and affects at least 143 million Americans, as well as consumers in Canada and the United Kingdom: the Equifax data breach that took place from mid-May to July of this year.

On July 29, Equifax, one of the three major credit reporting corporations, discovered that unauthorized data access had occurred. Yet it was not until September 7 when the multi-national data breach was announced publicly. This massive cybersecurity breach includes federal income tax records, as well as employee records for government employees and those of Fortune 500 firms. Even recipients of major govern-

ment programs like Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security are affected.

For consumers, the personal information exposed to fraud and identity theft could mean a lifetime of closely monitoring and defending personal data to fight theft, fines and more. For businesses, questions will emerge as to whether millions of credit accounts were fraudulently opened and additionally whether they will be held partially responsible for its perpetuation.

In reaction to this cyber-crime, a surge of federal class action lawsuits are going after Equifax. As many as 50 have been filed in at least 14 states and the District of Columbia as of September 12. The Federal Bureau of Investigation is reportedly examining what went wrong from a criminal perspective. On the civil side of the law, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) is beginning

its own independent investigation.

Now a growing number of bipartisan inquiries from Capitol Hill are demanding to know why these breaches of personally identifiable information (PII) came about, what actions Equifax took, and what the global firm intends to do on behalf of consumers whose names, birth dates, addresses, Social Security numbers and drivers' licenses are all in jeopardy. Equifax also knew that an estimated 209,000 credit card holders and some 182,000 consumers in the U.S. who have a dispute on file with a creditor also had comprised PII.

In a September 11 letter to Richard F. Smith, Equifax's Chairman and Chief Executive Office, the Chair and Ranking Member of the Senate Finance Committee went further to pose a series of questions to be answered by September 26. Issues raised

in the letter include binding arbitration clauses that deny affected consumers the right of class action lawsuits, the firm's security systems and controls, how consumers can expect to be officially notified, and what, if any, protections Equifax will offer to affected consumers.

The following day, September 12, another letter to Equifax included questions on what data changes to Equifax's security plans and procedures were made as this breach now becomes its third one in only two years. Signed by 24 Members of Congress who serve on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, they represent 15 states.

"The massive Equifax data breach is one of the largest in our country's history, affecting half of the United States population and nearly three-quarters of consumers with credit reports," said Chi Chi Wu with the National Con-

sumer Law Center. "A security freeze is the most effective measure against 'new account' identity theft, because it stops thieves from using the consumer's stolen information."

To follow Wu's advice, consumers will need to contact all three of the major credit reporting bureaus and request that no new accounts be opened in their names.

Once requested, consumers will not be able to easily apply for new credit accounts or apply for a loan. An additional layer of precaution would be to contact every creditor and request that respective accounts be flagged for unusual or new credit activity. Detailed information on how consumers caught in the Equifax breach

can take these and other steps to protect their credit is available on the Federal Trade Commission's web.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau also has another consumer-friendly rule that Congress is currently fighting: preserving the right for consumers to file lawsuits when financial disputes could not be resolved otherwise. Announced on July 10, Richard Cordray, CFPB Director explained why the rule is important.

"Arbitration clauses in contracts for products like bank accounts and credit cards make it nearly impossible for people to take companies to court when things go wrong," said CFPB Director

See RISK, Page 15

BRIEFS, continued from Page 8

Farmers Branch

Farmers Branch Parks and Recreation is hosting **The Great Pumpkin Splash** on Saturday, Oct. 7 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 13000 William Dodson Parkway, Farmers Branch. The event will feature a fun spin on the pumpkin carving tradition by turning it into a pool party. Families with children are encouraged to come and to pre-register by Oct. 4 at https://apm.activecommunities.com/farmersbranch/Activity_Search/the-great-pumpkin-splash/947. Tickets range from \$5 to \$8.

Garland

Firewheel Golf Park will be hosting the **North Texas Hickory Open** on Thursday, Sept. 28 – Saturday 30 at 600 W Campbell Rd, Garland in support of The HOPE Clinic and The Garland Sports of Hall of Fame. Hickory golf clubs will be available for two-day rental for \$35. Participants are being asked to register for the event at www.Tournevents.com/NTHO. The

event is also open to sponsors.

