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National HIV Testing Day, June 27

Are you positive you're negative? Did you know 1 in 5 Americans don't know they're infected because they haven't been tested?

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that one out of five people living with HIV in the U.S. are unaware of their HIV Status.

If you haven't been tested, you're not alone.



Knowing your status is important whether you are HIV positive or not. Early diagnosis and treatment save lives. And, if you are HIV negative, it's important to stay that way. National HIV Testing Day is an opportunity for people nationwide to

learn their HIV status and to gain knowledge to take control of their health and their lives.

The sense of national urgency and hysteria no longer surrounds the issue of AIDS. It has since been replaced with its antithesis, a pervasive complacency that, in some ways, is just as alarming as the disease itself.

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Customer accuses Prosperity Bank of racial profiling

BY IVY N. MCQUAIN
NDG CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

Someone's civil rights are violated every minute of every day. Some choose to brush it off their shoulders and contribute the violation

to ignorance, while others choose to stand up for themselves, even if that means standing alone. For Bernard Partee, standing up against Prosperity Bank is a must because he feels his civil rights and the civil rights of African Americans



Bernard Partee and Michael Valdez, bank protestors.

everywhere were violated.

On May 10 around 3:15 p.m., Partee decided to stop at Prosperity Bank, located at the corner of Turtle Creek and Oaklawn in Dallas, to cash two Prosperity Bank issued checks. When he

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Social Security Statements are now available online

BY SAMUEL TRIMIAR
NDG SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

If you would like to get a Social Security Statement, which provides estimates of your future benefits, it is now available online at www.socialsecurity.gov.

"Our new online Social

Security Statement is simple, easy-to-use and provides people with estimates they can use to plan for their retirement," said Michael J. Astrue, Commissioner of Social Security. "The online Statement also provides estimates for disability and survivors benefits, making the State-

ment an important financial planning tool. People should get in the habit of checking their online Statement each year, around their birthday, for example."

In addition to helping with financial planning, the online Statement also pro-

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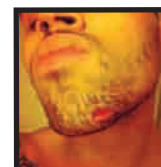
COVER STORY

Dallas Area Interfaith: A conversation about America's healthcare



Reverend Willie Bennett, one of the leaders of the DAI sharing the accomplishments of the Just Conversations meeting at Temple Emanu-EL.

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Drake and Chris Brown nightclub fight

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

COMMENTARY

Rodney King symbolized police brutality

BY GEORGE E. CURRY

(NNPA) Rodney King would be the first to tell you that he was no Martin Luther King, Jr. or Malcolm X. His lifelong bout with alcohol and drugs – battles that he always seemed to lose – and frequent run-ins with police did not qualify him for icon status. Yet, that's what he achieved in 1991 at the age of 27 because of one video clip. It was graphic footage filmed by a bystander showing at

least four Los Angeles policemen savagely kicking and beating King with police batons, landing at least 50 blows as the unarmed King was sprawled on the ground or struggling to stand up.

In the video, the officers were seen teeing off on King as though they were holding baseball bats or golf clubs. Several other officers stood around, doing nothing to halt the repeated assault on the helpless King.

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People In The News...



Rev. Dr. Curtis W. Wallace



Isis Brantley



Scot Anthony Robinson

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Rev. Dr. Curtis W. Wallace

The 2nd Annual Inter-Faith (iFaith) Golf Cup Challenge is scheduled for June 25 at Thorntree Country Club in DeSoto. The 2011 event attracted an assortment of area churches competing for the coveted iFaith Golf Cup while raising money for the hungry in DFW. The event raised enough money to purchase 3,000 meals through the North Texas Food Bank.

"We are thrilled that our last tournament allowed us to make a meaningful contribution toward the hard work that is being done by

the North Texas Food Bank," stated tournament founder Lou Phillips.

The InterFaith Golf Cup Challenge is designed to provide an event that will foster inter-denominational and cross-cultural fellowship and stewardship.

"The game of golf is a perfect way of getting individuals to spend quality time together and thus encourage deep abiding friendships," states Dr. Craig White of Cornerstone Baptist Church of Christ and tournament volunteer coordinator.

Reverend Dr. Joseph J. Clifford and Reverend Dr. Curtis W. Wallace will serve as our 2012 Honorary Co-Chairs. Dr. Joseph Clifford is the Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Dallas. He arrived at First Presbyterian Church in December 2006. He is a 1988 graduate of Auburn University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in economics and a Master of Divinity Degree from Columbia Theological Seminary. He also earned a Doctor of Ministry in preaching from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. Dr. Clifford has a deep commitment to inter-

faith dialogue that grows from the conviction God wills reconciliation and peace for the world.

Dr. Curtis W. Wallace is the Senior Pastor of Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church. Dr. Wallace delivered his first sermon in April 1974 and served as co-adjutant to the pastor of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church in Paris, Texas, where he later became the Pastor. He has served as Pastor of the Lily Grove Baptist Church in Houston just before taking the helm at Pilgrim Rest. He attended Paul Quinn College and Houston Baptist University and earned a Bachelor of

Theology degree from Union Bible College and Seminary of Houston, Texas, a Master of Arts degree from Survine Theological Seminary of Denver, Colorado (formerly Aspen Theological Seminary of Aurora, Colorado), and a Doctorate of Ministry from Houston Graduate School of Theology.



See WALLACE, Page 5

Isis Brantley

The 2012 Naturally Isis World Natural Hair Parade and Festival has announced Dallas' own Erykah Badu as the Grand Marshall! She endorsed last year's parade and festival, which hosted more than 1,500 attendees at this free community event. This year's parade and festival is in honor of the late Bandle Tyiamba, founder of Pan-African Connection Books and Imports as well as bringing awareness to the killers of the African American community - sickle cell, cancer and AIDS.

The parade will promptly begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Wynne Wood Shopping Center in Dallas and end at the Beckley-Saner Park. The festival is scheduled for 12-7 p.m. There will be live entertainment, hands on braiding workshops, children activities, speakers and poets, fun and a host of vendors selling items and food.

There will be a number of local and national celebrities including Naturally Isis, herself and others. The purpose and mission of this parade and festival is to cultivate the labor of love for natural hair, to empower the

community and to begin healing the community through love, peace and unification. A record-breaking turnout of attendees from all over the DFW and around the country is expected to come together in peace and love for this wonderful event.

There are a host of opportunities to be involved in this parade and festival, including sponsorships and partnerships. They are also seeking vendors and volunteers. For more information call 214-223-4420 or email ivyc@writtenbyinc.com.

Isis Brantley is well

known throughout the country for her passion and love for revitalizing and rejuvenating the love for natural hair for women of color. For more than 30 years Isis has been a staple in the African American community as a revolutionary iconic figure who loves and supports her community. She started the Naturally Isis Institute of An-



cestral braiding after being arrested in 1997 for braiding hair without a license. Since 2007 she was grandfathered as a licensed cosmetologist

and braider and teaches individuals, across the state of Texas and world, the art of braiding, managing and maintaining natural hair. Isis is passionate about developing self-awareness in African American women and girls and works tirelessly to promote natural hair as well as cultivate a healthy lifestyle in the community.

Scot Anthony Robinson

Robinson paints a picture of the success and challenges in his life and conveys how making

while being engaged to consider how good choices impact the potential for a better future.



choices have real life consequences. Young people are given the opportunity to travel with him on this journey as an observer

In a tour de force performance, which is alternately raw, frightening, ironically funny but ultimately uplifting, Robinson

stealthily engages the audience in recalling his experience of taking his first puff of marijuana at the tender age of 11.

Ninety minutes later audiences emerge from a graphic tour of his subsequent descent into a life of drug and alcohol addiction, a nightmarish downward spiral, which left him homeless in 1992 on the streets of Los Angeles and New York.

Robinson's professional credits include *New Jack City*, *Malcolm X*, *New York Undercover* and *All My Children*. He has performed the "Vision Warrior"; in off Broadway theaters, at Riker's Island Prison, in high schools and universities. His presentation leaves a permanent impression and is the quintes-

sential powerful weapon against the War on Drugs.

Empower American Children aims to reignite the American Dream in the minds of young people. Their programs are designed to enhance and strengthen relationships, introduce life skills, and assist young people in navigating their teen years with tools and resources previously unavailable.

Empower American Children, is hosting Scot Anthony Robinson at the 2012 Jack and Jill of America Inc., 58th Annual South Central Regional Teen Conference in Dallas.

Robinson brings "The Vision Warrior" to life taking young people on his life's journey. He shares with the audience his teen years in high school, young

adult years in college and finally entering into the

world of entertainment as an actor.

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P. O. Box 763866 • Dallas, Texas 75376-3866

Phone: 972-516-4191

Fax: 972-509-9058

**Publisher's Office:**

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

opportunity@northdallasgazette.com

Editorial Department:

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

www.twitter.com/NDGEditor

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Website:

www.NorthDallasGazette.com

STAFF

Chairman Emeritus

Jim Bochum

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Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Production

Sharon Jones-Scaife

Special Projects Manager

Edward Dewayne

"Preacher Boy" Gibson, Jr.

General Manager, National Sales

John E. Banks-Morgan

Religious/**Marketing Editor**

Shirley Demus Tarpley

Assistant to the Publisher

Emily Cox

Editor

Ruth Ferguson

VP of Digital & Entertainment Marketing

Brandy Jones-West

Contributing Writer

Jackie Hardy

Ivy N. McQuain

Jacqueline Murphy

Terri Schlichenmeyer

Nicole Scott

Alvin Starks

Don Willis

Editorial Writers

Ivy Carter

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Nicole Scott

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KING, continued from Page 1

More than any other event, the brutal beating of Rodney King, an unemployed construction worker, forced America to see what many did not want to believe existed – police officers, hiding behind a badge and a gun, brutalizing citizens who pose no immediate threat to them or the public.

King was found dead early Sunday morning at the bottom of his swimming pool at his home in Rialto, Calif. No foul play was suspected.

