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Rawlings opens process for removing Dallas' Confederate monuments

By David Wilfong
NDG Special Correspondent

At a press conference on Tuesday, Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings started the ball rolling on a process that may lead to the removal of monuments in Dallas built in honor of famous Confederate leaders. The announcement came after a weekend of violence that culminated in the death of one protester in Charlottesville, Va. Two police officers also died in the crash of a helicopter which was observing the events from the air.

“Like so many Americans I was heartbroken to see this tragedy over the weekend because of the pain that bigots and racists can bring to a community,” Rawlings said. “We’re mourning the loss of Heather Heyer as well as the two fallen Virginia State Police Troopers, and for all the other victims of the violence that unfolded in Charlottesville over the weekend. My heart goes out to the mayor. He did a great job.”

Rawlings noted he was particularly dismayed by the involvement of one key individual who spent part of his childhood in Dallas. He also lamented that his city is not free of



(Above) One of the statues celebrating heroes of the Confederacy rests in Pioneer Park. At right, Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings announces a task force to look at the possibility of removing the monuments. (Monument photo: QuesterMark / Flickr)



past guilt in the area of civil rights.

“The fact that a Dallas native played a key role in organizing the event celebrating racists, neo-Nazis and White supremacists made it extremely difficult for me, being the mayor of Dallas. We know about this bigotry and hatred all too well in Dallas, a place that for so long was a bastion of the Ku Klux Klan, and was dubbed the ‘City of Hate.’ A place where just 13 months ago a

madman came here to kill certain cops just because they were white. As we try to grow as a city, we can never ignore the fact that race and our racial injustices of the past continue to haunt us, and the institutional racism we see economically every day keeps us from the goal that we have as a city.”

Like Charlottesville, Dallas has

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Douglas E. Hopson

Douglas E. Hopson was born on January 7, 1980 in Rahway, NJ. He attended Friendship Missionary Baptist Church under the teaching of Rev. Allen Thompson. On Feb 21, 1994, Douglas had a dream where the Lord took him into the heavens and God sat him on a mountain top and asked him this question, "How sweet are the feet that preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ?" That dream was continuous for three weeks so Douglas went to Thompson and told him that he believed the Lord was calling him into the ministry. On January 7, 1995 Dou-



glas preached his trial sermon "There is power in the Name." He was licensed as an Associate Minister after that sermon. Throughout his Apostolic transition he was mentored by the late great Prophet Nathan Simmons -

"The Pope Of Pentecost". In late 1995, the Lord sent Douglas to Fayetteville, NC where he met Apostle Lisa Watson at a Men's Conference where the Lord moved and gave Douglas a prophetic word through Apostle Watson. The word - "The Lord has an Apostolic Mandate on your life. You will father many men and woman in the gospel." In 1996, the Lord transitioned him from Baptist into the Apostolic Realm.

Douglas in 2008 was fully consecrated by the college of Bishops & Apostles into the office of the Apostle. He is now the founder and Presiding Chief Apostle of Mandated Reign Prophetic Min-

istries Int'l, which is an Apostolic Covering for those in need of True Apostolic Leadership & Vice Apostle of Wind of Change Apostolic Fellowship. Douglas experienced scandal in 2012 when he had to uproot himself and leave his ministry in Tennessee after false allegations surfaced from his now ex-wife. Attempting to rebuild his life Douglas worked various jobs and continued to teach those he could about God's unchanging love.

But what makes Douglas's journey through ministry so unique is that outside of his desires to fully teach and preach the living word of God, he held onto a secret that he carried around with

him since his youth. His secret was the molestation that he experienced as a youth at the hands of his mother and the men that were in her life. Douglas was ashamed with what he had experienced as a child, that he buried it inside of him until his divorce in 2014. It was then, and after the attempts of his ex-wife to defame his name and character that he was determined to tell his truth. The Untold Secret was birth to help others, especially men, who have been victims of molestation as a youth find a voice and to know that they are not alone. Douglas is embarking upon a new journey in his life. He is walking boldly to help those in need find the

closure they need and to heal from the pains of molestation. His mission is to visit various ministries, outreach centers, and other organizations to help men and others discover that it was never their fault as to why they experienced what they experienced. Douglas also shares some other revelations that will take his audience to emotional heights as they walk through his dark valleys to self-discovery and ultimate healing through trusting God.

In 2016 Douglas remarried his wife, Kimberly, who he creates to being his rock. The two recently lost, Kimberly 19 year old son to cancer.

Smokie Norful

(Black PR Wire) Nashville, TN - When the pressure of life seems to boil over - and it does for everyone - Pastor and Grammy-winning musician Norful has one piece of advice: take the lid off. This concept was inspired by watching his grandmother make her signature dish of sweet rice. When the heat got too high, the pot began hissing and boiling over, like it was about to explode. His grandmother would remind him the only way to avoid an eruption is to remove the lid. Similarly, the



only way to avoid an emotional overload is to take our own lids off—that is, to stop being trapped inside ourselves and instead look to God and his grace to show us the strategy for becoming all he intends us to

be.

This is the premise behind Norful's new book *Take the Lid Off: Trust God, Release the Pressure, and Find the Life He Wants for You* (Thomas Nelson, September 5, 2017). In *Take the Lid Off*, Norful—who is the founder and pastor of Victory Cathedral Worship Center, a congregation of 5,000 members with three campuses in the Chicagoland area—outlines four steps that help us to relieve the pressure and draw closer to God in the process:

Look Inward, experiencing the cleansing of for-

giveness and the power of God.

Look Outward, seeking for others to experience the joy of living for God and have the best God has to offer.

Look Upward and marvel at God's love and strength to accomplish his purposes.

Move Onward, devising a strategy to accomplish all God has put in our hearts to do.

Norful, through detailed explanations and relatable examples, guides readers in understanding that, when you focus on these four steps, the pressure of life goes down, you gain peace

and perception, and things work out much better in the end. By working to "take the lid off," readers can become the people they were created to be.

To underscore the message of *Take the Lid Off* Norful is partnering with his long-time label home, Motown Gospel, to release a digital-only album titled *Nothing Is Impossible*. The twelve-track project, available September 9, 2017, features some of Norful's most beloved songs of encouragement and inspiration, including "Still Say Thank You," "No One Else," and "Run 'Til I Fin-

ish."

For more information, visit www.TakeTheLidOff-Book.com.

Norful is founder and senior pastor of Victory Cathedral Worship Center, a congregation on three campuses in Bolingbrook and Chicago, Illinois. A multiple Grammy-winning artist who has sold more than three million albums worldwide, he has also received Stellar awards; Dove awards; an NAACP Image Award nomination; and countless other accolades. He lives with his wife and family in the Chicago area.

NDG Readers Sound Off...



Despite unequal treatment, Black women will rise

Pay inequality (for everyone) also results in fewer black families having access to the internet at home. This does seem to be deliberate, similar to

closing voting booths in poor areas.

-- Sandra R Phillips
Facebook

One of the more interesting things I have learned about Government is that there is always a some one who signs off off on whats going to be done.

Any chance of finding out what whose desk we can follow this decision back to

Lime light can make a once anonymous bureaucrat rethink such a position.

-- David Rapp
Facebook

A look back at NAACP's effective Silent Parade

Another memorable event was the 1917 Camp Logan "riot" which took place in Houston, Texas on August 23, 1917. In response to an incident with the Houston police, black soldiers attacked the Houston police and others. A number of folk were killed ... just saying ... everybody was not silent.

-- Anonymous

The Texas Health and Human Services Campaign slashes its budget, eliminating Black Press

Such meanness!

-- Mary Warren
Facebook

They've got to pay for their endless, pointless legal battles against civilization so

-- Christopher Barton
Facebook

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Publisher’s Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

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Editorial Department:

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

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STAFF

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Published By

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Web Master

Todd Jones

Senior Columnist

Ed Gray

Contributing Writers

Jackie Hardy
Terri Schlichenmeyer
Nicole Scott
David Wilfong

Special Projects Manager

Edward Dewayne
"Preacher Boy" Gibson, Jr.

Community Marketing

Nina Garcia
Nadina Davis

Production

Margaret Freelon
David Wilfong



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The Ghosts of the Confederacy rise again



Straight Talk
Ed Gray
NDG Senior Columnist

The Confederate War Memorial in Dallas was the site of one of the latest battles to remove Confederate monuments in public places. This movement is bigger than Dallas, it is a nationwide movement that has spread across the south. Whether it is New Orleans, where they have removed the statues, or Charlottesville where they are in the process of removing, or Dallas where we are currently debating statue removal. Through these actions and debates, we are exorcising ghosts.

These ghosts are malevolent spirits of an unholy alliance between treason and hatred. Dallas stands now in the crosshairs of public attention. Whatever political decision made in the upcoming weeks, it's not going to be easy. These are indeed contentious times af-

fecting us all, from the White House to the street corner, the nation seems to be at odds. The debate on the removal of the Confederate monuments for many white southerners is a connection not only to white supremacy, but to a past built upon the subjugation of African-Americans.

The counter protesters who disrupted the Reverend Michael Waters, a black man, as he gave his speech acted in a manner similar to the protesters in Charlottesville. The lack of decency and decorum has now resurfaced as if it is a rerun of 'Eyes on the Prize.' As neo-Confederates waved their anti-American flags, and that's what a Confederate flag is, they symbolize the intolerance of America today and its past glorification of "The Lost Cause" of slavery.

