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The Black Press endorses President Obama

BY CLOVES C. CAMPBELL, JR.

(NNPA) A few years ago National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) was holding its annual board meetings in March in Washington, D. C., then, Senator Barack Obama walked in the room in the room to welcome the Publishers to Washington.



President Barack Obama bids farewell to Gen. Lloyd Austin III at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas, Aug. 31, 2012. The President traveled to Fort Bliss to mark the two-year anniversary of the end of America's combat mission in Iraq. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)

He also indicated he wanted to share some news with us. The news was that he was planning on seeking the office of the President of the United States of America. There were some young and many older Publishers in the meeting. He said if any of us would like to talk with him in the lobby, he would be happy to share his thoughts. I remember many of the Publishers being very excited. Francis Page

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Breast Cancer Awareness Month

BY HHS SECRETARY KATHLEEN SEBELIUS

In October, during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we remember those who have lost their lives to breast cancer, and those who are battling it now, by recommitting ourselves to their fight and spreading the word of the importance of

prevention and early detection.

Despite significant advances in treatment and prevention, breast cancer remains the second leading cause of cancer death for women in the United States. However, because of the Affordable Care Act, it's a new day for women's health and the

fight against breast cancer.

We know that the chance of successful treatment is highest when breast cancer is detected early. While not a perfect tool, mammogram screenings are key to early detection. But budgets are tight,

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Image of a fair with text: 'We are giving away FREE State Fair tickets visit Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette'

DISD M/WBE participation in bond program work exceeds goals

Participation of minority- and women-owned businesses in bond-funded projects exceeded district goals in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2011-2012, according to a Minority/Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) report presented to the Dallas Inde-

pendent School District Board of Trustees on Sept. 13.

For construction projects in the 2008 Bond Program, 59 percent (\$21.6 million) of construction work was completed by M/WBE companies between April 1 and June 30,

2012, during which \$36.4 million was spent on bond projects for construction.

During the same period, 57 percent (\$5.8 million) of professional services relating to the 2008 Bond Program were provided by M/WBE firms, during which \$10.1 million

was spent on bond professional services.

The participation in both categories exceeds the district's M/WBE goals, which are 30 percent for construction and 35 percent for professional services. Further, M/WBE par-

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COVER STORY

Ticket to Work + Volunteer work = The right answer for disabled workers



Program helps disabled find jobs

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Kanye West is accused yet again

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

COMMENTARY

Occupy the Vote - No bullies at the polls

BY MARC MORIAL (NNPA) Eligible Americans have a civic duty to vote, and government at the federal, state, and local level has a responsibility to protect voters from illegal interference and intimidation. - Bullies at the Ballot Box report

Recently, a new report by Common Cause and Demos, titled "Bullies at the Ballot Box," took direct aim at Jim Crow-like tactics de-

signed to challenge and intimidate voters at the polls. The report especially notes the campaign of intimidation that is currently being waged by a Tea Party affiliated group called True the Vote which has set a goal of training and deploying as many as one million poll watchers "to challenge and confront other Americans as they go to the polls in November."

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People In The News...



Hannah Valentine



Steve Lawrence



Stacey D. Stewart

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Hannah Valentine

The School of Medicine received today the Alfred P. Sloan Award for Excellence in Faculty Career Flexibility in recognition of its policies, commitment and plan to further enhance flexibility of faculty careers.

"Medical schools face unique challenges in not just finding, but keeping, highly specialized faculty," said Claire Van Ummersen, PhD, American Council on Education senior advisor and project director. "The awardees have addressed this issue head-on. They should serve as examples

not just for other medical schools, but for any institution facing a crisis in retaining a highly trained workforce."

Stanford will use the award to further its Academic Biomedical Career Customization initiative, also known as ABCC, which was designed by a multidisciplinary team of leaders from across campus with help from the consulting firm Jump Associates.

"The medical school plan proposes creative solutions for faculty flexibility that could lead to crucial

changes in the work culture of academic medicine," said Karen Cook, PhD, the university's vice provost for faculty development and diversity. "I am eager to see the results of the early pilots as I believe the model could ultimately be adapted for dissemination to faculty across the university."

Hannah Valentine, MD, the medical school's senior associate dean for diversity and leadership and chair of the flexibility task force, added: "Academic medicine is facing critical workforce challenges including a physician shortage, attrition



of physician scientists and graduate students rejecting the academic track in favor of greater career/life fit. Stanford has many options

in place for enabling career fit, but surveys indicate that some faculty members are reluctant to use them. They may fear burdening colleagues, or worry that they may be perceived as being less committed to their

careers. Although flexibility is a pressing issue for institutions across all sectors, few have offered definitive plans to solve the

problem. The School of Medicine recognizes that to recruit and retain the best and brightest, we need to align our organizational practices and culture to the needs of the 21st-century workforce."

Valentine said her office will use the award, which includes \$250,000, to ensure that ABCC becomes an integral part of the academic work-culture at the school by collaborating effectively with department chairs and division chiefs to help faculty members incorporate flexibility options into their career plans.

Steve Lawrence

Tracey E. Edmonds, President and COO of Our Stories Films has announced the appointment of GRAMMY® Award winner Steve Lawrence as the Executive Director of Faith Outreach and Content for the newly created ALRIGHT TV, a digital collaboration with YouTube.

In his new role, Lawrence will lead the channel's outreach efforts to churches and faith-based groups nationwide, and will assist in the development of faith-

friendly content for the channel. He will also be responsible for ALRIGHT's national rollout of live and digital streaming service of church broadcasts from across the country.

"We are excited to bring Steve on board as ALRIGHT TV's executive director of faith outreach and content," said Edmonds. "He has an impressive career working for 11 years at The Potter's House Church, led by Bishop T.D. Jakes in Dallas, Texas, and he has been the driving

force behind so many of the major gospel productions that have captured our attention throughout the years," she continued. "His roots in the faith community will help us bring the strongest possible faith-friendly content to audiences, and I am confident his solid relationships will have a positive impact on our upcoming projects."

"I am honored to join ALRIGHT TV and look forward to helping to integrate faith-friendly messages into the programming that we will offer through the new channel," said Lawrence.

"There are so many creative ideas underway and working with Tracey E. Edmonds and her team will prove to be incredibly rewarding. As executive director, I will work to ensure that our audience receives the best faith-friendly programming available and that viewers from across the country have the opportunity



to experience inspirational and aspirational messages like never before."

Originally from Washington D.C., Lawrence is

recognized nationally as one of the greatest producers, worship leaders and music teachers. He currently serves as the fulltime music consultant for several churches, including the Pottery House Church of Denver, Colorado under the ministerial leadership of Pastor Christopher Hill.

Lawrence worked for 11 years for Bishop T.D. Jakes' The Potter's House Church in Dallas, Texas, and his impressive

See LAWRENCE, Page 5

Stacey D. Stewart

United Way Worldwide recently announced the appointment of Stacey D.



Stewart as President of United Way USA—a newly created position that re-

flects the organization's commitment to its U.S. network of more than 1,200 local members. Stewart's appointment is effective October 15.

Stewart will drive the strategic direction for United Way U.S.A., working with leaders throughout the United Way network to drive community impact in the areas of education, income and health—the building blocks for a

good quality of life. She will also work to protect and enhance the organiza-

tion's brand and reputation.

"I am honored that Stacey will serve as U.S. President and continue working to advance the United Way movement," said Brian Gallagher, president and CEO, United Way Worldwide. "Her depth of expertise working across multiple sectors allows her to create real impact throughout the United Way network."

Prior to this appointment, Stewart was Executive Vice President, Community Impact Leadership and Learning at United Way Worldwide. Before joining United Way, Stewart was with Fannie Mae where she was Chief Diversity Officer and Senior Vice President for the Office of Community and

Charitable Giving. Prior to that appointment, Stewart was President and Chief Executive Officer for the Fannie Mae Foundation.

"I am deeply honored to lead United Way U.S.A. and build on its rich history of strengthening communities. I look forward to working with United Way leaders across the country, as well as our partners worldwide, so that together we can create opportunities for a better life for all," said Stewart.

In 2009, United Way of America joined with United Way International to create United Way Worldwide, the world's largest private support charity, with more than 1,800 local organizations in 41 countries and territories. In 2011, the organization

raised \$5.14 billion (\$3.927 billion in the U.S.).