His entry into the national spotlight has its roots in an incident that took place in 1989. King robbed a grocery store in Monterey Park, Calif. He took \$200 and was sentenced to two years in prison. On the night of March 2, 1991, following hours of drinking with friends, King was spotted speeding in the San Fernando Valley area of Los Angeles. When cops tried to pull him over, he tried to elude them by driving even faster, up to 100 miles per hour, fearing that he would go back to jail for violating his parole.

After a high-speed chase joined by other officers, King was cornered and ordered out of his vehicle. The two passengers accompanying him, Bryant Allen and Freddie Helms, immediately complied with the order to exit the car and lie face down on the ground. King delayed his exit and when he emerged, he acted strangely, waving at police helicopters that had been part of the chase and giggling uncontrollably.

Sgt. Stacey Koon, the supervising officer, fired a Taser into King's back, causing him to drop to his knees. Officer Laurence Powell hit King in the head, knocking him to ground, and continued striking King. Other officers moved in as well, pummeling King with their night sticks. After being struck 56 times and kicked a half-dozen times, King was handcuffed and dragged to the side of the road on his stomach to await the arrival of an ambulance. King later reported

that he had suffered 11 skull fractures, permanent brain damage, kidney damage and broken bones and teeth.



Rodney King

Four of the officers – Koon, Powell Timothy Wind and Theodore Briseno – were charged with excessive use of force. The trial was switched from Los Angeles to Simi Valley, a largely White community in Ventura County. On April 29, 1992, a jury that contained no African Americans acquitted three of the officers and was unable to reach a verdict on a fourth.

Los Angeles exploded upon hearing the verdict. At the end of six days of unrest, there were 53 deaths, 2,383 injuries and property damage was nearly \$1 billion.

In an effort to end the violence, Rodney King appeared in public to utter his

now famous, "Can we all get along?"

After the Los Angeles prosecutor failed to win a conviction against the four officers, the federal government obtained indictments charging the officers with violating the civil rights of King. Koon and Stacey were found guilty and sentenced to 32 months in prison; Wind and Briseno were acquitted. The city of Los Angeles set-

tled a civil suit brought by Rodney King for \$3.8 million.

Later, it became clear that the Rodney King beating was not an aberration.

•Feb. 4, 1999 – Amadou Diallo was killed by New York City police officers who claimed they thought he was reaching for a gun. Four officers were indicted for second-degree murder, but were acquitted.

•Sept. 2, 2005 – Following Hurricane Katrina, Henry Glover was shot to death while near a strip mall shopping for baby clothing. Two cops were sentenced to more than 15 years in prison for shooting Glover, tossing his body into a car and setting it on fire.

•Nov. 26, 2006 – Three unarmed Black men, including Sean Bell, were shot a total of 50 times by New York police officers. Bell, who had been celebrating at his bachelor's party, died in the hail of bullets. Three officers charged with manslaughter were acquitted.

•Jan. 1, 2009 – Oscar Grant was shot in the back by Officer Johannes Mehserle while on the ground at a train station in Oakland, Calif. The officer was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter, but served only 11 months in prison.

There are dozens, if not hundreds, of cases similar to the ones above. Thanks to Rodney King, the public is not as quick to believe police officers who abuse their power and violate public trust.

George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of *Emergence* magazine, is editor-in-chief of the *National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service (NNPA)* and editorial director of *Heart & Soul* magazine. He is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach. Curry can be reached through his Web site, www.georgecurry.com. You can also follow him at www.twitter.com/currygeorge.

The Son of Greece

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Round Rock's Play for ALL Abilities Playground result of a father's dream for his son

Thanks to concerned citizens, engaged city council members, a benevolent construction company, and over 300 volunteers, Round Rock Texas now has a brand new inclusive playground that people of all ages and abilities can enjoy. It all started about 5 years ago when Kenneth Seymore struggled to find a place to take his son Dennis to play. Dennis Seymore was born with Arthrogryposis, a rare congenital disorder limiting his range of motion and muscle development. "At the time most playgrounds

used sand, which Dennis could not drive his wheelchair through" says Seymore. "Some playgrounds used turf, but even those did not have any swings or play events for Dennis to play on." After a thorough search, Kenneth was unable to find any public playgrounds nearby his home that addressed Dennis' special needs.

Determined to find a way for Dennis to enjoy outdoor play, Kenneth began research on different types of play equipment that Dennis would be able

to use, and came across a company offering a contest for a Boundless Playground Outdoor Grant. He began the application process, which required permission from the city of Round Rock along with approved land, and a written essay. The city of Round Rock quickly approved Kenneth's request and were very supportive of the idea.

Within his essay, Kenneth put special emphasis on the gap between families with children with disabilities and currently available

See PLAYGROUND, Page 7

Peaches, plums, nectarines give obesity, diabetes slim chance

Peaches, plums and nectarines have bioactive compounds that can potentially fight-off obesity-related diabetes and cardiovascular disease, according to new studies by Texas AgriLife Research.

The study, which will be presented at the American Chemical Society in Philadelphia next August, showed that the compounds in stone fruits could be a weapon against "metabolic syndrome," in which obesity and inflammation lead to serious health issues, according to Dr. Luis Cisneros-Zevallos, AgriLife Research food scientist.

"In recent years obesity has become a major concern in society due to the health problems associated to it," said Cisneros-Zevallos, who also is an associate professor at Texas A&M University. "In the U.S., statistics show that around 30 percent of the population is overweight or obese, and these cases are increasing every year in alarming numbers."

While he acknowledged that lifestyle, genetic predisposition and diet play a major role in one's tendency toward obesity, "the major concern about obesity is the associated disease known as metabolic syndrome."

"Our studies have shown that stone fruits –



peaches, plums and nectarines – have bioactive compounds that can potentially fight the syndrome," Cisneros-Zevallos said. "Our work indicates that phenolic compounds present in these fruits have anti-obesity, anti-inflammatory and anti-diabetic properties in different cell lines and may also reduce the oxidation of bad cholesterol LDL which is associated to cardiovascular disease."

What is unique to these fruits, he said, is that their mixture of the bioactive compounds work simultaneously within the different components of the disease.

"Our work shows that the four major phenolic groups – anthocyanins, chlorogenic acids, quercetin derivatives and catechins – work on different cells – fat cells, macrophages and vascular endothelial cells," he explained. "They modulate different expressions of genes and proteins depend-

ing on the type of compound."

"However, at the same time, all of them are working simultaneously in different fronts against the components of the disease, including obesity, inflammation, diabetes and cardiovascular disease," he explained.

Cisneros-Zevallos said this is believed to be the first time that "bioactive compounds of a fruit have been shown to potentially work in different fronts against a disease."

"Each of these stone fruits contain similar phenolic groups but in differing proportions so all of them are a good source of health promoting compounds and may complement each other," he said, adding that his team plans to continue studying the role of each type of compound on the molecular mechanisms and confirm the work with mice studies.

Seniors get exercise/fitness stations at Frontier Park in Prosper, TX

Fresh on the heels of the successful construction and dedication of a playground designed specifically for youngsters, their older counterparts will soon enjoy the benefits of a similar amenity at Frontier Park as the Parks and Recreation Department constructs active older adult fitness stations, according to Wade Harden, Senior Parks and Recreation Planner.

"The rising number of older adults, their increased longevity and their need to maintain fitness levels at their maximum prompted us to find ways to provide a means for them to exercise safely and in a social environment," he said.

In an effort to meet that need, and to help enhance the seniors' quality of life, the Prosper Town Council recently agreed to set aside some \$33,000 to purchase and install eight ergonomically-designed fitness stations at Frontier Park intended specifically for older adults. The stations are

one of only a handful of other similarly-constructed, publically-funded active adult self-paced fitness and exercise facilities in the country.

"In a complementary fashion to Windmill Playground, which is north and east of the baseball complex, the eight stations are spaced out along the opposite side of the park along the hike and bike trails, four stations on the west and four stations on the southeast sides of the baseball complex," added Harden.

Among the stations are a Tai Chi spinner, a two-person cross country ski station, two-person leg press, a stationary recumbent bike, a seated leg extension station, a two-person vertical arm press, a stair climber and a seated core exercise apparatus.

"The exercise stations are in two locations, connected by the hike trail, giving seniors a chance to work out and then take a walking break between the two exercise stations.

Benches will be added later to give seniors a sitting break as well," he said.

So-called baby boomers are aging in unprecedented numbers and their need and desire to remain active and maintain their quality of life prompted the Town to pursue development of the exercise facilities.

Community supporter and senior citizen advocate Twila Webber was actively engaged in fine-tuning the concept, lobbying for its implementation and designing the final layout.

She expressed excitement at the prospect of improving the health and social well-being of her fellow senior citizens. "We are very grateful to the Town for recognizing our needs. This shows that indeed, in Prosper, everyone matters," said Webber.

The two fitness station amenities are set to open in early July.

Frisco reminds residents to protect themselves against mosquito bites

The City of Frisco reminds residents to continue to protect themselves against mosquito bites through the end of October – or until the first freeze. Precautionary steps promoted by the Texas Department of State Health Services – and commonly referred to as "The Four D's" are:

- **DRAIN** all standing water;
- **DRESS** in light-colored, long sleeve clothing when outdoors;
- **DEET**... Use mosquito repellants that contain Deet.
- **DUSK OR DAWN**... Avoid outdoor activities during these hours when mosquitoes are most active

This reminder follows news that mosquito trap sites in North Texas areas cities tested positive for the West Nile Virus.

"State health experts tell us West Nile encephalitis cases usually occur in the summer or early fall," said

Julie Stallcup, Environmental Health Supervisor, Development Services. "However, when temperatures are

mild, West Nile virus can be transmitted year round so it's best to protect yourself all year."

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Parkland to celebrate opening of new Grand Prairie health center

Parkland Health & Hospital System and the city of Grand Prairie announced the grand opening of the E. Carlyle Smith, Jr. Health Center, Parkland's newest community-based health clinic. The new 33,000-square-foot facility is located at 801 Conover Drive, a 4.8-acre site that was formerly a police station.