I was at the rally as an observer from my vantage point I saw what had moved the crowd. Raw emotion and a physical presence of a black man in the south have resulted in changing a gath-

ering into a lynch mob.

The challenge to Dallas is to contain civil disruptions and replace it with civil discourse. We must talk to each other with respect and no disrespect. Dallas has had a documented history of past extremist violence, whether it is the neo Confederates of last week's rally, or the documented excesses of the ultra-right in the 1960's, Dallas has made a bet with extremism and lost. The difference from the 1960's as we compare the protesters in Charlottesville. The lack of decency and decorum has now resurfaced as if it is a rerun of 'Eyes on the Prize.' As neo-Confederates waved their anti-American flags, and that's what a Confederate flag is, they symbolize the intolerance of America today and its past glorification of "The Lost Cause" of slavery.

Extremism in Dallas was noticeable at the Confederate War memorial protest when the presence of black independence was moved to the forefront. Protest organizer Eric Ramsey, and fellow speakers Edward Sebasta, and Dr. Michael Phillips who are white had read their speeches uninterrupted with very little fan-

fare. Reverend Michael Waters then stepped forward to give his speech, and the counter protesters stepped back to 1865.

The protesters yelled, interrupted, and surged forward to intimidate. The attempt to assert white privilege. Reverend Waters did more than held his ground, as he stepped forward to 2017. Boldly placing himself forward to rebut any challenge to his intelligence or manhood.

Dallas and yes America's challenge is how it responds when black men or women step forward to assert their rights. In Dallas the people stepped forward to 2017 as the statues of the Confederacy loomed over the protesters and counter protesters like ghosts in a bad dream. We can only banish the ghosts of the Confederacy when we banish hate.

This is Ed Gray and this is straight talk.

Ed Gray, the host of *The Commish Radio Show* airing Saturdays 3-5 p.m. on *FBRN.net*, can be reached at eedgray62@att.net.

It's time to show 'middle neighborhoods' some love

By U.S. Rep Dwight Evans (D-PA-02)

What do countries, states and neighborhoods have in common? People. They all compete for people.

Through people, you get innovators, investors, builders, developers, thinkers. Through people, you have the building blocks of your workforce.

Our neighborhoods rely on anchors like great schools, bustling shops and small businesses, and a competitive housing stock in order to attract homebuyers and increase long-term homeownership.

In my District, the Second District of Pennsylvania, I am fortunate to represent top of the line research institutions such as the University of Pennsylvania, Drexel, Temple, Saint Joseph's, LaSalle and many more, that continue to lead the way in innovation and development, and drive new residents to our neighborhoods

across the city of Philadelphia and into the surrounding suburbs like Lower Merion and Narberth, that call the 2nd District home.

Throughout the course of my over three-and-a-half decades of public service, I have always looked for thoughtful ways to "Make Ideas Matter," always strategically searching for that moment when an idea becomes a part of our public policy.

In Congress, I am trying to put a spotlight and raise the dialogue on "Middle Neighborhoods" nationwide.

"Middle Neighborhoods" are caught between growing and declining neighborhoods. They are neighborhoods that are doing "good enough" right now, but are threatened by decline, as the demand to live in these neighborhoods is weakening.

Middle Neighborhoods walk a tightrope. They are solid neighborhoods that are

being squeezed, because they aren't poor enough or wealthy enough. We need to show these neighborhoods a little love before it's too late and they tip towards decline.

Right now, our Middle Neighborhoods have no clear lane in our federal policy. To add to this, President Trump and his administration have done little to reinvest in cities nationwide.

Last summer when speaking to the African American community at a rally in Philadelphia, President Trump said, "What the hell do you have to lose?"

This March, members of the Executive Committee of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) met with President Trump at the White House to discuss the key issues plaguing the African American community.

During the meeting, the CBC Executive Committee delivered a CBC-authored, 130-page policy document titled "We Have A Lot To

Lose: Solutions to Advance Black Families in the 21st Century," which includes detailed African-American history, CBC history, 21st century policy solutions for African-American families, and also highlights, three of my key priorities in Congress: "Middle Neighborhoods," "School Rehabilitation" and "Food Insecurity" as key action items for the policy agenda of the CBC.

It's long overdue for the federal government to come together and stand united to make modernization, development and investment in our neighborhoods a top priority for cities, suburbs and towns nationwide.

We take pride in our neighborhoods. We are proud of the block we live on. We have come to call our neighbors our friends. It's on us to give our neighborhoods the tools they need in their toolbox.

Healthy, strong neighborhoods lead to bustling, vibrant economies.

Making back-to-school lunches and snacks fun – and healthy

By Dr. Marshall Dawer
Senior Medical Director
UnitedHealthcare Texas
and Oklahoma

As another school year begins, and for many parents that presents the challenge of trying to figure out what to pack in their children's lunch boxes. Even boxes filled with loving care can contain cookies or chips or other easy, unhealthy options.

A fun, healthy lunch or after-school snack – including a variety of fruits, vegetables, whole grains and proteins – doesn't have to be time-consuming, stressful or



Katarzyna Bialasiewicz

more costly to put together. Have your child help in planning and packing their meals. When kids are involved, they are more likely to enjoy the

foods they select. Consider these tips to packing a healthy, tasty lunch.

Switch to whole grains. While shopping, look for

100-percent whole-grain bread for sandwiches, 100-percent whole-grain tortillas for wraps, and whole-grain crackers. Other examples include quinoa and brown rice. Whole grains have more vitamins, minerals and fiber, and they will keep kids satisfied longer.

Pack the protein. Foods with protein may help kids stay full and focused. Make sure each lunch has a good source of protein, such as hard-boiled eggs, beans, nuts, nut butter, tuna, salmon, rotisserie chicken, edamame or yogurt. Skip deli meats like salami and bologna,

which are higher in fat, sodium and preservatives.

Make it colorful. Adding colorful fruits and vegetables can make a lunch look more appetizing, and these foods are loaded with vitamins, minerals and fiber. Spice up vegetables with a little bit of guacamole, hummus, salsa or low-fat ranch dressing to add flavor and fun.

Keep them hydrated. Hydration is particularly important for children, as they have higher water requirements than adults do. Besides water, more fun options include smoothies and low-fat

milk. Skip the juice and soda.

Add a small, sweet treat. Kids love treats, and adding something small to their lunches gives them something to look forward to. Portion size is key. Aim for less than eight to 10 grams of sugar per serving. Examples include chocolates that are at least 70-percent pure cocoa chocolate and natural fruit smoothies with plain Greek yogurt and almond milk.

Minimize junk food. Foods like chips, fruit snacks and candy have little nutri-

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Parkland's outpatient centers develop innovative programs to expand access to care

Delivering high quality, cost effective care to a growing number of uninsured patients can be a challenge for any healthcare organization. But through the use of innovative programs, staff with Parkland Health & Hospital System's Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) health centers have developed unique ways to provide access for patients needing primary and specialty care.

Since the network of neighborhood-based health centers came to fruition in the late 1980's, staff has

looked for ways to meet the growing demand for services. In fiscal year 2016, Parkland recorded more than 1 million outpatient visits, and that number continues to rise.

Local health centers serve more than 25 million patients at more than 9,000 delivery sites in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and U.S. territories. One in every 15 people living in the U.S. depends on health center services. Those centers are recognized annually during National Health

Center Week, which this year is celebrated Aug. 13-19.

"Since its inception, the COPC staff has continually developed innovative programs to meet the increasing needs for services in our community health centers," said Noel Santini, MD, Senior Medical Director, Ambulatory Services at Parkland. "As more people move to Dallas County and need primary and specialty care services it is incumbent on us to find ways to increase access."

Beginning with the intro-

duction of community-based behavioral health services in the mid-'90s to this year's launch of a variety of telemedicine specialty appointments, Parkland has been a national leader in developing population health management strategies.

In 2007, Parkland was one of the first in Texas to offer shared medical appointments (SMAs) with a group medication refill SMA. These appointments improve access to treatment, education and pre-

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ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT CENTER

Black Men Cares making a difference one school at a time

By: Jackie Hardy
NDG Contributing Writer

Black Men Care is a community service initiative led and started by City of Dallas Municipal Court Judge, C. Victor Lander whose target mission will be to provide student mentorship programs within the City, one school at a time.

Black Men Care held its first community outreach initiative last August, where several African American men of all professional backgrounds gathered in front of South Oak Cliff (SOC) High School to tangibly show their care and support of the students as it kicked off the 2016-17 school year.

"I felt like we needed something like this in our schools, so I came up with the idea of having black professionals gather together and greet the students. We wanted to start with one school and ultimately go to every high school in the City just to let them know there



Courtesy photo

are black professionals that do just about everything from being a judge, like myself to a lawyer, police officer, truck driver or business owner," comments Lander in regards to his motivation in starting the Black Men Care program.

With the 2017-18 school year vastly approaching, Black Men Care will return to the SOC campus Monday, August 28 to once again show students the diversity of professional choices available to them as well as

provide a tangible demonstration of positive African American role models from their respective communities.

According to Paul Baccus, business owner of Baccus Dry Cleaning Services and author of the self-published book, "A Way Out," last year's response from the African American business community was overwhelmingly positive and he anticipates the same response for this year's event.

"We will be there to shake

each students hand and show them that we care," claims Baccus.

"The students getting to see this positive image of African American males on our campus in suits and ties has had a memorable effect on our students. It gives them another image that some of our students don't often see outside of Sunday," states James Mays, II, Athletic Director of South Oak Cliff High School.

