

North Dallas Gazette



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African American and Korean community leaders try to build hope

BY IVY N. MCQUAIN
NDG CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

The truest crime in America, or any nation, is not a crime of murder. Not a crime of theft. Not even a crime of accusations. The greatest crime the people of a governing body can inflict

on themselves and others is the crime of hatred. Hatred is the foundation, and oftentimes the cause of all other crimes. Hatred is an infestation and spreads if not



Rev. L. Smith addressing the Black pastors and Korean leaders about the Cultural exchange event.

dealt with immediately. And mayhem ensues when an individual or group mix hatred with prejudice.

For the families of Marcus Phillips, 26, and Thomas Pak, a Korean immigrant and owner of Diamond

See LEADERS, Page 6

COVER STORY

Irving voters will soon go to the polls to decide the fate of seven candidates running for three city council seats



Bill Mahoney, candidate for Irving City Council Place 6

See LEADERS, Page 9

Celebration takes students around the world in 5 days

This year's International Week was the University's largest so far, with UT Dallas students representing a total 19 countries of origin.

UT Dallas' student organizations – some of them newly formed – participated



Translation studies graduate student Amal Shafek represented Egypt, which won first place in the cuisine category.

in five days of events, starting with Passport to the World, an exhibition that featured food, music and other introductions to the cultures of

the student groups that participated.

Andrea Diaz, International Program Coordinator, said the event drew an estimated 1,100 participants, a sizable jump above last year's 700.

"This is my fifth year as a student at UT Dallas,

See STUDENTS, Page 5



Denton Jazz Festival kicks off this weekend

For more information see pg. 10
www.northdallasgazette.com

COMMENTARY

Minority Voting Influence

BY DENNIS WEBB

If you are reading this and are not planning to vote on May 12, please keep reading. Let me enlighten you as to why your vote matters more than you realize.

May 4, we have the opportunity to exercise our right as citizens to cast our ballots for the person we think will best represent us, whether it be your local city government or school board. Each of us who votes does so with the hope that whichever candidate

wins, he or she will be a worthy steward of the power invested in them.

The City of Irving has a population that is 79 percent non-Caucasian according to Snap Shot Irving 2012. One would think the minority influence would be very strong given that minority to Caucasian ratio. Unfortunately the minority population and the minority influence do not match.

I have never been a proponent of voting for someone because they are a mi-

See VOTING, Page 3

Budget cuts lead to change in Texas Vaccines for Children Policy

The Texas Department of State Health Services has developed policy changes to the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) childhood vaccine program in response to reductions in state and federal funding.

Texas law requires students in Texas schools/Child Care Facilities to be immunized against certain vaccine-preventable diseases.



Children who have private insurance that cover vaccines are no longer eligible to receive TVFC vaccines in Dallas County Health and Human Services Immunization clinics. Instead these children will be referred to their medical home for immunization services.

Children eligible to receive

See POLICY, Page 7



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INSIDE...

People In The News	2
Op/Ed	3
Community News	5
Cover Story	9
Arts & Entertainment	10
Business	11
Classifieds	12
Career Opportunity	13
Church Directory	14-16
Sister Tarpley	15

People In The News...



Junior Desinor



Richelle Carey



Yvonne Davis

See Page 2

Junior Desinor

Junior Desinor has never subscribed to the status quo. So when he launched Level Properties in January 2012, he did not just create another run-of-the-mill real estate brokerage firm; instead, he set his sights on innovating the whole industry.

With the exception of his college years, Desinor has been a lifelong Dallasite so it was a natural fit for him to launch his business venture here as well. In fact, he started developing an affinity for Dallas real estate even as a kid, attending local schools St Monica and

Bishop Lynch.

"Most kids see a home and think that's a big house or a small house, etc. I would actually look at houses and almost study them--how they fit into the neighborhood and how they compared to neighboring homes," said Desinor. "Before long, I started envisioning how houses would look on vacant lots around my neighborhood. So real estate was definitely in my blood."

Despite his love for houses at an early age, it was not until Desinor enrolled at Texas Tech that he actually

started profiting from his penchant for realty. While his schoolmates were taking part-time jobs, Desinor along with a business partner was busy building a profitable business investing in both residential and commercial real estate. Before his 2007 graduation, he and his company had succeeded in flipping residential houses and developing several commercial properties in Lubbock.

After graduation, Junior returned to Dallas and honed his skills at a local brokerage in the Turtle Creek area where he was a consistent top performer. But more im-

portant than the accolades was his opportunity to learn the brokerage business inside and out. After developing a keen grasp of what was lacking in the industry, Junior constructed his business plan for his dream project—Level Properties.

Now with his new venture, Junior is convinced he has created the right service for today's real estate client. Level Properties represents a business model that emphasizes team-based customer service instead of clients relying on one overburdened commissioned sales person to handle the entire process. In fact, the firm employs no



commissioned sales people. The result is clients receiv-

ing a smooth efficient buying or selling experience.

Each detail of his new concept has been carefully planned because this first incarnation is the prototype for Desinor's expansion plans to take place within 18 months and creating franchise opportunities soon after.

For more information about Level Properties, please visit www.levelproperties.com.

Richelle Carey

Richelle Carey, news anchor for formerly CNN Headline News now simply called HLN, has recently launched RichelleCarey.com to provide a place where women and their supporters can have a genuine conversation about the challenges and triumphs of women and girls. RichelleCarey.com highlights critical issues facing women and girls including domestic violence, the sexualization of girls in the media, sexism,

victim blaming and much more. As an advocate, Carey wanted to create an online community that fosters conversations about the issues that affect us all and also celebrate the everyday accomplishments of women around the world.

"We have a responsibility to each other—especially to young women to speak up about critical issues we face...domestic violence, sexualization of girls in the media, sexism,

victim blaming and so many other topics. My hope is that when women or men come to RichelleCarey.com, they will learn new things, gain new perspectives, and feel empowered because of that knowledge and those connections," said Carey.

RichelleCarey.com (www.RichelleCarey.com) touches on many pertinent topics through its sections, such as the We As Women page, a place where women who have impacted lives can be honored; the Violence Against

Women page, where visitors can find critical information about myths concerning violence against women and ways they can help end the violence; the *Our Girls* page, which challenges the sexualization of women and girls in the media and culture, and how



the youngest are suffering the most. *True Allies*, which recognizes men who are part of the conversation in ways big and small, and working to make safe, just communities for women and girls; and the *ESSENCE* page which features stories from the *What Matters* segment that airs weekdays during Richelle's HLN newscast. These stories highlight issues in African American community that affect everyone.

Yvonne Davis

State Representative Yvonne Davis (D-Dallas) announced that over \$500,000 in

Administered by the Texas Association of Developing Colleges (TADC), the Urban Scholarship Program was created during the 74th Legislative session as part of House Bill 2128 with the cooperation of the three largest local telephone companies in the state of Texas at that time. This year's Scholarship Fund contributors are AT&T and Verizon Wireless.

Since the establishment

continue their college education due to over \$5,500,000 awarded to them through the Urban Scholarship Fund.

"This fund was created to provide access to higher education opportunities for Texans who, without this assistance, might not be able to strive for a college education," said Rep. Davis. "Basically all the problems facing our communities, including economic parity, high crime, building cohesive families, and other quality of life issues are related to the lack of education. By providing increased avenues of educational opportunity, we multiply our chances of improving the conditions of our State. The goal of this fund is to boost chances of reaching this target" Rep. Davis continued.

The 2012-2013 Urban Scholarship Fund is for Texas residents who are also U. S. citizens and full-time undergraduates in good academic

standing at any accredited public or private non-profit college, university or technical college. Additionally, applicants must demonstrate financial need and have graduated from a high school in the following metropolitan cities: Abilene, Amarillo, Arlington, Austin, Beaumont, Brownsville, Carrollton, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Denton, El Paso, Fort Worth, Frisco, Garland, Grand Prairie, Houston, Irving, Killeen, Laredo, Lubbock, McAllen, McKinney, Mesquite, Midland, Pasadena, Plano, San Antonio, Waco, and Wichita Falls. Students interested in applying for scholarships should contact their high school guidance counselor; college financial aid officer, or call the Texas Association of Developing Colleges at (214) 630-2511. Applicants may also complete the scholarship application online at www.txadc.org and print, sign

and mail it with the required documents. The deadline for applying for the 2012-2013 Urban Scholarship Fund is

Monday, July 16, 2012 (postmarked).

Students attending technical colleges should see **DAVIS, Page 10**



scholarships are available for high school graduates from Dallas and twenty eight other urban areas throughout Texas.

of the Urban Scholarship Fund, nearly 10,000 students throughout the state of Texas have been able to begin or

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The North Dallas Gazette, formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones

NAACP: Damage to voter's rights already done by ALEC

NAACP President and CEO Benjamin Todd Jealous made the following statement on the decision by the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) to discontinue their Public Safety and Elections Task Force:

"We are encouraged that the nationwide campaign by civil rights advocates has forced ALEC to rethink its voter suppression

and criminal protection work, but we know that for so many Americans, the damage has already been done," said Jealous. "This year, because of ALEC, millions of voters who had been eligible to vote in 2008 will be denied access to the ballot box. We may never know how many families will be denied justice because of

See DAMAGE, Page 13

National group files housing discrimination complaints against major banks

BY CHARLENE CROWELL

In the aftermath of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination, Congress enacted the federal Fair Housing Act on April 11, 1968. This historic federal act made it illegal to discriminate in housing and housing related-activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability or sex. Further, the law applies to

marketing and sales of homes, listings, appraisals and maintenance.