Construction of the health center, paid for equally by Parkland and the city of Grand Prairie, opens to the general public July 2.

The E. Carlyle Smith, Jr. Health Center at Grand Prairie was built to service 40,000 patient visits per year. It will offer pediatric, adult and geriatric care. In addition, specialty services such as psychiatry, psychology and dental care will be provided.

"This clinic is extremely important for our community," said Charles England, mayor of Grand Prairie. "Thousands of Grand Prairie residents will be able to take care of their health care needs here in town now instead of having to travel to Parkland hospital in Dallas."

This marks Parkland's 12th Community Oriented Primary Care clinic. Parkland selected Grand Prairie for the site of its new clinic because it is not geographically close to other Parkland clinics, it is split between Dallas and Tarrant counties and the community has one of the lowest physician-to-population ratios in the region.

"Our community clinics throughout the county keep people healthy and help

them better utilize primary care resources," said Sharon Phillips, Executive Vice President and Chief of Off-Campus Operations at Parkland.

Research shows that community health clinics provide greater access to care and a medical home for preventive health services. Prevention leads to financial savings because fewer patients with chronic conditions visit emergency rooms, where the cost of care escalates.

The health center is named after E. Carlyle Smith, Jr., an architect, state legislator, Grand Prairie resident and former Parkland board member who was instrumental in developing Parkland's community-based clinics.

Fireworks not allowed in McKinney

The McKinney Fire Department urges residents to enjoy fireworks safely this Fourth of July by attending local sanctioned fireworks shows like the Red, White and BOOM! Celebration handled by trained professionals who adhere to strict safety codes. Possession, storage, sale, handling and use of fireworks are prohibited within the city limits of McKinney and its extra-territorial jurisdiction.

Illegal fireworks include anything designed to produce a visible and audible effect by ignition with a match or other heat-producing device. Spark-

lers, firecrackers and roman candles are examples of illegal fireworks. Fireworks found within the city limits of McKinney will be immediately confiscated, and violators could be fined up to \$2,000 for each offense.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, in 2010 fireworks caused an estimated 15,500 reported fires. These fires resulted in an estimated eight reported deaths, 60 injuries and \$36 million in direct property damage. In 2010, U.S. hospital emergency rooms saw an estimated 8,800 people for fire-

works related injuries.

"A fireworks injury happens in the blink of an eye, whether or not a parent or other responsible adult is present. The safest way to prevent fireworks-related injuries is to leave fireworks displays to trained professionals. Celebrate Independence Day safely at Red, White and BOOM!" said McKinney Fire Prevention Chief Dwayne Henderson.

For more information on fireworks or other fire and life safety topics, contact the Fire Prevention Office at 972-547-2879 or visit www.mckinney-fire.org.

Quinceanera Experience at Irving Mall this Saturday

The Irving Mall is hosting a community event featuring fashion and entertainment for shoppers looking for the latest trends for Quinceanera celebrations. Irving residents are invited to attend the free

event on Saturday, June 23.

The festivities will include a mini-fashion show, makeovers and hair demonstrations. For further entertainment, there will be a band and dance displayed at the

Quinceanera exhibit.

The cost is free and guests are invited to bring the whole family. It will be held at Irving Mall's Center Court, 3880 Irving Mall from 3-6 p.m.

Southern University Golf Tournament

Southern University Alumni Federation, Dallas Chapter, is hosting the Dallas Chapter FOUNDERS golf tournament on June 23 at the Eastern Hills Country Club, 3000 South Country Club Road in Garland. The event celebrates the establishment of the Dallas Chapter on April 10, 1955 by sixteen graduates: Wal-

ter Berry, Lila Bradley, Vasti Bradley, Abner Coit, Emmitt Conrad, Marion Henry, Mary Henry, Joseph Lewis, Joseph Lockridge, Dorothy Meshack, Judson Meshack, Elston Miles, Ballard Mitchell, Althea Simmons, Betty Tanner, and Clyde Williams.

The format is four-person scramble. Registered

golfers may participate in putting contest that starts at 10:30 a.m. on June 23. All registered golf teams are expected to arrive at the course on June 23 not later than 11 a.m. to check in and use practice range. Shotgun starts at 1 p.m. Golfers will be able to purchase mulligan and raffle tickets. Prizes include 2012 Rock-

etBallZ driver, RocketBallZ 3 wood, RocketBallZ 3 Hybrid, two-night hotel lodging, ProV1 golf balls, golf caps, etc. The tournament will also feature special individual and team competitions including closest-to-pin, longest drive, and "move-it-up for an eagle" hole. Practice rounds at Eastern Hills Country Club

are available at the reduced rate of \$35 on June 19 - 22 for registered golfers.

Golfer registration forms are available from SUAF-Dallas Chapter members, the Chapter website, and at the Eastern Hills Country Club in Garland,

Texas. The registration fee is \$320 per four-person team. JAGUAR Supporters may also select Corporate Sponsorships and/or make donations to the Lagniappe "Quest for Excellence" Scholarship Fund.

ONLINE, continued from Page 1

vides workers a convenient way to determine whether their earnings are accurately posted to their Social Security records. This feature is important because Social Security benefits are based on average earnings over a person's lifetime. If the information is incorrect, the person may not receive proper benefits.

The online Statement provides you the opportunity to save or print the document for future reference, or to have handy for discussions with family members

or a financial planner.

According to the American Customer Satisfaction Index, users are giving the online Statement a score of 89, making it competitive with our other top-rated, best-in-government online services, such as the Retirement Estimator and online retirement application.

To get a personalized online Statement, you must be age 18 or older and must be able to provide information about yourself that matches information already on file with Social Se-

curity. In addition, Social Security uses Experian, an external authentication service provider, for further verification. You must provide identifying information and answer security questions in order to pass this verification. Social Security will not share your Social Security number with Experian, but the identity check is an important part of this new, thorough verification process.

When your identity is verified, you can create a "My Social Security" ac-

count with a unique user name and password to access your online Statement. In addition, your online Statement includes links to information about other online Social Security services, such as applications for retirement, disability, and Medicare.

For more information about the new online Statement, please visit www.socialsecurity.gov/mystatement.

Samuel Trimiar is the Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

WALLACE, continued from Page 2

"It is a wonderful blessing from God to have these two dynamic shepherds come together in support of our work on behalf of those

who are in need," states Reverend Samuel Castle the local planning committee chairman.

The tournament is de-

signed to host eighteen (18) churches with a restriction of only one (1) foursome per church. For more information on The 2012 Inter-

faith Golf Cup Challenge, visit www.ifaithgolf.com or contact Lou Phillips at 703-746-8138 or registerdfw@ifaithgolf.com.

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Irving ISD schools providing free summer meals for children in the community

Irving ISD is providing free meals for local children 18 and younger. The Summer Meals Program provides breakfast and lunch to anyone visiting the Irving ISD school locations throughout the city. No ID is required to participate, but they must eat the meals on campus and cannot be shared with anyone.

The students are not required to be enrolled in summer school. Therefore



security reasons, it is important to contact the campus to determine what time they serve the meals. Also,

for security reasons, please find out where you should enter the building and sign in as a guest. Anyone who does meet the age criteria may purchase the school's cafeteria meals at a regularly set price.

Irving ISD invites the community to spread the word about the free meals program for the children this summer. For more information visit <http://irvingisd.net/SummerFood>.

6th Annual Youth Summit & Diversity Dialogue

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson will host the 6th Annual Youth Summit and Diversity Dialogue (YSDD) on the campus of Southern Methodist University on August 6.

The YSDD is intended for Dallas-area motivated youth who are between the ages of 13 and 17. The objective of the YSDD is to inspire our youth to increase their cultural self-awareness and to adopt so-

lutions in order to promote mutual understanding within their communities. The YSDD will serve as an academic torch that each student can take back to their local community to spread knowledge and apply the lessons they will learn.

The YSDD will be held on Monday, August 6 on the Southern Methodist University campus. Guidelines for the application process are

detailed in the application packet, which you can obtain from Congresswoman Johnson's office. Students must be in between the ages 13 – 17 years old, to apply.

Interested participants are advised to not wait to submit their application, because spots are filling up fast. The Application Deadline is June 29. For more information, call Congresswoman Johnson's District Office at 214-922-8885.

Jobs expert: Standardized people won't win America's future

Since former President George W. Bush amped up standardized testing throughout the nation in 2002 with the No Child Left Behind Act, critics say results have been negative.

"The bottom line is that there is no clear correlation between standardized testing and the knowledge and skills kids will need to prosper in the 21st century world of work," says Peter Weddle, former CEO of Job Bank USA, Inc., and author of *A Multitude of Hope: A Novel About Rediscovering the American Dream* (www.AMultitudeofHope.com).

"It seems we're more interested in creating a homogenized workforce than a nation of individuals who have learned what their talent is and how to bring it to

work with them," he says.

Consider these statistics:

- Annual state spending on standardized tests has increased by 160 percent – from \$423 million in 2002 to \$1.1 billion in 2008, according to the Pew Center on the States.

- Since 2002, the United States dropped from 18th in the world in math on the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) to 31st place in 2009, with a similar drop in science and no change in reading.

- The NCLB Act has drastically narrowed content, according to a study by the Center on Education Policy.

"This problem begins very early on. We take kids in elementary school and

give them tests. Those who do well are designated as 'gifted and talented,' which means that everyone else is, by definition, ungifted and untalented. And, that's just not true. In effect, we're devaluing all the capabilities that are not reflected in a standardized test," he says.

"Of course, we want to take care of our academically proficient kids, but we have to find a way to do that without signaling to every other child that they were at the end of the line when talent was handed out."

Too many Americans are stuck in old ways of thinking, from the classrooms of our elementary schools and colleges to the workplace," Weddle says. "But we're in a new economy and the path to the

American Dream has changed. That means our old-school thinking must change as well."