Stewart earned a bachel-

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Texas Black Pastors urge people to vote in November

In an effort to combat a recent rise from African American pastors (The Coalition of African-American Pastors) who are urging their congregation not to vote because of President Obama's position on gay marriage, San Antonio pastors have gone on record to speak out on

the issues of gay marriage, women's rights, healthcare and your civic duty to vote.

Bishop David M. Copeland of New Creation Christian Fellowship, says "The President is not your pastor in chief but the President of all Americans."

Pastor Kenneth Kemp of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, says "We must respect women's rights for equal pay for equal work and access to care."

Bishop Alfred Blue of Family Life International Ministries, comments, "We have a civic duty ac-

ording to the word of God and we have a right to be heard."

Voters are encouraged to review this video collection of some of the most outspoken pastors in San Antonio at www.blackvideonews.com and the Black Video News YouTube channel.

AMERICAN, continued from Page 1

and I were especially interested in talking with Senator Obama. (During our Black Press Week events that week, then NNPA Foundation President, Brian Townsend was honoring the Senator as well.) As we listened, we too saw what many people already knew and millions more would eventually learn about this very charismatic man. There was something special about him. Something that would change the history of Black Folks in politics forever. It was then that I and the other members of NNPA voiced our support first for the 44th President of the United States of America.

The Black Press was there FIRST.

Fast forward, to August 2012. It was then that I asked the question about the President's campaign spending. It was then, when several members of the campaign questioned my article. As I stated then and I will state again, THE NNPA, THE BLACK PRESS of AMERICA has always supported President Obama. We have encouraged Black Folks to get registered to vote. We encouraged Blacks to go to the polls and exercise their right to vote. We have published hundreds of articles about President Obama, his administration

and his programs. We have also on numerous occasions championed his issues on our front pages.

There is no doubt, that when other media outlets brought unnecessary criticism on the President, it was the BLACK PRESS that was there to support him. As we prepare to go to the polls in November, I am here to say that the National News Paper Publishers Association endorses President Barack Obama once again. It is our belief that the United States of America can be best served with President Obama being re-elected. We at the NNPA look forward to working

with the Presidents' administration in the formulation of strategies for the next four years. It is our hope that those plans include more opportunities for Blacks to procure Business with the Federal Government, greater employment opportunities for Blacks in America and enhanced opportunities for all students seeking higher education. We encourage our readers to register to vote, go out and vote and be sure to take the proper identification with them to the polls on election day, vote to re-elect President Barack Obama Nov. 6th!

VOTE, continued from Page 1

True the Vote has said they want to make the experience of voting "like driving and seeing the police following you." Earlier this year, we saw what happened when an overzealous citizen decided to follow and confront a teenager with a hoodie whose only "crime" was walking while Black. As the new report states, "There is a real danger that voters will face overzealous volunteers who take the law into their own hands to target voters they deem suspect." These mostly conservative groups claim their purpose is to protect against voter fraud – a solution in search of a problem, since the incidence of voter fraud in America is miniscule. The only fraud is their real intent, which is to gain political advantage for their preferred candidate by disenfranchising,

suppressing or bullying progressive voters who tend to be people of color, the elderly, students and people with disabilities.



Marc H. Morial

The "Bullies at the Ballot Box" report raises awareness about this threat and outlines what is legal and permissible when it comes to challenging a voter's eligibility both before and on Election Day. It also assesses the ability of 10 key swing states to protect the rights of voters who may face

this type of poll-stalking intimidation. According to the report, "In examining the ten states' laws governing challenges to voters' right to vote before Election Day, including the use of voter lists created through caging or other unreliable practices, we find Colorado, Nevada, and Ohio are satisfactory, North Carolina and Texas are mixed, and Florida, Missouri, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Virginia – five out of the ten states – unsatisfactory."

The intimidation tactics by True the Vote and others, along with new voter ID laws in at least 30 states, and the elimination of early and weekend voting in several others, could seriously impact the outcome of the November election. Stephen Spaulding of Common Cause, a co-author of the report,

put it this way: "We're concerned about this well-organized, well-funded effort to suppress the vote by challenging voters in the run-up to the elections and on Elections Day, and fostering a climate of intimidation. We're concerned that these techniques are being targeted at voters of color, students and the poor specifically, for partisan reasons. No one wants voter fraud. The issue is their techniques are just throwing up barriers to eligible Americans, who just want to cast their ballot."

We agree. That's why the National Urban League has devoted this year to removing those barriers through our "Occupy the Vote" campaign.

Marc H. Morial, former mayor of New Orleans, is president and CEO of the National Urban League.

Teamwork a key feature of patient safety improvement program

BY CAROLYN M. CLANCY, M.D.

If you're a football fan like I am, you know that teams win or lose depending on teamwork. A good team may have a quarterback who can throw an accurate pass. But a great team also has players who can protect the quarterback and catch those passes.

In short, when teams work together, everyone can do their best job.

Today, this approach is catching on in health care in a big way. Doctors, nurses, and other staff have always depended on each other to provide high-quality care to patients. Now they're learning how to apply specific teamwork principles to produce better and safer care.

A terrific example is how clinicians are reducing—and even getting rid of—infections that patients can get while they are in the hospital. Healthcare-associated infec-

tions happen when patients are in the hospital getting treatment for another condition. They affect 1 in 20 patients at any point in time.

People used to think that these infections couldn't be avoided.

Now, we know this is not the case. In fact, a newly completed program showed that a combination of teamwork, the best clinical practices, and a strong commitment to safety reduced by 40 percent the chance that pa-

tients would get one type of these infections. The national project was funded by my agency, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and involved partners from the American Hospital Association and Johns Hopkins Medicine.

The type of infection tested in this project happens in intensive care units when germs infect the central line that delivers drugs and fluids to patients. The infection is very serious and can be

deadly. By following this teamwork-based approach, hospitals prevented more than 2,000 infections, saved 500 lives, and avoided more than \$34 million in health care costs.

Results of this project, called the Comprehensive Unit-Based Safety Program, or CUSP, are exciting for two reasons. One is that it proves how a careful, teamwork-based approach can prevent a deadly type of infection. The second reason is that the pro-

gram can also make care safer for patients with other health conditions.

Let's take the case of Laura, a hypothetical 70-year-old patient who is in the hospital after having a stroke. She is on a ventilator to help her breathe until she recovers. But being on a ventilator also puts her at higher risk for getting pneumonia.

Laura is fortunate that her hospital team is using CUSP as a part of her care.

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Young cholesterol

Not just middle aged adults have cholesterol problems. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says almost 1 in 10 children and teen-agers also have cholesterol problems. And higher cholesterol levels put them on a track that could lead to heart disease as adults.

However, the analysis of 22 years of national data on more than 16,000 young people finds some signs of improvement. At CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, researcher Brian Kit:

"Over the study duration, we found improve-



ments in the blood cholesterol levels among children ages 6 to 19 years of age in the United States."

Kit says the improvements were over a wide

range of racial and ethnic groups.

The study was in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

CANCER, continued from Page 1

and even moderate copays can deter many women from getting those important screenings.

Because of the Affordable Care Act – the health care law signed by President Obama two years ago – many private health plans and Medicare now cover mammograms and certain other preventive services with no copays or other out-of-pocket costs. This means that women can get the potentially life-saving services they need to detect breast cancer before it spreads, without worrying how a copay would affect their family budget. Last year, more than 6 million women with Medicare got a free mammogram.

Under the health care law, other services to help prevent breast cancer are also covered, such as a

well-woman visit – at no additional cost– so women have the opportunity to talk to their doctor about their health care needs, their personal risk for breast cancer, and their best options to reduce their risk. The Affordable Care Act gives women, not insurance companies or the government, control over their health care.

Women also have new rights and protections under the law against insurance company abuse. If diagnosed with breast cancer or another illness, women cannot have their coverage taken away when they need it the most simply because of a mistake made on paperwork. And beginning in 2014, it will be illegal for insurers to discriminate against anyone with a pre-

existing condition, such as breast cancer.

The health reform law is also helping women who are going through costly breast cancer treatment by preventing insurance companies from imposing lifetime dollar caps on coverage. This means that women fighting breast cancer can focus on their health, their families, and living their lives, and not worrying that their insurance will run out while they still need treatment.