Now 44 years later – and not for the first time – two of the nation's largest banks - Wells Fargo and US Bank are accused of serious violations.

Following an undercover investigation of foreclosed single-family homes in eight metropolitan areas,

See HOUSING, Page 11

VOTING, continued from Page 1

nority. A person deserves to serve as an elected official based on what they have to offer the municipality or school district. People should be elected based on qualification and leadership experience rather than the skin they are in.

If there is a minority candidate that is qualified, then looking at the minority numbers the minority community can play a significant role determining the outcome of the election.

Unfortunately for just about all of the election cycles in Irving's school board and city council races the minority vote and the influence that comes with it has not materialized. Which begs the question why? The short answer is minorities do not vote. Engrained in the minority psyche is this notion politics is something they are not interested in. Another mindset says there are so many voters voting my one vote does not matter.

I ran for the Irving City Council in 2011. There were three candidates in the race for the single member district 3 seat I was pursuing. During the general election, for a candidate to win they had to get 50.1% of the votes. I received 48.18%. I missed winning the general election by 30 votes. I was forced to campaign another 30 days during a run off which I won. My opponent beat the third place challenger by 3 votes to get into the runoff. Your votes do count.

Your vote counts particular in local elections where the turnout is minimal. In school district and municipal elections the candidate that

gets his voters to the poll wins. The margin of victory or defeat could me as small as a few votes.

May 12 we have the opportunity to exercise our freedom to vote for the candidate we feel will be the best person to lead our city and school district.

We have an opportunity to reclaim a minority position on the school board. During the 2011 election both minority trustee board members were voted out of office. How did this happen. The minority voters stayed away from the poll. Their apathy cost the Irving Independent School District the service of two qualified African American leaders. They are two

people who have devoted their life to the service of our youth.

The organization that lead the coup consisted of a small group of non-minority citizens with an agenda to oust the current African American School Superintendent. They are planning to continue that effort by seating two more of their choice to gain control of the School board. Unless the minority community makes its influence known by going to the polls this time and influencing friends, family, co-workers church members etc. to vote, history will repeat itself. Your vote counts.

I urge you to go to the poll and vote. In my opinion

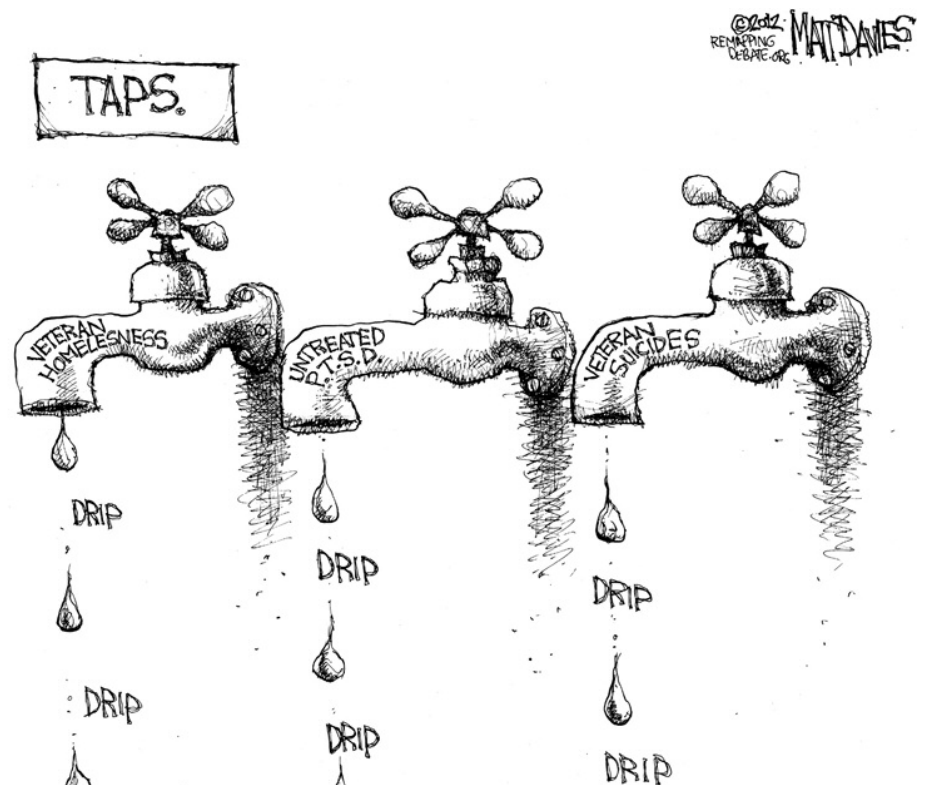
we have several candidates running who I feel are the best people to serve. I ask you to join me in my effort to reelect Valarie Jones and to elect A.D. Jenkins to the Irving Independent School Board and elect Rick Stopher to the Irving City council.

The minority community can influence the 2012 elections in the City of Irving. My prayer is that we will use this influence to put people in office who will best reflects our values and be the catalyst to insure our voices are heard.

Early voting starts April 30 and runs through May 7. The general election is May 12. Go make your influence count.

The band plays on

Politicians of all stripes like to proclaim their devotion to honoring the service of veterans. Matt Davies, though, hears a different tune being played.



Dallas Mayor plans to announce DISD endorsements

Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings announced plans to endorse candidates Elizabeth Jones (District 1), Dan Micciche (District 3), and Bernadette Nutall (District 9) for the 2012 Dallas ISD school board elections.

"These three candidates represent exactly the kind of high-caliber leaders we need on the Dallas ISD school board," said Rawlings. "Improving our public education system is the most important thing we can do as a community to ensure the vitality of our city in the future. The Board of Trustees has recently been able to pass several progressive reforms that will result in higher educational outcomes for our kids, but we still have a long way to go, and we need courageous leaders that are willing to continue to push the district forward. It's clear to me that Dan, Elizabeth and Trustee Nutall are all focused on doing what is best for our children, and that each of them have the experience and

skills necessary to be successful. There are 157,000 students in this city counting on us to get it right. I am confident these three leaders will be a part of fulfilling that promise to our kids."

"Dallas is incredibly fortunate to have community leaders like Mike Rawlings who recognize that every citizen has a role to play when it comes to the success of our public education system," said EducateDallas Co-Chairman Mark Melton. "The community in general, and the diverse communities within it, are demanding a new era of public education based on accountability, transparency and decision-making that puts the interests of kids over those of adults. It will take extraordinary leadership to attain the results that we owe to our city's children, and Mr. Rawlings' invaluable endorsement speaks volumes about the quality of leadership these three candidates embody."

The gravity of this

year's school board elections has been evidenced by the large number of important endorsements received among the field of candidates. "There is great interest in these elections, and many organizations, private citizens and public officials are taking courageous stances with regard to school board candidates," said incoming EducateDallas Chairwoman Jill Louis.

Candidates Micciche and Jones, as well as Trustee Nutall, have also been endorsed by numerous other organizations and individuals over the last few weeks. "In addition to Rawlings' endorsement, we have also been excited to see such a large consensus of important endorsements coalesce around our three endorsed candidates. It's great to see Dallas rally behind a common cause and support great leadership for our school district," said Louis.

For more information, visit www.EducateDallas.org.

Local single mom receives \$300,000 in scholarships

Dallas Christian College (DCC), located in Farmers Branch, offered \$300,000 worth of scholarships to a single mom and her children on the syndicated daytime series, "The Doctors."

In an episode that will air Monday, April 30, DCC president Dusty Rubeck, presented \$50,000 individual scholarships to Diane Aulger and to each of her five children, enough to cover the tuition costs for four years at DCC.

Mrs. Aulger, who resides in The Colony, recently made headlines when she decided to induce labor in order for her dying husband to meet his baby daughter before he passed. Her children currently range from 1 month old to 15 years old. They will receive the scholarships upon acceptance to the college.

"I lost my dad to cancer last year and had the chance to be with him during his last moments on earth. When I read the story about this family's tragedy, my heart was touched," Rubeck said.

"When the producer of 'The Doctors' contacted us to see if the College would be

willing to help this special family, we quickly put together the largest scholarship offer that we have ever made to one family. Our prayer is that this will provide hope for a great future to Diane and her kids."

"The Doctors" is an Emmy® Award winning syn-

dedicated daytime series featuring an esteemed group of medical professionals that includes ER physician Dr. Travis Stork, OB/GYN Dr. Lisa Masterson, cosmetic and reconstructive surgeon Dr. Drew Ordon, and pediatrician Dr. Jim Sears.

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

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

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

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

Valerie Jones

Proven Experience. Dedicated to our Community.