Establishing a strong presence of minority male role

models with diverse professional backgrounds is something Judge Lander hopes will inspire students, particularly disenfranchised African American males that statistically are at greater risk of partaking in criminal activity, to pursue careers outside of professional sports as a result of exposure to other respectable professions.

"I really want to point toward young black boys and men as those are the ones we are losing on a daily basis. I think it is extremely important that they see mentors of those of us who are out in the community not only doing things in the community, but within our families," Lander adds.

According to a 2013 report conducted by an advocacy group, The Sentencing Project, it found that one in three African American males will be incarcerated in their lifetime; a statistic Judge Landers understand and knows to be a reality as a result of his line of work.

"I see too many young black men in front of me and I am tired of it." sentiments Lander shares regarding the overwhelming number of young African American males fallen to crime.

100 Black Men of America is a current national program whose mission mirrors the desired vision and mission Black Men Cares hopes to model as it lays the ground work for its program. The mission of 100 Black Men of America is to help improve the quality of life for the communities they serve through mentoring and other programs ranging in education, health and wellness, economic empowerment, and leadership development.

"We want to be able to go to the schools and teach young men about life and what it takes to be a man." states Baccus on the value this program can offer specifically to African

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UTA NAACP honored with five top national awards

The University of Texas at Arlington's National Association for the Advancement of Colored People student chapter received the College Chapter of the Year award for the second year in a row at the 108th NAACP National Convention in Baltimore.

In addition to being named College Chapter of the Year, UTA received four other awards: Best Overall Game Changer, Health Game Changer, Juvenile Justice Game Changer and Largest College Branch in the Nation.

"These awards are an af-



firmation that our NAACP student chapter is filling its local and national mission of advocating on behalf of its communities," said Leticia

Martinez, director of Multicultural Affairs and NAACP campus adviser. "Through teamwork and dedication, these student leaders consis-

tently strive to help their fellow students find a home at UTA while providing education on local and national contemporary issues."

The national organization annually recognizes student chapters that strive to represent and magnify the NAACP's vision. Across the nation, NAACP student chapters focus on training and fine-tuning intellectual and leadership skills through social and political activism.

"Being part of the NAACP has opened many doors in my life that I am thankful for. I am able to fight the good fight for all

and challenging curriculum. The goals of the national organization align with those of the UTA student chapter. "Our chapter is unique because of coalition building with other entities on campus such as Health Services, Multicultural Affairs, The Center for African American Studies and fellow student groups," Martinez explained. "The UTA NAACP chapter also partners with local city chapters because our students recognize that promoting equality and inclusion is a community effort."

The NAACP works to build a society in which all individuals have equal rights without racial discrimination. Education is a fundamental component of the NAACP's mission. Its efforts to ensure that graduates are career-ready by ensuring access to teaching, fair discipline, equitable resources

McKinney Fire Department warns of fake solar eclipse glasses

The McKinney Fire Department (MFD) along with the U.S. Fire Administration encourages residents to beware of fake solar eclipse glasses being sold at many retailers. Millions of Americans will watch the solar eclipse on Aug. 21 and have already

purchased eclipse glasses or handheld solar viewers for assumed safe viewing. Some of these people may be at risk from counterfeit glasses and viewers sold by disreputable vendors trying to cash in on this rare event. Watching the eclipse with fake protective

gear or homemade versions can cause permanent eye damage.

"Only glasses and viewers verified by an accredited testing laboratory to meet ISO 12313-2 are safe to use when viewing the eclipse," said Fire Marshal Michael Smith.

"This standard requires glasses and viewer to be thousands of times darker than typical sunglasses."

It may be hard to tell the difference between genuine protective gear and fake glasses/viewers as some counterfeit makers are plac-

ing ISO labels on them. NASA recommends eclipse watchers refer to the American Astronomical Society (AAS's) website for a list of reputable vendors selling solar glasses and viewers.

"Residents can experience the eclipse safely, but it's vital

they protect their eyes at all times with the proper solar glasses and viewers," said Smith.

For additional information and safety tips for watching eclipse go to <https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/safety> or <https://aas.org/>.

Let's keep this momentum rolling!



Joyce Foreman
Dallas ISD
District 6
Trustee

Welcome back, District 6! The new school year is here starting Monday, August 28, and as always, it is an exciting time filled with anticipation and promise. As with any new beginning, the 2017-2018 school year offers a chance to reset and renew as we continue our efforts to do what's best for children.

This year is particularly exciting for me because of all the great accomplishments District 6 experienced last year. As a matter of fact, every school in District 6 met the state performance stan-

dards as measured by the Texas Education Agency. This is quite a feat, and it is a powerful show of what can be accomplished when schools and community dig deep and stand together to bring opportunities to students to help them succeed.

This also demonstrates the caliber of teachers and principals we have in District 6. Their hard work, persistence and belief in our children is a formula for success. I am grateful to each of them.

District 6 schools are:

Elementary Schools

- Birdie Alexander
- Jimmie Tyler Brashear
- John W. Carpenter
- Elementary DAEP-Dallas

- Barbara Jordan
- Umphrey Lee

- Thomas L. Marsalis
- Ronald E. McNair
- Maria Moreno
- Clinton P. Russell
- Leslie A. Stemmons
- T.G. Terry
- Robert L. Thornton
- Thomas Tolbert
- Adelle Turner
- Mark Twain
- Daniel Webster
- Martin Weiss

Middle Schools

- William H. Atwell
- T.W. Browne
- Zan Wesley Holmes Jr.
- STEAM at D.A. Hulcy
- Barbara Manns
- Boude Storey

High Schools

- Alternative Placement Center at Village Fair
- David W. Carter
- Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Collegiate Academy

- Justin F. Kimball
- John Leslie Patton Jr. Academic Center

I am also honored to serve the great people of District 6, and I encourage each of you to join me as we advocate for children. What we accomplish today could make a huge difference in the life of our students. Please don't think that you have nothing to give. Your time, energy, or expertise can carry more weight than you might ever imagine.

Thank you for your support, and let's keep the momentum rolling and make it the best school year ever!

Other news in District 6: New District 6 principals

I'd like to welcome our new principals in District 6: Jonathan Smith moves to

David W. Carter High School (from T.W. Browne Middle School); Christofor Stephens will be at the helm at R.L. Thornton Elementary School; Gayle Smith is returning to Gilliam Collegiate Academy; Lakisha Thomas will lead T.W. Browne Middle School; and Lakisha Merritt will serve at Martin Weiss Elementary. I look forward to working with you.

Back-to-School Info:

The district Back-to-School Hotline will be available to parents who have questions during the first week of school. The number to call is 972.925.5437. If you have questions before then, please check with your child's school or call the parent hotline at 972.925.5555.

Back to school informa-

tion is also available on the district's website. Visit: www.dallasisd.org.

Dallas ISD Athletic Hall of Fame:

In case you haven't heard, Dallas ISD is launching the Athletic Hall of Fame to honor the many great athletes who have made significant contributions to the district's storied high school athletic program. If you know of an athlete who should be included in the inaugural class, please take time to nominate her/him for one of three categories: Past Dallas ISD Student Athlete; Former Dallas ISD Coach; and Contributors. For more information and to nominate, visit www.dallasisd.org/athleticalloffame.

Things to keep in mind during 'Back to School' for the Class of 2018

There are so many things that are on a High Senior's mind as they get ready to approach their last year in high school. There is football season, homecoming, senior pictures, prom and the senior trip all on the horizon, but there are some other preparations to make if you senior is planning to continue their education post high school.

Parents may find it hard to get their distracted high school seniors to attend to

college details, but here are a few things to keep on them about. Hopefully your senior has already decided if continued education after high school is a part of their future be it trade school, 2 year or four-year college.

The next step is to have a very open and honest conversation about how to pay for their continued educations. The earlier the conversation is held the most prepared students and parents will be regarding

choosing an educational path that is affordable and obtainable. Decisions about financing education are difficult because they need to be based on a realistic assessment of a student's individual need and not based on their wants. Some students may figure out a cost effective path, such as attending community college and then transferring to a 4-year college.

Make sure your senior has started taking their col-

lege entrance exams. As your senior prepare for college, they will encounter at least one (and probably more than one) of the following college entrance exams:

- PSAT/NMSQT: Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Assessment Test
- SAT Reasoning Test
- ACT
- SAT Subject Tests (formerly the SAT II)

It is important to remember admission requirement vary from school to school. These requirements could also determine which school your senior gets admitted to. Getting your senior to make a final college decision is important, the sooner a college decision is made, the sooner other details will fall into place. Plus, some of the college admissions are time sensitive, so making a decision sooner rather than later will benefit your senior.

Another important step for you to take with your senior is completing the FAFSA. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is required to secure access to federal student aid (which includes federal grants in addition to federal loans). Many states and institutions also use information from the FAFSA to determine eligibility for their different grant and loan

See SENIORS, Page 7

Register now for both Summer and Fall Semesters!

Summer Classes begin June 5 and July 11

Fall classes begin August 21



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Keep Irving Beautiful presents annual awards

Keep Irving Beautiful's annual "Mayor and KIB Awards" ceremony was held on Monday, August 7 at the First Baptist Church of Irving. The Fellowship Hall was filled with the beautiful music of harpist Becky Scherschell as the 151 guests were greeted and signed in by volunteers Sandy Franco, Chuck Kirk, Elouise McMillian, and Chandler Ude. They enjoyed a delicious appetizer buffet prepared by Glory House Catering, while T.J. Friedel captured the moments with her photography and Matt Webb provided technical support.