He offers ways Americans can get back in the game as world leaders:

We need to accept that the economy has changed: The first step to change is acknowledging it's needed, Weddle says. "Our employers are no longer competing

with cheaper labor; they're up against smarter labor worldwide," he says. We hold a trump card, however: We have the most diverse pool of talent on the globe, whereas countries such as China and India have, by choice, a homogenous workforce.

We must give career education greater priority: In China, every college stu-

dent must, as a requirement of graduation, take a year-long course that teaches them the skills and knowledge to manage their own careers effectively. In the United States, that instruction is missing from college curricula. Yet, 53.6 percent of all college graduates under the age of 25 are now either unemployed or un-

See FUTURE, Page 13

The Dallas Food Planning Association and Texas Hunger Initiative Partner With Congresswoman Johnson

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, the Dallas Food Planning Association, and the Texas Hunger Initiative have formed a steering committee to tackle local hunger issues. The steering committee consists of elected officials, government agencies, corporations, non-profit organizations, faith-based community leaders, and local residents.

"Nearly half a million Dallas County residents are considered food insecure because they don't have regular access to healthy nutritious meals. It is my top priority to

address local hunger issues, and to help combat food insecurities in Dallas. The steering committee will bring community stakeholders from all sectors to the table by addressing this critical issue in Dallas through innovative solutions," stated Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson.

"Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson's leadership in forming the steering committee has been invaluable in helping to bring our community together to combat hunger in Dallas. There is a lot of synergy around the

topic of food access in Dallas; the existence of an organization like the Dallas Food Planning Association, which organizes our community's efforts and resources to eradicate hunger in our county, is a necessity," stated Sonia White, Director of Good In Deed and member of the steering committee.

The steering committee is currently developing a plan to address the most pressing local hunger issues by focusing on:

- Increasing access to federally funded nutrition pro-

See HUNGER, Page 15

SAVE THE DATE



1st Annual Helen Giddings Scholarship Golf Tournament * Four Man Scramble With

Professional Golfer Jeb Stuart and others from the North Texas PGA

Wednesday, September 5, 2012
Texas Star Golf Course, Euless Texas

Registration: 12 noon Tee-off: 1:00 p.m. Cost: \$175 per person

This includes entry into all events, 18 holes of golf, riding cart, lunch, dinner and chance to win various prizes!

AWARDS

***Putting Challenge*Longest Drive*Closest to the Pin*Chip 'N Challenge*Hole-in-One Shootout**

To register call (504) 669-2563 or e-mail: rongeljohnson@yahoo.com

Golf attire is required. Collared shirts and slacks or shorts. No steel spikes are allowed on the course. All participants must be at least (15) years of age.

Razzoo's Inc. Presents Donation Check to Habitat for Humanity of South Collin County

Razzoo's Inc. was proud to be a Build Sponsor during the Habitat for Humanity's Ten House Development campaign in Plano. On June 2, Razzoo's executives presented a check for \$39,193.08 to the South Collin County chapter of Habitat for Humanity, and more than 25 Razzoo's Cajun Café em-



Pictured: More than 25 Razzoo's Cajun Café employees volunteered their time on June 2 to build a new home for Habitat for Humanity, including President and CEO Jeff Powell (Pictured behind Chris Degan, Razzoo's Vice President, Planning & Tech-

nology, who is holding the check on the left.)

ployees volunteered and helped build a house in East Plano.

The above photo was taken June 2, 2012 at the build site for Habitat for Humanity's second house in its Ten House Development campaign. The new house is located in East Plano, near 11th Street and E Avenue.

PLAYGROUND, continued from Page 4

recreation spaces, and explained how this playground would help bring the two together. Despite this earnest effort, they were not successful in winning the grant. However, by applying for this grant, Kenneth and Dennis had helped the city realize the importance of this project, and the City Council moved it to 'high priority' status in the Parks Master Plan.

Two years later, the Sunrise Rotary organization presented an idea to the city to have an adaptive swing installed for children with special needs. With this second request for inclusive play events, the city ac-

knowledge the importance of developing a park plan that would provide children of ALL abilities the opportunity to play and develop skills in an engaging, outdoor environment. With this objective in mind, the City Council approved a portion of Rabb Park to be used for the Play for All park. \$200,000 was allocated toward park construction to begin the project.

Several playground vendors submitted proposals for the actual playground



Dennis Seymore

structure, addressing component accessibility and appropriate surfacing requirements. The winning proposal was submitted by Play & Park Structures and implemented the best practices for creating universally designed playgrounds outlined in Me2, a playground design guidebook developed in partnership with Utah State University, Center for Persons with Disabilities and PlayCore. Me2 provides education and awareness of the 7 Principles of In-

clusive Playground Design and the importance of creating usable play environments which recognize everyone's right to fully participate in equitable play. Through these guiding principles, the proposal fully addressed the needs of the whole child by intentionally addressing the physical, cognitive, communicative, social / emotional, and sensory needs of all children.

The Play for ALL Abilities project soon became a community wide effort with the city selecting an interdisciplinary team of parents, therapists, teachers, specialists in various fields, and city members to ad-

dress the various goals and needs of the project to ensure the park offered meaningful play experiences for all.

"Although Dennis loves having a portion of the playground named after him, he enjoys the entire park, especially the adaptive swing" says Seymore. The hard work and efforts of so many individuals and businesses paid off—strengthening the community through the power of play. Round Rock residents now have a playground that meets their mission of providing play for children of ALL abilities, their dream come true!

RACIAL, continued from Page 1

walked up to the door, it was locked. So he began walking around the bank looking for another entrance, but did not find one. Then he walked to the drive through window, which is single lane and has a sharp curve that limits driver visibility. The teller, an African American woman, proceeded to assist Partee. During the transaction Partee questioned why the bank was closed and what he heard not only floored him, but sent a shock through his body.

"I asked the young lady in the drive through window, 'Ma'am is there any reason I can't come in to conduct these transactions? You all have me standing outside in this drive through and I am legally blind and someone could be in those bushes waiting to rob me,'" recalled Partee. "I was shocked when she responded that the sunglasses I have on all the time because I am legally blind and my briefcase, which she called a shoulder bag, made

them think that I was coming in to rob them."

Partee said that it took him a few moments to collect his thoughts and he immediately began asking what the qualifying reasons were for him to have been identified as a potential bank robber. The young lady proceeded to defend their decision to force Partee to conduct business through the drive through window without a car.

When he asked to speak to the branch manager, he was told she was out to lunch. When he asked for the number to the corporate office, he was told Prosperity Bank does not have a corporate office (Prosperity Bank was named the No. 1 bank by *Forbes* with 176 branches in Texas). Partee said he was never invited into the bank's lobby after the teller determined he was conducting official bank business, did not receive an apology and was charged a \$20 banking fee because he is not an account holder with Prosperity Bank.

"I was made to stand out-

side in the heat without a car, because they determined that I was going to rob their branch," said Partee. "This is the only bank that I know of where the bank employees have the right to determine who is a criminal or not; yet they refuse to hire security or even an off duty police. They (Prosperity Bank) don't have locked doors at the branch at Kiest and 67. I was racially profiled and discriminated against."

After Partee called another bank to lodge his complaint about his treatment, he received a call directly from the DFW and East Texas Areas President, Delos A. Hayes. The first words out of his mouth according to Partee was, "We screwed up badly, you never should have been treated that way." The two discussed the events and Hayes was apologetic about the exchange and refusal to let him in the bank.

However, when WFAA Channel 8 News interviewed Hayes a few days later, he recanted his apology to Partee and

stated bank policy. Twenty-one days after the initial conversation, Partee received a letter from Hayes and he was dismayed.

"The letter that I received said that what happened to me was their bank's policy," Partee shared. "It said that that particular bank had been robbed several times and that the staff has the discretion to pick who they feel comfortable with in the bank. In the letter he admitted that I fit the profile of people robbing their bank."

Unfortunately, the involvement of community leaders is lacking if not nonexistent, according to Partee. Since the incident Partee has not received support from the community or community leaders, yet he has notified Commissioner John Wiley Price, Eddie Bernice Johnson, Dwaine Caraway and other African-American elected officials of the incident. His only supporters for protesting the bank include Michael Valdez, a Hispanic member of the community and

Anthony Bond, an African-American member of the community.

"If I am the only one standing out there holding that sign in front of that bank for however long I decide to stand out there and draw whatever attention I am going to draw then that's fine," he added.

To date, Partee is still seeking legal representation. He knows he is in for a fight to prove his rights were violated, including his rights as a legally blind individual. However, Partee feels his safety was placed in jeopardy. He also said the teller and bank president admitted he was racially profiled. Partee is protesting to push for change and justice.

"I want Prosperity Bank to change their policy, put security in the bank and system completely. They should not have locked doors unless the bank is closed," he said. "The employees need to have sensitivity training as well."

He also cautions African Americans to be aware that be-

cause they are treated good at the Prosperity Banks in the African-American community does not mean they are going to be treated fairly in other communities. Partee suggests the community get involved on this issue and stop racial profiling and discrimination.

Wednesday afternoon, Hayes from Prosperity Bank told *NDG*, "We sent Mr. Partee an official apology from our bank. We do not understand how his rights as far as ADA compliance was violated because our branch is compliant with ADA. While we did conduct the transaction through the drive-thru window, the tellers were fearful of Mr. Partee and refused to allow him in the bank because he was yelling and screaming. While he requested compensation for his troubles we did not feel the need to compensate him at this time. He is a non-customer and was only cashing a few checks that our customer issued him. We processed his transactions and apologized."

Author tells story of her granddaughter surviving five strokes, five seizures and three aneurysms

Have you ever heard of a child surviving five strokes, five seizures and three aneurysms and live to tell about it? Most likely not, but Chelby Cymone Terrell is a child who did.