Re-Elect Valerie Jones, Irving ISD School Board, Place 4

*Six years of IISD Board service, with both State and National training

*Served as IISD Board President, Vice-President and Secretary

*PTA member and community volunteer

*Married for 28 years

*Working mother of 4; 3 Irving ISD graduates and one current student

*Longtime taxpaying resident

*College graduate

Important goals.

*Support teachers

*Increase the Graduation Rate

*Academic success for every student

*Effective financial management and planning



Elect VALERIE JONES 4
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PLACE 3

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"Political Adv. Paid by Lisetta Caraballo, Treasurer, A.D. Jenkins Campaign"

Saint Matthew's Cathedral hosting Open Cathedral

Saint Matthew's Episcopal Cathedral will host an *Open Cathedral* event on Friday, May 4, from 6-10 p.m. This free event is co-sponsored by Saint Matthew's Cathedral Arts and the Aberg Center for Literacy. The Cathedral is located at 5100 Ross Avenue (at Henderson) just one mile east of the Dallas Arts District.

In the Middle Ages, cathedrals were erected as awe-inspiring monuments to God at the heart of the city. The cathedral was the

center of the community's art, education and culture. It was there that artists and musicians presented their master works and dramatists produced mystery and morality plays to teach and entertain. This respected tradition provides the inspiration for renewing this concept for celebrating arts, education and culture in Dallas' historic Saint Matthew's Cathedral.

Open Cathedral will give visitors a chance to witness first-hand the diversity of music, art, education

and culture present at St. Matthew's. The evening will include performances by Neeki Bey with Jazz Mosaic and St. Matthew's Compliment Choir in the Cathedral Church, an art exhibition of local visual artists and a performance by Smithfield Fair in the Great Hall, and a photographic display by Carolyn Brown and jazz featuring Robert and Sarah Aberg and Damon Clark in the Aberg Center.

For additional information call 214-887-6552.

Groundbreaking for Grand Park Place

Council member Carolyn R. Davis of District 7, the Hall Family, and the City of Dallas extends an invitation to the groundbreaking ceremony for Grand Park Place Phase 1.

The event will mark the beginning of a new chapter in the history of sustainable housing and transit oriented developments.

The ceremony is scheduled for Friday, May 4 at 1

p.m. at 3221 Elihu Street. A reception will immediately follow. If you would like to attend please RSVP by April 27 by calling 214-671-9398.

TXU Energy receives award from the Arbor Day Foundation

The Committed to Community Growth Program is the recipient of a 2012 Arbor Day Award in honor of its outstanding contribution to tree planting, conservation and stewardship, the Arbor Day Foundation announced today.

The Committed to Community Growth Program, a project of Irving-based TXU Energy, is one of 16 individuals and organizations being recognized by the Foundation at the annual Arbor Day Awards. The ceremony will be held at Lied Lodge & Conference Center, located at Arbor Day Farm in Nebraska City, Nebraska, on Saturday, April 28.

The program will receive the Excellence in Partnership Award in recognition of its innova-

tive and strategic collaboration to advance forestry efforts.

Launched in 2002, the Committed to Community Growth Program is a collaboration between TXU Energy, the Texas Tree Foundation and local governments across North Texas to plant, nurture and maintain community trees. Every year, more than 500 volunteers plant thousands of seedlings at the TXU Energy Urban Tree Farm and Education Center, located at Richland College in Dallas.

Program leaders say they are on track to plant three million trees in some of the most populous areas of North Texas in the next 10 years.

"The most enduring conservation initiatives happen because of effective partnerships," said

John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "The Committed to Community Growth Partnership is a great example of how groups can work together to improve quality-of-life and be good stewards of the environment."

Garland to Host Neighborhood Story Contest

Every neighbor, every neighborhood has a story. We want to hear your neighborhood story! As part of the 10th Annual Neighborhood Summit Celebration, the City of Garland will host a Neighborhood Story Contest.

Stories may be as fun and delightful as a Dr. Seuss book, traditional and cherished like a Dickens novel, or somewhere in between. The City of Garland invites neighborhood groups and individuals to share stories through writing, interviews or photography. First and second place awards will be granted for individual and organization submissions.

A technical assistance

workshop will be held May 5 where attendees will receive tips on how to prepare a successful story submission. To register, email gnmaaclass@garlandtx.gov or call 972-205-2108.

Neighborhood Story Contest

Technical Assistance Workshop

Saturday, May 5

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

City Hall (Council Chambers)

200 N. Fifth St.

Mail or hand-deliver Neighborhood Story submissions by 5 p.m. Aug. 31 to:

City of Garland
Public & Media Affairs

200 N. Fifth St.

Garland, TX 75040

Winners will be chosen from the following story categories:

- Most Inspiring Project
- Best Community Response to a Neighborhood Challenge
- Best Neighbor Appreciation Story

Prizes include Emergency Preparedness Kits, 6-month supply of Blue Bell Ice Cream, dinner for two at the Branding Iron Restaurant with a round of golf at Firewheel Golf Park and the grand prize matching funds for a neighborhood vitality project.

STUDENTS, continued from Page 1

but it is my first time to represent my country in Passport to the World," said Dinushi Samarajeewa, a chemistry research assistant from Sri Lanka. "Before, we didn't have much of a Sri Lankan community here. Now, the number of international students is growing, so we decided to start a Sri Lankan Students Association."

Her group received the award for Best Newcomer to Passport to the World. Judges selected winners in

other categories, including cuisine and national costume.

Saikumar Kalyankrishnan, a computer science graduate student from India, said he participated because he wanted to show the diversity of tradition in his country.

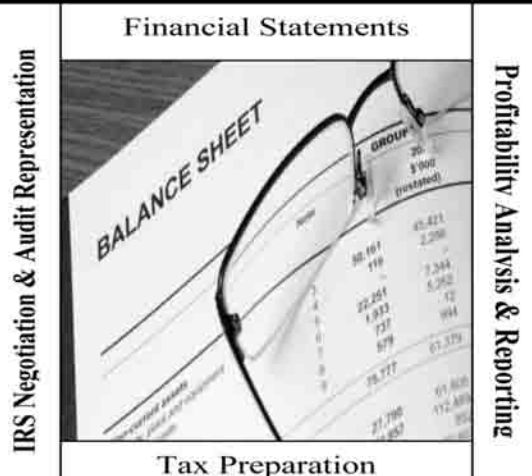
"For me this event is not about the competition; it is about living up to our culture," he said. "We are a real product of our culture, and we would like to share this culture with the

world."

The Indian Students Association won first prize in the Talent Show. The event filled the Clark Center auditorium beyond capacity for an evening of music, dancing and singing, as well as colorful, elaborate fashions.

"This really puts a spotlight on how culturally rich our UT Dallas population is," Diaz said. "I'm glad I get to be involved in celebrating it every year."

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LEADERS, continued from Page 1

Shamrock Kwik Stop on Martin Luther King Boulevard, hatred and prejudice collided. Phillips, an African American male who have been in and out of jail for several crimes entered the Diamond Shamrock with the intention of robbing the store. Pak thought otherwise and fought with Phillips to protect his property. Unfortunately, Phillips was shot and killed as he fled with the store's cash register by Pak's employee.

While Pak claims he is not a racist and is just following the American dream, his attitude towards the customers that the Diamond Shamrock serves, who are predominantly African American, lead others to think otherwise. There have been numerous complaints about the overpricing of food and beverage items in his store as well as a substantial blow to the pocket for his gas prices.

Pak's perceived disdain for his African American customers was not exposed until December 2010 when a local Nation of Islam leader, Jeffrey Muhammad, attempted to patronize the store. The recap of the events of what transpired differs from both parties. Muhammad stated that Pak immediately began yelling racial slurs when he challenged a \$10 debit card purchase requirement. Muhammad's retelling of the story, which led to a large South Dallas protest, started by the Nation of Islam, to shut Pak's and other racist business owners down in the community, has painted Pak as a racist who yelled racial slurs including demanding Muhammad return to Africa. Pak's story is one of a personal disagreement he feels should not have been retold to the media. He does admit he demanded a \$10 debit card minimum purchase in an effort to get Muhammad to leave his store. Pak also accused Muhammad of returning racial slurs at him.

Today the protest is still ongoing and Muhammad is still demanding justice, an end to hatred and prejudice towards the people who have made foreign business owners successful. Pak's only desire is to end the feuding and start a path to recovery. In response, Korean community

leaders are working to repair and strengthen race relations between African Americans and Koreans.

Building a bridge towards unity

Make no mistake about it, African Americans and Koreans share a similar history of bondage and disparity that almost mimic each other. For Koreans, Japan was a cruel ruler that held them to captivity and slavery for years. Koreans were made to feel less than human and oftentimes faced cruel and harsh treatments from Japan. The plight of African Americans is commonly known and continues to be a story in households across the nation. Slavery was and continues, for both groups, to be an issue that plagues families and legacies. So why the fierce tension between two groups with such paralleled histories? Unfortunately, in Dallas the disparity that both African Americans and Koreans feel towards each other have garnered fear, tension and even hatred towards the other. And add to that vio-

lence and a melting pot full of stereotypes, bitterness and an inability to identify a way to create community and cultural unity is always cooking.

