

North Dallas Gazette

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Son of State Sen. West passes on December 26

Remarcus Larry West, the son of State Senator Royce West, passed away on December 26, 2011 at Baylor University Medical Center Dallas. His death following an extended battle with a gastrointestinal related illness.



Remarcus Larry West

Good Street Baptist Church in Dallas, and the wake is scheduled at the church on Friday from 7 – 9 p.m. followed by services at 11 a.m. on Saturday morning. The church is located at 3110 Bonnie View Road, Dallas, Texas. Following the funeral services, West will be buried

at Lincoln Memorial Park in Dallas.

In addition to Sen. West, Remarcus West is survived by his family in Dallas, which includes his mother, Ruby West; five brothers, Rolando West, Royce West

See WEST, Page 16

Key questions regarding the Texas redistricting case before the SCOTUS

Matt Angle from the Lone Star Project discussed the recent briefs filed with the Supreme Court of the United States regarding the Texas redistricting maps.

The State of Texas says in its Supreme

Court briefs that it's been trying diligently to get preclearance, but the plaintiffs point to what they say are a lot of delays in the process.

That's right. Republicans hold every lever of power in Texas – every

statewide office and strong majorities in the House and the Senate. They had unchecked control of the legislative schedule. Rather than move the Texas Primary to April, Texas Republicans kept the early March 6 primary

date in place. They did not take up state house and senate redistricting until May and did not take up congressional redistricting at all during the regular session that began in January.

See SCOTUS, Page 11

What every diva should know before planning a New Year's soiree

Between gathering with family, buying the perfect gift and preparing mom's signature recipe just right, the holiday season can seem overwhelming. Here are three easy suggestions for being the perfect host and making celebrations easy and affordable this



holiday season.

Save Money or Time: If you're in a time crunch, pre-packaged or pre-seasoned items can save you a lot of time in the kitchen; however, they can be more expensive. If you're looking to save some money then

See DIVA, Page 16



Visit Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette to see how to win \$30 Walmart Gift Card

COVER STORY

Forgetting the Iraq War



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Fox finishes the Fall ranked #1 among adult and teen viewers

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

COMMENTARY

Is the Voting Rights Act worth saving?

Forty-five years ago, displaying the courage of a true Texan, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the historic Voting Rights Act into law. His actions signaled the end of a generation of government sanctioned discrimination and ensured that minority citizens would have legal protection to register, vote, and an opportunity to elect a candidate of their choice. Today, however, two GOP Texans – Rick Perry and Gregg Abbott – are work-

ing to turn back the clock. They want to destroy the Voting Rights Act and return to a day when governments sanctioned racial discrimination.

That's the real issue at stake in the Texas redistricting battle. When Greg Abbott asked the Supreme Court to block the use of the court-ordered redistricting plans in Texas, he was stepping up as the leader of the darkest most divisive forces in our society who

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People In The News...



Dr. Marvin Dulaney



Orrin "Checkmate" Hudson



Gary Slagel

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Mothers Against Teen Violence to host Texas Conference on Drug Policy

Mothers Against Teen Violence (MATV) will host a conference focusing on the many facets of drug policy and exploring a public health approach to drug use and abuse. The conference will culminate with the Twelfth Annual MLK, Jr. Luncheon.

The conference will be held:

Wednesday thru Friday,
January 11 - 13, 2012
Hall of State, Fair Park
Dallas, Texas 75210

Conference speakers and presenters include:

- Dr. Gabor Maté, physician and author of eleven bestsellers, who will keynote and conduct workshops on addiction and attention deficit disorder;

- Neil Franklin, Executive Director, Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP) based in Washington, DC;

- Marc Levin, Center for Effective Justice at the Texas Public Policy Foundation, Austin;

- Dr. Bill Martin, Senior Fellow at the James A. Baker Institute, Houston;

- Dr. Marvin Dulaney, History Professor, University of Texas at Arlington; and many more.

State Representative Jerry Madden, District 67, will accept MATV's Outstanding Legislator Award during the Twelfth Annual MLK, Jr. Awards Luncheon that will close the conference.

The Conference



Host Committee includes (in addition to Drs. Martin and Dulaney) Dr. Raul Caetano, Regional Dean, UTSW School of Public Health; Dr. Timothy Bray, Director of the Institute for Urban Policy Research; State Senator Royce West; and MATV CEO Joy Strickland, the driving force behind the conference.

Strickland says, "Texas is one of the few states where syringe exchange programs remain illegal despite the vast body of evidence that such programs are cost effective, reduce substantially the spread of HIV-Aids and other blood borne diseases, and do not increase drug use. We believe such harm reduction strategies represent the first step toward an enlightened, compassionate, and cost effective drug policy."

For more information, visit www.matvinc.org.

Orrin "Checkmate" Hudson

Move over, Caped Crusader! Hit the cave Bat Woman! Make room for the real-life "Dynamic Duo!" Renowned entrepreneur and "Success Against the Odds" author, Vonda White is joining forces with Orrin "Checkmate" Hudson, author of "One Move At a Time" and two-time World Open Speed Chess Champion, to improve lives.

Together, White and Hudson, form a powerful team sharing their inspirational message with millions of people who are struggling to find their way in confusing and frustrating economic times.

They have combined their expertise to offer a unique self-help guide that could be called the ultimate "gift that keeps on giving."

The 2012 Success Planner and Web App, originally developed by White as part of her self-help program, can be used in both personal and professional settings. She explains, "This is one of the best tools for teens, college students, and professionals of all ages, to dream big and to learn how to successfully achieve those dreams!"

Hudson says, "Together we aim to ensure that youth, parents, and business profes-

sionals know they too can excel and beat the odds." Their deep, powerful messages, particularly in these rough times, are designed to be uplifting and, as White explains, "to help everyone realize that 2012 can be YOUR year to succeed! Whether it's prospering in this economy, landing or creating a job, living with purpose, accomplishing in school, triumphing in your career or in your life, our program can help you see clearly and guide you to reaching your goals and discovering what matters most."

In 2000, "Checkmate" Hudson learned of an incident

in which seven Wendy's restaurant employees were shot, five fatally, for a mere \$2,400. It was this tragic incident that inspired him to quit his job and use his life savings to found Be Someone, Inc., (www.BeSomeone.Org), an organization that uses the game of chess to teach successful life skills. "He's got a way with kids that's miraculous," says actress and philanthropist Jane Fonda, who had Hudson give lessons to young people who were in her teen pregnancy-prevention campaign.



Raised in a housing project with 12 brothers and sisters, Hudson was struggling in school and stealing tires -

until an English teacher, James Edge, took the 14-year-old aside and started teaching him chess to give him focus. Soon Hudson was playing college kids. "Chess changed my life," recalls the father of five. "I learned every move you make has consequences."

As a teacher, motivational speaker, and now an author of "One Move at a Time," Hudson expertly weaves chess strategy with 20 important life lessons in a suitable read for all ages. He has taught more than 20,000 youth to have better focus and decision-making skills through the game of chess.

Gary Slagel

Former Richardson Mayor Gary Slagel has been appointed by Richardson,



Addison, Highland Park and University Park to represent them on the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) board of directors.

Slagel, elected to the

city council in 1987, served as mayor from 1991 to 2007, then again from 2009 to 2011. He is currently the President and CEO of CapitalSoft, a company that develops and implements program management software for the public and private sector construction markets.

Slagel brings years of transportation experience to the DART board having served on the Regional Transportation Council from 1987 to 1991, the North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board from 1991 to 1996, and the Executive Committee of the Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition from 1991 to 2006. For his service, he was named Citizen of the Year by the

Richardson Chamber of Commerce in 2011.

A member of the Texas Transportation Institutes Advisory Council, Slagel graduated from Illinois State University with a bachelor's degree in industrial technology and received a master's degree in business administration from Amberton University in Dallas.

Also, DART and the Trinity Railway Express (TRE) are making service adjustments for the New Year's holiday:

Saturday, December 31

- Buses will follow a regular Saturday schedule.