Author Brenda Anderson Parker will share her granddaughter Chelby's story at a book signing party for her new book, *The Lessons of Chelby: A Real Life Story*, to be held on Sunday, June 24 from



Author, Brenda Anderson Parker

4 -6 p.m., at Bishop Lynch High School, located at 9750 Ferguson Road in Dallas.

This event will be free and open to the public. It will feature 10-year-old Chelby - who at 19 months old - suffered her first stroke associated with brain Arte-

rio-Venous Malformation (AVM), a disease that she and her family would fight to overcome with the help of the nation's top medical professionals and the power of faith.

AVM is an abnormal connection between arteries and veins, and is typically congenital. According to the American Stroke Association AVM occurs in less than one percent of the population,

more than 50 percent of patients have an intracranial hemorrhage. Among AVM patients, up to 25 percent have focal or generalized seizures and 15 percent may have difficulty with movement, speech and vision. The chance of a brain AVM bleeding is 1 to 3 percent per year. Over 15 years, the total chance of an AVM bleeding into the brain - causing brain dam-

age and stroke - is 25 percent.

This event will increase awareness of AVM and its ongoing advancements, as well as how attendees may offer support to families and the medical community who care for children like Chelby.

The *Lessons of Chelby: A Real Life Story* is available for purchase at Amazon or www.TheInspirationalWoman.com

Head Start has 1,600 openings for upcoming school year

Head Start of Greater Dallas is now accepting applications for enrollment for the 2012-2013 school year. Children must be between the ages of 3 - 5 years and families must meet income eligibility guidelines. There are currently more than 1,600 openings for eligible children.

Applications and eligibil-

ity criteria can be found online at www.hsgd.org. If eligible, please turn in the application and needed documents to the center of your choice or fax them to 972-296-6524. For those centers closed for the summer, refer to the administration office by calling 972-283-6400 and ask for Cora Jackson.

Head Start is a no-cost



early childhood education program for low-income families who meet the federal income guidelines for pov-

erty.

Centers With Availability:

Outside Dallas: Robbie W. Jones Head Start, Car-

rolton; Brookhaven Head Start, Farmer's Branch and Grand Prairie Head Start, Grand Prairie

Oak cliff: Wanda Meshack Smith **formerly Gannon Head Start; Lancaster-Kiest Head Start; and Sunnyside Head Start

West Dallas: Lake-west Head Start

Downtown Area: Sci-

ence Place Head Start; Roseland Homes Head Start; David's Place Head Start; and Socorro Gonzales Head Start

Dallas ISD Partner Centers: Leslie A. Stemmons Elementary; Maple Lawn Elementary; Sudie L. Williams Elementary; and Lee A. McShan Elementary ** new location



DOMINGO
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FOR CONGRESS

Domingo Garcia has been in training to serve in the US Congress for the last 25 years. From his service as a Texas State Legislator to his tenure as a Dallas City Councilman to his service as a civil rights leader, Domingo has the necessary qualifications to represent the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex on a national level and to interface our local urban issues with the issues facing our nation. No other candidate in this race has his range of experience, his knowledge of the issues, or his skills at problem solving.

Vote in the Democratic Primary Election May 29, 2012
Early voting, May 14-25

domingoforcongress.com

Paid for by Garcia for Congress

Dallas Area Interfaith: A conversation about America's healthcare

BY: JACQUINETTE MURPHY
NDG CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Affordable Care Act, derisively coined as Obamacare by opponents of the law, is the main reason about 120 citizens in the Dallas-Fort Worth area gathered with the Dallas Area Interfaith's (DAI) Just Congregations organization for a simple conversation at Temple Emanu-El in North Dallas.

Associate Rabbi Asher Knight, Clergy Liaison to Social Justice at Temple Emanu-El, defined DAI as an organization of organizations whose goal is to create the public square by which the public business is done.

"We live in a divided space that is sometimes very fragmented and keeps us from having a conversation and acting together," said Knight. "We are trying to understand through the conversations what needs are widely and deeply affecting people in our community. So, we as a people can act together to make a change. It is about building capacity and powering together."

On this evening, the attendees represented about 25 unique institutions, but the common topic of thought was the healthcare act and its impact on Dallas-area citizens.

"Dallas is the second most uninsured city in Texas with more than 1.4 million people in the metro area without healthcare coverage," began Dr. Barry Lachman, Medical Director of the Parkland Community Healthcare Center and main speaker of the night as he shared insight on Health Care Re-

form. "Texas has the highest number of uninsured in the U.S., and the highest number of uninsured children in Texas. In Dallas, 90-percent of the uninsured are citizens."

He unveiled these statistics as he showcased proposed approaches to U.S. healthcare reform. Lachman stated that America is using a rationing model by limiting services based on income and the employer-based healthcare service model with the latter being the most common.

"It has been the main stay of offering healthcare insurance since the 1940s. It is in rapid decline and at the point of virtual collapse," he stated in regards to the current access to healthcare benefits. "You have health care coverage, but you can not meet the deductible or copays. It is a very inefficient system." He also detailed the savings account and free market selection models. The free market selection model is said to not be efficient, because the demand is not inelastic.

However, the public utility model was referred to as a more reasonable model because competition is based on benefits and customer service instead of cost. It also recognizes that healthcare is an essential need for the consumer. Lachman detailed its correlation to the managed care model upon which the Medicaid program is founded.

"In this type of model, the insurance companies compete with only a limited number of people. They compete

on benefits, customer service and who is in their network," he recalled. "It worked in Texas." According to Lachman, the implementation of the Affordable Care Act as it is written will improve Texas' position of healthcare insurance coverage from its current 30-percent being uninsured to only 10-percent.

creasing the access to and improving the quality of insurance along with decreasing the coverage costs. This enabled small businesses to receive federal credits for offering their employees health coverage. Also, it eliminated the denial of coverage of children based on preexisting conditions; the annual dollar limits on essential bene-

can provide high-quality patient care at a reduced cost to the systems. There is also a push to digitize the administrative records, focus on fighting health disparities and creating a long-term cash benefits for adults who are disabled.

For 2013, there is a dedication to increasing preventive healthcare coverage and payment bundling for healthcare services received, the increase of Medicaid payments to doctors as they serve more patients and additional funding to children's programs not eligible under Medicaid.

The years of 2014-2015, The Affordable Care Act as written would prohibit insurance companies from the discrimination of coverage based on pre-existing conditions, gender or health status. Also, physicians will be paid on the value of patient care

provided not on the volume. An insurance provider will not be able to decrease or remove coverage of patients that participate in clinical trials. Additionally, the Affordable Insurance Exchange will be created to allow consumers to purchase coverage directly from provider if their employer does not offer it. There will also be aid for moderate-income families to increase their access to quality healthcare.

However, the country is awaiting a ruling from the Supreme Court on the Affordable Care Act; they are expected to rule this month on the constitutionality of the mandate and other provisions. Texas is one of nearly 30 states fighting

the federal government's authority to require the states to implement the reform's provisions.

Lachman summed, "It would provide better coverage if you are already covered by Medicare and or commercially insured." He also stated that it is almost, but is not universal coverage. "For Medicare recipients, 'the donut hole' goes away."

After the main conversation, the attendees shared their personal impact stories in small groups, followed by summary reports shared with the whole group. The statements ranged from the concerns of parents paying for adult children's insurance due to unemployment, high insurance and long-term healthcare rates, and the lack of early retirees to find affordable coverage and covered by COBRA. Also, stated was the need for respite care (respite care) for caregivers and the absence of dental care in The Affordable Care Act.

In addition to Knight, Penny Coney and Barbara Hyman, Michael Rosen and Reverend Willie Bennett are among the local leaders of DAI. There are about DAI 40 teams in the Dallas area. The organization uses community organizing to help people get to know each other and to learn the needs of one another by sharing their stories.

Want to join the conversation? Contact the DAI at www.dallas-areainterfaith.com or the Just Congregations Committee at Temple Emanu-El at <http://www.tedallas.org/justcongregations/dai.htm>.



The leaders of the DAI/Just Conversations Committee Meeting

President Barack Obama signed the Affordable Care Act into law in 2010, which aims to put in place healthcare reforms. Different phases were implemented immediately with all measures rolling out through 2014 and beyond.

The goal by 2014 is all Americans will have access to affordable health insurance options (Healthcare.gov). All businesses and individuals will be able to compare health plans on a level-playing field and even mid- to low-income families will have an opportunity to utilize services usually above their economic reach.

In 2010, the Act focused on protecting the consumer rights and in-

fits and enhanced the appellate process for consumers.

In 2011, came the prescription drug discounts for seniors and free preventive care. It also increased access to home and community-based services for the disabled individuals through Medicaid and made the insurance companies more accountable of premium dollars and overpayments with the mandate of 85-percent of every health insurance dollar to be spent on health care services and quality improvement.

The year of 2012 is geared toward improving the quality of care at the hospital level and the creation of accountable care organizations that

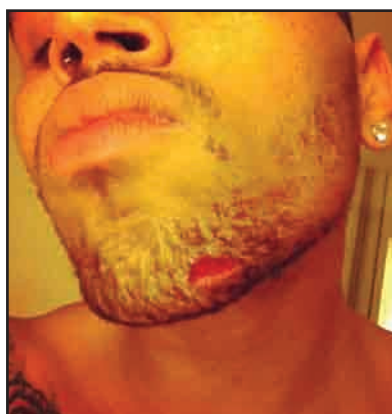
NDG Gossip: Drake and Chris Brown nightclub fight

BY KENDRIA BROWN,
NDG INTERN

The evening's events apparently were not simply about having a good time. No, it was about breaking bottles and trying to bash each other's brains out. Singers Drake and Chris Brown, along with their entourages, were involved in a nasty club brawl last week that left several injured.

At the club WIP in New York City, Drake allegedly instigated an altercation with R&B singer Chris Brown. While at the club with his posse, Brown was supposedly confronted by Drake and his crew, including Meek Mill, and before you know it bottles were flying.