We have made substantial progress in reducing the burden and toll of breast cancer on American women and their families. Initiatives under the Affordable Care Act, along with ongoing research, are making real differences in the lives of American women and their families.

Dallas Children's Health Fall Festival on Oct. 6

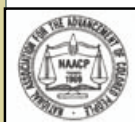
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is partnering with the City of Dallas, Parkland Hospital and Children's Medical Center to host the 2012 Dallas Children's Health Fall Festival. The festival will focus attention on protecting children from pesticides, asthma, lead poisoning and residential lead hazards. Activities include a clown for kids, face

painting, free pumpkin decorating and 40 exhibitors from organizations across North Texas providing information about healthy lifestyles for kids.

Because they are still growing and developing, children can be more vulnerable to environmental changes than adults are. In October and throughout the year, the EPA will work with

parents, teachers, and health providers to promote healthy environments where children live, learn and play.

The festival also includes free parking, admission and games for elementary-age children. It will be held Saturday, Oct. 6 from noon – 3 p.m. at Nash-Davis Recreation Center, 3710 North Hampton Road in Dallas.



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Dallas Dem. Party Oktoberfest Megawalks on Oct. 6 and 7

Dallas Democratic Party Oktoberfest Megawalks is on Oct. 6 and 7. This event includes talk with Democrats, while working in pairs so wear comfortable shoes and sunscreen. Water, training and supplies are provided.

The Megawalks are on Oct. 6 and Oct. 7 at different times and location. On Saturday, Oct. 6 the meet up time will be at 9:30 a.m. and the walk is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The location is Bird's Fort Trail Park - Park-

ing Lot, 5756 Riverside Drive in Irving. On Sunday, Oct. 7 the meet up time is 2:30 p.m. and the walk is at 3-5 p.m. The location is at Thomas Park - Parking Lot, 1955 N. Perry Road in Carrollton.

Mrs. Collie J. Nicholson to join Grambling alumni for scholarship fund raiser

The wife of Collie J. Nicholson, Ophelia Nicholson, will join the members of the Collie J. Nicholson Chapter at their Third Annual Wine & Cheese Scholarship Mixer and first event under its new chapter name this Saturday.

"We recently changed our name because we wanted to honor a GSU graduate" states Kimberlie Page, chapter president. "The primary focus of the chapter is bringing more

visibility of Grambling State University to the northern part of Dallas and Mr. Collie J. Nicholson was responsible for making Grambling State University more visible on an international level. His marketing skills, vision and determination brought GSU's football team to New York City and Tokyo, Japan, the marching band to three Super Bowls and thirty-eight years of the Bayou Classic. Mrs. Nicholson is happy that we chose to

name the chapter after her husband. I'm very excited that Mrs. Nicholson is attending our event and supporting the chapter as we strive to further Mr. Nicholson's legacy".

The wine & cheese mixer will take place at Times Ten Cellar on Prospect Avenue from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Tickets are \$35 and open to the public.

For additional information, email the chapter at gsunorthdallas@gmail.com

Annual E Awards to honor 'Excellence Through Performance'

Nominations are open from Dallas and Fort Worth area minority owned businesses, corporations, public sector agencies and minority business advocates for the annual E Awards of the Dallas/Fort Worth Minority Supplier Development Council. The event, Friday, Nov. 16 at the Hilton Anatole Hotel, has Alcatel-Lucent and Argent Associates as its signature sponsors.

The Council's 2012 E Awards dinner, *Excellence Through Performance*, recognizes companies and individuals who have made significant strides in minority supplier inclusion, utilization and growth opportunities. Awards will be presented

in the areas of Buying Entity Advocate of the Year, Buyer of the Year, Corporation of the Year, Executive Advocate of the Year, General Contractor and Construction Corporation of the Year, MBE Advocate of the Year, MBE Supplier of the Year, MBE Construction Supplier of the Year, and Public Sector Agency of the Year.

"These awards continue to be significant in these challenging economic times," said Dennis Miller, Chairman of Board of The Council and Senior Vice President, Controller for JCPenney. "We really appreciate and applaud the firms and individuals who will receive these honors," Miller said.

"These firms believe in excellence and have succeeded because of their outstanding performance."

Companies are judged by Council membership - minority businesses are judged by Buying Entity representing corporations and public sector agencies; also minority firms for the E Awards judge corporations and public agencies. Winners are announced the night of the event.

"Our event truly signifies and recognizes the importance of minority businesses to the Dallas and Fort Worth area," said Margo J. Posey, President of the Council.

For additional information, contact the Council office at 214-630-0747.

LAWRENCE, continued from Page 2

credits include: producer, 2007's *Grace Live In Kenya* with T.D. Jakes & The Potters House Mass Choir, recorded live from Nairobi, Kenya; producer, 2003 GRAMMY® award winner for Best Contemporary Soul Gospel Album for *A Wing & A Prayer* with T.D. Jakes & The Potters House Mass Choir, released through EMI Gospel; producer, 2001 GRAMMY® nominated,

The Storm is Over, with T.D. Jakes & The Potters House Mass Choir, released through EMI Gospel; 2005 winner of the BMI Christian Music Awards for Song of the Year for *One Thing*; and as the vocal producer and arranger for Marvin Sapp's 2003 *Diary of A Psalmist*, released through Verity Records.

For over 25 years, Lawrence has collaborated with music artists and talents such

as Kirk Franklin, Tyler Perry, Marvin Sapp, Donnie McClurkin, Yolanda Adams, Kurt Carr, Donald Lawrence, Karen Clark-Sheard, Kim Burrell, Tramaine Hawkins, Vickie Winans, Smokie Norful, BeBe & CeCe Winans, Byron Cage, Dorinda Clark-Cole, Kirk Whalum, Bill & Gloria Gaither, Kelly Price, Aaron Neville, The Blind Boys of Alabama and Mary Mary.

The College of Health Care Professions names DFW presidents

The College of Health Care Professions CEO Jon Emerald have announced Christopher Peters as the Campus President of the school's recently opened Dallas, Texas campus and David Beckford was named Campus President of the school's recently opened Fort Worth, Texas campus.

"I am pleased to announce that Chris Peters will assume the helm of our Dallas campus," said Emerald. "Chris has a proven track record in higher education and we are looking forward to the advancements he will bring to CHCP. I am also pleased to announce that David Beckford has accepted the role of Campus

President of CHCP Fort Worth," said Emerald. "David is an extremely talented leader and educator. We are lucky to have him."

Both Peters and Beckford have been tasked with the responsibility of opening and launching four Allied Health programs - Dental Assistant, Medical Assistant, Health Information Technology and Limited Medical Radiologic Technologist.

"I am thrilled to accept the position of Campus President," said Peters. "I am committed to providing students the opportunity to advance their career in the health care industry with a quality education and enriching experience."

Mr. Peters has 13 years of experience in higher education. He's served in the capacity of an Admissions representative with DeVry University, ITT-Technical Institute, and Everest College; he later assumed the duties of Director of Admission and Campus Vice-President at the Everest College Dallas campus. His significant contributions as a Director of Admission and Campus Vice-President ultimately led to the decision to promote him into the role as Campus President at the Everest College Houston Hobby Campus and later transitioning back to the Everest College Dallas Campus. Mr. Peters has

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New study cites UT Arlington's \$13.6 billion impact on Texas

The University fuels 131,200 jobs a year, and its impact on business activity reflects about 4 percent of the North Central Texas economy, the study found.

The University of Texas at Arlington has a \$13.6 billion total annual impact on the State of Texas and fuels 131,200 jobs a year, according to a new assessment of the University's operations, research and workforce enhancement effects on business activity by The Perryman Group.

UT Arlington's impact reflects about 4 percent of the North Central Texas economy, the study found. Economic activity associated with the University also leads to incremental tax receipts of about \$310 million a year to local governments and \$639 million to the state, the study said.

The prominent consulting firm analyzed data ranging from enrollment and ongoing University operations to expanding research activity and the enhanced workforce productivity of rising numbers of UT Arlington graduates, among other factors.

The study notes that UT Arlington has made "great strides toward becoming a

nationally recognized research institution" and said: "Through its ongoing and expanding instructional and research endeavors, UT Arlington serves as an ever-increasing catalyst for individual opportunity and economic and social development."