- TRE will follow a regular Saturday schedule, but will have extra trains leaving 20 minutes after the Big D NYE fireworks at Victory Station.

- DART Rail will operate a regular Saturday

schedule until 7 p.m. when trains will run every 15 minutes on all lines. This will continue until 12 midnight. Trains will then operate every 30 minutes until 2 a.m.

Sunday, January 1

- DART - Buses and light rail will operate on a Sunday schedule.

- TRE - No service.

- Paratransit - Sunday schedule

Monday, January 2

- DART administrative offices are closed.

- DART - Buses and light rail will operate on a Saturday schedule.

- DART Rail will provide extra service for the Ticket City Bowl. Extra trips will be added on Red Line (transfer to Green Line at Pearl Station). The Green Line will add capacity by operating a special circulator through downtown to

Fair Park Station.

- TRE - A modified Saturday schedule.

urday schedule.

See DART, Page 5

\$69* DIVORCE

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- Occupational license, felonies
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- Misdemeanor/Felonies*

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PAYDAY, continued from Page 1

want to erase the US Voting Rights Act.

In a live radio interview last week, top Texas GOP operative and Rick Perry insider, Ted Delisi, removed any doubt that Perry, Greg Abbott and the Texas Republican leadership see the Texas redistricting litigation before the US Supreme Court as a chance to end the US Voting Rights Act.

During an interview on Houston radio News 92 FM, responding to a question from host Scott Braddock, Delisi bluntly said it's time for the Voting Rights Act to be "history."

If allowed, Greg Abbott, Rick Perry and the current Texas leadership will tear down every barrier in place that might stop them from destroying the voting strength of Latino and African American citizens, not just in Texas, but everywhere across our nation.

What did the Supreme Court do?

At the request of Greg Abbott, acting on behalf of Rick Perry and the Texas leadership, the Supreme Court issued an order temporarily blocking the use of the legislative and congressional plans ordered by a Federal District Court in San Antonio for the 2012 elections. However, the Supreme Court did not order that the discriminatory plans passed by the Republican Legislature be used. Instead, the Court will hear arguments from both the Republicans and plaintiff groups opposing them to determine what criteria lower Courts should use when determining the boundaries of the not yet pre-cleared redistricting plans. (Source: Texas Redistricting)

What will Abbott and his allies argue?

Texas Republicans and

their extremist national allies will argue for the virtual elimination of Section 5 of the US Voting Rights Act. They will claim that maps passed by state legislatures – even those like Texas that have a long history of racial discrimination – should be implemented even if they have not yet been reviewed to ensure they do not discriminate against minority voters. (Sources: State of Texas' Stay Request to the Supreme Court, SOT's Reply Brief, Robert Miller's SCOTUS Blog)

What will Plaintiffs supported by the Lone Star Project argue?

Lone Star Project-supported plaintiffs and our allies will argue for the preservation of the standard of law that has stood for a generation. Simply stated, any redistricting plan passed by a state covered under the Voting Rights Act must be pre-cleared to ensure

against racial discrimination. If a State like Texas intentionally delays pre-clearance or seeks to avoid it altogether, a Federal District Court must step in to draw new lines and, in doing so, use the existing lines as the baseline and not the likely discriminatory lines approved by the State. (Responses to Stay Request: MALC, Texas NAACP, LULAC, and Perez (Dutton) plaintiffs, Wendy Davis/LULAC state senate response)

The Voting Rights Act itself hangs in the balance on the Texas redistricting decision. Plaintiffs opposing Texas Republicans must have the legal resources to make the strongest argument possible before the Supreme Court and before Courts with jurisdiction to save the Voting Rights Act.

More info at <http://www.lonestarproject.net>

150th Anniversary of Watch Freedom Night and Jubilee Day

BY CLARENCE E.

GLOVER JR.

This year as in years past, many African-American churches will convene on December 31, 2011, New Year's Eve, for what has become known as "Watch Night Services." While traditionally observed by African-Americans, Watch Night Services originated in the 1800's with John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. It

was to be a time when members would gather and recommit their lives to the faith as they entered a new year, sometimes called Covenant Renewal service.

For enslaved Africans, however, the gathering took on different meanings. First, for plantation owners this was a time for them to take stock of their property. They also paid off debts at the beginning of the new year.

Because Africans were considered property, December 31st would be the last time many of them would see their family or friends, so they gathered one last time in church before they were separated from each other for life.

Secondly, Watch Night took on another meaning during the Civil War. Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Senator Charles Sumner, Senator Thad-

deus Stevens and other abolitionists worked to encourage President Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation to free enslaved Africans in the Confederate states that rebelled against the Union. On that night, December 31, 1862, many enslaved African men and women and their families gathered to hear "the word." Then at midnight in many African-American churches, "the word" came that President Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation. After midnight, African men and women, who along with their ancestors had experienced over 244 years of slavery in America, began thanking God for the dawn of freedom.

The next day, January 1, 1863, became known as "Jubilee Day" to the newly freed African men, women and children. They enjoyed a freedom feast of collard greens, yams, black-eyed peas, roasted meats pies and cakes. They sang songs and played games of all kind as they reminisced on slavery's past and mused on freedom's future.

Today, remarkably few African-American churches and families know the history of "Watch Freedom Night" (Freedom's Eve) December 31st and "Jubilee Day" January 1st. While many celebrate June-



See FREEDOM, Page 13

Sunday Pork Roast with Vegetables

Once you get this easy-to-assemble dinner in the oven, you can sit back and relax. A small amount of brown sugar and apple juice sweeten the pork, and the vegetables get a lot of flavor from the pan juices. This recipe provided by the American Heart Association is a tasty but healthy version which those suffering with diabetes can enjoy.

Ingredients

Cooking spray
1 1-pound boneless center-cut pork loin roast or pork tenderloin, all visible fat discarded
1 tablespoon



frozen apple juice concentrate, thawed

1 1/2 teaspoons light brown sugar

1 1/2 teaspoons garlic powder

1 1/2 teaspoons dried oregano, crumbled

1 1/2 teaspoons dried thyme, crumbled

1 1/2 teaspoons paprika

1/2 teaspoon pepper

2 small red potatoes, cut into 1/2-inch cubes

1/2 cup baby carrots

1/2 cup bite-size cauliflower florets

1/2 small zucchini, cut into 1/2-inch cubes

1/4 small red onion, cut into 1/2-inch dice

Preheat the oven to 375°F. Lightly spray a 13x9x2-inch baking pan with cooking spray.

Brush the pork on all sides with the apple juice concentrate.

In a small bowl, stir together the brown sugar, garlic powder, oregano, thyme, paprika, and pepper. Set aside 1 teaspoon of this mixture. Spread the remaining mixture all over the pork, pressing so it adheres. Put the pork in the baking pan.

In a medium bowl, stir together the potatoes, carrots, cauliflower, zucchini, onion, and reserved 1 teaspoon brown sugar mixture.

Place around the pork. Lightly spray the pork and vegetables with cooking spray.

Bake for 55 minutes to 1 hour for the pork loin roast (40 to 45 minutes for the pork tenderloin), or until

the pork registers 160°F on an instant-read thermometer and the vegetables are tender when pierced with a fork. Cover loosely with aluminum foil. Let stand for 5 minutes before slicing the pork.

Do not trash your Christmas tree - recycle it

When it's time to pull off the tinsel and pack away the lights; don't trash your Christmas tree. Take it your Dallas neighborhood Home Depot Store! Once again the City of Dallas' Sanitation Services Department is sponsoring Christmas tree recycling and is happy to announce a partnership with Home Depot to make this year's effort even more convenient for Dallas residents.

Until January 2, 2012, you can drop off your Christmas tree at one of the 7 Dallas Home Depot Stores listed below. If you receive the City's curbside brush collection, you can also place your tree at the curb on your scheduled collection week for pick up. Decorations and stands must be removed.

"Recycling Christmas trees is an important way to help the environment and extend the life of our landfill," said Sheila Overton, Waste Diversion Manager for the City of Dallas. "Historically, yard clippings and other organic materials, such as Christmas trees, comprise more than 20 percent of the material buried in a landfill. By recycling trees, residents can help reduce the amount of material in the landfill and give holiday trees a second life as com-

post, mulch or wood chips."