Fortunately, Korean community leaders have reached across the imaginary color line in hopes of eliminating the issues that have kept these two groups bickering. The proverbial peace offering to include and expose African Americans to Korean culture is being planned during the annual Korean Cultural Day on Sunday, May 27 at the Irving Convention Center. The hopes of organizers on both parts are to build stronger relationships between the two communities. The African American community leaders in Irving and Dallas have agreed to begin the journey towards peace, understanding and open communications.

"We want to expose Koreans and African Americans to the fact that both groups are groups that have been oppressed by others through slavery," said Rev. L. Smith. "Our stories are so parallel

that we need to have an understanding a coalition between the two groups."

Smith is one of the many African American organizers for the unity attempt. Other organizers include Brenda Cotton, Jackie Wymbly and Peter Johnson of The Peter Johnson Foundation for Non-violence. The hopes by all persons involved, including Muslim leaders who initiated the community wide protest, is to establish communication, understanding and education about the past to build a strong present and future. Activities have yet to be finalized but the message African American leaders want people to take away from the event is that African Americans and Koreans need to build cooperation, tolerance and a coalitions. A connection of the communities is needed so that no more racism, hatred and prejudice will continue to infect these communities.

Anthony Burnam, one of the organizers shared his thoughts, "We want this event to resonant and bring

harmony for all people. This event is a free event and it provides attendees the opportunity to learn more about the African American and Korean communities."

Smith shares what he believes to be the problem between African Americans and Koreans is the lack of understanding the two groups have about each other. "We work and own businesses right next to each other yet we don't take the time to get to know each other," shared Smith. "It's time to correct this so we don't feel exploited any longer."

As the *North Dallas Gazette* prepared this article community leaders from both sides were still in the planning phase of the event to discuss how to better include African Americans in the Korean Cultural Day and how to spread enlighten and educate all attendees and races on the importance of unity.

Mr. Charles Ko, President of Greater Dallas Korean American Chamber of

Commerce stated, "Resonance and Harmony, a cultural exchange event between Greater Dallas African American and Korean American Communities, is significant in many ways. This is first of hopefully many more events that will bring the two communities together to foster better understanding and greater economic cooperation. Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism through it's office in LA has committed more than 25 performers to share the best of traditional and modern Korean performanc art. In addition, through the generosity of City of Irving, Metro PCS, Law Offices of Domingo Garcia, Mr. Bill Beuck of the Las Colinas Group, The Greater Irving Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce and many others. Both communities are able to present this event. Various civic and business leaders from African American Community are working closely with the Greater Dallas Korean American to ensure full participation."

JOB FAIR

April 28, 2012

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BILL MAHONEY for IRVING CITY COUNCIL, PLACE 6

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

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

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

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

Bill Mahoney

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

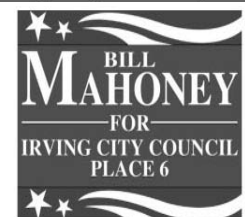
Early Voting

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

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

Election Day

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



billmahoneycampaign@gmail.com
www.BillMahoneyCampaign.com

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Bill Mahoney Campaign

Adolescent & Ladies Symposium to address community issues

The 27th Annual 2012 Adolescent and Ladies Symposium, a symposium addressing issues of today's society from a Biblical perspective will be held on Saturday, May 5 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Church of Christ on Greenville Avenue, 1013 South Greenville Avenue. The event is being sponsored by the Church of Christ on Greenville Avenue's Ladies Bible Class.

The Symposium is free and open to preteen girls

ages 9 to 12, adolescent misses ages 13 to 18, and adult ladies ages 19 and up. Attendees are invited to participate in their choice of over ten spiritual workshops, continental breakfast, lunch and door prizes. The keynote speaker is Mikki Taylor, Editor-at-Large for Essence Magazine, and she will also be conducting a special session geared solely to the Adolescent Misses. Additionally, the Preteen session presenter



Mikki Taylor, Editor-at-Large for Essence Magazine

will be Angela Clay, author of the book "Loving the Me I See". Ms. Clay's material has been presented nationwide and focuses primarily on the promotion of a positive, healthy self-esteem. For registration details, please visit www.gacoc.org and click on the link Adolescent and Ladies Symposium under "Announcements" or call 972-644-2335.

"A World of Women for World Peace" Dallas Peace Conference on Women, Technology, & Peace-building

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson will host her annual "A World of Women for World Peace" peace conference on Saturday, April 28 at the Trammell & Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art. This year's theme will be Women, Technology, & Peace-building. Congresswoman Johnson began this conference in 2001 to bring greater visibility to women who are victims of war and aggression, and to women

who lead peace-building activities in their communities.

Attendees include Ana Cristina Reymundo, American Airlines Nexos (Moderator) and Vivienne O'Connor, Uni-ted States Institute of Peace and Dahlia Scheindlin, Huffington Post (Via Skype).

The event is scheduled for 12 – 2 p.m. Trammell & Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art located at 2010 Flora Street in Dallas.

Dallas ISD School Board Candidate Forum

Candidates for Trustee positions on the Dallas ISD School board will appear on Saturday, April 28 at 10 a.m. in the Museum of Biblical Arts located at 7500 Park Lane, Dallas, in a forum presented by the Dallas High Schools Alumni Association. The forum is free, and the public is invited and encouraged to at-

tend.

The eight candidates that have filed for Districts 1, 3, and 9 are invited to participate in the Forum.

The candidates will discuss their qualifications for office and respond to questions about current issues. Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings and members of the Dallas Chamber of Com-

merce are expected to be in attendance. The Dallas High Schools Alumni Association is a newly-formed Coalition of Dallas ISD Alumni Associations that have coalesced around the basic idea of Improving the overall effectiveness of the Dallas Independent School District.

POLICY, continued from Page 1

TVFC immunizations at Dallas County Health and Human Services are:

- Medicaid eligible
- Uninsured: a child who has no health insurance coverage
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Enrolled in CHIP
- Underinsured (as defined by DSHS) - A child who has commercial (private) health insurance, but coverage does not

include vaccines; a child whose insurance covers only selected vaccines (TVFC-eligible for non-covered vaccines only); or a child whose insurance caps vaccine coverage at a certain amount. Once that coverage amount is reached, the child is categorized as underinsured. Insured children with vaccine coverage who have high copays or deductibles are no longer considered underinsured. These children are now

considered fully, privately insured and are no longer eligible for TVFC vaccines.

To find out whether a child is eligible, check with the insurance providers to determine whether immunizations are covered.

For more information visit the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) website at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school>

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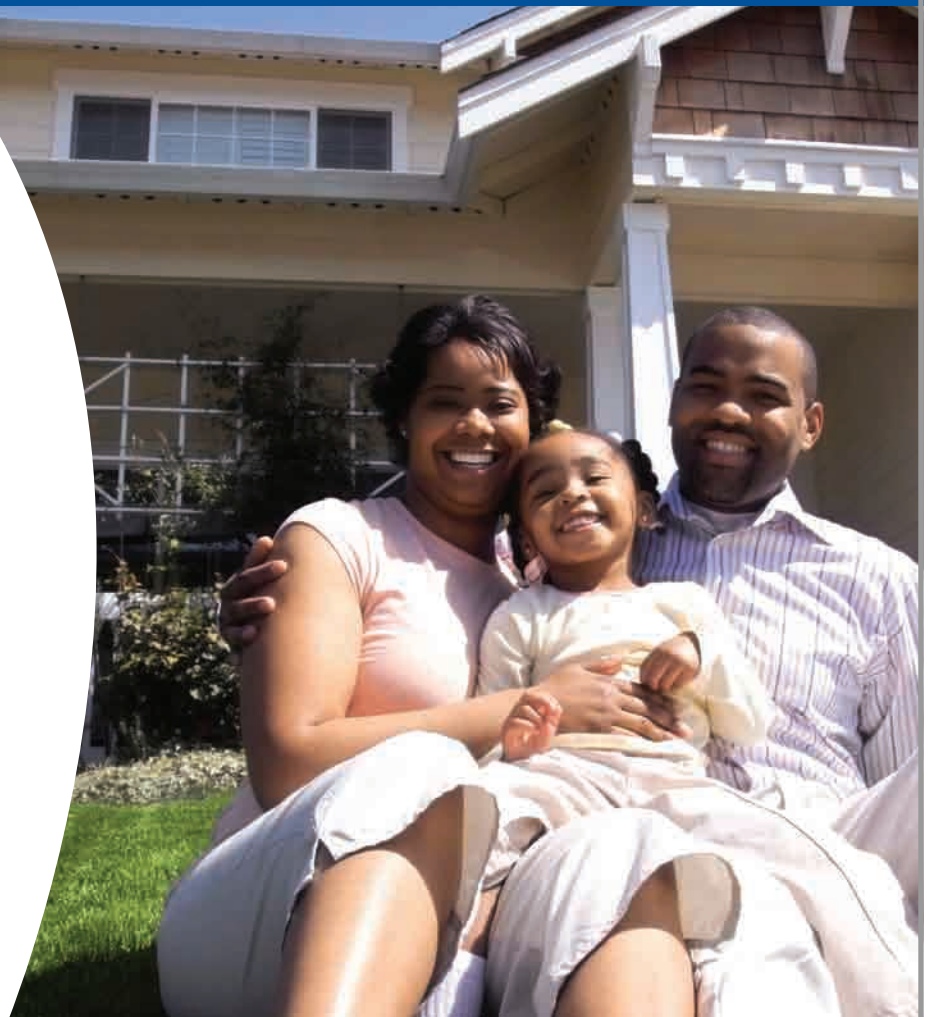
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Ongoing

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

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

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

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

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

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

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce general membership meeting, monthly every 2nd Thursday, 6:30 p.m., at various

locations within Collin County. Speakers, Power Networking, Business Referrals, www.ccbblackchamber.org or 469-424-0120.