Brown himself needed eight stitches for a gash in his chin, and there were several others cut and in-



jured in this scuffle who also needed medical attention. The injured included Brown's bodyguard Big Pat, who needed 20 stitches for a head wound, Brown's girlfriend Karrueche Tran, who suffered minor cuts, NBA star Tony Parker, who had an injury to the eye, and another bystander who needed 12 stitches for an open cut-wound.

The club was shut down.

This bottle-throwing brawl could mean jail time for whichever celebrity the

police determine is responsible for the brawl, and Brown is already on probation. Not surprisingly, lawsuits are already in the works.

Regardless of accounts of which side started it first, the damage has definitely been done. Authorities are seeking the culprit, and while this incident is still under investigation, Drake is being implicated as the perpetrator.

Oh and the cause for all of the chaos? It is speculated to be over songstress Rihanna, who has been intimately tied to rapper Drake and singer Chris Brown.

For more celebrity gossip, keep your eye on our Facebook page Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette and our website www.NorthDallasGazette.com.

Prometheus can causes viewers to question their beliefs

BY ALVIN STARKS
NDG CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

Religion, suspense, a trillion dollar expedition, a spacecraft, a crew of 17, extraterrestrial beings, and a planet shrouded in mystery are the sum of the parts of Ridley Scott's latest sci-fi thriller Prometheus. After witnessing the epic Prometheus trailer, I was fascinated by



the visuals and intrigued

See PROMETHEUS, Page 11

Free Cool Tuesday Movie at Carrollton Library

Josey Ranch Lake Library at 1700 Keller Springs Road in Carrollton continues the summer of Cool Tuesday Movies on June 26 with two showings of The Smurfs.



through August. Bring a pillow or comfy sleeping bag to relax on during the movie. For more information or a complete list of upcoming movies, con-

tact the Library at 972-466-4800 or visit cityof-carrollton.com/library. Popular and fun family films will be shown again at 1 p.m. shown again at 1 p.m. Popular and fun family films will be shown

TESTING, continued from Page 1

The CDC recommends everyone get tested for HIV as a matter of routine health care.

National HIV Testing Day's message - "Take the

Test, Take Control" - emphasizes the importance of early diagnosis and treatment for those who are HIV positive. On Wednesday, June 27 communities across the country will mark National HIV Testing Day with free testing

events and awareness campaigns to encourage people to learn their status.

For more information about events, testing locations, and resources, visit: www.napwa.org, www.hiv-test.org, or www.gytnow.org

To protect yourself and those you care about, it's important to:

- Know if your partner has ever had an HIV test, used IV drugs, or engaged in risky sexual behaviors
- Be honest with your partner(s), if you have AIDS or are HIV-positive
- Remember, HIV is preventable, SILENCE IS DANGEROUS

For details on locations of free or low cost HIV tests available, visit our website, www.NorthDallasGazette.com.

Attention: People who have both Medicare and Medicaid

Get these benefits at no cost¹

Dental Work
Eyeglasses
Hearing Aids
Gym Membership

Podiatry (foot doctor)
OTC Meds
Transportation
(to your doctor's office)

Must have Medicare Parts A & B

Must have Medicare Parts A & B

The state took these benefits away from you ... Now there is a special plan with zero premium that will restore these benefits to you.

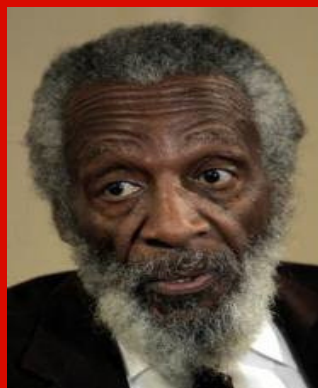
For Assistance, call Your Senior Care, Inc.
1-800-326-9810

Open 24 hours / 7 days a week

Calling the number above will direct you to a licensed insurance agent/broker.

¹Benefits may vary according to the plan you select.

SAVE THE DATES



**Dick Gregory's
80th**

Birthday Celebration

June 29, 2012, 7p.m.

**Harwood 609 Restaurant
and Jazz Club**

609 North Harwood St, Dallas

**18th annual
Cheryl Smith's
Don't Believe the Hype
Celebrity Bowl-a-thon**

June 30, 2012

**USA Bowl - 10290
Composite Drive, Dallas**



Call 972.572.0088

For tickets, to register team or for sponsorship opportunities

www.dontbelievethehype.org

Dallas' Texas Tenants' Union receives grant from HUD

In an effort to help low-income tenants receiving Section 8 project-based rental assistance and to preserve affordable housing, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development today awarded nearly \$5 million to 15 nonprofit organizations through HUD's new Tenant Resource Network (TRN).

In Dallas, the Texas Tenants' Union received \$350,238. They provide

weekly tenant's rights workshops, organizing assistance, counseling and training. For more information about the organization visit <http://www.txtenants.org>.

The purpose of TRN is to make grants to qualified nonprofit organizations to assist, inform, educate and engage tenants living in certain Section 8-assisted properties at risk of losing affordability protections or project-based rental assistance.

"The Tenant Resource Network is designed to help working families who are at greatest risk of being priced out of their rental market," said Carol Galante, HUD's Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing. "The whole purpose of this program is to empower families living in HUD-assisted housing, giving them the information and options they need to stay in their homes."

JCPenney's CEO is out

Michael Francis, who joined Plano-based JCPenney less than nine months ago, is exiting the company. While polite statements are being issued, the lack of enthusiasm for the recent re-branding is the speculated

real reason he left so quickly.

While JCP looks for a successor, CEO Ron Johnson will oversee the marketing and merchandising operations that had been under Francis' purview.

Francis joined JCP from Target.

Johnson said, "We thank Michael for his hard work at JCPenney and wish him the best in his future endeavors."

Top 5 low-income housing resources

When the U.S. economy first entered a recession, millions of families were forced to take advantage of low-income housing programs. And, according to federal statistics,

those numbers continue to increase every month.

Low-income housing properties are defined as apartments or houses that are a part of some kind of afford-

able housing initiative, usually sponsored by the federal government, the state, the city, or a non-profit organization.

See HOUSING, Page 15

Frisco hoping to earn "Friendliest" Small Town in America title

Handshakes, smiles and Frisco-style hospitality will be served up by businesses and residents alike when the amateur road rally team from the Rand McNally/USA TODAY Best of the Road competition arrives in Frisco this weekend.

After a slew of rave reviews online and an array of photos, Frisco will now compete against five other finalist cities, Murray, KY;

Joplin, MI; Cloudcroft, NM; College Station, TX and San Luis Obispo, CA, for the Rand McNally/USA TODAY Best Small Towns in America "Friendliest" category. In all, 30 towns were chosen from more than 650 destinations competing for the best of five categories: friendliest, most beautiful, most fun, most patriotic and best food.

Frisco Convention &

Visitors Bureau executive director, Marla Roe, says, "This is a huge opportunity for the city and a city-wide effort is underway to amaze and impress the road rally team during their 2-day visit." Winning the Best Small Towns in America "Friendliest" category would put Frisco on map, literally, with a feature in USA TODAY and in the 2013 Rand McNally Atlas



and other Rand McNally GPS & online products.

Frisco received notice the team Rogue Riders will arrive on Saturday, June 23. The Frisco CVB along with other partners has come up with a plan to show just what the city is made of and why they should be named the best in their category. The road rally teams will all end up in Seattle, Washington on July 15 and announce

the winners Monday, July 16 at the annual Destination Marketing Association International conference.

When it comes to welcoming visitors, Frisco is a popular tourist attraction and no stranger to good old-fashioned friendly hospitality. The city welcomed more than 4 million visitors in 2008. Visitor results from the latest survey will be announced in 2013.

PROMETHEUS, continued from Page 10

by how great the film could potentially be. News started to buzz across the net revealing Prometheus is possibly a prequel to Scott's 1979 Alien. I made the conscious decision not to view Alien before seeing Prometheus because I wanted to experience the movie without any expectations.

Isle of Skye 2089, the film's protagonist Elizabeth Shaw (Noomi Rapace) and her partner Charlie Holloway (Logan Marshall Green) discover a pictogram on a cave wall that is 35,000 years old. The painting portrays men worshipping giant beings who are pointing to the stars. The same images have been found throughout time among various cultures. Since man lacked the technology to communicate with each other thousands of years ago, it is not a coincidence the

paintings are being discovered across the world. The paintings do indeed mean there is life among the stars. Shaw, who is deeply religious, deciphers the painting as an invitation to meet our makers.

Fast-forward two years, the Weyland Corporation has funded the voyage to the coordinates that were decoded through the paintings. *Pro-metheus*, which is the name of a spacecraft, embarks on a journey to LV-233 in an optimistic effort to make first contact with the alien creatures that created mankind with 17 crew members aboard.

The *Prometheus* crew is comprised of a talented group of actors. Charlize Theron, fresh off of her recent film *Snow White* and the Huntsman, plays another ice queen, the steely Meredith Vickers. Vickers is the brutally cold, Weyland executive who only

cares about the bottom line. Her emotionlessness intertwined with an icy exterior makes the character seem as robotic as the ship's resident android.

It is no surprise that Michael Fassbender steals another show. He delivers the film's best performance as the ship's bleached-blond android named David who is tasked as the crew's caretaker as well as offering support in their mission. His monotonous voice and lack of facial variations juxtaposed with his eagerness to offer guidance to the crew, becomes unsettling as the movie progresses. While watching the movie you will constantly question if David has free will or not.

The rest of the crew are all one dimensional, genre stereotypical characters ranging from a trigger happy security guard, a geologist only concerned with his work and an off

kilter ship captain. Despite playing a one-dimensional character, Idris Elba does a terrific job as the cynical ship captain.

After *Prometheus* reaches its destination, the ship quickly finds and scans a massive dome-like structure full of tunnels. The crew's mission is to search for signs of life and evidence that would lead them to the alien beings depicted in the cave paintings. Shortly after entering the catacombs, artifacts are discovered, a mysterious black ooze is uncovered, crewmates are predictably separated and all hell inevitably breaks loose.