Home Depot dropoff locations include:

11255 Garland Road – Dallas, Texas 75218
6000 Skillman – Dallas, Texas 75231

las, Texas 75231

11468 Grissom Lane – Dallas, Texas 75229

2610 Fort Worth Avenue – Dallas, Texas 75211

6110 Lemmon Avenue – Dallas, Texas 75209

2901 W. Wheatland Road – Dallas, Texas 75237

11682 Forest Central Drive – Dallas, Texas 75243

Chili's® Grill & Bar Gives the Gift of APPetizing Features to Mobile Users

New iPhone and Android app plus enhanced mobile ordering roll out just in time for holiday smart phone recipients

Chili's® Grill & Bar takes digital integration to the next level by expanding the guest experience beyond the four walls of the restaurant and right into the palm of their hands. With an estimated 142 million smart phones sold this holiday season, new iPhone and Android users as well as smart phone veterans, can now enjoy the new Chili's app, making location searches, driving directions, updated menu and online ordering available at just the push of a few buttons.

The new apps and mobile site are user-friendly

with a clean interface, making it easy for new smart phone users and Digital Natives alike to search for the nearest restaurant with the geo-mapping function. Using the guest's physical loca-

tion, the technology allows users to find the phone number, address and driving directions to the closest Chili's.

"With the constant evolution of technology, our world continues to receive information and entertainment at the touch of our fingertips," said Edithann Ramey, senior

See CHILI'S, Page 11



"My cousin and sister came through the same program... it's kind of becoming a family tradition."

Apply Now!

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Black History Month Art Contest - benefiting UNCF starts January 2nd

Frito-Lay North America's Lay's on January 2, 2012 will launch a Black History Month Art Contest that asks consumers to submit an original piece of art online. The grand prize is \$3,500 and a trip to Washington D.C. Three first prize winners will receive \$1,000. The winner will be chosen in part by consumer voting. In addition, Frito-Lay will donate \$1 to the UNCF - United Negro College Fund - for each consumer vote received and for each piece of artwork entered for a minimum of \$25,000 do-

nation.

The Frito-Lay Black History Month Art Contest will be open only to legal residents of any of the 50 United States or D.C., who are 18 years of age or older at the time of entry. Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- (a) 40% Artistic Talent
- (b) 20% Creativity
- (c) 20% Black History Month Theme Cohesion
- (d) 20% Desire to be announced and featured at the UNCF hosted Empower Me Tour

Enter Contest through

the "Frito-Lay Black History Month Art Contest" application at www.facebook.com/fritolay. You must "like" the page to access the application. Will need to upload original work of art, celebrating an African American Achievement in Black History. If uploading a video, maximum length not to exceed one (1) minute. Acceptable file formats for image uploads are: .jpg, .png, and .gif; acceptable file formats for video uploads are: quicktime, windows media, avi, mov, and mp4.

DART, continued from Page 2

• **HOV** - The high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes on I-30 (East R.L. Thornton), on I-30 West (Tom Landry Freeway), the reversible S-ramp at the southern end of the I-35E (Stemmons) HOV lane, the direct connector ramp between the US 75 and I-635 HOV lanes, and the section of the I-35E/US 67 (South R. L. Thornton/Marvin D. Love) HOV lanes from downtown Dallas to Loop 12 will all be closed. The remaining portion of the I-35 (Stemmons) HOV lanes, the I-635 (LBJ) HOV lanes, the US 75 (Central Expressway) HOV lanes, and the I-35E/US 67 HOV lanes from Loop 12 to Camp Wisdom Road will be open 24 hours a day as usual.

• **Paratransit** - Regular subscription trips will be canceled. Customers needing service for Monday, Jan. 2, are encouraged to begin calling Thursday, Dec. 29. The Paratransit Scheduling Center will also be closed. However, next day scheduling will be accepted using our voicemail booking system and DART's automated booking feature, X-Press Booking. To speak with a staff person, customers may begin calling Thursday, Dec. 29, to schedule service through Tuesday, Jan. 3. Customers should call 214-515-7272 and choose Option 3 to schedule their trip.

DART's Customer Information Center will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Customers needing schedule information can call 214-979-1111.

DART route and schedule information is also available on www.DART.org and TRE information is at www.TrinityRailwayExpress.org.

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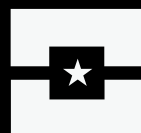
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Ongoing

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

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

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

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

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

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

Through December 31
The Artists United For Christ's 2001 Women's

Arts Exhibit is featured in the 1st floor lobby of Dallas City Hall from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. www.aufchrist.org

Through December 31
Farmer's Branch Christmas Tour of Lights start at 6:30 p.m. near Valley View Lane and I-35 in Dallas. Free donations accepted. 972-919-2620.

Through January 1, 2012
Come see The Trains at NorthPark presented by the Bank of Dallas. Showtimes vary. Tickets \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. Info: Northparkcenter.com

Through January 7, 2012
Young Architects of Spain / Jovenes Arquitectos de España at the Latino Cultural Center shows the extraordinary quality of work by a new generation of young Spanish architects.

Through January 8, 2012
"John Marin: Modernism at Midcentury" at Amon Carter Museum in Fort Worth

Through January 28, 2012
The Lady: An exhibition inspired by the myth of the Lady of White Rock. The seventeen local artists featured in this show found the story and its mystifying protagonist extremely appealing and created paintings, photographs, and mixed media small-scale works of art for display in this exhibition at the Bath House Cultural Center

December 29
Rapper Lil Wayne to play WinStar Casino starting at 9 p.m. Must be at least 18 years old to enter. Tickets start at \$85. www.winstar.com

worldcasino.com

December 30
The Chocolate Series featuring Joe and David Hollister will come to Music Hall at Fair Park, 909 1st Ave. in Dallas. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets available through Ticketmaster. www.chocolate-series.com

Sister Sledge to take the center stage at Choctaw. Doors open at 8 p.m., show starts at 9 p.m. Tickets start at \$30. www.choctawcasino.com

New Year's Eve Party at Josey Ranch Lake Library - Art, puzzles, games, songs, stories and LOTS OF NOISE celebrating the end of 2011; for ages 6+.

December 31, 2011 - January 1, 2012
School of Metaphysics Dallas will host Peace of Art 2012 starting on New Year's Eve at the WAAS Gallery, 2722 Logan St. in Dallas. Beginning at 5 a.m. December 31, 2011, people from all over the DFW metroplex are invited to usher in a peaceful New Year with 20 hours and 12 minutes of meditation. Throughout the day there will be various activities, including free yoga classes, group meditations, live music, live art, as well as snacks and refreshments throughout. www.som.org

December 30
The new **Temptations** to perform the Motown group's timeless classics at the Choctaw in Durant, Okla. Show starts at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$30. www.choctawcasino.com

January 1, 2012
Ring in 2012 with a performance from the **Commodores** on Centerstage at the Choctaw Casino. Show

starts at 9 p.m. 1-800-585-3737.

January 6, 2012
Celebrate New Year with Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings at the La Popular Tamale House at Dallas Farmers Market, 1010 South Pearl Expressway, Dallas. Attendees are asked to bring a book or school supplies to donate to the students at David G. Burnet Elementary. RSVP: By Monday, January 2, 2012 at rsvp.mayormike@dallascityhall.com

January 7, 2012
Guided Tours at Amon Carter Museum begins at 2 p.m. Explore the museum with a docent who will take you to see highlights from the permanent collection. 817-738-1933

January 13-14, 2012
Comedian Rodney Perry (Tyler Perry's *Madea's Big Happy Family*) will make the crowd laugh when he plays **Comedy Night at the Muse** for two shows at 9 p.m. All shows take place at the Clarence Muse Café Theatre in The Black Academy of Arts and Letter, corner of Canton and Akard streets in Dallas. Admission is \$20. www.tbaal.org

January 13-15, 2012
Texas Home & Garden Show - Las Colinas at the Irving Convention Center

January 14, 2012
R&B singer Charlie Wilson will play WinStar at 8 p.m. General admission \$35. 1-800-622-6317.