Through April 26

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

Through April 29

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

Through September 23

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

Through December 8

New Life Skills Certificate program for African Women each Saturday morning from 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Audelia Branch Library located 10045 Audelia Rd. (at Church St.) in Dallas. Info: hellen.fissihae5@gmail.com

April 26

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

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

April 27-29

32nd Annual Denton Arts & Jazz Festival Denton Quakertown Park, 321 E. McKinney, Denton, TX 76201 (2 blocks NE of downtown square) 35 minutes from Dallas or Fort Worth dentonjazzfest.com.

April 28

Jazz with Nick Collione & Richard Elliott at Bishop Arts Theater Center, 215 S. Tyler Street in Dallas at 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. INFO: \$62.50 - \$57.50, education@teco-theater.org or 214-948-0716

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

A Night at the Kotton Klub. The Mansfield-Cedar Hill alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi presents The 2nd Annual White Affair at Bacara in Addison. For more information go to www.SwaggerKchapterNupes.com

2012 Jazz Series at Teco Theater with Nick Colionne & Richard Elliott performing at 215 South Tyler Street. Presented by: TeCo Theatrical Productions 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. \$62.50 (7 pm) and \$57.50 (9:45 pm) 214-948-0716

Spring Affair Caribbean Style Party is an all-inclusive dinner, drinks and party at the Jubilee Banquet Hall at 2548 Dickerson Pkwy suite 210 in Carrollton 9 - 3:30 p.m. \$35 Info: 469-765-5864

April 29

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

May 1

Free Candidates Forum for the District 12 SBOE candidates from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at the Region 10 Education Service Center, 400 E. Spring Valley Road, Richardson, TX 75081, (Dallas and Ellis Rooms).

May 2

A Beautiful Soul Experience- Award winning and popular gospel artist **Deitrick Haddon's give a fan appreciation concert at Johnson Chapel** in Desoto. Free admission. www.abeautifulsoul-movie.com

May 3

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

Gourmet Vegetarian Cooking Classes at Kalachandaji's 8 classes for \$150, or \$25/class, including dinner. Dahi Wada (lentil cakes in yogurt), Up-pama (semolina pilaf), Tomato Chutney, and Strawberry Khir (rice dessert).

Kalachandaji's Temple & Cafe from 7 - 9 p.m., the cost is \$25- \$150, call 214-827-6333

May 4 – June 3

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

May 11 - 12

Chamber Music International presents the Grand Season Finale at 8 p.m. at St. Matthew's Episcopal Cathedral in Dallas on May 11; and May 12 at St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church in Richardson. www.cmi-now.org

May 11 – June 17

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

May 5

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

May 9 – 12

Women's Conference "Renewing My Passion" presented by Dayspring Family Church in Irving, TX. This amazing conference is filled with powerful, dynamic, and anointed speakers.

May 12

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

May 18-20

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

May 19

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

May 25

Artfest –Returning Memorial Day weekend CityArts Festival will offer activities and entertainment for families, staycationers, and art aficionados alike to enjoy against the backdrop of historic Fair Park. Fair Park's

six museums will offer reduced admission at select times during the festival. For more information go to www.cityartsfestival.com

May 26

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

Old School Summer Jam at Gexa Energy Amphitheater with Charlie Wilson, Babyface, Dazz Band, En Vogue, and Don Diego. www.LiveNation.com

June 8-9

Democratic State Convention in Houston

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

June 9

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

June 22 – July 12

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

June 26-27

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

August 1 – 12

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

October 31

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

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Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community

Irving voters will soon go to the polls to decide the fate of seven candidates running for three city council seats

BY: JACKIE HARDY,
NDG CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

The City of Irving is gearing up for its upcoming City Council and school board elections. Voters will take to the polls on May 12 with early voting beginning April 30 through May 8. Seven candidates will be vying for the two single-member district seats up for grabs (Place 4 and Place 6); along with choosing a candidate for the only at-large seat in this election (Place 8). The other at-large seats consist of the Mayoral and Place 2 seats.

According to Irving's newly adopted mixed single-member and at-large voting system, a candidate running for a seat in a single-member district must live in that respective district for a minimum of one year prior to the filing deadline; whereas, the candidate running in an at-large district can live anywhere in the city. Residents from those single-member districts can only vote for their respective candidate; however for an at-large seat, the vote is open to all Irving registered voters.

The candidates for Place 4 which comprise of South Irving include: John Phillip Riddle, a retired Firefighter



**Joe Putnam, Place 4 candidate
Irving City Council**

and Irving resident for over 63 years; Fran Bonilla, a Commercial Real Estate professional a resident of Irving for approximately 52 years; and Joe Putnam, a longtime Irving resident and attorney, who is not new to the Irving political scene where he held the office of Mayor from 1999-2005. In May of 2011,

Putnam also unsuccessfully ran for the Mayoral office where he along with Tom Spink and ex-Mayor Herbert Gears lost to opponent Beth Van Duyne.



**Phil Riddle, Place 4 candidate
Irving City Council**

The candidates for Place 6 whose boundary lines entail part of Las Colinas and Valley Ranch area consist of: Brad LaMorgese, a practicing Family Law attorney with the law firm McCurley, Orsinger, McCurley, Nelson, and Downing and who has been an Irving homeowner for the past 10 years; and Bill Mahoney also an attorney and one of the founding partners of the law firm Boteler, Mahoney, and Gray L.L.P. Mahoney specializes in civil litigation, including business, insurance subrogation, worker's compensation, and professional malpractice cases.

Place 8 candidates are: Tom Spink, a former two-term City Council member and current business owner of an insurance agency and; Rick Stopfer, current City Council member for Place 6 and acting Mayor Pro Tem. Stopfer is pursuing the at-large seat as he has served the maximum term in his current Place 6 seat.

Although there are recognizable differences among each opponent; there is one thing they all share in common: they want more transparency from local government. Many candidates have emphasized the importance of having a transparent government, believing it will help eliminate influence from special interest groups.

"I am very concerned about special interest groups that lobby members of the

council and the effect the lobbying has on their votes," written comments from candidate LaMorgese of Place 6. "More stringent policies need to be implemented to regulate city council members as well as those who lobby the council. It is vital that our government be open and honest with its citizens."

Mahoney also a candidate for Place 6 added in a written response, "We need to eliminate actual or perceived special interest influence in our local government. Petty politics have been negatively impacting our city. City council is designed to be a non-partisan governing body where representatives should put the best interest of the city above all else. I support a stricter ethics policy and necessary revisions to Irving's Charter..."

Spink, in a recent guest blog post on the Dallas Morning News website indicated he is not in support of the project but also expressed concern about government spending and taxing the Irving residents in general.



**Tom Spink, Place 8 candidate
Irving City Council**

He wrote, "I fully understand the importance of setting aside reserves. I certainly understand out of control spending by government. And I hear citizens and understand when they say that fees tacked on to utility bills are nothing more than disguised taxes. I not only understand - I sympathize."

Stopfer, an opponent to Spink, supports the IEC Project, but expressed his commitment to due diligence and his commitment to understand all the financial repercussions as it relates to the projects risks and benefits be-



**Fran Bonilla, Place 4 candidate
Irving City Council**

fore coming to a final decision.

Stopfer commented on the City Council's recent vote to extend the deadline for LCG, "...given the economic environment over the last several years, we wanted to afford the proposed developer adequate time to secure support from outside investors. However, there was not a firm timeframe or deadline in place that would effectively serve as a cutoff point from which to advance the project or terminate the project."

"We have since negotiated an agreement between the city and LCG that incorporates specific expectations and timing that were different from the original contract, namely that LCG must identify and bring forth its \$80 million commitment by August 6th or the project will not move forward," continued Stopfer.

Both LaMorgese and Mahoney (Place 6 candidates) are not in favor for more extensions. Mahoney felt the recent extension approved by City Council was necessary because of efforts by outside interests to derail the project. Although Mahoney is not in favor of anymore modifications to the existing contract, he feels strongly about the city's obligation to honor the current contract with LCG as long as the contract is valid and binding. If elected, Mahoney will advocate for the creation of an Oversight Board to oversee the entire project and make recommendations on necessary contract negotiations, perform construction oversight and manage any future potential funding surpluses.