President James D. Spaniolo said the Perryman report underscores the significant advantage diverse and active research institutions give their regions and the state overall.

"This report clearly demonstrates the tremendous benefit UT Arlington brings to North Central Texas and the Texas economy overall," Spaniolo said. "Our students, alumni and faculty provide a highly-educated workforce to our region and are constantly advancing innovation and new technologies. Their work helps make North Texas one of the nation's best places to live."

The study also found that UT Arlington generates:

- \$1.1 billion in total annual economic benefits to the state of Texas and more than 15,400 permanent jobs stemming from ongoing operations, including educational and research spending and student and visitor outlays.

- \$64.5 million in incremental tax receipts to the State of Texas and \$34.5 million to local taxing entities each year related to ongoing University operations.

- \$502.7 million in output and 5,861 person-years of employment in the North Central Texas region related to recent and ongoing University construction projects.

Ray Perryman, president of the The Perryman Group, said the UT Arlington study reinforces his earlier findings about the potential economic impact additional Tier One institutions can have on Texas.

"When you look at the hard data, institutions like UT Arlington are major centers of employment

and spinoff economic benefits," Perryman said. "They generate business activity and opportunities for their immediate region, and they are one of the state's most important sources of talent and technology – critical components of a healthy economy."

He added: "The data makes a compelling case for ongoing investment in public institutions like The University of Texas at Arlington."

Among the factors fueling UT Arlington's economic impact:

- Enrollment growth over the past five years to more than 33,200 students, a 33 percent increase. Of the University's 163,000 alumni, about 112,000 live in North Texas.

- Record numbers of degrees conferred in the 2011-2012 fiscal year. UT Arlington awarded more than 9,000 degrees, an 18 percent increase over the previous year.

- Record levels of research activity, with \$66 million in related expenditures last year.

- Record levels of recent construction activity, with

the completion of the Engineering Research Complex as well as the 20-acre College Park District, a residential and retail development anchored by the 7,000-seat College Park Center.

The report concludes that UT Arlington "serves as a source of economic stimulus through its ongoing operations and construction projects. Spinoff companies stemming from funding research provide still more growth, and the benefits of the enhancement of the regional workforce is sizable."

SAFETY, continued from Page 4

As a result, Laura's doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, and others make sure the head of her bed is raised to the right level, check that hands are always washed properly before all exams, and follow all other infection-control steps. Laura's care team members talk to each other every day to make sure that everyone follows the care plan.

In addition to the clinical staff, Laura's family members are considered part of the team. The care team explains to the family why pneumonia is a risk, what steps they are taking to prevent it, and how to help.

You may not know whether your hospital is using CUSP. But you should speak up if you're concerned or unsure about the care your loved one is getting.

Of course, teamwork and other important elements of CUSP can't change the outcome of every illness or condition. But they help many patients avoid getting sicker and help clinicians work together to do what they do best.

Dr. Carolyn Clancy, a general internist and researcher, is an expert in engaging consumers in their health care.

BOND, continued from Page 1

participation increased in both categories from the third quarter to the fourth quarter.

"Much of the Dallas ISD M/WBE Program's success is predicated upon the overwhelming commitment of our three program management firms: AECOM, Jacobs, and Parsons," said Annie Holmes-Partee, director of Dallas ISD's M/WBE Program. "Whereas these numbers are quite impressive, I take great pride in the fact they

continuously support our Dallas ISD students." She noted that the firms recently adopted several Dallas ISD schools and provided backpacks and school supplies to students. "Helping others is a part of their culture," she said.

A continuing goal of Dallas ISD's M/WBE Department is to maximize the participation of M/WBEs in all phases of the district's purchasing and contracting activities. The department

focuses on community outreach, contract compliance and monitoring, business development and in-reach initiatives.

Six new schools funded by the 2008 Bond Program opened this fall. Once complete, the \$1.35 billion program will fund the construction of 14 new schools (two high schools, four middle schools and eight elementary schools) and additions and renovations to facilities across the district.



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Garland ISD students and staff show support for higher education

Committed to promoting college and career readiness, Garland ISD held its "College Day 2012" on Sept. 18. Students and staff were encouraged to wear a T-shirt representing their favorite college or university. Many campuses also coordinated announcements and lessons to compliment the day's theme.

"I think College Day is important because it gets our students excited about furthering their education," said Nina Davoli, third grade teacher at Spring Creek Elementary. "I enjoyed getting to show my school pride and being able



GISD students show off their college spirit.

to tell my students how college prepared me for my career."

On College Night, GISD continued its long-standing tradition of hosting one of the largest education fairs in North Texas. Students were able to meet with representatives from more than 140 colleges, universities, trade schools, and the military at this year's event.

"I came in knowing that I wanted to major in physical therapy and stay in Texas," commented Sachse High School senior Omar Ferrusquia. "I al-so thought I might want to attend the University of Texas. After

talking with several colleges about their programs, I now think I might attend Hardin Simmons or Texas Tech University.

But College Night benefitted families beyond GISD as well. Bernadette Boone, the mother of a homeschooled student, was one of the nearly 2,500 people in attendance.

"I thought that this would be a good event for my son as he enters his senior year," she said. "It's a motivation to see this is the end result. I also liked that a financial aid seminar was offered. That's very helpful."

Breaking attendance records for the past 23 years, GISD's education fair brought together North Texas families with institutions from around the country. That opportunity to meet people from different regions is what college recruiters found most appealing about the district's event.

"It exposes students to schools they may not know about," said Kristin Nimoh, admissions counselor for Drew University. "I also get to speak directly to prospective students—putting a face to a name."

Breakfast with new DISD Superintendent

Breakfast with the new Dallas ISD Superintendent Mike Miles, presenting Destination 2020 is on Wed., Oct. 10 at 7:30-9 a.m. at InterContinental Dallas Hotel, 15201 Dallas Pkwy. The DISD Bond Program Recognition Award presented

by the RHCA; the keynote speaker will be Superintendent Mike Miles, presentation by Ed Levine, and honorary host Adam Medran, First Vice President- DISD Board of Trustees.



Mike Miles, DISD Superintendent

DFW Bone Daddys raising money to fight breast cancer

Every October, Bone Daddy's Girls, aka the Pink Ladies, join together to raise awareness and funds for the Dallas County Affiliate of Susan G. Komen®. Pink Week 2012 kicked off Monday, Oct. 1 and runs through Sunday, Oct. 7. Throughout the week, Bone Daddy's

will be collecting donations for Komen Dallas County.

Bone Daddy's has raised close to \$150,000 for Komen Dallas County and hopes to raise \$10,000 at each area location to help reach a total of \$200,000 donated to support breast cancer awareness.



CFPB orders American Express to pay \$85 million refund to consumers harmed by illegal credit card practices

Federal regulators fine American Express an additional \$27.5 million

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) on Monday announced an enforcement action with orders requiring three American Express subsidiaries to refund an estimated \$85 million to approximately 250,000 customers for illegal card practices. This action is the result of a multi-part federal investigation, which found that at every stage of the consumer experience, from marketing to enrollment to payment to debt collection, American Express violated consumer protection laws.

“Several American Express companies violated consumer protection laws and those laws were violated at all stages of the game – from the moment a consumer shopped for a card to the moment the consumer got a phone call about long overdue debt,”

said CFPB Director Richard Cordray. “Today’s orders require the American Express companies to fully refund about \$85 million to consumers and it requires them to make specific changes in their business practices. The American Express companies will identify the harmed customers, notify them, and make sure they get back their money.”

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) together with the Utah Department of Financial Institutions discovered the illegal activities during a routine examination of an American Express subsidiary, the American Express Centurion Bank. The FDIC transferred portions of the investigation to the CFPB when the Bureau opened its doors last year and together the agencies pursued the matter. The CFPB later concluded that many of the same violations that occurred at American

Express Centurion Bank also took place at American Express Travel Related Services Company, Inc. and American Express Bank, FSB.