McKinney

Texas Road Trips: Paintings by Sandy and Alex Forbes will be held at The Cove on Friday, Sept. 22 – Saturday, Sept. 23 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. each day at 402 N Tennessee, McKinney. Paintings on display will showcase beautiful landscapes and scenery. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, go to <http://thecovemckinney.com/>.

Plano

Collin College will be hosting photographic exhibition **PROOF** – works by Professor Byrd Williams Wednesday, Sept. 27 – Wednesday, Oct. 25 at the Spring Creek Campus gallery at 2800 E Spring Creek Pkwy, Plano. Williams will also be holding a discussion of his work from 12 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 5 at the Spring Creek Campus's library room L201AB with an artist's reception occur-

ring later from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the gallery itself. For more information, go to www.collin.edu/THEARTS gallery.

Richardson

The League of Women Voters of Richardson will be hosting a **Know Your Town II** meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. at the Richardson Civic Center at 411 West Arapaho Rd, Richardson. Speakers will include Tay-

lor Lough (Assistant to the Richardson City Manager), Mia Martin (General Counsel for Richardson ISD), and Jean Richards (President of LWV-Richardson). For more information, go to <http://www.sherrillpark.com/files/Activities/LWVevent.html>.

To submit events and announcements, send an email to editor@northdallasgazette.com with headline Community Briefs.

Paid Internship opportunity for writers, college students in the Dallas Area

The *North Dallas Gazette* 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 up to 20 hours a week at \$8.00 per hour. Applicants must have reliable transportation.



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Employability to host 8th annual career expo in Dallas

On Wednesday, September 27, the Dallas Mayor's Committee for the Employment of People with Disabilities will host its 8th Annual employAbility job fair at the Sheraton Downtown Dallas Hotel from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The yearly event promotes the hiring of those with disabilities and serves as a critical resource for North Texas residents, providing job seekers the opportunity to meet hiring representatives from more than 50 nationally recognized companies, including event sponsors AT&T, Alliance Data, PepsiCo and Lock-



Forest Service / Flickr

heed Martin.

Participating employers recognize the importance of diversity in the workplace and the many benefits of hiring people with disabilities. Attendees will have the

chance to network with leading North Texas companies such as Southwest Airlines, Lowes, Tom Thumb and more, and can participate in educational classes featuring interviewing tips and resume

reviews. Additionally, Attitudes & Attire will host a class on wearing the right clothes for the right job. Texas Workforce Solutions will also have a Mobile Workforce Unit with computer and internet access to apply for jobs on site.

"This event is more than just your average job fair," said Jon Nelson, Director of Human Resources at AT&T. "It not only provides hundreds of North Texas job seekers with employment opportunities, but it also gives us the chance to meet some of the hardest-working and inspiring individuals,

who we're proud to add to our diverse workforce. Some of our best and brightest stars have come from employAbility, so we're excited for another year."

While at first glance a disability can overshadow the full potential of an individual, employers who take a more knowledgeable perspective see beyond the disability and find a unique skill set that benefits their organization. This event serves to educate the Dallas-Fort Worth business community about building a diverse workforce by valuing people with different abilities.

For more information about the event, please visit <http://www.employability-dallas.org/>.

Founded in 1982 as The Dallas Mayor's Committee for the Employment of People with Disabilities, employAbility engages the business community to build a diverse workforce by valuing people with different abilities. The committee works to advance employment opportunities for people with different abilities. For more information, visit employAbility's website and Facebook page.

COWBOYS, continued from Page 9

sure he wasn't singling out Elliott as the sole reason the Cowboys got thoroughly whipped by the Broncos, dropping their record to 1-1. There clearly was enough blame to go around as the defense was a no-show, the running game was non-existent, and the passing game was marginal at best.

"One of the things that's the foundation of our football team is fight," Garrett said. "We're going to compete and fight and scratch and claw, and that's one of the reasons we love Zeke Elliott (because) that's what he is.

"He competes, he battles, he's made great blocks throughout his career with us. That's just what he's all

about. Again, those plays were uncharacteristic of him. We'll certainly address that with him, but we have to address that with our entire team (because) that's not the way we play."