LaMorgese is in favor of an entertainment center, but does not believe the citizens of Irving have received an acceptable deal with respect to the contract with LCG and expressed deep concerns over the city's commitment to a nine percent Hotel Occupancy Tax from the two percent that was originally approved for this project. According to LaMorgese, he is also concerned after hearing the warnings from the city's financial advisor that Irving could lose its AAA bond rating and potentially have to cut city services or raise taxes if the proposed revenue streams



**Brad LaMorgese, Place 6 candidate
Irving City Council**

do not produce as forecasted.

LCG and their supporters contend that the project will have a significant impact on the Irving economy and Dallas County as a whole. They estimate the City of Irving will receive \$762,000 in indirect tax revenues from the construction phase alone. Their forecast indicates the over \$200 million spent on construction will result in \$400 million related activities and income (employment, rental fees, taxes, etc.).

An American Express Travel Related Services (December 2011) report indicates Irving residents spend three times as much on entertainment outside of the city as they do within Irving. It is hoped that the IEC project will help to recapture a chunk of that lost revenue for businesses within Irving and the related tax revenue. They believe the project can generate up to \$160 million annually in economic activity, resulting in up to 2,700 jobs.

The Heritage Crossing project is another important

issue many voters are speaking out on, thus making this a critical issue in the upcoming election. Recently Council members voted unanimously to sever ties with Heritage District LLC, according to an article in the DMN and to read more on this story go to: <http://www.dallasnews.com/news/community-news/irving/headlines/20120130-irving-moves-to-sever-ties-with-heritage-district-developer1.ece?action=reregister> and <http://www.dallasnews.com/news/community-news/irving/headlines/20120106-map-get-more-information-about-irving-properties.ece>.

"I believe the severance of the contract with Mr. McDougal is a step in the right direction. The Heritage Crossing project has become bogged down by inactivity. I feel that this can give new momentum to the project, adds Phil Riddle, Place 4 candidate.

Despite the negative press the city has gotten over the past year, The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts awarded the city of Irving with the 2012 Gold Leadership Circle in recognition of outstanding financial transparency, thus causing candidates like Bonilla to focus on the positive aspects and achievements of the city versus the negative.

"Irving was declared to be one of the 10 best managed cities in the United States and the only one in Texas; that



**Rick Stopfer, Place 8 candidate
Irving City Council**

says a lot about what our city is doing. Our city is a great city and we need to get past the negativity," said Bonilla, Place 4 candidate.

Denton Jazz Festival kicks off this weekend

Denton's long-running arts and jazz festival has reached its 32nd year and now over 200,000 people are expected at the fest. Award-winning headlining talent Lee Ritenour, Los Lonely Boys and Brave Combo will entertain the masses for this free festival for music lovers of all ages.

Jazz it up April 27 - 29 for music, food, art and many activities open to the public. The Denton Festival Foundation, Inc., in cooperation with the City of Denton and the Dallas/Fort Worth American Federation of Musicians, produces the festival with support from individual and corporate sponsorships. Over 2,700 musicians, artists and performers attract over 200,000 annually to enjoy the culturally diverse music and art.

Seven stages contain jazz, blues and cross-cultural music. You can get in the groove and buy a special piece of art from 175 juried artists and crafters. The 12

and under set can mold, draw, sculpt and create at the Children's Art Tent and make music in the Percussion Tent. Join in the pride of Denton and the celebration of music and arts tradition, all showcased for a weekend of enjoyment for the whole family.

For festival attendees traveling to Denton, take DART and the A-train and avoid traffic and parking congestion. Riders who take the train to the festival on April 27 or 28 can also take their DCTA or DART train ticket stub to the Main Stage Souvenir Booth to receive a FREE Arts & Jazz Festival Favorites CD, while supplies last.



Scene from last year's jazz festival

In addition, the DCTA is sponsoring a canned food drive to benefit the Denton Community Center. Festival attendees are asked to bring a canned food item to the DCTA booth and will receive a FREE regional day pass to use any time.

For more information visit escapetodenton.com or dentonjazzfest.com.

4 Best Saturday breakfast spots

BY LATRISHA MCDUFFIE
NDG STAFF WRITER

There's nothing better than a Saturday with your girl friends to just vent about your week or talk about how your date went the night before. So, throw on your favorite cotton dress, slide into a pair of flip flops, and gloss those lips--it's time to hit the 4 best Saturday breakfast spots in Dallas.

Original Pancake House in Plano – On your way to the Allen Outlet Mall to find that perfect Coach Purse stop by the Original Pancake House in Plano just off Central Expressway. You must have the oven baked fiesta omelet. You just haven't lived until you have tasted the Dutch Baby, an oven baked pancake cloud of heavenly perfection and served with whipped butter, lemon, and powdered sugar to create a mouthwatering dream that will have you flying. [www.originalpancake-](http://www.originalpancake-house.com)



Yes that is bacon on glazed donut covered with bananas, honey and peanut butter from Hypnotic Donuts

house.com

Café Silva – I was trying to avoid 5 o'clock traffic when I found this cozy, relaxed, coffee aroma-infused lounge southwest corner of Royal Lane and Greenville Avenue in Dallas. Not your ordinary coffee bar, Café Silva has interesting house coffee blends, Cuban espresso, Mexican hot chocolate, hand mixed Italian sodas, and Tazo teas. And you must try the unique

homemade baked goods. I love the coconut zucchini mini bunt cake, but you should also try the puffed pastry pound cake muffin. You and your girl friends can listen to a diverse and fabulous playlist with artists like Astrud Gilberto, Otis Redding, Bob and Ziggy Marley, Irma Thomas as you go on and on about the new guy in your life. www.cafesilva.com

See BREAKFAST, Page 12

Diary of A Worm, A Spider and A Fly

Dallas Children's Theater (DCT) and its audiences continue a love affair with author Doreen Cronin - this time with the coolest ever rock-n-roll romp in a bug's world! Capturing all the droll humor and whimsy of the wildly popular books is the regional professional premiere of *Diary of A Worm, A Spider and A Fly* playing May 4 - June 3, 2012 at DCT's Rosewood Center for Family Arts.

Bugs and insects rule in the diary of unlikely best friends Worm, Spider and Fly. Worm eats his homework, Fly believes she has superpowers and Spider cannot wait to grow up and molt. Promoting eco-consciousness, earth science and tolerance of others, *Diary of A Worm, A Spider and A Fly* is a joyful, hip exploration of the world outside. The opening number, a rap entitled A Lot Like You, immediately connects our lives with the little creatures from your own backyard. You might just find that a bug's life is not all that different from your own!

Both onstage and on camera, guest director Bob



Photo by Karen Almond

left to right: Adam Garst (Spider), Lindsay Gee (Fly), Clinton Greenspan (Worm)

Hess has worked extensively as an actor and director, appearing in and/or directing on the stages of nearly every theater in the Metroplex. He also serves as adjunct professor of theater at the University of North Texas. I'm thrilled to make my directorial debut at DCT with this show, says Hess. "Every time I mention it to friends with children, their eyes light up. Their kids LOVE these books."

Commissioned by Oregon Children's Theatre and debuting in 2011, *Diary of A Worm, A Spider and A Fly* is a delightful stage adaptation by Joan Cushing. She unites three popular books by Doreen Cronin and Harry Bliss: *Diary of a Worm*,

Diary of a Spider, and *Diary of a Fly*. All three present smart, compelling scientific information along with the everyday activities, hopes and dreams of amiable insect characters. With the addition of Bee, Ant and Butterfly, Cushing combines the best of the Arthropods with rap, hip-hop, ballads and boogie-woogie in a hot new musical that will have audiences wiggling in their seats to the beat.

It's the first day of school and everyone wants to look cool. Teacher Mrs. McBee assigns "All About Me" reports for homework. Spider boasts about his magnificent legs, Fly is preparing to protect the planet, Butterfly looks forward to migrating to Mexico, and Ant shows off his strength. Worm can't stop himself from eating his assignments, but is that the real reason he won't complete this one? Will Fly get her own room away from 327 brothers and sisters, or find her superpowers in time to save Aunt Rita? Why has Spider missed DAYS of school? And who will be the lucky members of

See DIARY, Page 11



MARICELA MOORE

DEMOCRAT FOR JUDGE

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DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY: May 29 EARLY VOTE: May 14-25
Visit MaricelaMooreforJudge.com for more information

Pol. adv. paid by Maricela Moore Campaign, George Bramblett Treasurer.

HOUSING, continued from Page 3

the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA) filed two discrimination complaints with Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The complaints alleges that in handling foreclosed properties in its possession, US Bank and Wells Fargo show distinct and systematic differences in maintenance and marketing of these homes. And once again, according to the complaints, black neighborhoods are getting short shrift. The investigation involved foreclosed homes in Atlanta, Baltimore, Dallas, Dayton, Miami/Fort Lauderdale, Philadelphia, Oakland and Washington, DC.

NFHA determined that while properties in predominantly white areas were consistently well-maintained with signage indicating the homes were available for sale, foreclosed homes in minority communities typically had multiple maintenance and marketing deficiencies such as substantial amounts of trash, overgrown grass and shrubs, broken doors or locks, peeling or chipped paint and holes in the structures.