KIB's Volunteer Recognition Committee chair and hostess for the evening Margie Stipes opened the ceremony by inviting members of Boy Scout Troop 508 to present the colors and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Gus Gonzalez from Blue Print Church delivered the invocation, after which KIB Staff Rick Hose and Julie Schmitt gave an overview of activities during the past year. Mistress of Ceremonies Cathy Whiteman of Irving Community Television Network, accompanied by

honorary chair Mayor Rick Stopfer, then came on stage to present the awards to the following honorees:

Youth Leadership Award: Boy Scout Troop 508

Educator Award: Kelly Giddens, Principal, Barton Elementary

Educator Award: Brandon Morton, North Lake College

Faith Group Award: Baptist Benevolent Ministries of Irving

Business and Industry Award: FASTSIGNS Irving/Las Colinas

Business and Industry Award: Verizon

Media Award: Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce

Civic Organization Award: DFW Humane Society

Lifetime Achievement Award: Shareen Altum

Civil Servant Award: Detective John Schingle, Irving Police Department

Green Government Award: City of Irving Water Utilities Department

KIB Hometown Award: Barry Allen

KIB Hometown Award: David Palmer

In addition to these winners, recipients of national

and state awards were also recognized. These included the City of Irving Code Enforcement, which won First Place in the Overall Community Improvement category from Keep America Beautiful, and Second Place in the Government Category from Keep Texas Beautiful. Keep Irving Beautiful was acknowledged for achieving the President's Circle Award from Keep America Beautiful, the Gold Star Award from Keep Texas Beautiful, and the Award of Sustained Excellence at both the state and national level.

"Speaking for myself and for many of us on the KIB Board of Directors, this is one of our favorite events of the year," said Mrs. Stipes. "While we do try to let our volunteers and sponsors know how much they mean to us throughout the year, it is especially nice to have an event that is dedicated to expressing our gratitude to them and recognizing those who have gone above and beyond in their service to our community. We are truly honored to have them here as our guests for this very special evening."

Volunteers needed for Plano's Love Where You Live volunteer program

Help our neighbors in the Village Creek neighborhood on Saturday, Sept. 16 during Love Where You Live Service Day. Come alone or as a group and help with neighborhood projects (litter clean up, waterway cleanup and storm drain labeling). Groups may also help with minor home repairs for residents in need (landscaping, tree trimming, house painting, etc.). Please plan to serve from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.



Get the details for adult and teen volunteers and sign up to participate. Help strengthen our community and transform this great neighborhood.

Dallas NAACP forms a taskforce seeking removal of Confederate symbols on public property

Following the tragic events in Charlottesville, Virginia on Aug. 12, the Dallas NAACP offered words of sympathy while demanding the City of Dallas move forward with removing the Confederate symbols displayed throughout public parks and properties. The NAACP indicates the symbols and images represent white supremacy, hate, racism, and oppression. The historic civil rights organization pointed out sometimes America has to be pushed to realize its potential as a just nation, free of racism and hate.

"We firmly understand

that the only thing necessary for the continuance of this hate is for us to do nothing; therefore, we call for lawmakers to condemn this and all similar acts of white supremacy sponsored hate, and domestic terrorism. We ask that local elected leaders (city, county, and school board) call for the removal of these painful reminders on public property that have hindered our greatness as a society," the released statement said.

The organization also reaffirmed their commitment to advocacy for legislative changes, and expansion of voting rights. This

coming at a time when voting rights appear to be under renewed attack at federal and state level.

At the Aug. 1 General Membership meeting, the Dallas NAACP assembled a task force to address the removal of Confederate monuments, statues, and symbols on display on public property. This taskforce will be led by 2nd Vice President K.C. Fox and noted historian Ed Gray. Members of the taskforce include 1st Vice President Kevin Felder, Bill Betzen, Youth Council President Traelon Rodgers and Arthur Fleming.

Garland ISD expands free meal program

Garland ISD has announced a change to free and reduced-price meals served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program for 2017-18. Twenty-three campuses qualifying for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) will now provide breakfast and lunch to every student at no charge, eliminating the collection of free and reduced-price meal

applications, as well as paid student meals. This new approach reduces burdens for both families and school staff while also helping to ensure that all students receive nutritious meals.

Applications may be submitted at any time during the school year, and all information provided will be used solely for the purpose of determining eligibility. Those who receive a notifi-

cation letter about students being directly certified for free meals do not have to complete an application. Any household that does not receive a letter and feels it should have may contact Student Nutrition Services at 972-494-8322.

Applications can be submitted online at mealapp.garlandisd.net or via paper at 701 N. 1st St., Garland, TX 75040.

SENIORS, continued from Page 1

programs. If you fail to fill it out, you and your senior will be walking away from any opportunity to receive financial aid assistance.

Remember that a majority of students qualify for some form of aid and, even if they do not eligible for certain grants, you cannot borrow federal loans if you don't fill out the FAFSA. The quicker your senior select a school and you and your senior complete the FAFSA the better because funds for many grants—which everyone should

pursue because this type of aid does not need to be repaid—are limited and may dry up before February of next year. Finally, you have discussed financing your senior's education, college entrance exams are completed, school selection is down to your top 3, FAFSA has been completed and the Student Aid Report has been sent to your top 3 schools.

Now it is time for your senior to go to work with:

1. Selecting College
2. Finishing the housing

application process

3. Research possible majors

4. Sign up for new student orientation

Schedule an appointment at the beginning of the school year with your senior and their guidance counselor to discuss their graduation status. Knowing in advance if there may be some unseen issues just over the horizon can help you the parent in keeping your senior focus in completing this milestone in their lives and help you and them planning for their next step in life.



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Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette

DALLAS
SMU/Liliana Bloch
Gallery Exhibit:
"From Dijon to Dallas"
 August 22 – September 2, 2017

Hours: 12-5 p.m. Tues.-Sat.; closed Sun. & Mon.
 Opening reception: Saturday, August 26, 6-8 p.m.
 Liliana Bloch Gallery, 2271 Monitor St., Dallas 75207- FREE

From Dijon to Dallas features two artists chosen through an exchange between the Division of Art at SMU Meadows and École Nationale Supérieure d'Art (ENSA) of Dijon, France: Meadows alumnus Juan Negroni (M.F.A. '16) from Dallas and Benjamin Grivot from Dijon. The exhibition is part of a postgraduate fellowship program launched in 2015 by the Meadows School and ENSA. Each year, an artist is selected from each institution to spend a six-week residency on exchange at the other, which includes studio and living spaces and an exhibition in each location. For more information email abastidas@smu.edu or call 214.768.4439.



GARLAND
12th Annual
Dog-a-Poolooza
Unleashed

Garland's annual pool party for dogs will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19, at Holford Community Pool, 2322 Homestead Place. Cost is \$5 per dog (rabies tag or certification required), and \$1 per human. Dogs and their owners can enjoy unleashed swimming, pet services and supplies, a dog wash, door prizes and much more!

IRVING
Irving Black Arts
Council Presents
Trinity River Plays

Written by award winning movie and TV actress,

Regina Taylor, the production will include the first two plays in Taylor's dynamic family drama set in Oak Cliff in the 1970s, the moving production revolves around family relationships, transformations, challenges and heartbreak.

Aug. 26 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. the tickets are \$25 in Advance at www.irvingblackarts.org or www.IrvingArtsCenter.com or call the Box Office 972-252-2782 Tuesday-Saturday 12-5 P.M. to purchase by phone.

The tickets are \$30 at the door.

Back to School Cutz 'N
Stylez

Start off the school year with a fresh new style. Barbers and beauty schools will provide free haircuts and manicures, along with free information from dental, vision and healthcare vendors. Enjoy food, fun, music and goody bags for the first 50 kids. Open to students entering grades K-12.

Friday, Aug. 18 from

Noon to 4 p.m. at Lively Pointe Youth Center at 909 N. O'Connor Road

Grandparents-Grandkids
Dance

Ever wanted to share the magic of a dance with your grandchild? Join us for an evening of dinner, dancing and live music by Doc Gibbs and his band. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the dance begins at 7 p.m. For ages 18 and older, grandparents and grandchildren of all ages. Cost is \$10 per person. Registration required by August 15.

The event is Aug. 22 from 6:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at Heritage Senior Center located at 200 S. Jefferson St.

LEWISVILLE
City seeks input
through online Survey

Lewisville residents are encouraged to participate in an online survey that will be used to assess the effectiveness of current programs and the level of public demand for potential new or revised programs.



Councilmember Philip Kingston got into a heated exchange with Dwaine Caraway over an appointment during a Dallas City Council briefing on Wednesday. (Image: City of Dallas)

Kingston and
Caraway clash
over Dallas Park
Board President

By Joe Farkus
 NDG Special Contributor

An exchange between Dallas City Council members Phillip Kingston and Dwaine Caraway on Aug. 16 erupted in fireworks during the council briefing held at City Hall. The confrontation occurred as a result of a disagreement between Kingston and the rest of the council regarding Robert "Bobby" Abtahi's reappointment to his current position as Dallas Park & Recreation Board President.

Kingston objected to the reappointment, slamming Abtahi's job performance and record as "abominable." As Councilman and Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine Caraway attempted to respond in defense of the Dallas Park President, Kingston could be heard laughing and making hand motions in an attempt to mock Caraway. This unusual behavior did not go unnoticed as the District 4 City Councilman was forced to pause twice during his response due to Kingston's heckling.