A Cowboys defense that was extremely dominant in the 19-3 season-opening win over the New York Giants barely made the Broncos crack a sweat. Denver racked up 380 yards in total offense, while Elliott rushed nine times for meager eight yards — a career-low for him, he said, on any level.

While the Cowboys' running game was bogged down seemingly in a pile of cement, Prescott completed just 30 of 50 passes for 238 yards, two touchdowns and

those two critical interceptions.

"We couldn't get any movement off the ball, we couldn't really establish the run game," Elliott said. "We couldn't really get things started up front. We just really weren't on the field that long."

And about those puny eight rushing yards?

"You can't forget about it," Elliott said. "You've got to evaluate what happened and you've got to build on it."

Rough game for Prescott

Considering he only had four interceptions in his first 18 NFL games and two against the Broncos, this was the most challenging game of Prescott's young career. And he didn't come out of it unscathed.

"They did a good job of matching us up, throwing everything they did at us, but I think for the most part we weren't ourselves," Prescott said. "If I make more plays we give ourselves a chance in that game, and I just simply didn't make the plays.

"There's no excuse for it. Playing like that, you won't win a game no matter who you play."

The Broncos have one of the best secondaries in the business, and it showed. Their defensive front seven isn't bad, either.

"I don't know they necessarily took that much away from us more than it was me just not making some throws for the most part," Prescott said. "They did a good job, they're sticky de-

fenders, they were on us, they made me throw in tight windows and tight areas and I just simply didn't make some of them.

"I feel like if I would have made some of those plays on the outside I probably would have forced them to get in a zone more than the man coverage that they were in the majority of the night. Then usually that's when our run game hits."

Not even the game being halted for 62 minutes late in the first quarter because of severe weather could help the Cowboys. That just prolonged the inevitable.

"We weren't doing our jobs," linebacker Jaylon Smith said. "As a defense you have to play together collectively, and when we do that we're successful.

"And when you don't, all it takes is one person to mess up and it creates havoc."

After what transpired against the Broncos, consider the havoc created.

But tight end Jason Witten, who caught 10 passes for 97 yards and a touchdown and also dropped another TD, would like Cowboy Nation to exercise a sense of calm at this early stage of the season and not read too much into the lopsided loss to the Broncos.

"We just didn't execute from beginning to end," Witten said. "We always focus on us as an offense, and we didn't play very well collectively as a group and certainly there's a lot of areas to improve."

LUCAS, continued from Page 1

their mark in various industries as well.

"My experience at Booker T. Washington was only filled with creative freedom and a place that allowed my interest in art to blossom into the career I have today," Lucas said. "Arts (as it was referred to when I attended) allowed me to be surrounded by teachers and students that enjoyed painting, jewelry making, dreaming of 'what if' and most of all for me drawing. When I finished and went on to College for Creative Studies (in Detroit,

Mich.), my understanding and abilities of artistic fundamentals was more advanced than the incoming students. In essence, Arts gave me an advantage and prepared me for success as a car designer by exposing me to different artistic expressions."

Following college, Lucas dove into the auto industry with the Ford Motor Company, which also owns the luxury Lincoln brand.

"To work for a premium brand like Lincoln is truly a highlight in my 19 year career at Ford Motor Com-



Earl Lucas is a chief designer for the Lincoln Motor Company, with extensive work on the new Navigator. (Courtesy photo)

pany," Lucas said. "After completing a three year International assignment in the UK (living in London), I was requested to return to the US and assigned to the Lincoln Motor Company.

My role as a Chief Designer came by way of working on a number of significant programs for the Blue Oval. I am blessed to have designed and worked on many programs and acquired the skill necessary for the role of Chief Designer."

With that role came the opportunity for the one-time art student to put his mark on one of the premiere SUVs on the road. The Lincoln Navigator is not only packed with creature comforts on the inside, the exterior of the vehicle is the result of painstaking planning, as Lincoln wants it to stand out at first sight.

"When it comes to the design, the feature I am particularly proud of is the signature face or front end of the Navigator," Lucas said. "Lincoln products are all about seduction and human surface language, so creating the Navigator's face was a big challenge ... literally. The scale of the grille and size of head lamps by definition can be imposing and intimidating. However, we were able to create a confident face that speaks Lincoln and gives a sense of protection to the passengers on the inside."