The availability of "for sale" signs on homes in these eight markets also revealed a racial divide. Signage is significant as it represents a marketing tool and contact information for neighbors who could want to report any problems with the property. In both Philadelphia and in Oakland, NFHA found almost twice as many for sale signs in white communities than in black or Latino communities. In Dayton, 90 percent of Wells Fargo proper-

ties and 94 percent of all US Bank properties located in minority areas had no signage at all. In Washington, DC, Wells Fargo had four times as many for sale signs in white neighborhoods than in neighborhoods of color.

"Wells Fargo's disregard for homes in communities of color has severely damaged these communities," said Shanna L. Smith, NFHA President and CEO.

For Wells Fargo, the NFHA discrimination complaint is not the first time this large lender has been identified with discriminatory lending practices. In recent years both the cities of Baltimore and Memphis have alleged discriminatory mortgage practices by this same bank.

As HUD reviews the NFHA complaints, it is useful to remember that these new allegations are consistent with broader research findings by the Center for Responsible Lending:

- Racial and ethnic differences in foreclosure rates persist even after accounting for differences in borrower incomes. Among borrowers with a FICO score of over 660 (indicating good credit), African Americans and Latinos received a high interest rate loan more than three times as often as white borrowers.

- African Americans and Latinos were much more likely to receive high interest rate (subprime) loans and loans with features that are associated with higher foreclosures, specifically prepayment penalties and hybrid or option adjustable-rate mortgages.

- Between 2004 and

2008, African-American families were almost twice as likely to have been impacted by the crisis. As of February 2011, approximately one quarter of all African-American borrowers had either lost their home to foreclosure or were seriously delinquent, compared to less than 12 percent for white borrowers.

These findings are also mirrored in a series of settlements negotiated by the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division. In 2011 alone, this division filed a record eight lending-related federal law suits, and obtained eight settlements providing for more than \$350 million in relief to the victims of illegal lending practices. This figure includes the settlement with Countrywide Financial Corporation, the largest lending discrimination case ever brought by the Department of Justice, as well as a record settlement under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.

In the approximately 24 months since this administrative adjustment, the division has filed or resolved 16 lending matters. By way of contrast, from 1993 to 2008, the department filed or resolved 37 lending matters, an average of a little more than two cases per year.

Fair housing may have been the law for 44 years; but its letter and spirit have yet to be fully embraced. Ironically the theme for the 2012 national observance is "Live Free". -- If only it were so.



**Sports
Talk with
Spider**

Why is it that so many professional African American athletes will not or cannot go home after becoming successful?

For athletes home is the place where it begins with playing touch football in a grassy field or shooting jumpers on a basketball court. Home is where the streetlight is your only source of light. These athletes seem to have the green light to go anywhere in the world, but somehow their navigation system in the \$100,000 Range Rover cannot seem to find the old neighborhood.

Sure, it is okay to move to the suburbs where education is supposedly better and you get more bangs for your buck when purchasing a house or participating in the neighborhood cookout.

However, it seems like an epidemic in the North Texas area because there are so many professional athletes from the area who should visit their old YMCAs, schools or community centers.

Take retired sprinter Michael Johnson, winner of four Olympic gold medals, eight world championship medals. He currently holds the world and Olympic records in the 400m and 4 x 400 meters relay.

He is also a businessman who owns and operates the Michael Johnson Performance Center and travels the country speaking to youth and other organizations. Johnson excelled in

No place like home

track at all levels and left his legacy at Baylor University and Skyline High School which is located in the Pleasant Grove area of Dallas. Skyline High is also the first magnet school to open in the United States back in 1972 and have graduated students who have become accountants, attorneys, athletes and the lead architect for Cowboy Stadium.

Johnson seems so busy over the years that his schedule does not permit him time to stop by Skyline and speak to young men and women who are looking for guidance from one of their own. What is it? Does he need Dorothy of the Wizard of Oz to help him find the "yellow brick" to Skyline? Maybe he needs the Scare Crow, Tin Man and the cowardly Lion to assist him to the school auditorium.

A girl's track team with nine state championships should be a nice road trip to encourage these young ladies about carrying the

baton of tradition and achieving academic excellence. A football team that is nationally ranked each year would love to have him at their sports banquet and hear about his travels all over the world. Maybe before the next President election in 2016 he can show up to the track meet that bears his name.

However, there is also Calvin Miles, a former Skyline basketball player and Utah Jazz. He attends some of the game, and he also puts his money where his mouth with massive donation to the team and school.

There is no place like home and the doors are always open at these schools and community facilities where they can share information to these young men and women.

You can listen to Donald "Spider" Willis on Sport Talk with Spider each Sunday from 7 - 9 p.m. CST on fishbowlradionetwork.com. For suggestion and topics call 469-335-6668 or email dwillisdw@yahoo.com.



JR COOK

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Pol Ad paid for by JR Cook Campaign

DIARY, continued from Page 10

The Dirt Bag Club? When Worm finally finds his confidence it's a celebration of all the world's little creatures, and their place and importance to the Earth!

They may be little, but they're cool. Bugs and insects rule! Enjoyed by ages 4 and above.

Attend the final dress rehearsal on Wednesday, May 2 at 7:30 p.m. and pay-what-you-can. Suggestion donation is \$10 per person.

Attend the show on Friday, May 4th and enjoy FREE appetizers and desserts complete with gummy-worm toppings compliments of our friends at Purple Cow Restaurant, and hang out with some other furry friends from the Dallas Zoo that want to celebrate too! Party begins at 6:30 pm. One free show poster per family.

The show is May 4 - June 27. www.dct.org.

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BREAKFAST, continued from Page 10

Breadwinners Café – This spot in Uptown brings 'Nawlins to Dallas. You can hang out on the rooftop deck overlooking McKinney Avenue. Chef Jeff makes a great breakfast taco that will make you close your eyes and sing. And you can find the best muffins in Dallas. Take home the Lemon Berry for breakfast on the go Sunday morning. The muffins are only \$1 after 2 o'clock. And if your

girlfriend circle can never agree on breakfast or lunch. Then, Breadwinners is perfect. The Drunken Grilled Cheese is sexy comfort food. Also, let me say Snickers Cheesecake! Yes, a cheesecake made with Snickers. www.breadwinnerscafe.com

Hypnotic Donuts – I got an e-mail from one of my best gal pals asking if I was up for an adventure. I was so I went to check out

Hypnotic Donuts on Garland Road in Dallas right by White Rock Lake. They have a glazed donut topped with bacon...need I say more? If you have a need for something more daring then try the Hypnotic donut. It is a chocolate, caramel, peanut butter donut topped with peanut butter Captain Crunch and pretzels. And for the scaredy cat of the group they have biscuits. www.hypnoticdonuts.com

DAVIS, continued from Page 2

cal, junior or community colleges will receive \$700, public four-year college and university students will receive \$1000, and private four-year college and university students will receive \$2000. The number of awards is uncertain because of the varying funding levels to different types of institutions.

The Urban Scholarship fund was created in 1995 when Rep. Davis attached an amendment to the omnibus telecom bill creating a pool of funds derived from unclaimed

telephone service deposits. Previously unclaimed funds went into the unclaimed funds pool in the State Treasury. Although these funds will be shifted into the scholarship account, local telephone companies will still reimburse consumers for any funds properly claimed in the future.

"We ask our students to study hard, make the grade and prepare themselves for the next level necessary to reach their goal. However, the continued rising cost of a college education presents an ob-

stacle to some students. The Urban Scholarship Fund provides these students additional funding to help pay for their college education and ultimately realizing their goal," stated Rep. Davis.

Students from non-metropolitan areas of the State may be covered by the Rural Scholarship fund, which was also created by House Bill 2128.

Rep. Davis is serving in her tenth term, representing District 111 in the Texas House of Representatives.

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Largest regional minority business expo returns May 14, 15 to Irving Convention Center

ACCESS, the largest regional business expo connecting corporations and public sector agencies with certified minority owned businesses, will return Monday and Tuesday, May 14 and 15 to the Irving Convention Center. ACCESS's *Road to Connections*, the annual business Expo by the Dallas/Fort Worth Minority Supplier Development Council features State agencies conducting on

the spot bidding and over 30 major corporations seeking suppliers.

"This year we want to make open a shorter 'road to connections' for those State agencies, corporations and buying entities

to identify and utilize certified minority suppliers," said Margo J. Posey, Council President. "We encourage our buying entities and suppliers to utilize this unique opportunity

See EXPO, Page 16

DAMAGE, continued from Page 3

the 'stand your ground' laws that continue to put communities in danger, or how many families will be torn apart under repressive anti-immigrant laws."

ALEC has drafted hundreds of model bills, resolutions, and policy statements, disseminating them in state legislatures around the country. Their model bills formed the basis of the Voter-ID laws enacted in several states and the stand-your-ground legislation that gained national notoriety in the wake of the Trayvon Martin murder, in addition to anti-immigrant

legislation like Alabama's HB 56.

Jealous continued, "ALEC came to this decision after enough of their corporate sponsors, many of whom have been strong advocates of civil rights and public safety in the past, were made aware of their anti-democratic activities and dropped their support. The NAACP has been working with many of these courageous companies, and we will continue to monitor ALEC and make sure this move is more than just window dressing."