January 15, 2012
The Texas Black Academy of Arts and Letters presents the **29th annual Black music and Civil Rights movement concert** starring CeCe Winans at 7:30 p.m. at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center,

2501 Flora St. in Dallas. Tickets start at \$15.

January 16, 2012
For the Love of Basketball II featuring Prairie View A&M and Grambling State hoops scheduled to take place at the Ellis Davis Fieldhouse in the Kincaid Complex, 9191 S. Polk at Interstate 20. Women tip off at 3:30 p.m. and men at 6 p.m. Paul Quinn Men to take on St. Thomas at 1 p.m. www.alwe.com

January 18, 2012
The Far North Dallas Democrats presents The Donkey Show at Pocket Sandwich Theater, Mockingbird & Central [5400 E. Mockingbird Lane] Dallas at 7 p.m.

January 18-24, 2012
Dallas Holiday & Home Expo at the Dallas Market Center

January 12, 2012
Texas Discovery Gardens Kicks off "Books 'N Bugs" series from 11 a.m. to noon celebrating Eric Carle's book, *The Very Clumsy Click Beetle!* \$10/Child; \$8 for Texas Discovery Gardens Member Child. Adults pay regular admission. Info: http://texasdiscoverygardens.org/events_and_classes.php and at 214-428-7476 x 343.

January 22, 2012
Fly A Sim Everyone gets the exciting opportunity to fly a real jet simulator! Flights offer full motion, sound and visuals. 972-242-5999

January 28, 2012
"Come to the Tropics" Day from 10 am to 2 pm at Texas Discovery Gardens. Stroll through our tropical butterfly house, which is temperature controlled to replicate a rainforest. Pick

up your special passport at the front desk and "visit" the countries where we get our butterflies (including the Philippines, Costa Rica, Colombia, and more). We'll stamp your passport at each table as you enjoy tropical and cultural themed activities. Admission is \$8/adults, \$6/seniors and \$4/children ages 3-11. Info: http://texasdiscoverygardens.org/events_and_classes.php and at 214-428-7476 x 343.

January 27-29, 2012
ZestFest 2012 brings together the spiciest exhibitors and products from around the country at the Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas, 500 W Las Colinas Blvd., Irving

February 4, 2012
Royal Comedy Tour featuring Sommore, Arnez J, Earthquake, Mark Curry, and Tony Rock on tap for the Verizon Theatre. www.ticketmaster.com.

February 17, 2012
Old School 94.5 Love Train Tour featuring the OJays, Chaka Khan, and hosted by Tom Joyner slated for American Airlines Center at 6 p.m. www.ticketmaster.com.

February 22, 2012
Hand In Hand is a program designed for adults to enjoy with their preschooler. Each week enjoy stories, music, activities and c... Dallas Museum of Natural History. 214-428-5555

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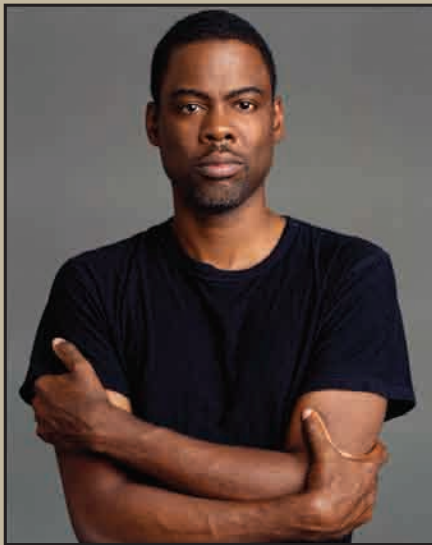
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Photographs by Timothy Greenfield-Sanders



October 28, 2011, through April 22, 2012

Inspired to change the meaning of the term “blacklist,” Timothy Greenfield-Sanders created a visual “who’s who” of African American achievement. The portraits in this exhibition reclaim the historically negative term and showcase 50 men and women of accomplishment in fields from literature, performing arts and sports to politics, business and activism. Subjects include Sean Combs, Whoopi Goldberg, Beverly Johnson, John Legend, Toni Morrison, Susan Rice, Al Sharpton, and Kara Walker.

Exhibition generously sponsored by



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Clockwise from upper left: Toni Morrison, Colin
Powell, Serena Williams, Chris Rock. All images by
Timothy Greenfield-Sanders. Brooklyn Museum of
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Forgetting the Iraq War

BY ANDREW LAM

(New America Media)

American wars used to end decisively. When Americans came back from defeating the Germans after World War II, there were ticker-tape parades. When the last U.S. helicopter lifted off from Saigon, Vietnam on April 30, 1975, the image seared deep into the American psyche; it spelled an ignominious end.

For the first time in its history, America had been defeated. Its ally, South Vietnam, fell to communist hands. Several generations grappled with their nation's foreign policies and the meaning of such "hell in a small place," reexamining their role in the war, whether as participants and supporters, or dissenters and protesters. Vietnam changed the nation's outlook on the world and its place in it. Since then we have been trying to kick the Vietnam syndrome. We have been searching for victory.

Fast forward to Dec 15, 2011.

The last of American troops made their way across the border to Kuwait from Iraq, a short trek and uneventful one. After nearly nine years, the United States declared the end of its military operations in Iraq. In a solemn note, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, in a low-key ceremony at Baghdad Airport, said, "The cost of war was high... blood and treasures of the United States and Iraqi people. But those lives have not been lost in vain — they gave birth to an independent, free and sovereign Iraq." He then flew out to Turkey to attend a more important meeting on the other war where blood and treasures continue to be spent -- the one in Afghanistan.



The war in Iraq started with Operation Shock and Awe but ended in a fizzle and, some would argue, in an epic exercise in human futility. Neither victory nor defeat was immediately clear. Instead, with the last of the American troops gone (even as thousands of mercenaries are left behind), the meaning of the war is muddled, leaving in its wake more questions than answers.

Is this the victory we had hoped for since Vietnam? Is this what we could muster nine years after we invaded, supposedly to find weapons of mass destruction? Is Iraq truly a free and sovereign nation, given the unending conflict between Shiite and Sunni Muslims? And even if it is, was it worth the squandering of American blood and treasures, not to mention the killing of Iraqi civilians in "collateral damage"? Why liberate Iraq and not, say, North Korea? Why freedom and sovereignty for Iraq, if that was truly our purpose, and not, say, Tibet or Cuba? And if our national interest

was at stake, have we protected that interest now that we have spilled precious blood and depleted our national treasury? Why Iraq?

Historians will bicker over the answers. What is certain, however, is that the war in Iraq claimed 4,487 American lives, and left 32,226 Americans wounded, according to Pentagon statistics. According to Iraqbodycount.org, the number of Iraqis who died from violence ranges between 103,000 and 114,000. The United States spent nearly \$3 trillion fighting it, and with another exorbitant war still waging in Afghanistan, the result is a bankrupt U.S. economy. After all, in 2000, the U.S. economy had a \$230 billion surplus. In 2011, U.S. debt is at \$15 trillion and growing. That's \$1.3 trillion a year going South.

We closed a chapter in Iraq but the book of the War in the Sand is still being written. One is left with an unsettling feeling, a bitterness in the mouth. We lost more than we hoped to gain. It's not defeat exactly, but in

an age of perpetual war, it's clearly no victory.

Our troops are barely out of Iraq, and we can't wait to move on. News of the war's end competed with news of the typhoon in the Philippines and the death of North Korea's Kim Jong Il, and the endless fights in Congress over whether to extend the payroll tax cut.