While his career path has followed a wide track from

Oak Cliff to London and back, Lucas says Big D is always on his mind, and he makes a point to remind himself of his home turf every single day.

"In my office is a huge photo of downtown Dallas," Lucas said. "I think of Dallas often and consider the lessons learn on her streets integral to my accomplishments. Know this Dallas — no matter my travels, my design assignments and our final products — I am forever linked and take her everywhere. My growth started from that origin and I hope that she is proud of me."

Upcoming DFW area job fairs

Sept. 28

Dallas Career Fair

Ready for a new career? National Career Fairs is under new ownership and we are driving employers and future employees together faster than ever before.

WE ARE HELPING AMERICA GET BACK TO WORK! The fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel – Dallas-Love Field at 3300 W. Mockingbird Ln, Dallas, TX 75235.

Oct. 4

100,000 Opportunities Initiative Job Fair

Register now! Major employers will be hiring on the spot! Up to 30 national and local employers will be available to meet you and conduct onsite interviews at the Southwest Center Mall at 3662 W Camp Wisdom Rd., Dallas from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 pm. Practice your interview skills with one-on-one coaching. Create or improve your resume with personalized support. Get help with job applications. Learn about options to earn your high school equivalency and explore college options. Find a mentor, a job training program, and much more!

Oct. 11

Dallas Job Fair

Come meet with hiring managers from local, national, and Fortune 500 companies for free at our Dallas Job Fair. You will be meeting with decision makers face to face, so wear a suit and dress for success.

Update your resume and bring 15+ copies to be able to offer a resume to every manager you speak with. There might be companies and industries you are not familiar with, but take the time to speak with them.

It might be your dream job. The fair will be held from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel by the Galleria at 4801 Lyndon B. Johnson Freeway, Dallas, TX 75251.



Oct. 12

Best Hire Career Fairs – Dallas Job Fair

Open the doors of opportunity when you meet and interview with the top hiring companies in Dallas. This career fair will allow you to learn about the businesses that are hiring and what their hiring needs are. Tired of sending your resume over the web to get no responses back? Put a face with a name and make a great first impression. Register today, and you could get hired live at our next career fair in Dallas. Be prepared to interview with hiring managers and recruiters from the top hiring companies in Dallas. Dress to impress and bring plenty of resumes. The fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel at 2015 Market Center Blvd, Dallas, TX 75207.

Oct. 16

Job Fair Dallas by LocalWork.com

Companies in the Dallas area are hiring for thousands of positions! Finding the right job can be a challenging process. This is why we built a face-to-face event to allow you to interact directly with the hiring company at the Hilton Garden Inn at 1001 W President George Bush Hwy, Richardson from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. We always recommend bringing 10-15 resumes. Employers aren't focused just on what you're wearing as much as they are looking to see how committed you are to doing your best.

Oct. 19

Dallas Career Fair by Choice Career Fairs

Do you have a resume,

but aren't getting called for interviews? If so, it means your resume needs improvement to catch the attention of hiring managers. Bring a copy of your resume and receive a 10-minute resume consultation. Find out about small changes that can make a big difference in getting your resume noticed. You'll meet face-to-face with hiring decision-makers from some of the areas top employers.

Dress professionally and bring plenty of resumes, because they're here to hire. Walk in and start interviewing, it's that simple. Save time, money and effort interviewing with multiple companies in one day at one location. Many of these companies have several openings and are eager to meet with you. You're no longer just a piece of paper. Attend the career fair and get in front of decision makers. The fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Hilton Arlington at 2401 E Lamar Blvd, Arlington, TX 76006.

Oct. 26

Dallas Career Fair by Choice Career Fairs

You'll meet face-to-face with hiring decision-makers

from some of the areas top employers. Dress professionally and bring plenty of resumes, because they're here to hire. Walk in and start interviewing, it's that simple. Save time, money and effort interviewing with multiple companies in one day at one location. Many of these companies have several openings and are eager to meet with you. You're no longer just a piece of paper. Attend the career fair and get in front of decision makers. The fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Comfort Inn & Suites Plano at 700 East Central Parkway, Plano, TX 75074.