The investigations found that the violations occurred at various points in time between 2003 and spring 2012. They occurred at every stage of the consumer experience, from shopping for cards, to applying for cards, to paying charges, and to paying off debt. More specifically, American Express subsidiaries:

- Deceived consumers who signed up for the American Express “Blue Sky” credit card program: Consumers were sometimes led to believe they would receive \$300 in addition to bonus points if they signed up for this American Express Centurion Bank program. But consumers who met the qualifications did

See AMERICAN, Page 11



Fact:

Seven types of commonly used herbicides and pesticides washed down our storm drains can be found in the Trinity River. Lawn chemicals and pesticides can pollute the storm drainage system, including area creeks, lakes, and the Trinity River, potentially harming plants and aquatic wildlife.

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- + Try using natural and organic alternatives.
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Ticket to Work + Volunteer work = The right answer for disabled workers

Robert Statam is a veteran who spent seven years serving in the U.S. Army. After a surgery mishap in 2000, he sustained a spinal cord injury that left him with limited mobility. No longer able to perform the tasks required in his previous position as a U.S. Postal Carrier, Statam was awarded Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits and focused on regaining mobility through rehabilitation at a Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA) hospital. He had to make significant changes to his lifestyle. Adjusting to life on a fixed income was also humbling and challenging.

"In this mode, I was taken down a level," he says. "... And I knew that when the time came when I'd be able to get in better condition and back into an improved lifestyle, I would do everything I could to get there."

Statam was determined to return to the workforce as soon as he was in a position to try. But he had concerns.

"The main thing I was worried about was whether my health would get in the way," he says. "What if I really wasn't ready and employment didn't work out? SSDI was my only source of income. Getting approved is such a process that I didn't want to tamper with my benefits in any way."

Connecting with Ticket to Work

The VA put Statam in touch with the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), an employment services provider that also offers benefits counseling. They talked about his employment options and the impact that work would have on his benefits. Statam's counselor told him about Social Security's Ticket to Work program and Work Incentives. The Ticket to Work program is voluntary, and offers free employment support services to Social Security disability beneficiaries ages 18 through 64. Work Incentives are rules that make it easier for adults with disabilities to return to work or to work for the first time. Among other things, Work Incentives allow most Social Security disability beneficiaries to receive Medicaid or Medicare coverage and some cash benefits even after they get a well-paying job.

"It cleared up some unknowns about work and benefits. I learned there are options which would allow me to prepare for work or make an attempt at work. During that transition period, I would continue to receive benefits. This took away some of the fear and doubt I felt. I knew that if

of the Ticket program's 1,000+ authorized service providers known as Employment Networks (ENs). ENs and state vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies offer Social Security disability beneficiaries a range of services, including rehabilitation, career and benefits counseling, vocational training, job placement, job-coaching and ongoing employment support. Program participants may speak with several pro-

"Ticket to Work did its part for me. I would encourage anybody to give it a try. When I took that first step, everything fell into place," according to Robert Statam.

my disability interfered with employment [within five years], I could go back on benefits without a new application."

Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) is just one

viders before finding a good match, and can choose any EN that meets their needs.

Statam chose to work with PVA. Together, they explored his interests and skills. They considered



Program helps disabled find jobs

what types of work would incorporate both and developed an Individual Work Plan (IWP) to help him achieve his employment goals. The plan included continuing education. Statam decided to go back to school to study social work and improve his job prospects.

While he made progress in school, Statam's EN helped him find a volunteer program at the Heinz Veteran's hospital in Chicago.

He became a peer counselor and enjoyed helping fellow veterans get the services needed for a smoother transition back into civilian life. It took time to learn each service member's story, establish trust and piece together a profile of needs and eligibility. Patience and kindness paid off with Statam's clients.

Success in this program renewed his confidence in his ability to contribute and help others. PVA's vocational counseling services helped Statam discover that assisting other veterans was his next calling. The education and

training he received laid the groundwork for future success.

"I learned a lot about myself, and it gave me an opportunity to kind of refocus my life. So, the disability (and the help that came with it) played a major role in ... where I am today. It kind of slowed my life down; gave me a chance to refocus and look at things in another way. If it wasn't for my disability, maybe I wouldn't have gone back to school, or [taken] such a strong interest in helping others as I have today," Statam shared.

Volunteer Work: A Stepping Stone

Volunteer work turned out to be a valuable stepping-stone. Together, Statam and his career counselor updated his résumé and sent it to the National PVA office. Statam applied for a position as a National Service Officer. In this role, he would advocate for other veterans to make sure they are getting the services and benefits they need. Many veterans qualify for multiple benefits, and Statam would help them navigate the complex rules surround-

ing them. It is a job for which he is uniquely suited. His knowledge of both disability and veterans' benefits combines with a personable style and resourceful approach that would allow Statam to serve his peers in a fulfilling occupation. PVA saw this, and hired him in 2010.

It is somewhat unusual for an EN to hire a client. More often, ENs help clients like Statam in their efforts to find work with another employer. But PVA had a need, and Statam was the right fit for the job.

"I never imagined I would get a job like the one I've had as a National Service Officer. It's rewarding to advocate for someone else. So many vets don't get the help they need because they don't know where to begin and how to go about the process. Ticket to Work helped me go to work where my heart is."

Statam says the Ticket program and employment have helped improve both his health and his outlook. Working shifted focus from his condition to helping others.

At first, he was "... waiting on that check month to month, trying to find a way to keep occupied..." Today, Statam is learning new skills and building a new future.

"Ticket to Work did its part for me. I would encourage anybody to give it a try. When I took that first step, everything fell into place," according to Statam.

Ticket to Work and Work Incentives helped Statam find his path to self-sufficiency. Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/work or call the Ticket Help Line at 1-866-968-7842 (V) or 866-833-2967 (TTY/TDD) to learn more about the program.

NDG Gossip: Kanye West is accused yet again

BY KENDRIA BROWN,
NDG INTERN

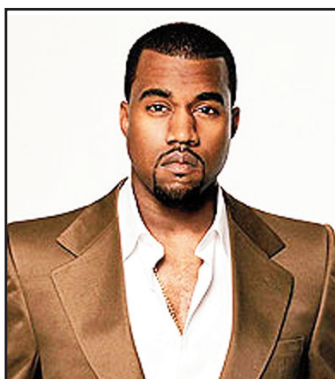
He has previously received four similar accusations, with the last mishap occurring back in April. It was over the song titled *Trying Girls Out* for the remix *Girls Girls Girls* and Robert Pointdexter of the Persuaders wanted \$500,000 from West. This time record label TufAmerica has accused the talented West of illegally sampling copyright material.

Although West and TufAmerica previously had legit agreements, West now finds himself being sued for using songs from TufAmer-

ica for his album *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy*.

Among the songs being sought after for copyright infringement include *Who Will Survive In America* and *Lost In The World*. These songs are from New Orleans R&B Eddie Bo's *Hook & Sling* parts 1 and 2, that TufAmerica received the rights for in 1996.

TufAmerica has filed a suit against Roc-A-Fella and UMG because although they were paid \$62,500 in licensing fees, the other



Kanye West

party "failed and refused to enter into written license agreements that accounted for their multiple other uses of [*Hook & Sling*].

George Washington Carver Elementary School receives newly renovated library from Target and The Heart of America Foundation

Wednesday Target Corp. and The Heart of America Foundation unveiled a state-of-the-art library at George Washington Carver Elementary School in Dallas. As part of the 2012 Target School Library Makeover program, which includes plans to give more than \$12 million to support education, the retailer is unveiling new libraries at a total of 32 in-need elementary schools across the country. In addition, Target will award \$15,000 reading grants to four Dallas schools that previously received library makeovers.

"The new library is an amazing gift for our school and our students," said Joe Estrada, principal, George Washington Carver Elementary School. "Thanks to Target and The Heart of America Foundation, our students have the resources they need to feel inspired and ready to learn when they walk through our school doors."



DISD students excited about new library.

The new library at George Washington Carver Elementary School features 2,000 new books, furniture, carpet and shelves, and a complete technology upgrade, including new iPads. The program also provides seven new books for each student to take home following the unveiling celebration.

"At Target, we understand that a quality education is integral to the success of a child's future," said Laysha Ward, president of community relations, Target. "Through the Target School Library Makeover program, we aim to pave a path to graduation for more U.S. students by equipping them with the resources

they need to excel in the classroom and beyond."

"Since 2007, our partnership with the Target School Library Makeover program has helped to turn more than 100 dilapidated libraries into vibrant centers of learning," said Angie Halamandaris, president and co-founder of The Heart of America Foundation. "This year, we are proud to continue our partnership with Target. By revitalizing 32 school libraries across the country, we are helping to create new spaces that inspire students, parents and community members to love reading."