It's as if there is a collective will to forget in this country. Let's forget Abu Ghraib, where we tortured and sexually humiliated our captives. Let's forget about the weapons of mass destruction, since we couldn't find any. Let's forget Haditha, where a My Lai-style massacre took place by our drunken soldiers. Let's forget water torture being condoned and supported by politicians. Let's forget extraordinary rendition where we kidnapped thousands of world citizens and flew them directly to secret prisons for interrogation. Let's forget that there's a Guantánamo where political prisoners are still being kept without due process. Let's

forget the 2 million displaced Iraqi refugees. Let's forget all the lies and deceptions we've been spoon-fed.

Let's just move on.

It is worth noting that as the war in Iraq drew to an end, Congress passed a defense budget at a whopping \$662 billion with flying colors. There was no fighting to speak of in a Congress known for its bickering and quarrels. There was no controversy over spending that amount of money among elected officials otherwise known for their push to cut basic services. No doubt much of the funds will go to high-tech weaponry and better drones — a remote-control war that is increasingly replacing ground operations.

At last month's Occupy Movement rally in San Francisco, before it too fizzled out, there was a lone placard that said "U.S. Out of Iraq and Afghanistan." It stood out among a litany of grievances against the federal government over domestic issues: "Give Us Back our Dream!" "Give

Our Homes Back!" "99% against 1%." The outrage was against wealth inequalities in America, not what the empire is doing overseas.

The violent works and aggression of empires seem to depend proportionally on the complacency, and therefore tacit approval, of their citizenry. The war industrial complex needs to be fed. Victory may no longer be needed. As long as we can afford it, and even when we can't, we seem destined to wage war.

For all of the horrors committed in the name of democracy, and all of the soul searching Americans did after the Vietnam War—remember that '70s mantra, "No More Vietnams!"—we failed to alter the bellicose direction of our nation.

Years ago, the poet Robert Bly argued that Americans have yet to experience ablation over past atrocities. "We're engaged in a vast forgetting mechanism and from the point of view of psychology, we're refusing to eat our grief, refusing to really eat our dark side," Bly told Bill Moyers on national public television. "And therefore what Jung says is really terrifying -- if you do not absorb the things you have done in your life...then you will have to repeat them."

In this sense, individual karma is not so different from that of a nation. Perhaps it is our country's fate to keep repeating acts of barbarism until we come to some profound reckoning with our own heart of darkness.

Andrew Lam is author of *East Eats West: Writing in Two Hemispheres* and *Perfume Dreams: Reflections on the Vietnamese Diaspora*. His next book, *Birds of Paradise*, is due out in 2013.

Fox finishes the Fall ranked #1 among adult and teen viewers

With the season finales of TERRA NOVA and THE X FACTOR last week, FOX finished the fourth quarter tied for first place among Adults 18-49 – a rank it has achieved only once before – and won the quarter outright in the Adults 18-34 and Teen demos. In addition, FOX was the only network to post double-digit gains among both Adults 18-49 (+14%) and Total Viewers (+16%) versus last fall, and saw year-over-year ratings lifts on 5 nights of the week (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday).

This fall:

FOX had 6 of the Top 20 programs among Adults 18-49: NEW GIRL (No. 8), THE X FACTOR-WED (No. 11), GLEE (No. 14 tie), THE X FACTOR-THU (No. 14 tie), FAMILY GUY (No. 16 tie) and HOUSE (No. 16 tie).

FOX had 9 of the Top 20 programs among Adults 18-34: NEW GIRL (No. 3),



FAMILY GUY (No. 5), GLEE (No. 8 tie), SIMPSONS (No. 8 tie), AMERICAN DAD (No. 13), THE X FACTOR-WED (No. 15), HOUSE (No. 16), THE X FACTOR-THU (No. 17) and RAISING HOPE (No. 19).

FOX had 12 of the Top 20 programs among Teens: GLEE (No. 1), FAMILY GUY (No. 2), NEW GIRL (No. 4), SIMPSONS (No. 6), AMERICAN DAD (No. 8), THE X FACTOR-WED (No. 9 tie), THE X FACTOR-THU (No. 9 tie), THE CLEVELAND SHOW (No. 13), RAISING HOPE (No. 15 tie), TERRA NOVA (No. 15 tie), ALLEN GREGORY (No. 17 tie) and BONES (No. 17 tie).

Artist creates "Ole Skool Ebony Art"

Timothy "Tim" Giles grew up in Suffolk, Virginia where he chose to illustrate many of his life experiences through his art. Tim's mother was his role model who always provided the best love, guidance and direction that any single parent household would want. His mother stressed two things to him when growing up; education and actualizing the hope of brothers and sisters who paved the way before him. Success, she told him, was as relevant as the work that you give back to the community. The quote that she instilled in all her children was "a closed fist can neither receive nor give."

Tim often gives accolades to his mother because she has always been a very strong African American woman and an encouraging and supportive mother. His mother saw something very special in him, specifically in his love for drawing. To encourage him, she provided

him with his first paint by numbers set which sparked his passion to pursue art! With no formal training, Tim is a self-taught artist.

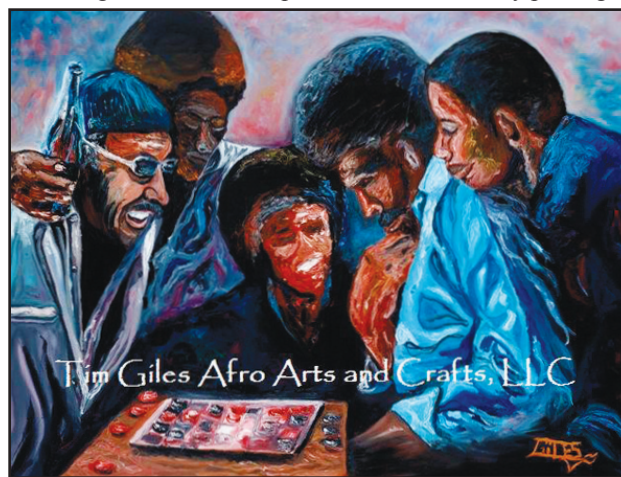
Working with Diplomatic status as a Facility Manager for the Department of State granted Tim the op-

portunity to fulfill a lifelong dream of traveling the globe. He has traveled to over one hundred countries; not bad for a "country boy" from Suffolk, Virginia, as he often says. Living overseas allowed him to express his love for culture by placing it

LLC that features all of his artwork in the form of originals, prints and greeting cards. His most recent accomplishment was the self-publication of his first book entitled, "Humble Beginnings: An Expression of my Journey through Paintings and Poems". The book consists of his artwork and his original poems which relates to each piece of his artwork.

He comments, "You will be immersed by the content because the paintings are captivating and the poems are informative and relative!" Tim is fulfilling his mother's vision of giving back and he is doing so through his art. He often encourages and mentors both young folk and adults about the journey and the possibilities in the world. Tim has made his momma proud!

Visit Tim's website at www.timgilesfroartsandcrafts.com for additional information.



portunity to live in several countries. He spent the majority of his career in thirty plus countries on the continent of Africa. Tim often gives thanks to God for giving him a career that allowed

on canvas.

Tim decided he should pursue his artwork even further by turning his passion into a business. He started an online company, Tim Giles Afro Arts and Crafts,

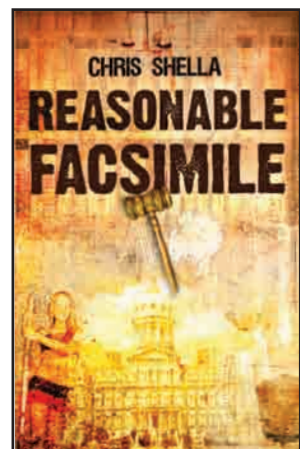
Lawyer releases urban fiction novel

Guys have you ever felt left out when your woman is reading Zane. Gloria Naylor, or Omar Tyree? Finally there is an urban fiction novel for you!

Reasonable Facsimile by Chris Shella is the story of Jasper Davis a down and out lawyer in Baltimore Maryland, a 40 something lawyer hanging onto the bottom rung of life. He is the bottom feeding ambulance chasing chronically drunk shyster he always feared that he would be. He was kicked out of his comfy home because his wandering eye and other wandering body parts kept him from being faithful. He is no longer the top flight trial attorney he once was. He spends more time in the strip clubs on the infamous Block than he does in court.