Nov. 1

Arlington Career Fair by National Career Fairs

Ready for a new career? National Career Fairs is under new ownership and we are driving employers and future employees together faster than ever before. WE ARE HELPING AMERICA GET BACK TO WORK! The fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the La Quinta Inn & Suites – Arlington at 825 N. Watson Rd, Arlington, TX 76011.

Nov. 16

Plano Career Fair by National Career Fairs

Are you looking for a job? Are you tired of sending resumes left and right and never getting an answer? If you are, dress in your best professional clothes, bring resumes and visit our Plano Career Fairs. You will have the opportunity to meet top employers and to interview for several positions during the course of the day, meeting the people who make the hiring decisions. You will save a lot of time since there will be

no need to craft a customized personal statement for each company you visit:

You'll be able to tell them why you wish to work for them, and you'll have the chance to sell yourself. Our employers send their managers to carry out onsite interviews. Don't wait for someone to call you for an interview. Sign up for our next career fair and give off a first impression that makes a lasting career. The fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Comfort Inn & Suites at 700 Central Parkway East, Plano, TX 75074.

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Church Happenings

BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP, CARROLLTON (A PLACE TO BELONG)

NOTICE: Pastor Woodson serves the community by providing "Professional Therapy and Counseling Services" on a "Sliding Fee" scale. To schedule an appointment call the Pastoral Counseling Center at 972-526-4525 or email the church at www.bethelbiblefellowship.org

Discover Hope and Help for daily living; and, you don't have to be a member to come. The Connect-2-Reflect (C2R) meetings are held in comfortable and relaxed homes, one in Carrollton and one in Plano, refreshments are served. Call the church for details.

September 24, 9:45 a.m. You're invited to our Sunday "Prayer and Meditation" at 9:45 am. You will be blessed and inspired. You don't want to miss this! And, join us in our one hour only Sunday's Bible Study at 12 Noon, continuing on the book of Ephesians with other supporting chapters and verses.

September 27, 7 p.m. Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Pastor Brenda Patterson, Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, Pastor Bernadette and others conducting a new study on the book of

Ephesians with supporting chapters and verses. Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you; it's Time to Grow in the Word of God.

Dr. Terrance Woodson, Senior Pastor
1944 E. Hebron Parkway
Carrollton, TX 75007
972-492-4300
www.bethelbiblefellowship.org

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "THE SHIP"

September 24, 8 a.m. Join us in our Sunday Morning Services as we praise and worship God in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall; followed by our Sunday Worship Services; and bring someone with you, you will be blessed.

September 27 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. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all; be prepared to grow.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D. Senior Pastor
1609 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
972-379-3287
www.theship3c.org

INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH, Let's Go Fishing! MATTHEW 4:19

September 22, 7 p.m. All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 7 p.m., (IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

September 24, 10 a.m. You're invited this Sunday as we praise, worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name in songs and the spoken word. Also, reserve your seat at Rushtaurant for Sunday brunch after service today.

September 27, 7 p.m. Join us in Monday School as we grow in God's Word and learn what God has to say to us.

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

MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO (MOCOP) (Uniting the Body of Christ Among Nations)

September 24, 10 a.m. Join us for Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory; and don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church.

September 27, 7 p.m. You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

Pastor Sam Fenceroy Senior Pastor and Pastor Gloria Fenceroy
300 Chisholm Place
Plano, TX 75075
972-633-5511
www.mocop.org

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO (WHERE COMMUNITY BECOMES FAMILY)

Come and connect to God

through Shiloh; grow in Christ through the study of God's Word; and Serve God through service to each other and to the world. John 12:26.

September 24, 8 a.m. And 11 a.m.

Join us for our morning services; you will enjoy the fellowship during our 8 a.m. and in the 11 a.m. Worship Services.

September 27, 7 p.m. You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word. Come and be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and growth; it's all for His glory and His

honor. We are, "Growing in Christ through the study of His Word."

Our church ministries offer opportunities for motivation and growth; join us and see. Be blessed of the Lord.

September 30, 9 a.m. Join us for our Women's Fall Conference at the church. This year's theme is "How Godly Women Persevere". Call the church for details.

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr. Senior Pastor
920 E. 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org



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- Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm

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Church Happenings is a weekly calendar of religious services produced by the North Dallas Gazette.