"Bobby Abtahi has done a great job on the Park Board," claimed Caraway. He continued to defend the Park Board President, claiming none of Abtahi's fellow board members or peers have come to him with complaints about poor job per-

formance. Fellow Council members Adam McGough, Rickey Callahan, Jennifer Gates, and Tennell Atkins also came to the defense of Abtahi during the exchange. Mayor Mike Rawlings also took issue with Kingston's negative assessment of Abtahi's job performance, calling the Park Board President "smart" and "one of the hardest working people I know."

The debate became personal when Councilman Caraway suggested Kingston's targeting of Abtahi was due to the board appointee's ethnicity and referenced Abtahi and Kingston's 2013 City Council contest for District 14's City Council seat as another possible reason for Kingston's objections.

Kingston's anger resurfaced later in the briefing when he attempted to vote absent on a property tax rate vote for which he was technically present. When told he must either vote 'yes' or 'no', he stormed out in protest.

After the tense exchange between the two council members, Caraway would later blame Kingston's vocal objections to Abtahi's reappointment on heightened partisanship and called for the council to come together and "move the city forward."

Flower Mound native serves in Japan
aboard forward-deployed ship

By MC3 Theodore Quintana
 Navy Office of
 Community Outreach

SASEBO, Japan – A 2015 Edward S. Marcus High School graduate and Flower Mound, Texas native is serving in Japan in the U.S. Navy aboard USS Germantown.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Damian Hernandez is a fire controlman aboard the ship operating out of Sasebo, Japan.

A Navy fire controlman is responsible for providing weapon direction systems and employment recommendations.

"I love the mental challenges and high stakes that comes with being a fire controlman," said Hernandez.

With more than 50 percent of the world's shipping tonnage and a third of the world's crude oil passing



through the region, the U.S. has historic and enduring interests in this part of the world.

"Our alliance is rooted in shared interests and shared values," said Adm. Harry Harris, U.S. Pacific Command Commander. "It's not hyperbole to say that the entire world has benefited from the U.S.-Japan alliance. While our alliance helped stabilize the region after the

Second World War, it also enabled the Japanese people to bring about an era of unprecedented economic growth. And for the last six decades, our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen have worked side by side with the Japan Self Defense Force to protect and advance peace and freedom."

Commissioned in 1986, Germantown is the second Navy ship named after the Revolutionary War Battle of Germantown. With a crew of more than 900 sailors and Marines, Germantown is 609 feet long and weighs approximately 16,000 tons. Designed specifically to operate landing craft air cushion small craft vessels, Whidbey Island-class dock landing ships have the largest capacity for these landing craft out of any U.S. Navy amphibious ship.

"I like the fact that the Germantown integrates and work with marines," said Hernandez.

Sea duty is inherently arduous and challenging but it builds strong fellowship and esprit de corps among members of the crew. The crew is highly motivated and quickly adapt to changing conditions. It is a busy life of specialized work, watches, and drills.

"Serving in the Navy makes my family and friends back home proud," said Hernandez. "My work here allows them to pursue their own liberties."

The Navy's presence in Sasebo is part a long-standing commitment.

"The U.S.-Japan alliance remains the cornerstone for peace and stability in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region," said Harris.

TBAAL's Riverfront Jazz Festival set to make Dallas a music lover's destination for Labor Day Weekend

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters' (TBAAL) first annual Riverfront Jazz Festival in partnership with VISIT Dallas is set to launch what potentially will become the hallmark arts event in Dallas on Labor Day weekend for years to come. Through the collaboration of the arts, education, civic sponsors and the city, a long time dream is set to debut Sept. 1-3 at the Texas Horse Park, 811 Pemberton Hill Road in Dallas. North Dallas Gazette readers have an opportunity to win tickets to see the more than 35 musical groups and performers.

Curtis King, TBAAL Founder and President and the festival's creator and producer, has tried to get this festival off the ground for the last 15 years he shared by phone with the North Dallas Gazette.

"About eight or nine years ago, we thought we would pull it off," King said but eventually the funding fell through. The tide turned when Sharon Richards and King at the Visitors Bureau, they realized there are no headline events in Dallas during Labor Day weekend.

After a series of meetings, the city was able to identify available funding through their marketing budget, but it would require more. TBAAL already had limited unrestricted funds available



Erykah Badu is one of the planned performers for the premiere TBAAL festival. (Image: LivePict.com, via Wikimedia Commons)

from Bloomberg Philanthropies and then expressed an interest in learning more about the event, asking about possible performers. However, King did not want to reach out to the artists without some degree of assurance the program was green-lighted.

The educational component to the festival comes in the form of support provided by Big Thought. They were willing to become a community partner to expand the outreach efforts to youth with a budding interest in music. Following each of the shows, the artists will go directly to Arts & Community Stage and participate in a Talk Back session with young people. This eventually led to additional funding from the city as well, with those funds specifically used to support the Promising Young Artists Stage.

Then King and company reached out and secured space with six downtown hotels to host live after hours

shows generally from 10:30 p.m. to Midnight (check each location to confirm times) the hotels are:

The Sheraton Hotel – they are serving as the host hotel and offering a special room rate of \$119, call 1-888-627-8191 code RFJAZZ1 or visit www.sheratondallashotel.com/riverfront-jazz-festival.

- Aloft Dallas Downtown
- Hilton Anatole
- Hotel Indigo Dallas Downtown
- Homewood Suites Downtown
- Omni Hotel Dallas

Assembling these alliances was quite an achievement, but what about the music? The first question is what type of music do you like because King and company have assembled a roster of performers who will cover a broad spectrum from jazz (traditional and smooth), gospel, R&B, Pop, Soul, Blues and Neo-Soul to be performed on two main stages – the Visit Dallas Jazz Main Stage and the Blues

and Soul Main Stage.

The line-up of performers includes Dallas' own Erykah Badu, Will Downing and Najee who are serving as the festival Honorary Chairs. The two main stages will feature performances by Euge Groove, Oleta Adams, Peter White, Keiko Matsui, Jon Secada, Martha Wash, Paul Taylor, Maysa, Freda Payne, Mary Wilson, Eloise Laws, Ruben Studdard, Jeff Lorber, Rahsaan Patterson with a Tribute to Donny Hathaway, Karen Briggs with Jazz in Pink, Jonathan Butler, R.L. Griffin "The Reverend," Wanda King, Lucky Peterson, Lady Tambourine (Rosoline Washing-

ton) and the New Orleans Soul Band, Yarbrough & Peoples featuring Benita Arterberry, Funky Knuckles, Jackie Scott & The Housewreckers featuring Eddie Shaw, Rachelle Ferrell, Melanie Fiona, Alex Bugnon, Kim Waters, Phil Perry, Pieces of A Dream, Shaun Martin, Xavier Jackson, Sean Caleb, Clifton Williams, Martha Burks, Andrea Wallace, Keith Anderson, Tom Braxton, Mark Felton, Art Sherrod, Jr. Joseph Vincelli and Clay Prichard.

North Dallas Gazette readers have an opportunity to win free tickets. Keep your eye on NDG's

Facebook and Instagram profiles for more details!

If you do not score a free pair of tickets for the festival from NDG, they are available for the festival for \$50 Pre-Sale, \$60 at Door, \$125 VIP Seating (VIP Entrance Gate, Open seating in VIP Reserved Sections and \$100 Annual TBAAL Membership redeemable at Festival Membership Table). A 3-Day Discount Festival Weekend pass is \$135. For festival and jam session tickets call, TBAAL Box Office 214-743-2400 or Ticketmaster 800-745-3000 and for festival info and updates, visit: www.tbaalriverfront-jazzfestival.org.

Artisan Theater Center presents *Sister Act*

Hurst, Texas, August 9, 2017 – SISTER ACT opens at Artisan Center Theater on Friday, August 25, 2017 and runs through Saturday, September 23, 2017. The 196 seat theater-in-the-round is located at 444 East Pipeline Road in Hurst. Performances are at 7:30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thurs-

day, Friday, and Saturday with 3:00pm matinees on Saturdays beginning September 2. Reserved seating tickets are \$24.00 for adults, \$22.00 for students and seniors, and \$12.00 for children 12 and under. Monday through Thursday tickets are \$22.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children 12 and

under. Tickets can be purchased online at ArtisanCT.com, or by calling the box office at 817-284-1200.

Sister Act is the feel-good musical comedy smash based on the hit 1992 film that has audiences

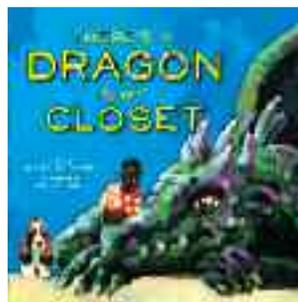
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Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Follow North Dallas Gazette on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to keep up on all the latest!!!

NDG Book Review: *There's a Dragon in My Closet*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer



You didn't do it. Whatever it was, it wasn't your fault. You didn't do it – you weren't even around when it happened. You don't know who to blame. Maybe it was your dog, your mom, or maybe, as in the new book by Dorothea Taylor, illustrated by Charly Palmer, "There's a Dragon in My Closet."

The little boy was sure of lots of things: he had a soft, warm bed to sleep in. He had a dog he played with every day. His daddy loved him,

his mother took care of him. And there was a dragon in his closet.