His best friends are the drug addicts, the dealers and the psychopaths he represents. Suddenly one of his psychos is accused of beating a 72 year old man to a pulp, and then shooting that old man to death on the streets of Baltimore. Jasper

is in the saddle again and somehow has to figure out



how to save his clients.

During this trial, his worst nightmare comes true as his disreputable life comes to light and he goes from being defense counsel to suspect - all while trying to regain his old life, juggle several women, and saving his own hide. Can Jasper Davis save his client? Can he save himself?

Author Chris Shella is a graduate of Morehouse College and the University of Texas Law School and started his legal career in Long Island, New York at

the Nassau County District Attorney's Office. He is admitted to the practice of law in New York, Maryland, the District of Columbia, and North Carolina. Shella is also admitted to the federal court in the Eastern District of North Carolina, the Middle District of North Carolina, U.S. District of Columbia, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals, the Eastern District of New York, and the Southern District of New York. He is currently pending admission to the Bar Of The United States Supreme Court. He and his cases have been covered on Court TV, CNN, and in the New York Times, and other media outlets across the globe. His two most famous cases are the Vegan Baby Case and his defense of the Duke Lacrosse Case accuser for the alleged murder of her boyfriend. Find out more about the author at www.reasonablefacs.com or www.hiredgunlawyer.com.

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CHILI'S, continued from Page 4

director of marketing for Chili's Grill & Bar."Our guests lead busy lives and Chili's is making it easier for them to enjoy the convenience of our bold menu offerings with these enhanced applications."

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There are several ways to download the Chili's app. From an iPhone, go to the App Store and type in a search for "chilis." Follow the directions once the Chili's icon pops up. To download the app from a computer, visit the iTunes store at www.apple.com/iTunes, plug in "chilis" into the search box to access the app. From Android Market, search for "chilis" to install the free application. For other smart phone users, simply visit www.chilis-togo.com to view the mobile site with the same online ordering functionality as the iPhone and Android app.

SCOTUS, continued from Page 1

Instead, they waited until a special session in June to even hold a hearing on congressional redistricting and did not pass a plan until June 25. And it wasn't until July 19 that Governor Perry got around to signing the congressional plan.

Attorney General Greg Abbott then bypassed the shorter process of seeking preclearance through the US Department of Justice and opted for the much longer process of going through the Federal District Court in Washington, DC. On two separate occasions, Abbott refused an offer by the DC District Court to conduct an early trial. Instead, Abbott filed a motion for summary judgment - which delayed the process for over six weeks.

There's been a lot of talk about the delays and why things happened the way they did- including criticism the state's handling of the case from people like Republican State Senator John Carona. Did the state just mess up or do you think this is part of an overall strategy?

What's happened is exactly what Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott and the Texas Republican leadership had in mind when they planned their redistricting strategy. By carefully orchestrating a series of legislative delays, time-consuming legal maneuvers and old-fashioned foot-dragging, the Texas GOP avoided the formal preclearance review required for Texas redistricting plans and have set the stage to dismantle the US Voting Rights Act.

The state's now arguing that its maps should be used on an interim basis because there isn't enough time to have the San Antonio court get guidance from the Supreme Court and draw new interim maps. Doesn't that end-run section 5 of the Voting Rights Act?

Yes. Because of the delays, the state now can attack the Voting Rights Act indirectly by arguing that the federal courts must defer to State Legislative maps even when those maps have not been reviewed and found to be free of racial discrimination. If the Supreme Court agrees with the Texas Republicans, the Voting Rights Act will no longer stand as a meaningful shield to block racial discrimination in redistricting plans.

After the 2010 Census, Texas was awarded four additional congressional seats only because the Latino and African American population in the state exploded. Almost 9 out of every ten new Texans over the last decade are Hispanic or Black. If Texas had grown at only the rate of its Anglo population, the state would not have gained a single new congressional seat.

Texas Republicans have chosen to be the point in the spear that guts the US Voting Rights Act. Almost a year after release of the 2010 Census and stark confirmation that the Texas Anglo population is shrinking relative to Hispanic and African American Texans, Greg Abbott and the Texas Republican leadership have set the stage for the US Supreme Court to perpetuate Anglo Republican control.

The Texas Republican redistricting strategy has exposed their shameful decision to retain power through disenfranchisement. Rather than look at the future as an opportunity to hold power by broadening their appeal to Hispanics and African Americans, the Texas leadership has chosen a much darker and more cynical path. They are asking the US Supreme Court to turn back the clock, dismantle the Voting Rights Act and shred the fabric of social justice and racial fairness essential in our diverse state and increasingly diverse nation.

Source: Texas Redistricting and <http://www.lonestarproject.net>

LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will be closing soon:

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| 1337 | \$100,000 Fortune Overall Odds are 1 in 3.59 | \$5 | 01/16/12 | 07/14/12 |
| 1269 | Break the Bank Overall Odds are 1 in 4.99 | \$2 | 02/29/12 | 08/27/12 |
| 1329 | Scorching 7's Overall Odds are 1 in 3.42 | \$7 | 02/29/12 | 08/27/12 |
| 1334 | \$50,000 Player's Club Overall Odds are 1 in 3.78 | \$5 | 02/29/12 | 08/27/12 |
| 1340 | \$5,000 Winnings Overall Odds are 1 in 4.33 | \$1 | 02/29/12 | 08/27/12 |



For detailed odds and game information, visit txlottery.org or call 1-800-37LOTTO. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas Education. © 2011 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.

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Saturday, January 14, 2012

- 8:30 AM **Power Breakfast:** Free Breakfast and presentation by college students at Collin College Spring Creek Campus. Book scholarships and MLK Unity Scholarships will be awarded. Sponsored by Collin College.

10:45 AM **Community Unity Walk:** Assembly begins at 10am at the staging area; Dart Rail Parker Road Station, North Parking Lot, 2600 Archerwood St. Grand Marshall: Bruce Glasscock, Plano City Manager.

11:30 AM **City Hall Program:** Begins immediately following the Unity Walk. Plano Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 1520 K Avenue. The Unity Walk and City Hall Program sponsored by The City of Plano Cultural Affairs Commission.

Noon **Health Fair & Free Luncheon:** Boys & Girls Club Douglass Center, 1111 Ave H. Visit with over 25 vendors in various health and education fields. Sponsored by Chick-fil-A (Beltline & Preston), PepsiCo and Frito Lay.
- 

Sunday, January 15, 2012

- 7:00 PM **MLK All-Community Choir Concert:** A musical tribute to Dr. King featuring Special Guest "Mahogany". Custer Road United Methodist Church, 6601 Custer Road, Rev. Ron Henderson, Senior Pastor and Tim Morrison, Music Ministry Director. The public is invited to join the choir; rehearsal will be Sunday, January 15 at 4pm. Sponsored by Custer Road United Methodist Church and Reed Enterprises (Schlotzsky's).

Thursday, January 19, 2012

- 7:00 PM **Plano ISD MLK Tribute:** New location - Plano West Senior High School located at 5601 W. Parker Rd. Enjoy PISD students Parade of Nations and elementary students "Letters to Dr. King", along with a special presentation.

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9th Annual BOWLING TOURNAMENT

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Join the fun and help us to strike out domestic violence during our 9th annual bowling tournament Saturday January 28, 2012 from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Plano Super Bowl. Enjoy an exciting afternoon of friendly competition and loads of laughs. We will have two divisions - competitive and recreational. Prizes will be given out to the highest scoring team, best dressed, most strikes, best team spirit and more.

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yearbookusa@yahoo.c
om or 972-768-1338."

Reader Advisory: the National Trade Association we belong to has purchased the following classifieds. Determining the value of their service or product is advised by this publication. In order to avoid misunderstandings, some advertisers do not offer employment but rather supply the readers with manuals, directories and other materials designed to help their clients establish mail order selling and other businesses at home. Under NO circumstance should you send any money in advance or give the client your checking, license ID, or credit card numbers. Also beware of ads that claim to guarantee loans regardless of credit and note that if a credit repair company does business only over the phone it is illegal to request any money before delivering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. 800 numbers may or may not reach Canada.