Target's commitment to the Dallas community extends beyond the Target School Library Makeover program. In 2011, Target contributed more than \$2 million to support the Dallas community. Target's support included funding programs and initiatives, such as Target Field Trip Grants and Take Charge of Education.

10,000 expected to attend LaTex the State Fair Classic After-Party

The State Fair of Texas is finally here and that means that the Southwest Airlines State Fair Classic football game is back. It also means that the official State Fair Classic after-party, The LaTex Classic, is back. For the third consecutive year, the only official Grambling vs. Prairie View after-party, LaTex (which is an abbreviation for Louisiana and Texas party), will be held at the Dallas Convention Center. Also for the third year in a row LaTex officials are expecting approximately 10,000 people in attendance for what has grown to be the largest indoor after-party in the south.

LaTex features some of the top DJ's and hosts from Texas

and Louisiana including DJ Alo from Houston, DJ Frosty from Dallas, B Solo from Louisiana and DJ Phat from Louisiana. In addition to this star studded DJ lineup, the event will be co-hosted by talent from both Dallas urban radio stations. The radio talent include Hollywood Bay Bay and Ki Ki J from K104 as well as M Squared and J Kruz from 97.9 the beat.

This event is also the birthday party for Dallas rap sensation B-Hamp, AKA Mr. Rickey Bobby. As he has done for the last three years, B-Hamp will be bringing in his celebrity friends for appearances and performances to create an event matched by no

other in the south. Over the years B-Hamp's celebrity friends have included artist like VIC who was known for hits like *Get Silly* and *Wobble*. This year B-Hamp promises that his celebrity friends list will top all the years in the past. His list of special invited and confirmed guest include DJ Smallz, Yung Nation, Dorrough, the legendary DJ Spinderella and a special surprise guest that could not be named.

Tickets for LaTex are available at all Ticketmaster locations or at Jimmy Jazz inside the Parks Mall in Arlington, Cap at the bomb inside Big T Plaza and T-Town Music & More inside Bruton Bazaar in Dallas.

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Urban League Of Greater Dallas receives \$50k grant each from The UPS Foundation and Atmos Energy

The Urban League of Greater Dallas announced earlier this week \$100,000 in grants received from Atmos Energy and the UPS Foundation.

Atmos Energy has joined its Capital Campaign by donating \$50,000 for the construction of a 50,000 square foot techni-

cal certification facility in the southern sector of Dallas.

"Atmos Energy is proud to partner with the Urban

League of Greater Dallas to promote the mission, 'to provide the critical skills and resources necessary to enable all citizens to secure

economic self-reliance' and we believe the Trades Technical Skills Training Center is the catalyst to accomplish these initiatives," said San-

dra Doyle, Director of Public Affairs, Atmos Energy and a member of the Urban League Board of Trustees.

See LEAGUE, Page 13

AMERICAN, continued from Page 8

not receive the \$300. This violates federal laws prohibiting deceptive practices.

•Charged unlawful late fees: American Express Centurion Bank and American Express Bank, FSB billed late fees on certain cards based on a percentage of the debt in violation of the Credit CARD Act.

•Unlawfully discriminated against new account applicants on the basis of age: American Express Centurion Bank used a credit scoring system that treated charge card applicants differently on the basis of age. For a period of time, the bank did not fully implement the system for applicants over the age of 35. This violated the Equal Credit Opportunity Act because it requires credit scoring systems that take age into account to be properly designed and implemented.

•Failed to report consumer disputes to consumer reporting agencies: American Express Centurion Bank and American Express Bank, FSB failed to report the existence of certain customer disputes to credit bureaus, which is a violation of the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

•Misled consumers about debt collection: All three of the American Express subsidiaries deceived consumers into believing there were certain benefits to paying off old debt. Consumers were wrongly told that if they paid off the old debt, the payment would be reported to credit bureaus and could improve their credit scores. In fact, American Express was not reporting the payments and the debts were so old that even if they had tried to report them, many of the payments would not have appeared on these consumers' credit reports or affected their credit scores. Ameri-

can Express also told some consumers that a portion of their debt would be waived or forgiven if they accepted certain settlement offers. But for customers who applied for a new American Express card, the company was not really forgiving or waiving the debt.

Enforcement Action

In accordance with the orders issued, the American Express subsidiaries have agreed to correct their practices and refund consumers who were harmed by the illegal practices. Specifically, they have agreed to the following:

•End the illegal practices: American Express Centurion Bank will not deceive consumers with marketing for the Blue Sky credit card, or any other card, by falsely promising a rebate or points feature. The banking subsidiaries will not charge illegal late fees. They will properly report disputes to credit bureaus and will make sure that cardholders are told about their rights regarding such disputes. American Express Centurion Bank will not unlawfully discriminate based on age when it comes to credit decisions, and it will be required to certify that all qualified consumers who suffered unlawful age discrimination were given an opportunity to reapply for credit.

•Full repayment of an estimated \$85 million to approximately 250,000 consumers: These American Express entities will be paying their customers full restitution, specifically:

o Consumers who were misled into paying old debt because they thought it would be reported to the credit bureaus will be reimbursed the money they paid plus interest.

o Consumers who were promised their debt would

be forgiven and who were denied new credit cards because the debt was not really forgiven, will receive \$100 and a pre-approved offer for a new card with terms the CFPB and the FDIC find acceptable. If the consumer already paid the waived or forgiven amount in order to get a new card, they will be refunded that amount plus interest.

o Blue Sky customers who were promised \$300 for signing up will get their \$300.

o Consumers who paid an illegal late fee will be reimbursed, with interest.

•Convenient repayment for consumers: These American Express companies are responsible for no-

tifying the affected consumers. Consumers are not required to take any action to receive their credit or check. If the consumers are still American Express customers, they will see a credit in their account. If they no longer have a card account with American Express, they will receive a check in the mail. American Express expects that consumers who will be receiving payment will receive the payout by no later than March 15, 2013.

•Inform consumers of debt collection rights: These American Express subsidiaries will inform consumers when the debt they are seeking to collect will not be reported to a

consumer reporting agency because it is too old. And they will not collect debt unless it has documentation evidencing the debt. Going forward, this will include, at a minimum, the complete terms and conditions of the account and a complete transactional history of the debt.

•Independent audit: These American Express subsidiaries will implement new procedures to ensure compliance with consumer financial protection laws. They will also use independent auditors to ensure compliance with the terms of today's orders.

•Pay civil monetary penalty of \$27.5 million: Several federal government

agencies seeking action against these American Express companies have ordered monetary penalties. With jurisdiction over the three subsidiaries, the CFPB's fine is \$14.1 million; with jurisdiction solely over American Express Centurion Bank, the FDIC's fine is \$3.9 million; with jurisdiction over American Express Travel Related Services Company, Inc. and American Express Company, the parent company, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System's fine is \$9 million; and with jurisdiction over American Express Bank, FSB, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency's fine is \$500,000.



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The City of Allen is currently accepting application packets for Firefighter /Paramedics. Applicants must be certified Firefighter/Paramedics prior to October 12, 2012. Interested applicants are invited to submit an on-line employment application by visiting the City of Allen's Employment Opportunities Page at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/allen>. The application deadline is Friday, October 12, 2012 at 5p.m. Incomplete packets will be disqualified. For questions contact Human Resources at 214-509-4676 or visit the City of Allen website at www.city-ofallen.org.

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October 2-21
The Addams Family presented by Dallas Summer Musicals at Music Hall at Fair Park during the State Fair of Texas, 9091st Avenue; Cost \$15-\$75; 214-346-3300.