No, seriously! It was "a kind and gentle dragon" but it was mischievous – which, of course, the boy got blamed for. But he wasn't the cause of the mess in his

room or the broken flower pot or the muddy footprints on the floor. It was the dragon's fault. The boy didn't do any of those things. He was innocent and he tried to make his parents believe him, but they didn't.

The dragon ate an entire jar of cookies – for real! The dragon wiggled behind the bathroom door and made the boy spit toothpaste – honest! The dragon brought soup for the boy when he was sick... didn't he? And that dollar when the boy lost his tooth – that had to be the dragon's work, right?

Then one day, the boy's mom got tired of listening to stories of a dragon in the closet. She told the boy they'd "get to the bottom of this" and she dragged him up the stairs to his bedroom, where she opened the closet to find a bouncing ball. Then a shoe. A few toy odds and ends. A pair of pants draped over a bar in the closet. A boot, a bat, and a belt. Together, maybe, possibly, if you squinted, it might look something like a dragon, kinda-sorta, a little bit.

It was all in his head, said the boy's mother. There was

no dragon in the closet. And she went downstairs, but not before the boy saw...

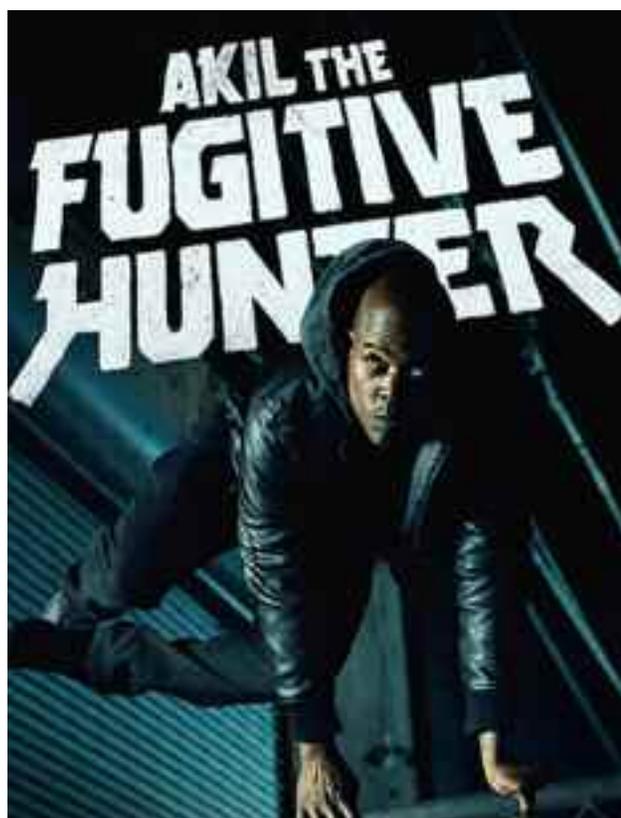
Much as I loved the idea behind "There's a Dragon in My Closet" and its wonderful theme of imagination, there was one thing that I wondered: will kids understand it enough?

With a catchy rhyme that starts out fun, author Dorothea Taylor tells the story of a boy and his dragon. Quite frankly, the story stays at a level of "fun" well enough, but some of the language seemed more adult-like than childish. Kids

may not completely comprehend the story because of it, and that may be a distraction for an out-loud reader.

But never mind – come for the imagination, and stay for the artwork by Charly Palmer. I can't say enough about that part of this book: it's colorful, in sweeping-blendy tones and bold marks. Just – wow.

Keep your eyes on the little boys' t-shirts, by the way. You'll be charmed, and so will your 3-to-6-year-old. He'll love "There's a Dragon in My Closet," and who could blame him?



A&E offers no explanation of why a popular Black show was cancelled

New York, NY (BlackNews.com) -- A fan-favorite show has been killed off by the A&E network – with no explanation whatsoever. Coming from A&E, this is no longer a surprise, and with a past full of several controversies, there is a good case for casting strong doubts on the channel's racial motivations.

On July 27, it became known that A&E, the network broadcasting Akil The Fugitive Hunter, decided to end the show's run just after two weeks. No reason was given for the show's cancellation; and many avid fans, as well as seasoned A&E

network viewers, entertain the notion that the network's move might have racial undertones.

Akil the Fugitive Hunter features Akil Muhammad in an action hero role, who goes around hunting criminals and fugitives in Los Angeles to protect his community. With live action and animation, the docuseries earned its share of fandom, only to be shot down after airing the first four episodes. What could be the motivation for A&E to do this?

A&E is no stranger to controversy. A&E was caught in a media storm after shocking revelations were

made over its broadcast of Escaping the KKK: A Documentary Series Exposing Hate in America. Other controversies have been centered around its long-time collaboration with Dog The Bounty Hunter's Duane Chapman, a TV personality that has been blasted for derogatory, racially charged tirades in the past. Putting all of this together would make any viewer question the real motives behind the cancellation of Akil The Fugitive Hunter.

Akil Muhammad commenting on the show's cancellation on the Akil The Fugitive Hunter Facebook

page, has said, "This is more than a TV show. I am not an actor. This is my life. I will continue to do my part to serve my community and I encourage you to do the same. Please know that I have read all of your messages and I sincerely appreciate your support. If there is one thing you take away from this it is to NOT be a part of the problem, CHOOSE to be a part of the solution."

Akil The Fugitive Hunter fans have stated their intentions to continue campaigning for the show's return, either on A&E or on some other major network.

SISTER, continued from Page 9

jumping to their feet! Featuring original music by Tony- and eight-time Oscar winner, Alan Menken (Newsies, Beauty and the Beast, Little Shop of Horrors), this uplifting musical was nominated for five Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

When disco diva, Deloris Van Cartier, witnesses a murder, she is put in protective custody in the one place the cops are sure she won't be a found: a convent!

Disguised as a nun, she finds herself at odds with both the rigid lifestyle and uptight Mother Superior.

Using her unique disco moves and singing talent to inspire the choir, Deloris breathes new life into the church and community but, in doing so, blows her cover. Soon, the gang is giving chase, only to find them up against Deloris and the power of her newly found sisterhood.

Filled with powerful gospel music, outrageous dancing and a truly moving story, Sister Act will leave audiences breathless. A sparkling tribute to the universal power of friendship, Sister Act is reason to REJOICE!

WE'RE BACK!

Military 30% OFF Senior

TEXAS THRIFT

WEEKLY COLOR TAGS 50% & 30% OFF

COME AND SEE US IN OUR NEW LOCATION!!!!

3113 N. Belt Line rd. Irving, TX 75062

972-607-4411

DCCCD, NASCO present North American Workforce forum in Dallas

Industry, government and education leaders from Canada, Mexico and the United States will meet in Dallas on Aug. 30-31, 2017, to discuss continental workforce issues. The two-day program, titled "Inspiring the North American Workforce: Now, Next and Beyond," is presented by the Dallas County Community College District and NASCO, North American Strategy for Competitiveness.

Based in Dallas and described as a coalition, NASCO is a tri-national network of North American governments, businesses and education institutions "that are driven by a common interest to collaborate along commercial corridors and trade networks."

The cost to attend the two-day event is \$125 per person, and the deadline for online registration is Mon., Aug. 28. To register, visit <http://nasconetwork.com/2017-workforce-forum>. The registration fee includes a re-

ception on Wednesday evening plus breakfast, lunch and materials for Thursday's full-day program.

The forum begins at 5:30 p.m. on Wed., Aug. 30, with a welcome reception at Café 43 in the George W. Bush Library on the campus of Southern Methodist University. Forum participants can sign in for the Thursday program beginning at 8 a.m. on Aug. 31, which will be held at Brookhaven College, located at 3939 Valley View Lane in Farmers Branch.

Guest speakers will include: Robert Kaplan, president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas; Dr. Joe May, DCCCD's chancellor; Andres Alcantar, chairman of the Texas Workforce Commission; Earl Anthony Wayne, retired career ambassador, former U.S. ambassador to Mexico and public policy Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars; Perrin Beatty, president and CEO of the Canadian Cham-

ber of Commerce; and key leaders from business, government and education, also representing Canada, Mexico and the U.S.

"With NAFTA, immigration and workforces challenges among the three countries dominating the news, it is critical for us to understand the effects of policy decisions in Washington, Ottawa and Mexico City," said Mark Hays, DCCCD's vice chancellor for workforce and economic development.

"Participation from members of the business and education communities – plus government officials from state, national and international levels – is vital to this event as we explore solutions to common issues faced by all three countries," he added.

"Workforce training and development is critical to the economic success and growth of our area, Texas and North America," said May. "As a higher education

partner in this state and region, DCCCD is working with business and government leaders to solve the issues that we face today – lack of a skilled workforce, the effects of global competitiveness and changing policies worldwide."

Agenda highlights include:

"Improving Growth by Closing the Skills Gap" – A discussion with Robert Kaplan, president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas; Dr. Joe May, DCCCD chancellor; and Andres Alcantar, chairman of the Texas Workforce Commission.

"Identifying North American Public Policy Workforce Options – A keynote presented by Earl Anthony Wayne, retired career ambassador, former U.S. ambassador to Mexico and public policy Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars;

"Workforce in the Changing Face of NAFTA" –

Luncheon keynote by Perrin Beatty, president and CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce; and

Signing of a memorandum of agreement by Raul Martinez, president of the National Association of Technological Universities of Mexico, and Dr. Joe May;

Breakout sessions will include these topics:

"Cross-Border Employment: Best Practices from the Border Regions";

"Automation and Technology Changing the Workforce";

"Guided Career Pathways";

"Beneficial Employer Partnerships"; and

"Winning the Talent Battle."