Urban teen ladies trained as business owners - the face of the New Apprentice

An initiative of all volunteer Women Business Owners was launched to provide urban teen ladies the training they need to fulfill their hopes of becoming business owners.

According to Tamera Nalls, CEO/Founder, "this Apprentice program is fast pace and hands on. It is a five week program geared to train in every aspect on how to run and operate a successful business."

This effort is part of Journey of a Young Lady, Inc. state program called the Apprentice Program. Women business owners volunteer their time and staff each year to train and mentor teen ladies and help prepare

them for various career choices they may have. Over 36 Teen Ladies have been impacted with 6 graduates who have since gone off to College or University to further expand what they have been given. Local leaders such as Judges, State Representatives, and World Renown Fashion Designers have joined the team to inspire these young ladies as they journey to their destination of success.

Journey of a Young Lady, Inc. is a leadership organization that provides training in Character, Leadership, Community Ambassadorship, Apprenticeship, Entrepreneurship, Volunteerism, Business and Etiquette

for teen ladies ages 13--19. Teen ladies become Community Ambassadors for Susan G. Komen and speak within the community to schools and organizations state wide. Teen ladies also have the opportunity to mentor other young ladies through speaking engagements, training sessions, panels, and conferences. Journey

also provides FREE business attire to teen ladies in need through a grant from the Ina Mae Greene Foundation for Battered Women, and Teen Dating Violence.

For more info: journeyofayounglady.com, tamera@journeyofayounglady.com or 214-276-3659.

FREEDOM, continued from Page 3

teenth, June 19th, 1865, the date the announcement of the Emancipation reached enslaved Africans in Texas, December 31st and January 1st should also stand as significant holy-days in the lives of African-Americans and all Americans. These two days are as significant as the 4th of July, in that they represent America's journey to freedom for all of her citizens.

As we prepare to celebrate the 149th Watch Freedom Eve this year and Jubilee Day next year, we invite all Americans to begin the Sankofa Journey - reaching back to move forward - to the 150th Anniversary of "Watch Freedom Eve 2012 and Jubilee Day 2013. We should share this history in our homes, churches and schools to educate and enlighten families and friends about the importance of this period in American history.

Then get involved by taking action to ensure the promises of continued freedom and justice for all citizens in the future.

As America celebrates Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa, we should pause to give new meaning to these holy-days - Freedom's Eve and Jubilee Day - in the lives of African-Americans and all Americans.

"Happy Jubilee!"

If you wish to know more about Watch Freedom Eve and Jubilee Day and how to celebrate them, contact Sankofa Education Services. Let us know if you would like to be on the 150th Anniversary Watch Freedom Eve/Jubilee Day Celebration Committee.

Clarence E. Glover, Jr., CEO, Sankofa Education Services, 214-393-1861 or clarence-gloverjr@aol.com

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS**

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

**CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES
CONTRACT(S)**

Dist/Div: Fort Worth

Contract 6236-49-001 for FULL-DEPTH REP. OF EXIST. CONCRETE PAV. in TARRANT County, etc will be received on January 24, 2012 until 10:30 am and opened on January 24, 2012 at 11:00 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$157,414.01.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Pre-qualified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Pre-qualification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 38877

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr. | Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

Fort Worth District | District Engineer
2501 Southwest LP820 | Ft Worth, Texas 76133
Phone: 817-370-6500

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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**972-509-9058, or email to:
trj1909@tx.rr.com**

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No phone calls please.

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Mondays – Fridays

Call 972-423-8833 for AFFECT, Inc. or email: AFFECT-TxInc@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.

January 1, 2012

Join us in celebrating the New Year in Early Worship at 8 a.m.; Bible Classes at 9:45 a.m.; Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m. and afternoon Worship at 3 p.m.

January 5, 12 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.

January 7, 7:30 a.m.

Join us in 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**

January 1

Join us in celebrating the New Year in Sunday School at 9:35 a.m.; and Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. as we worship and praise God. The Word of God transforms lives.

January 4, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Bible Class as we study the Word of God and give Him honor and praise.

**Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Sr.
Senior Pastor
4215 N. Greenview Drive
Irving, TX 75062
972-257-3766
www.bwcbc.com**

**EIRENE CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**

**January 1, 8:45 a.m.
and 11 a.m.**

Join us in celebrating the New Year in Morning Worship as we honor and praise God for His blessings.

January 4, 7:30 p.m.
You're invited to Bible Class as we study the Word of God and give Him honor and praise.

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

**FELLOWSHIP
CHRISTIAN
CENTER CHURCH IN
ALLEN "The Ship"**

**Monday – Friday
9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

TheShip3C's Prayer Lines for those in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567 or they may be submitted via email to: prayerline@theship3c.org

January 1, 9:30 a.m.

Join us in celebrating the New Year in our Sunday Morning Worship at Story Elementary School, 1550 Edelweiss Drive, Allen, TX. We will praise God for His blessings.

January 4, 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.)

January 6, 8:30 p.m.

Join us for "Spiritual First Friday's Open Mic Night!" at First Baptist Church of Allen's Youth Building, 303 E. Main Street in Allen. There will be food, poets, singers, rappers and more. Open to all ages. For information email OpenMic@theship3c.org.

**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**

**MT. PISGAH
MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH
"The Rock"**

January 1, 10 a.m.

Join us in celebrating the New Year in Sunday Worship as we give God excellence praise without excuse.

January 4

Come to our Noonday Bible Study to learn more about the Word of God; and at 7 p.m. for our Wednesday Night Bible Study.

January 8

You're invited to our Ministry

Fair, call 972-241-6151 for details.

**Pastor Robert Townsend
11611 Webb Chapel Road
Dallas, TX 75229
972-241-6151
www.dallasmtpisgah.org**

**NEW MOUNT ZION
BAPTIST CHURCH**

December 31, 9 p.m.

Join us in an anointed prayer, testimonial and musical concert service at First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park, 300 E. Phillips, Richardson, TX 75081; featuring Tommye Young-West, Ann Nesby and Tramaine Hawkins to inspire our souls.

**Dr. Robert Price, Sr.,
Senior Pastor
9550 Shepherd Road
Dallas, TX 75243
214-341-6459
www.nmzb.org**

**NORTH DALLAS
COMMUNITY
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
CHURCH**

December 31, 6 p.m.

Join us for New Year's Eve Service in the main Sanctuary; the youth will meet in the Youth Area and children will meet in our Fellowship Hall.

**January 1, 9:30 a.m.
and 11:30 a.m.**

You're invited to join in celebrating the New Year for Sunday Worship as we give God praise for His blessings.

January 6, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Single Parent Support Group. Call Pastor Cooper at 972-437-3493, Ext 104 or email him at rcooper@ndcbf.org for details.

**Dr. Leslie W. Smith,
Senior Pastor**

**1010-1020 S. Sherman Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-437-3493
www.ndcbf.org**

ROCKBRIDGE CHURCH

January 1

Join us in celebrating the New Year with our Prayer with Pastor at 8:30 a.m. and stay for Worship Celebration at 10 a.m. as we honor and praise God for His blessings.

January 4, 7 p.m.

You're invited to Bible Study and Awana as we worship and praise God.

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

**SAINT MARK MBC
IN MCKINNEY**

December 31

You're invited to our Watch Night Service of Fellowship at 9 p.m. and stay for a Praise Party at 10 p.m.

January 1, 9:30 a.m.

Join us in celebrating the New Year in our Education Ministries; and stay for our Worship Celebration at 10:45 a.m.

**Dr. Charles Wattlely
Senior Pastor
1308 Wilcox Street
McKinney TX 75069
972-542-6178
www.saintmarkbc.com**

**SHILOH MBC IN PLANO
January 1, 8 a.m.
And 11 a.m.**

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

January 4, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Midweek Service as we worship and praise God.

**January 15 and 22
at 11 a.m.**

Come to our Youth Worship Services in our Chapel and our Children's Worship Services in our Annex each month.