Through November 12
Goodnight Moon & Other Favorite Stories: Pre K Drama Class at Dallas Children's Theater, 5938 Skillman Street- Rosewood Center for Family arts; Cost \$220; Info: 214-978-0110

Through November 27
Family Movie Time at Irving Public Library, 801 W Irving Blvd at 4:30 p.m.; free; Info: 972.721.2628

Through December 6
Books N' Bugs at Texas Discovery Gardens, 3601 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd- Fair Park at 10:30 a.m.; Cost: \$8-

\$10; Info: http://texasdiscoverygardens.org/events_and_classes.php

Through December 8
New Life Skills Certificate program for African Women each Saturday morning from 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Audelia Branch Library located 10045 Audelia Rd. (at Church St.) in Dallas. Info: hellen.fissahaie5@gmail.com

Through December 11
Movie Night @ the Library at Irving Public Library Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd at 6:30 p.m.; Free to attend; Info: 972-781-2628

Through December 18
TeenScene Movie at Irving Public Library, 801 W Irving Blvd; Free; 972.721.2628

Through December 28
Jazz Happy Hour Fridays at Champagne's Luxe, 5201 W Lovers Lane at 4 p.m.; Info: 214-352-7777

October 4-27
"The Nerd" by Garland Civic Theatre at Granville

Arts Center – Small Theatre; 972-205-2790

October 5
Radio One Celebrity Golf Classic Tournament at Cedar Crest Golf Course, 1800 Southerland Avenue at 8 a.m.; Info: 972-331-5400

2012 BAT Jazz Featuring Larry Carlton at Bishop Arts Theater Center, 215 S. Tyler St at 7 p.m.; Tickets/info: 214-948-0716

Elementary Fair Day at Fair Park

October 5-7
Warner Bros. presents **Bugs Bunny** at the Symphony Single tickets start at \$28, 214-692-0203 or www.DallasSymphony.com.

October 6
Fall For Garland at Plaza Theatre; 972-205-2782

"Cat Ballou" presented by the City of Garland at Plaza Theatre; 972-205-2782

Urban League Guild Fashion Show at Bellagio Entertainment Center, 1701 S.

Lamar Street at 11:30 a.m.; Cost: \$15-\$35; Info: 214-662-5407

Who's Bad- A Tribute to Michael Jackson at House of Blues at 9 p.m.; Tickets \$10-\$20; Info: 214-978-2583

Williams Chicken HS Battle of the Bands at Beverly D. Humphrey "TIGER" Stadium, 200 E. Wintergreen in Lancaster at 8 a.m.; Info: 214.674.1136

October 7
After Dark in the Park at River Legacy Living Science Center, 703 NW Green Oaks Blvd. in Arlington at 5 p.m.; Cost: \$7; Info: 817-860-6752

October 6 & 7
Cottonwood Art Festival at Cottonwood Park in Richardson, 1321 W. Belt Line Rd at 10 a.m.; Free to attend; Info: 972-744-4581

October 12
86th Annual Awards Banquet at Dallas Convention Center, Ballroom "A", 650 S. Griffin St. at 6 p.m.; 214-421-5200

86th Annual Awards Banquet at Dallas Convention Center, Ballroom "A", 650 S. Griffin St. at 6 p.m.; 214-421-5200

October 13
A Little Look at Manners- Grades 2-5 at Bedford Boys Ranch, 2801 Forest Ridge Drive; Info: 817-952-2323

Secondary Fair Day at Fair Park

October 19
Joseph Hall's Elvis Tribute at Plaza Theatre; 402-617-4477

Garland Symphony Orchestra Concert I at Granville Arts Center – Brownlee Auditorium; 972-926-0611

October 20
Wonder Pet Expo Dallas at Dallas Market Hall at 9 a.m.; 214-655-6100

Madonna at American Airlines Center at 8 p.m.; 214-665-4797

2012 Fort Worth Blues Festival at Fort Worth Convention Center, 1201 Houston St. at 7 p.m.

Alpha Sigma Lambda Chapter will host its **2012 C.C. Rousseau Black & Gold Scholarship Gala** at the Sheraton Hotel located in Downtown Dallas.

October 21
"Messy" by Jonathan Nelson at Plaza Theatre; www.JaySaharaProduction.com

October 26
Zan Wesley Holmes Jr. Middle School Dedication at 2939 St. Rita Dr. at 10:30 a.m.

October 27
Las Llaves del Exito (keys to Success) College Fair at University of North Texas at Dallas, 7300 University Hills Blvd. at 8 a.m.

Lakeshore Symphonic Winds at Granville Arts Center – Brownlee Auditorium; Lakesh-oresymphonicwinds.com

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STEWART, continued from Page 2

lor's degree in economics from Georgetown University and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Michigan. She has won several notable professional honors and awards including the 2007 Leadership Award from the National Urban League; the 2006 Entrepreneurial Philanthropy Award from the Washington Area Women's Foundation; and numerous honorary degrees including

Texas Southern University, Alabama A&M and Trinity University in Washington, DC. She currently serves on several boards nationally and in the Washington, DC metropolitan area.

Mrs. Stewart is married to Jarvis C. Stewart, the Chairman and Managing Partner of Ian Reid, LLC a strategic advisory firm based in Washington, DC. The Stewarts have two children, Madeleine and Savannah.

Texans granted additional weeks of unemployment benefits

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Wednesday announced a nine-week extension of Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) Act benefits (Tier III) for unemployed Texans. The extension comes as a result of the state's average unemployment rate reaching an estimated 7 percent or higher over the previous three months.

Claimants currently receiving unemployment benefits will automatically have the additional benefits added to their

benefit period and will receive a letter showing the additional amount of benefits they could potentially receive. Claimants do not need to contact TWC unless they receive a letter instructing them to do so.

The U.S. Department of Labor authorized TWC to begin processing claims beginning Oct. 7, 2012. This extension is not retroactive, and therefore does not cover weeks of unemployment prior to Oct. 7, 2012.

TWC will mail letters to approximately 32,000 Unem-

ployment Insurance (UI) claimants who have exhausted prior benefits and may be eligible for the extension, with instructions on how to apply for the additional weeks of benefits. The letter will direct claimants who are still unemployed to call a special toll-free phone number, available 24 hours a day, to apply for the latest extension.

This extension brings the total number of benefit weeks an individual in Texas may qualify for to a maximum of 63

weeks. Claimants currently receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits should continue to request payment as scheduled. Claimants may update their address information online at ui.texasworkforce.org or by contacting a UI Tele-Center toll free at 800-939-6631. Reemployment services are available through local Workforce Solutions Offices statewide or job seekers may visit www.WorkInTexas.com to register and search for job postings.

LEAGUE, continued from Page 11

In recent years, there has been a decline in the number of licensed and certified trade's persons, yet the demand for employees skilled in the trades remains high.

"This very generous gift from Atmos Energy to our Capital Campaign will help us provide the facility and training and most importantly, alternatives for individuals to become productive citizens where they live and work," said Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, Urban League President and CEO. "We realize that many individuals, including our youth, may not be ready for the college environment, however, through our Training Center they have the opportunity and the support that will enable them to secure good paying jobs and

provide financial stability for themselves and their families."

The Center will provide training in fields such as mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, Basic CADD Drafting, A+ and other computer certifications, construction materials, methods and equipment, broadband, welding, green job training and other areas as identified based on demand and recommendations from the Center's Industry Council. Building on the success of its training programs and continued demand for its services, the Urban League has identified the need to create a pool of skilled workers who will be able to take advantage of employment and business development opportunities in the near future.

The Urban League of Greater Dallas received a \$50K grant from The UPS Foundation, the charitable arm of UPS. The grant will be used to help strengthen the Urban League Employment Services, which is responsible for preparing individuals for work and assisting with job placement.

"Preparing a competent workforce is a priority for the League and we are extremely grateful that the generosity of UPS Founda-

tion will assist us in that goal," said Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, Urban League President and CEO. This grant creates opportunities for our unemployed and dislocated clients to find employment and become productive citizens where they live and work."

Last year, The UPS Foundation distributed more than \$45.3 million worldwide through grants that benefit organizations or programs and provide sup-

port for building stronger communities.

"The UPS Foundation is committed to funding impactful programs that make a meaningful difference in our communities – so we are proud to support the Urban League of Greater Dallas' efforts to provide clients with the resources, workforce training and professional support necessary to enter the economic mainstream," said Ken Sternad, president of The UPS Foundation.

Established in 1951 and based in Atlanta, GA., the UPS Foundation identifies specific areas where its backing clearly impacts social issues. In support of this strategic approach, The UPS Foundation has identified the following focus areas for giving: nonprofit effectiveness, encouraging diversity, community safety and environmental sustainability.

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October 7, 9:45 a.m.
You're invited to our Sunday Fellowships, Morning Bible Classes and Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.