"As North America strengthens its global competitive advantage in advanced manufacturing and logistics, we are facing significant and growing labor market shortfalls," said Tiffany Melvin, NASCO's president. "We share a com-

mon challenge, and also a common opportunity, to 'up-skill' and grow our next generation of front-line manufacturing and logistics workers by streamlining and harmonizing our approach to standards and training – and to bring maximum value to workforce credentials."

"The entire forum will provide a time for everyone to learn, network and generate new ideas," added Hays.

For a detailed agenda of speakers and topics, visit the forum's website at <http://nasconetwork.com/2017-workforce-forum>.

For questions or more information, call Rachel Connell, NASCO's vice president of membership and events, at 214-744-1006 or send an email to her at rachel@nasconetwork.com.

For details about DCCCD's involvement in the conference or about workforce and economic development issues, call Hays at 214-378-1821 or send an email to mhays@dcccd.edu.

SNACKS, continued from Page 4

tional value. Replace these foods with items like cheese, whole-grain crackers and plain popcorn sprinkled with parmesan cheese.

A healthy lunch can be a great way to fuel your child's body and mind for the remainder of the school day,

but – for a busy family – preparing lunches also needs to be fast, effortless and affordable.

One great way to save time during the week is to prep lunch and after-school snack foods over the weekend. Buy, cut and portion out

fruits and vegetables so they're ready to go. Shred chicken, cook hard-boiled eggs, or use leftovers that don't take much preparation. Pre-package foods like crackers, cheese cubes or trail mix into baggies or containers that can quickly be added to a lunch bag.

Get the school year started

off right with a healthy, easy lunch and after-school snack routine that is both parent – and kid – approved.

POSSIBLE BREAKOUT BOX

Fun and affordable grab-and-go snack ideas

Granola, fruit and nut bars – Read the labels for bars high in protein and fiber and

low in sugar.

Fruit skewers and yogurt – Skewers of fruit with a dip of high-protein Greek yogurt can be a delicious snack and help meet calcium requirements.

Bean dip or hummus and veggies – Kids love to dip, and what's better than a protein-rich dip paired with

grape tomatoes, jicama, baby carrots or red pepper strips?

Apples or celery and nut butter – Slice up apples or celery sticks, and top them with your favorite nut butter and a sprinkle of dried fruit for a sweet and savory snack.

For more healthy recipe ideas, go to uhc.com/wellness.

PARKLAND, continued from Page 4

ventive care for patients. The program has steadily grown and Parkland now offers SMAs for newborn checkups, 2-4-month-old infant checkups, diabetes, asthma, smoking cessation and behavioral health, among others, at various Parkland outpatient facilities.

Another innovation are Parkland's Today Clinics that provide immediate medical care for the treatment of acute illnesses and minor injuries on a non-emergency basis. The walk-

in clinics, where no appointments are needed, were created to enhance continuity of care and increase access for patients in their community when their primary care providers is not available.

The Today Clinics were initially funded by the generous contribution of an anonymous donor.

Staff also opened four Acute Response Clinics (ARC) designed to provide transitional medical care for patients recently discharged from the hospital or treated

in the emergency department needing a prompt scheduled follow up visit in the outpatient service. Seasonally, Parkland health centers also offer "Walk-in Wednesday" clinics for parents to bring school-age children for vaccinations without an appointment.

Other services offered at Parkland COPCs include pharmacy, radiology, pathology, behavioral health, Women & Infants Specialty Health programs and more.

"Whether it's walk-in clinics for minor injuries or immunizations, spe-

cialty appointments in a group setting or via teleconferencing, Parkland health centers continue to redefine the way we deliver outpatient care to the patients of Dallas County," Dr. Santini said. "Our goal is to provide the highest possible quality of care for every individual in a cost-efficient manner, and we employ everything from high touch to high tech options to ensure timely access."

For more information about services available at Parkland, please visit www.parklandhospital.com.

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

The North Dallas Gazette has an internship position available. The goal is to provide students and aspiring writers an opportunity to gain published clips, experience and professional feedback. The position is for up to 20 hours a week at \$8.00 per hour. Applicants must have reliable transportation.



Send resume and writing samples to: businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com

Student loan complaints up a record 325 percent over last year, says CFPB

By Charlene Crowell

As students and their families begin preparing for another school year, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) is reporting a record increase over the past year in the number of student loan complaints. The 325 percent increase in complaints includes federal and private student loans, debt collection, and debt relief.

According to Seth Frotman, CFPB Assistant Director and Student Loan Ombudsman, the growing connections between loans to gain educational credentials

and the subsequent debt incurred that must be repaid – often on modest incomes – is a real-life dilemma.

“[T]he public broadly shares the benefits of a highly educated professional workforce serving in their communities,” noted Frotman. “Yet, too often, the financial costs of these new credentials fall on individuals in careers with limited opportunity for wage growth to offset these costs.”

When student loan industry practices that delay, defer, or deny access to critical consumer protections, additional burdens are borne

along with the weight of debt owed. Little wonder, then, that consumers have contacted CFPB for assistance.

Over 320 companies have been the source of complaints that CFPB received from March 2016 forward to April 1 of this year. The largest number of complaints, 11,500, concerned federal student loan servicing. Another 7,500 complaints were about private student loans. Issues with debt collection, however, affect both types of loans and generated 2,200 complaints.

Navient, the nation’s

largest student loan servicer, is also the leading servicer when it comes to complaints of debt collection concerning both private and federal student loans. Some 63 percent private student loan complainants identified dealing with the servicer or lender as the key issue, compared to nearly half at 34 percent whose problems were based on an inability to pay their loans.

Readers may recall that earlier this year, CFPB sued Navient and two of its subsidiaries for allegedly using shortcuts and deception to cheat 12 million borrowers

out of their rights to lower loan repayments. The firm’s loan servicing failures caused more than one-in-four borrowers to pay more than \$4 billion in interest they should not have been charged from January 2010 to March 2015, according to CFPB’s complaint.

As the litigation is still pending, it does not appear that Navient or other loan servicers have complied completely with the borrower options of Income-Driven Repayment (IDR), or Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF). Both options offer debt relief to stu-

dent loan borrowers.

PSLF was designed to encourage student loan borrowers into public service careers and in return, receive partial loan forgiveness so long as all of the following four conditions were met:

1. A qualifying loan;
2. Enrollment in a qualifying repayment plan;
3. Qualified public service employment, such as teaching, law enforcement, social work, or public health; and
4. 120 on-time, qualified loan payments.

What CFPB’s report

See LOANS, Page 15

CARES, continued from Page 5

American young men.

Lander also hopes to get a website created to bring more awareness of their programs and opportunities to support the mission of Black Men Care.

“We have a need for a web designer, who could assist us in creating a website and need for a graphic designer. We would like to get ourselves a logo,” he advises.

In addition to those needs, Lander expressed another wish list item for legal services to help the organization secure a 501 (c) (3) status as he cannot personally oversee this process due to being prohibited to practice law as a sitting judge. His hope is by securing a 501 (c) (3) status, it would allow Black Men Care the opportunity to develop a scholarship pro-

gram for students looking to continue their education.

As Black Men Care continues to evolve, it is Judge Lander’s ultimate desire that this program will help break the cycle of incarceration, drug abuse, and other systemic problems common within those disenfranchised and underrepresented local communities comprising the D/FW area.

Black Men Care future goals encompass designat-

ing officers for its Board and establishing a business model for its mentorship program that allows them to duplicate their efforts with others schools across the City in the hopes to create a domino effect of constructive change within the local communities of Dallas/Fort Worth.

“I want there to be young men, {particularly young men} and women who in 20 years say that this group made a difference in their lives, made them turn around whatever it was they were doing and aim toward positivity.” adds Lander.

For more information on how you can donate serv-

ices and/or volunteer for the upcoming event at South Oak Cliff High School, contact Lander at 214-671-9901.

Anyone interested in volunteering on Aug. 28 event must follow up with the school to follow the process required to volunteer on any Dallas ISD campus.

STATUES, continued from Page 1

its own symbols of the Confederate past, and Rawlings said the time has come to address this.

“One symbol of those injustices are public art and statues in some parts of our city,” Rawlings said. “As I expressed before, I think they are dangerous totems in our Dallas society, because they divide us, versus unite us. I have not changed that point of view. In fact, it’s easy to jump on the bandwagon and say ‘tear them down,’ because it’s frankly politically correct, and in many ways it makes us all feel good. I feel that way. But I hesitate, and the reason is because I realize the City of Dallas is better, is stronger, when we are united and not divided.”

Rawlings said he turned to the city’s charter for guidance in how to deal with the issue. He is forming a task force which will

work for up to 90 days and present its finding to the Office of Cultural Affairs and its board. From there the council will take public comment and refer the matter to the Quality of Life Committee to make recommendations.

“Then we as the city council can make the decisions we need to,” Rawlings said.

Rawlings has asked two organizations to advise him on the matter. The Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation Team and the Dallas Holocaust Museum and Center for Education and Tolerance will both be working with the mayor and council on the future of the monuments.

Dallas has had its problems in recent years, and Rawlings noted that while he respects freedom of speech, he is determined to see that the example of vio-

lence perpetrated in Virginia is not repeated here.

“Our police department will work, and has worked, with any protest groups that want to let their voice be known,” Rawlings said. “If you are thinking about doing that, please call our police department. They will help you. We will not interfere with a lawful and peaceful assembly or groups expressing their first amendment rights.