**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**

January 1, 7:30 a.m.

Join us in celebrating the New Year as we worship, honor and praise God's Holy name.

January 2, 7 p.m.

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

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

**THE NEW LIGHT
CHURCH**

January 1, 2012

You're invited to worship with us on Sunday Mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Sunday School and 11 a.m. in Morning Worship as we celebrate, praise and worship God.

**Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor
9314 Elam Road
Dallas, TX 75217
214-391-3430
newlightchurchdallas.com**

**VICTORY BIBLE
CHURCH
INTERNATIONAL,
(VBCI DALLAS)**

January 1

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,
Suite 1007
Richardson, TX 75081**

**WORD OF LIFE
CHURCH OF
GOD IN CHRIST**

Early Prayer

Join us in prayer early in the morning at 6 a.m. on Monday - Friday at 1-661-673-8600, Code # 142219 and please put your phone on mute. Prayer will change people, things and situations. God is moving in powerful ways in early Morning Prayer.

January 1, 2012

Don't miss Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and stay for Morning Worship as we expect the visitation of the Holy Spirit in the midst of praying saints.

January 3, 7:30 p.m.

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

January 5, 7:30 p.m.

Join us in our Gift Stirring Night as Saints of God bring God's Word and reveal their God-giving talents.

**Dr. Gregory Voss,
Senior Pastor
2765 Trinity Mills Road
Building 300
Carrollton, TX 75006
214-514-9147**

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH
A Kingdom Building Church
200 BELMONT DRIVE - ALLEN, TX 75013
(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

MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO

Answers you need, Hope for today is waiting for you...

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Pastor Gloria Fenceroy

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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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**Sister
Tarpley**

People are given various names to distinguish them from others. In searching my family history one year, I mixed up an entire generation because my ancestors named their sons and daughters after each other; in the final analysis, I had to rely on their birth years and other factors to keep the generations straight in my mind and on paper.

When I consider the various names that I am called, I am amazed, just as I am sure you would be when you stop to think about it. I am a birth mother; grandmother; mother-in-law of two people; sister; aunt; church mother at Word of Life COGIC in Carrollton, teacher; friend; cousin and great aunt, to name a few titles.

The following list of names identifies the one and only Jesus Christ who is definitely the "Reason for the Christmas Season"; not only in the United States but other parts of the world also. Perhaps a name or two has been appropriate at various times in your walk with God. Because of the length of names, this week I will list only the A through C names; other alphabets will come in later weeks.

The names and titles are given specifically to Jesus, our Lord and Savior; they are taken from King James Version in the Bible. The more we study this list, the more we will understand who Jesus really is. How can we help but love Him?

The last **ADAM**: And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. (1 Corinthians 15:45).

ADVOCATE: My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: (1 John 2:1). **ALMIGHTY & ALPHA AND OMEGA**: I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. (Rev. 1:8).

AMEN: And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the

faithful and true witness (Rev. 3:14).

APOSTLE OF OUR PROFESSION: Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; (Hebrews 3:1). **ARM OF THE LORD**: Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. . . (Isaiah 51:9). Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? (Isaiah 53:1). **AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH**: Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; . . . (Hebrews 12:2). **AUTHOR OF ETERNAL SALVATION**: And being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him; . . . (Hebrews 5:9).

BEGINNING OF CREATION OF GOD: And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true

witness, the beginning of the creation of God; (Revelation 3:14). **BELOVED SON**: Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall show judgment unto the Gentiles. (Matt. 12:18). **BLESSED AND ONLY POTENTATE**: Which in His times He shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; . . . (1 Tim. 6:15). **BRANCH**: In that day shall the branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent. . . (Isaiah 4:2). **BREAD OF LIFE**: Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from Heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from Heaven. (John 6:32)

CAPTAIN OF SALVATION: For it became him, for who are all things, and by whom are all things, in bring many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation. . . (Hebrews 2:10).

CHIEF SHEPHERD: And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. (1 Peter 5:4). **CHRIST OF GOD**: He said unto them, But who say ye that I am? Peter answering said, The Christ of God. (Luke 9:20). **CONSOLATION OF ISRAEL**: And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel. . . (Luke 2:25). **CORNERSTONE**: The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. (Psalm 118:22).

COUNSELOR: For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be

upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor. . . (Isaiah 9:6). **CREATOR**: All

things were made by him; and without Him was not anything that was made. (John 1:3)



Prophetess Barbara Calloway and Missionary JoAnn Rochester, both were guest speakers at a Word of Life COGIC Revival and the Holy Spirit moved mightily in the service.

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Citywide Kwanzaa celebrations continues

Friday, December 30, 2011 (Nia)

7:00 pm – Pan African Connection Bookstore, 828 Fourth Avenue, (Across From Fair Park Music Hall) Dallas, TX. 214-943-8262.

Candle Lighting ceremony and “Passing the Baton to the Youth” College students, sororities, fraterni-

ties, progressive youth organizations and the hip hop community will present an evening of rhythm, rhyme and collective discussion on organizing our communities. Performances by Dezyne Ojunga -Hip Hop, Nebula-Singer, Iv Amenti-Interdisciplinary artist, Maurice Curtis-Saxophonist, Zane and

The Band, Kiera "Snaps" Williams-Spoken Word, Ava Wilson-spoken Word, LaRome Armstrong-Tap Dance and others. Contact Bandle, 214-943-8262.

Saturday, December 31, 2011 (Kuumba)

3:00 pm – Pan African Connection Bookstore, 828 Fourth Avenue, (Across

From Fair Park Music Hall) Dallas, TX. 214-943-8262.

Candle Lighting ceremony Jacques Garvey, two Pan-African women who were organizers in the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL). They were

the wives of the Back to Africa Movement Leader, Marcus Mosiah Garvey. We will also salute the women in our personal families and histories. Please bring pictures and stories of strong

women (big mama's, play mamas, aunties, Sunday school teachers, educators, neighbors, etc) to honor their example and sacrifice they made for family and community.

WEST, continued from Page 1

Jr., Steve West, Rodrick West and Brandon West, a sister, Tara West Franklin; and his grandmother, Gloria Ashford; as well as his grand-

father, Willis West of Washington, D.C.

Instead of flowers, the family requests donation instead to the University of

North Texas at Dallas for the Remarcus West Memorial Scholarship Fund. Donations can be mailed to The University of North Texas at Dallas,

Attn. Office of University Advancement, 7300 University Hills Blvd., Dallas, Texas 75241-4600.

DIVA, continued from Page 1

spare a few minutes to prepare your ingredients or season your meat.

The Dishes Can Wait: Make sure to focus on the reason why you are all gathered and enjoy your guests company. Those dishes will be there later—and you'll be invigorated to attack them after enjoying an evening of

great conversations with family and friends and good food.

Sustainability is the Theme: The newest trend in décor is to design centerpieces and food stations that incorporate goods that can be re-used. Fresh fruits and vegetables in a vase can be consumed afterward, such

as pumpkins in a pie and apples in a cobbler.

Walmart offers an assortment of products for all holiday essentials – from holiday meal favorites to fresh produce to must-have gifts and festive décor- all at every day, low prices. For all of your essential holiday needs, please visit your local

Walmart or www.Walmart.com.

To help you fulfill your family's wishes and traditions, we're giving away \$30 Walmart gift cards to four lucky readers. Visit our Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette and tell us why you deserve to win!

Bible Way Community Baptist Church



Dr. Timothy J. Wilbert, Sr.
Senior Pastor

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TUESDAY
7:00 PM
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Isiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor



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NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

"A Spiritual Oasis for a Thirsty World" Isaiah 55:1

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:
7:30 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM

972-437-3493

1010-1020 South Sherman Street • Richardson, TX 75081
www.ndcbf.org

the mark pressing forward

**Charles S. Wattley
Senior Pastor**

SUNDAY
Education Ministries
9:30 a.m.
Worship Celebration
10:45 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
Family Ministries
7:00 p.m.

**Friendly Fellowship
With a Family Focus!**

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