Last December, the NAACP published a groundbreaking report, *Defending Democracy: Confronting Modern Barriers to Voting Rights in America*, that exposed the role ALEC played in propagat-

ing voter ID laws. Later that month, the Association led a rally of 25,000 people in front of the New York headquarters of the ALEC-funders David & Charles Koch to protest the voter suppression measures.

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April 29, 3 p.m.
Join us for Afternoon Worship Service as we praise and give honor to God.

**Brother Ramon Hodridge,
Minister**
1026 Avenue F
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www.avefchurchofchrist.org

**BIBLE WAY
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April 29, 8-10 a.m.
You're invited to our Bible Class as we study the Word of God and give Him honor and praise.
**Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Sr.
Senior Pastor**
4215 N. Greenview Drive
Irving, TX 75062
972-257-3766
www.biblewayirving.org

**CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH (Formerly
EIRENE CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP)**

April 28, 11 a.m.
Ladies you are invited to our Women of Wisdom meeting as we study and discuss God's Word. Call the church for details.

**Dr. Terrence Autry,
Senior Pastor**
701 E. Centennial Blvd.
Richardson, TX 75081
972-991-0200
www.followpeace.org

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635 W. Campbell Road
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972-480-0200

**EBENEZER BAPTIST
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April 29, 11 a.m.
You're invited to our Women's Day Conference with guest speaker, Overseer Lisa Tarpley-Tucker.
Pastor Melva Hill
301 South Spencer Street
Mailing Address is:
P. O. Box 594
Wolfe City, TX 75496
903-496-2176
ebcwoolfecity@yahoo.com

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**Monday – Friday
9 a.m.-1 p.m.**
TheShip3C's Prayer Lines for those that are in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567 or

they may be submitted via email to: prayerline@the-ship3c.org

April 29, 9:30 a.m.
Don't miss our Friends and Family Super Sunday Day. Everyone is invited to worship and praise God with us at 1550 Edelweiss Drive in Allen.
**Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed.D.
Senior Pastor**
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1010-1020 S. Sherman Street
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972-437-3493
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ROCKBRIDGE CHURCH

May 6
Join us in Prayer with Pastor at 8:30 a.m. and stay for Worship Celebration at 10 a.m.

Timothy Jones, Lead Pastor
21 Prestige Circle
Allen, TX 75002
214-383-9993
www.rockbridgechurch.com

**SAINT MARK MBC
IN MCKINNEY**

May, 9:30 a.m.
Join us in our Education Ministries, stay for our Worship Celebration at 10:45 a.m.; and you're invited to join us for our Friends and Family Day as we fellowship, worship and praise God.

May 12, 12 p.m.
All Senior Saints are invited to our Double Nickel (55 and above) Luncheon @ the New-some Center on Amscott Street in McKinney. Activities include lunch, bingo and door prizes. Come and bring a friend. If you are homebound, we will deliver to you. Please call 972-542-6178 no later than the Friday, (March 9th this month) before the luncheon and leave a message with your name, address, phone number and how many meals you need.
Dr. Charles Wattley Sr. Pastor
1308 Wilcox Street
McKinney TX 75069
972-542-6178
www.saintmarkbc.com

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

**April 29, 8 a.m.
And 11 a.m.**
Join us in our Morning Worship

times and stay for our Sunday School at 10 a.m.

May 2, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Midweek Service as we worship and praise God.

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

**THE INSPIRING BODY
OF CHRIST CHURCH**

April 29, 7:30 a.m.
Join us as we worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name.

April 30, 7 p.m.
Come to Monday School as we study the Word of God, worship Him and praise His Holy name.
Pastor Rickie Rush
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Dallas, TX 75237
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May 1, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our School of The Prophets as Pastor Voss; who is also a prophet, bring the Word of God; and we worship and praise His Holy name.

May 3, 7 p.m.
Join us in our Gift Stirring Night as Saints of God bring God's Word and reveal their God-given talents.

**Dr. Gregory E. Voss,
Senior Pastor**
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Carrollton, TX 75006
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**Sister
Tarpley**

"A wide door has been open to me and with it are many adversaries." 1 Corinthians 16:9.

God gives us opportunities to move forward in life. It's His desire that we grow and reach our full potential. The enemy will try to bring opposition and adversity against us; but God promises that through Him, we can overcome any opposition the enemy brings our way.

When we step out in faith and the opposition comes, let's stand our ground and keep doing what we know to do. Let's keep: praying, reading God's Word; going to church; walking in love and forgiveness and keep our hearts tender. When the enemy sees that we are more determined, he will back down and we will move forward to new levels of victory; let's stay fo-

cused and full of joy no matter what comes against us. As we do, we will overcome opposition and discover the champion in us.

HANDS – An old man sat on a park bench. With his head down he stared at his hands. I wondered if he was OK. Not wanting to disturb him but to check on him, I asked him if he was OK. He looked at me and smiled. "Yes, I'm fine, thank you for asking, he said in a clear voice."

"I didn't mean to disturb you, but you were sitting here staring at your hands, I wanted to make sure you were OK; I said." "Have you ever really looked at your hands, he said"

I slowly opened my hands and stared at them. I turned them over, palms up and then palms down. No, I guess I never really looked at my hands, as I tried to figure out his point. He smiled and related this story:

"Stop and think about your hands, how they have served you throughout your years. These hands, though wrinkled, shriveled and weak have been the tools I have used all my life to reach, grab and embrace life.

These hands have braced and caught my fall when I was a toddler. They put food in my mouth and clothes on my back. As a child my mother taught me to fold them in prayer. They have tied my shoes and pulled on my boots. They dried the tears of my children and caressed the love of my life. They held my rifle and wiped my tears when I went off to war.

They have been dirty, scraped and raw, swollen and bent. They were uneasy and clumsy when I tried to hold my newborn child. They are decorated with my wedding band and showed the world that I was married and loved someone special. They wrote letters

home and trembled and shook when I buried my parents and spouse and walked my daughter down the aisle. Yet, they were strong and sure when I dug my buddy out of a foxhole and lifted a plow off of my best friend's foot.

These hands have held children and consoled neighbors. They have covered my face, combed my hair, and washed and cleansed my body. They have been sticky and wet, bent and broken, and dried and raw. To this day not much of anything else of me works real well, but these hands hold me up, lay me down and again continue to fold in prayer.

These hands are the mark of where I've been and the ruggedness of my life. More importantly these hands are what God will take when He leads me home. He won't care where these hands have been or what they have done. But He will care to



Overseer Lisa Tarpley-Tucker, of Community Outreach Ministry in Irving, Texas.

whom these hands belong and how much He loves these hands. With these hands He will lift me to His side and I will touch the face of Jesus. --Author Unknown

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Revival this weekend in Frisco

Pastors Richard and Tina Polite of Transformation Church cordially invite the public to attend, "Recovering All" the inspiring three-day revival designed to equip you with the tools you need to recover all you have lost. Whether it is a loss from an addiction, a divorce, a career choice or health issue, this inspiring event will set you on a firm path towards recovery.

In addition to the words and wisdom of Pastors Richard and Tina Polite, the Revival will also feature the prophetic voice of Prophet Eric Von

Copeland of San Antonio, Texas on Friday, April 27 at 7 p.m.

Then on Saturday the early morning overcomer's Prayer Breakfast with the Robert Borelli, former New York mobster now fully recovered from a life of crime, and a noted Christian author will share his story on Saturday, April 28 at 10 a.m. (tickets are free, send an email to BeYeTF@gmail.com with the number of tickets you are requesting).

Come experience the powerful teachings of our Keynote Speaker, Pastor Tony Shaw of The

Anointed Kingdom Dominion Faith Center on Saturday at 11 am. He has appeared on KTAQ 47, KTVT and KTXA 21. Pastors Polite invite the public to come prepared to hear words of direction and truth - expecting to receive a healing and a newness of life from God.

Special musical guest, Una West from New Orleans will minister at all services. The Revival culminates with Pastor Richard Polite on Sunday, April 29 at 10 am. This is your season - the season that God has divinely ordered for you to Recover

All is the belief of the pastors and their ministry team.

Transformation Church, located at 7200 Griffin Road, Frisco, TX 75034, (121 and Spring Creek) is a non-denominational Bible believing church that embraces the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They strive to empower both the new convert and young families who are embarking together on their walk with God.

For more information please visit the website at www.beyetf.com or call 469-265-6223.

EXPO, continued from Page 13

nity to come and get connected." The State agencies will have live event time announcements for on the spot contract awards.

The two-day event will also feature one-on-one business matching sessions between corporation, public sector entities, institutions and minority business suppliers looking to discuss immediate and near future opportunities. A reception, luncheon, business demo center and seminars are also scheduled. "The added elements to this year's AC-

CESS Business Expo will provide a myriad of opportunities for attendees to meet, connect, identify opportunities and conduct real business," said Posey.

The Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, Raytheon and MEI are the sponsors of the Expo. State Senator Royce West is recruiting the State agencies to participate for the fifth year.

Registration and sponsorship information is available on The Council website at www.dfwmsdc.com or call 214-630-0747.

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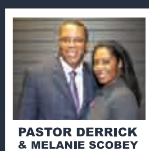
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