Noomi Rapace offers a memorable performance as Dr. Shaw, who ultimately makes a seamless transition from a tenderhearted scientist to tenacious warrior. She is involved in the films most gripping, grotesque, and

mind numbing scenes that pays homage to its Alien roots. I did find it ironic that Shaw's deeply religious character, who wears a cross necklace throughout the film, is so quick to disregard God as the creator of man to search for alien beings who supposedly created the human race based off a 35,000 year old cave drawing.

Moreover, Ridley Scott does a tremendous job directing the movie. The film looks breathtaking, superbly designed and the world looks very realistic. The movie was filmed in 3D. It is worth spending the extra money to view the film the way it was intended to be seen. Scott does a masterful job of creating suspense and building tension as the crew investigates the catacombs. As the film progresses, its abundantly clear that certain crew

members aboard Prometheus have their own agendas, some more sinister than others. As I watched the movie, I felt like I was the 18th member of the crew, which is a difficult feat to accomplish.

Prometheus features strong acting performances, also offers tremendous visuals that rival Avatar, and has a thought provoking plot to boot. The characters could have been developed a bit more. Questions are answered and even more questions are asked. I may have enjoyed the movie even more if I had screened Alien beforehand. It is clear that Alien's DNA is all over this film. Nevertheless, *Prometheus* is definitely worth the price of admission with or without screening Alien beforehand.

I give it 4 out of 5 stars.

Community Calendar

Visit www.NorthDallasGazette.com and click on Community Calendar for more events!

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: 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.fis-sihaie5@gmail.com

June 22 – July 12
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at Wyly Theater www.DallasTheaterCenter.org

June 22-23
George Lopez Comedy Event at the Majestic Theatre, 1925 Elm, at 8 p.m. Info: ticketmaster.com

Coldplay at the American Airlines Center at 7 p.m.;

Tickets \$50-\$98; Info: ticketmaster.com

June 23
Buddy Guy/ Johnny Lang blues artists at Verizon Theatre at Grand Prairie at 8:30 p.m.; tickets \$15 and up; Info: 972-854-5050

The K104 Future of Hip Hop Concert Series Pluto Party at the Palladium Ballroom at 9 p.m.; performing artists include Future, Pusha T, and Yung Nation; tickets \$75; Info: 972-343-2444

June 24
12th Annual Battle of the Brains at Josey Ranch Lake Library at 1700 Keller Springs Rd. in Carrollton from 2:30 until 5:30 p.m.

June 25
Greater Lake Highlands AARP Chapter 3881 Meeting at 9:30 a.m. at Lake Highlands United Methodist Church, 9015 Plano Rd.; Info on Social Security and Medicare; Lunch after meeting

June 25-29
Xtreme Response Camp provides a hands-on look at public safety and disaster preparedness for ages 12-16. Cost is \$140 per child. Info: cityoflewisville.com or 972-219-5012

June 26-27
Michael Jackson Immortal World Tour with Cirque du Soleil at American Airlines Center, tickets are \$50 - \$150 @ ticketmaster.com

June 29
New Edition with El DeBarge at Verizon Theatre in Grand Prairie at 8 p.m.; tickets starting at \$54; Info: axs.com

July 1
Shark Conservation at Museum of Nature & Science in Fair Park - Learn why many shark species are in decline and what you can do to help ensure a bright future for one of the ocean's top predators.

July 4
The Plano Symphony Or-

chestra along with the Plano Civic Chorus and the Patriotic Pops Chorus present this **4th of July concert** at 3 p.m. at the Eisemann Center for Performing Arts at 2351 Performance Drive, in Richardson. Info: 972-473-7262 or planosymphony.org

July 6
Ledisi R&B Performance at the Majestic Theatre at 8 p.m. Info: Ticketmaster.com

July 10-22
Dallas Summer Musicals-Cathy Rigby is PETER PAN at the Music Hall at Fair Park; Tickets \$15-\$75; Info: 214.413.3940

July 12
“The Resurrection of Harriet Tubman.” Lecturer and actor Melissa Waddy-Thibodeaux will give a live storytelling performance in which she will dramatically relate tales from the life of the famed African-American abolitionist, Union spy and Underground Railroad operator. 6:30 p.m. at Lewisville Public Library

July 29
Nicki Minaj Pink Friday Tour at Verizon Theatre at Grand Prairie at 7:30 p.m.; All ages; tickets starting at \$80; Info: axs.com

American Idol Live! Tour 2012 at American Airlines Center at 7 p.m.; Info: 214-221-8326

August 1 – 12
Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus: Fully Charged at American Airlines Center. Ticket are \$15 - \$100 at www.Ticketmaster.com

August 5
Life in the Deep Ocean at Museum of Nature & Science in Fair Park part of Shark exhibition - Dive to the darkest depths of the oceans to discover the animals that call this strange world home.

August 12
Mindless Behavior #1 Girl Tour at the Verizon Theater in Grand Prairie at 7p.m.; Also featuring Lil Twist & Jacob Latimore;

Info: <http://www.axs.com/dallas-tx/music-events/mindless-behavior-2012-august12-36343.html>

August 25
Enrique Iglesias, Jennifer Lopez & Wisin & Yandel at the American Airlines Center at 7:30 p.m.; Tickets \$26-\$196; Info: www.ticketmaster.com

September 19
The Family Place Trailblazer Awards Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at the Omni Hotel, 555 S. Lamar, Dallas. Tickets are \$125. Sponsorships available, info @ www.familyplace.org

September 25
The King's Men at Verizon Theatre in Grand Prairie at 7 p.m.; Tickets range \$30-\$100; Info: 972-854-5050

October 2-21
Dallas Summer Musicals bring THE ADDAMS FAMILY to the Music Hall at Fair Park; Tickets \$15-\$75; Info: 214.413.3940

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Free irrigation inspections through summer

Free irrigation inspections are available through summer for eligible Carrollton Water Utilities residential customers, with in-ground irrigation systems. Residential customers who previously participated in

2010 or 2011 are ineligible for an inspection in 2012.

If interested in this service, residents should call 972 466-3120 for more information or to make an appointment for an inspection.

GRAPHIC ARTIST

Small Community Newspaper looking for a parttime student graphic artist.

Prefer student (intern) that's available on a per project basis.

Must have knowledge of Quark and Indesign software.

Work will be done at company office.

Must be professional and dependable. Fax resumes to:

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INVITATION TO BID

EAGLE CONTRACTING L.P., an Equal Opportunity Employer, is soliciting Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprises for Sub-contract and Material Supply Bids for the following project:

**WATER UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
CITY OF DALLAS, TEXAS**

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Bid Date: June 28, 2012 @ 1:00 p.m.

Contact:
Jim Smith

j.smith@eaglecontractinglp.com

-or- Dave Mullenix

d.mullenix@eaglecontractinglp.com

Metro: 817-379-1897

Fax, Metro: 817-379-0610

Eagle Contracting L.P. Fort Worth, Texas

FUTURE,

continued from Page 6
deremployed.

We need to redefine talent so we can use it: "Our culture has taught us that talent is the province of exceptional people doing exceptional things," he says. "We can see the talent of Lady Gaga, but not the talent of an accounts payable clerk. And that's myopic. We are all endowed with talent, but we have to discover it, nurture it and then bring it to work with us."

We have to see ourselves as a 'work in progress': "The world of work is changing at warp speed — new technology, shifts in the global marketplace and changes in consumer tastes," he says. "That's why we need to be committed to continuous learning. Regardless of our educational degree, years of experience or level of seniority, we need to be acquiring new skills and knowledge all of the time."



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Call 972-423-8833 for AFFECT, Inc. or email: AFFECTxInc@aol.com for counseling services, resources and assistance for job readiness and training programs for individuals. For couples we offer services for marital relationships and for ex-offenders we offer programs for getting back into the work force.

June 24

After Worship Services

Come for our Worship Services and stay for our FREE Blood Pressure Clinic.

July 5, Noon

Come to a “Between Jobs Support Group” meeting at the Christian Works for Children, 6320 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX 75240. Call 972-960-9981 to register.

July 7, 7:30 a.m.

Join us for our Ladies Prayer & Breakfast meeting at the IHOP, 933 N. Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75075. Come fasting, if you can, and have a thirst for righteousness. Everyone is welcome. For details call Sis. Misty Rockwell at 214-244-1142 or Sis. Deadra Pete at 469-667-5865

Brother Ramon Hodridge,
Minister

1026 Avenue F; Plano, TX
75074

972-423-8833

www.avefchurchofchrist.org

BIBLE WAY COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

June 24, 9:35 a.m.

You're invited to our Sunday School at 9:35 a.m. and to stay for Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

June 27, 7 p.m.

Come to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word and help us to praise and worship His holy name.

Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Sr.
Senior Pastor

4215 N. Greenview Drive
Irving, TX 75062

972-257-3766

www.biblewayirving.org

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN RICHARDSON

June 23, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Join us for our Friends and Family Picnic @ Huffines Park, 1500 Apollo Park, Richardson, TX 75081. Call the church for details.

June 27, 7:30 p.m.

Come to Bible Study as we go further in and deeper down into God's Word and we give Him all of the glory and praise.

June 30, 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

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES

June 2012

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Visit Helen's House Tuesdays and Fridays (exceptions are bad weather and holidays) to receive, to give, to comfort and to fellowship. The give-a-way of food, love and household items is given freely to all those who could use a little touch.

Pastor Minnie

Hawthorne-Ewing
635 W. Campbell Road, Suite 210
Richardson, TX 75080
972-480-0200

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN “The Ship”

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@theship3c.org

June 24, 9:30 a.m.

Join us and experience the joy of praising and worshipping God to the fullest at Story Elementary School, 1550 Edelweiss Drive, Allen, TX. We will praise God for His blessings.

June 27, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Wednesday Night Live in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall on Belmont Drive. Also, come to our Corporate Prayer and our Kidz Zone (an environment to equip children to grow and to show God's love.)