To make additions or corrections to the calendar, contact: religion@northdallasgazette.com

Placing trust in our strength



Sister Tarpley

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

So the Lord sent a plague on Israel, and seventy thousand men of Israel died.

- 1 Chronicles 21:14

When was the last time your overconfidence cost the lives of 70,000 men? That is exactly what happened to David. David made what might appear to be an innocent request of his general, Joab.

But the minute Joab heard the request he cringed. He knew David was in big trouble for this one. You see to number the troops was a great sin in Israel because it was against the law.

Why? Because it demonstrated that you were plac-

ing more trust in numbers than in the living God.

David displayed enough pride to cost the lives of 70,000 fighting men. God gave him three choices of punishment for his sin.

A plague was the one he chose, and it resulted in the loss of 70,000 men.

Throughout Israel's history, God set the stage for battles to be won, miracles to take place, and people to exercise faith.

The stage was always set so that man could not take credit for what God did. Consider Gideon who was only allowed 300 men to fight an army of 100,000.

Consider Jehoshaphat, who had to lead his army with his singers. God defeated the enemy.

Consider Joshua, who was told simply to walk around Jericho seven times, and they would get victory. God did things in some very unconventional ways!

How does this relate to

you and me as Christian believers? Well, the minute you and I place more trust in our abilities than in God, we are guilty of numbering the troops.

How does He punish us? Sometimes it's through letting a deal go sour. Sometimes it's through problems with another Christen, client or vendor. Sometimes situations just blow up in our face.

Other times, He lets us go on for a long time doing our own thing, but eventually He deals with it.

The lesson here is to learn daily and complete depend-

ence on God. Use your gifts and abilities through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Ask God daily for direction and His wisdom. His ways won't always line up with conventional wisdom.

When we begin depending on our abilities only, God has a responsibility to make known to us who is the giver of the blessings.

Ask God to show you the right paths you would have follow. Remember, sometimes Christians are not sure of the direction they should go. There are times they stum-

ble and run into roadblocks.

There may be times that they don't understand why things are not going the way they think they should.


Ask God for help you to see how these roadblocks and detours are being used

to redirect your life.

Tell God you love and trust Him and that you want to follow Him. And, don't forget to thank Him for His promise that "all things work together for good to those who love the Lord."



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Sister Tarpley and Donald Davis, salesman at Sam Packs, 5-Star Ford in Carrollton, Texas; he just sold Sister Tarpley her new car. A great salesman for the elder, especially. Go see him if you are looking for a new car. Donald Davis gives great service and respect.

Second Keyboardist Needed: Please Call for Info
www.theshpc.org Fellowship Christian Center Church 972.370.3287
1608 14th St., Plano, TX 75074
A Kingdom Building Church
Early Morning Service
300 W. Beltwood Drive
Allen, TX 75015
8:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship
Stony Elementary
1550 Fishback Drive
Allen, TX 75002
9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Live
300 W. Beltwood Drive
Allen, TX 75015
7:00 p.m.
Pastor: Dr. W.L. DUNN, Jr.



RISK, continued from Page 11

Richard Cordray.

Days later on July 20, Capitol Hill lawmakers turned to a seldom-used option, the Congressional Review Act, to deny the rule from taking effect. Sen. Mike Crapo, Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee and Rep. Jeb Hensarling, Chair of the House Committee on Finan-

cial Services announced a coordinated legislative attack to roll back CFPB's arbitration rule. The law allows Congress to fast track a veto of new federal regulation with limited debate and a simple majority vote.

On July 25, the House passed its resolution on a vote of 231-190. To date, the Senate has yet to take a corresponding vote.



NDGtv
North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with **Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley**
Hear what it was like growing up in a very different Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.
Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com



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Congratulations to our **Discover the Unexpected (DTU)** Fellows!

Discover the Unexpected, presented by the all-new 2018 Chevrolet Equinox in partnership with the National Newspaper Publishers Association, celebrates the impressive achievements of our HBCU student journalists.

Because of our DTU Fellows, summer '17 was full of important stories that inform, inspire, and shatter perceptions about African American culture as well as our community.

Don't miss their stories and videos from this road trip of a lifetime.

#discovertheunexpected

DISCOVER MORE OF THEIR STORIES AT NNPA.ORG/DTU