“At the same time, we will not tolerate violence in our city of any kind. The police department will take immediate enforcement action if any type of criminal offense is committed against any person or property. The safety of our officers and citizens is the primary concern as individuals or groups gather to express their first amendment rights. We will not have street brawls in our city, and our police department is prepared to make sure that doesn’t happen.”



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Upcoming DFW area job fairs

August 19 JOBCON 2017

Job Connnect 2017 - A Job Sourcing & Networking Event will take place on Aug. 19 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Showbusiness Studios (350 E Royal Lane # 123, Irving, TX 75039).

What is JOBCON 2017?

JOBCON (short for JOB-CONNECT) is a job sourcing and networking event in Dallas-FortWorth this August 19th, 2017.

FOR JOBSEEKERS (Free Entry Tickets) Register for the event to network with top companies. If you are actively looking, get to meet your prospects. Come to make connections and grow your career. Get your free meet and greet tickets at www.jobcon2017.eventbrite.com.

Coast to Coast Career Fair

The Coast to Coast Career Fair will take place on Sept. 11 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Dallas Market Center (2015 Market Center Boulevard, Dallas, TX 75207).

Are you still looking for that golden career opportunity that will allow you to build a solid future for yourself and your family? The Coast to Coast Career Fair might be the solution.

We have over 10 years of experience in connecting candidates just like you with hiring managers at companies ranging from small local businesses clear on up to Fortune 500 corporations.

For more information or to register for the event visit the event page at www.eventbrite.com.

Remember to dress for success and bring your resume.

Aug. 22 AARP Job workshops

On Tuesday, Aug. 22, AARP will present free workshops in Garland that will be helpful to anyone seeking to improve their job search and networking skills.

Seats are limited and registration is required.



Job Search in the Digital Age - 10:30 a.m. to noon, and again at 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Sharpen Your Networking & Interview Skills - 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Both workshops will be held at the Hyatt Place Dallas/Garland/Richardson (Richardson Room), 5101 North President George Bush Highway, Garland, Texas 75040

August 23 CHOICE Career Fair

Choice Career Fairs will be in Dallas, TX on Wednesday, August 23, 2017. Meet face-to-face with the hiring decision makers from some of the best employers in Dallas. We look forward to seeing you at the career fair.

Wednesday, August 23, 2017 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel (2015 Market Center Blvd., Dallas, TX 75207)

You'll meet face-to-face with hiring decision-makers from some of the areas top employers. Dress professionally and bring plenty of

resumes to the event. Just walk in and start interviewing, it's that simple. You can save time, money and effort by interviewing with multiple companies in one day at one location. Many of these companies have several openings and are eager to meet with you. Get in front of decision makers attending this event.

Register now and receive VIP access - It's FREE or for more information on the event, visit the Dallas Career Fair page.

Sept. 11 Coast-to-Coast Career Fair

Are you still looking for that golden career opportunity that will allow you to build a solid future for yourself and your family? We have over 10 years of experience in connecting candidates just like you with hiring managers at companies ranging from small local businesses clear on up to Fortune 500 corporations.

Our career fairs offer you individual, face-to-face time with hiring managers from a variety of different companies.

Here's how it works: You arrive at the career fair at 11am sharp. You will sign in at the registration desk then you will be able to go into the ballroom and meet with hiring managers from each company. Make sure

to ask each company what positions they are hiring for to see if they will be a good fit for the job you are seeking. At the same time, you will be able to network not only with various employers, but also with other professionals.

We encourage professionals of all levels of experience to attend our Career Fair. From entry-level and mid-level (3-10 years of experience) all the way up to C-level, hiring managers are looking for candidates just like you.

We recommend that you:

- Arrive at the career fair no later than 11am
- Wear business professional attire
- Bring at least 10-15 copies of your updated resume
- Display an engaging and motivated attitude

The fair will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton Dallas-Market Center at 2015 Market Center Blvd., Dallas, TX 75207.



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Church Happenings

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www.bethelbiblefellowship.org

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

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

August 20, 9:45 a.m.
You're invited to our Sunday "Prayer and Meditation" at 9:45 am. You will be blessed and inspired. You don't want to miss this! And, join us in our one hour only Sunday's Bible Study at 12 Noon, continuing on the book of Ephesians with other supporting chapters and verses.

August 23, 7 p.m.
Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Pastor Brenda Patterson, Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, Pastor Bernadette and others conducting a new study on the book of Ephesians with supporting chapters and verses. Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you; it's Time to Grow in the Word of God.

Dr. Terrance Woodson,
Senior Pastor
1944 E. Hebron Parkway
Carrollton, TX 75007

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "THE SHIP"

August 20, 8 a.m.
Join us in our Sunday Morning Services as we praise and worship God in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall; followed by our Sunday Worship Services; and bring someone with you, you will be blessed.

Also, August 20
Today is the end of our 70 Day Challenge in seven stages of development by praying daily; reading the book of the quarter, "Chase the Lion" by Mark Batterson; preparing a household budget for the summer; exercising at least three days a week; a Spiritual Workout on a Sunday, Wednesday or Saturday; Tithing the Bible Way; and learning how to forgive. Call the church for details.

August 23
Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study and/or our Wednesday Night Live, Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all; be prepared to grow.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D.
Senior Pastor
1609 14th Street
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972-379-3287
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INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH, Let's Go Fishing! MATTHEW 4:19

August 20, 10 a.m.
You're invited this Sunday as we praise, worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name in songs and the spoken word.

August 21, 7 p.m.
Join us in Monday School as we grow in God's Word and learn what God has to say to us.

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

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

August 20, 10 a.m.
Join us for Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory; and

don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church.

August 23, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

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

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO (WHERE COMMUNITY BECOMES FAMILY)

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

August 19, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. only
SMBC's Back-To-School Summit will be held. All school age youth and their parents are invited to attend.

August 20, 8 a.m. And 11 a.m.
Join us for our annual Friends & Family Day; you will enjoy the fellowship, fun and food during the 8 a.m. and in the 11 a.m. Worship Services.

August 23, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word. Come and be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and growth;

it's all for His glory and His honor. We are, "Growing in Christ through the study of His Word."

September 4
SMBC Bible Institute will start; call the church for details on class listings and online registration.

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

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
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www.smbcplano.org



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- Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm

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

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

Saved from such men



Sister Tarpley

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

Happy Birthday Sheila Tarpley Lott, August 17th is a great day for a birthday!

"O Lord, by Your hand save me from such men, from men of this world whose reward is in this life..." Psalm 17:14

When I traveled over the ocean, I was reminded of the seemingly insignificant time we have on this earth. I imagined dropping a glass of water out the window into the huge body of water below.

The Lord then reminded me that this is how my life is compared to eternity - a mere drop in the ocean.

Yet, every day millions of people will go about their

daily routine seeking to gain that elusive thing called success.

The rewards of this life continue to provide the incentive for 60-hour weeks or the extra weekend away from the family. Sometimes we get entrenched in the message of the world.

This message is an appealing, seductive call to sell out eternity for the temporal.

As a Christian person, I fell for this for many years until the Lord allowed me to wake up.

It took some severe wake-up calls, but they did their job. I'm so grateful the Lord cares enough to give us these wake-up calls.

He knows what real life is about. We think we know what it is, only to learn once again that real life is only in what is built on eternity.

How does this verse line up with where you are today? Are you building around a world whose re-

ward is in this lifetime, or an eternal one?

Do those with whom you associate live in such a way that they demonstrate their reward is not concerning this life? Jesus said to seek first His Kingdom and all these things will be added.

God knows the impor-

tance of commitment. He has witnessed the devastating effect of broken commitments through the ages. Ask Him to help you to be a person who keeps your comments seriously.

Ask God to help you to never commit a sin that passes down to generations

that comes after you, but help you to live a godly life that pleases Him; a Christian heritage pass down to future generations.

Ask God to protect you from all hurt and harm and

to protect your family and friends from the evil one. And, as for me and my house, to serve the Lord forever, in the precious name of Jesus who paid the price with His precious blood.



Mrs. Rhonda Miller gave a presentation to the seniors at the Farmers Branch Senior Center on Dennis Lane in Farmers Branch, Texas, on the important relationship between the Louisiana Purchase for 15 Millions dollars in 1803 and the Haitians government. Thank you Mrs. Miller for a job well done.

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Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Mid-week: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Youth Church: Every 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sunday at 10:45 a.m.
AWANA: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Contact Information: 972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org

LOANS, continued from Page 12

found was that reported servicer problems were preventing borrowers' from obtaining their PSLF benefits.

Similarly, student loan borrowers hoping for affordable IDR payments have been similarly frustrated in initial enrollment and subsequent recertification with

Navient and four other student loan servicers: ACS, AES/PHEAA, Great Lakes, and Nelnet. Among these five, two - AES/PHEAA and ACS - compiled the most IDR issues by complaints.

It would be wise to resolve this recent surge in stu-

dent loan complaints before this October when the Department of Education begins accepting applications for PSLF. To forge progress in this specific area, CFPB has recommendations to ensure that borrowers and servicers alike are treated fairly and in accordance with fed-

eral protections. In 2010, the Education Department made an effort to mitigate harms caused to borrowers based in incorrect information that servicers provided. In some of those cases, borrowers were enrolled when they were ineligible for the chosen payment plan.

NDGtv North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with **Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley**

Hear what it was like growing up in a very different Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

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Sunday Morning Worship
Story Elementary
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