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed.D.

Senior Pastor
1550 Edelweiss Drive

In Allen for Sunday
Morning Worship.

Admin. Building Address
Is 200 W. Belmont Drive

Allen, TX 75013

972-359-9956

www.theship3c.org

ROCKBRIDGE CHURCH

June 24

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

June 24, 9:30 a.m.

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

Dr. Charles Wattley
Senior Pastor

1308 Wilcox Street
McKinney TX 75069

972-542-6178

www.saintmarkbc.com

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

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

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

June 27, 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

June 24, 7:30 a.m.

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

June 25, 7 p.m.

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

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

VICTORY BIBLE CHURCH INTERNATIONAL, (VBCI DALLAS)

June 24

You are invited to a Life Transforming Service that will change your life as we praise and worship God for His blessings.

1100 Business Parkway,
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Richardson, TX 75081

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Early Prayer

Join us in prayer early in the morn-

ing at 5 a.m. on Monday – Thursday at 1-661-673-8600, Code # 142219 and please put your phone on mute. Prayer will change people, things and situations.

June 24, 9:30 a.m.

Join us for Sunday school with Minister Greg Mason and teachers for adult class and children class; and stay for Morning Worship at 11 a.m. as we honor and praise God for His goodness.

June 26, 7:30 p.m.

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

Dr. Gregory E. Voss,
Senior Pastor

2765 Trinity Mills Road
Building 300

Carrollton, TX 75006

214-514-9147

North Dallas Community Baptist Church

Rev. Billy R Robinson, Pastor



We implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.
2 Corinthians 5:20b

Vacation Bible School June 18-22, 2012

6-8:30 p.m.

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972-484-1185 phone

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- Sunday Morning Prayer 9:30 am
- Sunday Service 10:00 am
- Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm

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(972) 359-9956 -www.theship3c.org



Sunday Morning Worship
Story Elementary
1550 Edelweiss Drive
Allen, TX 75002
9:30 AM

Wednesday Night
Live Service
200 Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
7:00 PM



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A Christian Week:
Monday is Wash Day: Lord. Help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity, so I may serve You with perfect humility through the week ahead.

Tuesday is Ironing Day: Dear Lord, help me to iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice that I have collected through the years so that I may see the beauty in others.

Wednesday is Mending Day: O God, help me to mend my ways so that I will not set a bad example for others to follow.

Thursday is Cleaning Day: Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.

Friday is Shopping Day: O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so that I may gain eternal happiness for myself and all others in

need of love.

Saturday is Cooking Day: Help me, my Savior, to brew a big kettle of brotherly love and serve it with clean and sweet bread of human kindness.

Sunday is The Lord's Day: O God, I have prepared my house for You. Please come into my heart so that I may spend the day and the rest of my life in Your presence.

Why God Gave Us Friends: God knew that everyone needs companionship and cheer. He knew that people need someone whose thoughts are always near. He knew they needed someone kind, to lend a helping hand; someone to gladly take the time to care and understand; that's why God gave us friends.

God knew that we all need someone to share each happy day; to be a source of courage when troubles come our way. Someone to be true to us; whether near or far apart. Someone

whose love we'll always hold and treasure in our hearts; that's why God gave us friends.

Everything I Need to Know about Life, I Learned from Noah's Ark: 1) Don't miss the boat. 2) Remember that we are all in the same boat. 3) Plan ahead; it wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark. 4) Stay fit; when you're 600-years-old, someone may ask you to do something really big. 5) Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done. 6) Build your future on high ground. 7) For safety's sake, travel in pairs. 8) Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs. 9) When you're stressed, float a while. 10) Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals. 11) No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

My prayer for you. May

Things to Ponder



(L to R) Mr. Charlie Baker and David Fielding, viewing the backyard vegetable garden of David's in Dallas; it's not exactly the vegetable garden of Mr. Baker's on the family farm in Mexia, Texas.

your troubles be less, may your blessings be more and may nothing but happiness come through your door.

Patience & Prayer: When we offer up our prayers to God, we want answers without delay. But, sometimes God will take His time and answer in His own way.

Learn to have more patience and wait for God to speak. We know not what we'll hear from Him, but His guidance we should seek.

Don't pray for earthly things, but thank God for His care. Thank Him for His constant love and always being there. Thank

God for the hope we have through His wonderful salvation plan, the plan He masterminded before He ever created man.

Be patient and wait on the Lord, He'll answer all our prayers. Just accept His answer and obey His will, and we can overcome our earthly cares.

32nd Annual Basically Beethoven Festival Opens July 1st

Fine Arts Chamber Players (FACP) opens the 32nd Annual Basically Beethoven Festival on Sunday, July 1 at 2:30 p.m. This is the first in a series of free festival concerts presented every Sunday af-

ternoon in July. The festival is held in the air-conditioned Grand Hall in the Texas Discovery Garden at Fair Park located at 3601 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Dallas, TX 75210. The doors open at 2 p.m.

for the 2:30 p.m. Rising Star Recital, at 3 p.m. the featured performance will begin. All concerts are FREE TO THE PUBLIC, including free admission to the Texas Discovery Gardens and parking. No

reservations or tickets required.

For more information call FACP at 214-520-2219, bbf@fineartschamberplayers.org or visit the website, www.fineartschamberplayers.org.

HOUSING, continued from Page 11

Such properties offer either an income-based rental rate or a flat rental rate designed to be affordable for needy individuals and families.

While there are many helpful programs available, finding the best and safest options can be a task. In addition, it can be difficult to find the best options available to families who qualify to remain in the home that they are already occupying.

Here are the top five resources to use:

HUD Office of Affordable Housing (OAP) - This government agency brings federal resources directly to the state and local level for use in the development of affordable housing units, or to assist income-eligible households in

purchasing, rehabilitating, or renting safe and decent housing. www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/affordablehousing/

Making Home Affordable® Program (MHA) This program, sponsored by the Obama Administration, is a comprehensive plan to stabilize the U.S. housing market by helping homeowners get mortgage relief and avoid foreclosure. www.makinghomeaffordable.gov

PublicHousing.com - This web site provides a listing of public housing properties across the country, and other types of housing deals. The vast majority of their listings are affordable housing bargains. www.publichousing.com

Affordable Housing In-

stitute - This non-profit organization provides housing finance expertise and thought leadership to other organizations working to make housing accessible to low-income people. affordablehousinginstitute.org

Low Income Housing Authority - This organization

produces a free online national resource that is dedicated to helping individuals and families find low-income housing, apartments, shelters, and more. The web site also provides answers to frequently asked questions. www.low-incomehousing.org

HUNGER, continued from Page 6

grams to those who qualify

•Growing and providing access to healthy food

•Increasing access to non-federally funded nutrition programs

•Decreasing the number of food deserts and food

swamps

The steering committee was formed as a result of the successful "Texas No Kid Hungry Dallas Summit" held last year to help eradicate hunger through policy and education.

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NDG Bookshelf



By Terri Schlichenmeyer
NDG Contributing Writer

You'll always remember the break-up.

It started with a he-said, she-said moment forever burned in your mind. You remember where you stood, the words that were said (or not), the anger, and the queasy feeling that a mistake was about to be made but you didn't know whose it was.

Relationships come and go, but you never forget your

first love and you never forget losing it, either.

And yet, what if you were separated by something beyond your mutual control? Would it be easy to find that love together again? In the new novel *Freeman* by Leonard Pitts, Jr., one man aims to find out.

He called himself Sam because that's what she'd said he looked like he was. A "Sam," and he told her she looked like a Tilda. So that's what they called one another, even though Mistress had given them ridiculous Greek names when she brought them to her plantation.

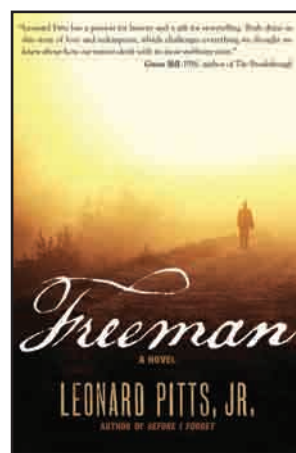
Sam had fallen in love with Tilda in that naming

minute, and they were inseparable. Mistress let them live together, too, but then Luke was killed and Sam was sold away.

Tilda was angry then, and she had a right to be. Sam hadn't allowed himself to think of that, or of her, for 15 years but once the North beat the South, he figured it was time to leave Philadelphia and find his wife.

Prudence Cafferty Kent was only acting on the deathbed wishes of her father.

With his last breath, he'd told her that he wanted her to go to Mississippi, where his plantation was, and build a school for Negro children soon as the war was over. Prudence was strong-willed and



single-minded, but she knew she couldn't do it without Bonnie's help.

Bonnie was a toddler when, years before, the Captain had purchased her, im-

mediately freed her, and raised her as his own. Prudence couldn't remember life before Bonnie. They were sisters, even though one was milky-white and one was not.

When the Yankees came through and burned what was left of James McFarland's plantation, Jim went a little crazy. Maybe it was because the Yankees killed his son, Tilda wasn't sure. She hated Jim, but she felt sorry for him, too. She knew what it was like to lose a child. She'd lost love, too...

Have you ever read a book so good that you forgot you were reading? Yes, that's what it's like reading *Freeman*.

Author Leonard Pitts, Jr. serves up a novel that's both ugly and beautiful, with characters that you'll feel honored to know, though it'll hurt. This novel throws you down in the aftermath of war and pushes your face into it – gently, and then rubs. That's a conundrum, for sure, but it's also one of the finest Civil War novels I've ever had.

If you promised yourself one decent book this summer, then look no further because this is it. Read three pages of *Freeman* and you'll know that this isn't a story you'll soon forget.

Freeman by Leonard Pitts, Jr. Agate Bolden, \$16.00, 432 pages

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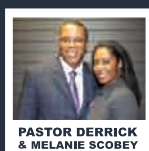
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