October 10
Join us for Wednesday Morning Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. and come back at 7 p.m. for Prayer, Praise and Songs as we worship and praise God.

Brother Ramon Hodridge, Minister
1026 Avenue F
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8833
www.avefchurchofchrist.org

BIBLE WAY COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

October 7, 9:35 a.m.
You're invited to our Sunday School at 9:35 a.m. and to stay for Morning Worship at 11 a.m. as we worship and praise God.

October 10, 7 p.m.
Come to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word and help us to praise and worship His holy name.

Also bring your children to our Wednesday Night Children Program, two things are incorporated when they come, children learn and they play.

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

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN RICHARDSON

October 6, 11 a.m.
Ladies you are invited to our Women of Wisdom meeting as we study and discuss God's Word. Call the church for details.

October 7
Join us in worship at 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. as we praise and worship God's to the utmost.

October 10, 7:30 p.m.
Come to Bible Study as we go further in and deeper down into God's Word and we give Him all of the glory and praise.

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

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "The Ship"

Monday – Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
TheShip3C's Prayer Lines for those that are in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567 or they may be submitted via email to: prayerline@theship3c.org

October 7, 9:30 a.m.
Join us to experience the joy of praising and worshipping God to the fullest at Story Elementary School, 1550 Edelweiss Drive, Allen, TX.

Also, at 1:30-5:30 p.m.
The public is invited to our Founder's Day Celebration at Celebration Park, 701 Angel Parkway in Allen, Texas. We will have fun, food, games and prizes. Bring your lawn chairs, tents, etc. There will be a contest for the best BBQ and best dessert. Call the church for details.

October 10, 7 p.m.
Join us at our Wednesday Night Live in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall on Belmont Drive, with old school prayer and testimony. Also, come to our Corporate Prayer and our Kidz Zone (an environment to equip children to grow and to show God's love.)

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed.D. Senior Pastor
1550 Edelweiss Drive
In Allen for Sunday Morning Worship.
Admin. Building Address
Is 200 W. Belmont Drive
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972-359-9956
www.theship3c.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK "First Church"

October 20, 11 a.m.
Mark your calendar for our Fall Fest 2012; there will be fun for the entire family. Then join us at 6 p.m. for "A Tribute

to the Man and Music of John Mark Tatum" with Ms. Kathy Taylor; and help us as we praise and worship God.

Dr. Gregory Foster, Senior Pastor
300 Phillips Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-235-4235
www.fbchp.org

NORTH DALLAS ROCKBRIDGE CHURCH

October 7
Join us in Prayer with Pastor at 8:30 a.m. and stay for Worship Celebration at 10 a.m. as we worship and praise God.

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

SAINT MARK MBC IN MCKINNEY

October 7, 9:30 a.m.
Join us in our Education Ministries, stay for our Worship Celebration at 10:45 a.m.; and you're invited to join us for our Friends and Family Day as we fellowship, worship and praise God.

October 10, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wellness Ministry with Tamara Haskins, Director and Fitness Instructor. Call for details.

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

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

October 7, 8 a.m. And 11 a.m.
Join us in our Morning Worship times and stay for our Sunday School at 10 a.m.

October 10, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Midweek Service as we worship and praise God.

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

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October 7, 4 p.m.
You don't want to miss the 2nd Annual Gospel Fest Worship Service "The Psalms." This will be a live taped musical Worship Service featuring Gospel Nation as the host choir.

The music is the original work of Bro. Doyce E. Williams Thompson. The host church and pastor, McIntosh CME Chapel and Pastor James Smith at 2129 W.E. Roberts (Sherman Street) in Grand Prairie.

They will be joined by the Wesley Chapel AME choir in Fort Worth and Pastor Derrell Turner; the Next Level from Dallas; and soloist Bro. Morris Hunter from Dallas. Come early, seating will be limited.
Pastor Portia Williams Duncan
3900 Morris Lane
Arlington, Texas
817-496-6747

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October 7, 7:30 a.m.
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October 8, 7 p.m.
Come to Monday School as we study the Word of God, worship Him and praise His Holy name.

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"The Lord's anger burned against Uzzah, and He struck him down because he had put his hand on the ark. So he died there before God." **1 Chronicles 13:10**

There are some people that do not like to read. They have found it to be a difficult discipline. However, if they don't commit themselves to reading and knowing what is in God's Word and following His word for them, they will fail to know and experience God Himself. God's Word is life to a Christian's soul, that's why He gave Christians the Bible. It provides knowledge that leads to life.

The Word of God is a Christian's initial point which is a reference point of a Christian's life and their guide. Nothing can compare to it; therefore, it is essential that Christians read it for instructions.

The Word of God tells us, "My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as My priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore

your children." **Hosea 4:6.**

God has given us His Word that has specific laws and principles that must be followed if we expect His blessing. King David forgot to follow one of those laws related to the ark. "...But they must not touch the Holy things or they will die..." **Numbers 4:15.**

When they were transporting the ark, Uzzah innocently reached to steady the ark but was immediately stricken dead when his hands touched the ark of God.

Ask yourself, did David know this law or did he simply forget? Did Uzzah know this law? If so, did he really believe it? David thought it was okay to carry the ark the way Uzzah did. A man lost his life for his presumption.

Many believers take God's Word lightly. They believe they can violate His Word without consequence. This is not true; the Lord stands by to uphold His Word. It can be life, or it can bring death. When God provides instructions, Christians need to follow them.

Knowing this about God brings a healthy fear of the Lord. "David was

afraid of God that day and asked, 'How can I ever bring the ark of God to me?' " **1 Chronicle 13:12.** Christians must all have a fearful respect of God's Word; because His Word is life or death to Christians. They must feed upon His Word daily so that they might know Him and know His precepts. They must delight in God and feed upon this knowledge and be blessed of God.

When Christians read God's Word and follow His commandments only they can allocate their time and not have any stress in their life. The Holy Spirit will lead and guide them in the right direction.

Christians can back up their reading of God's Word with prayer (talking to God) and reflection on their lives. Jesus' life had a balance of quiet moments and active ministry into the lives He came in contact with.

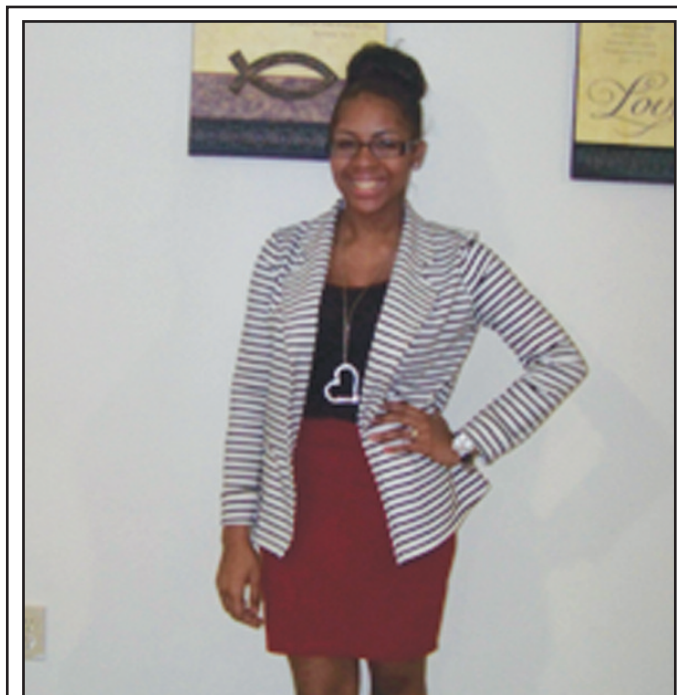
How do Christians determine what they will be involved in each day of their lives? What keeps them in sync with The Will of their heavenly Father for the daily tasks He calls them to do? Jesus tells us that He was only involved in those things the Father was involved in; nothing

more, nothing less. So often we determine our participation in an activity based on whether we have the time to do it or whether we desire to participate. The real question we should ask is, "Does the Father want me to participate in this activity?"

"Lord, should I add this Bible study to my schedule? Should I spend an extra night out on this committee this week? Should I take on new business that will take me away from home more?"

Should my daughter be involved in music lessons?" These are the daily challenges for the world we now live in. We are an activity-based society that often encourages more and more activity, often in the name of Christian virtue.

Our lives will become less cluttered, less stressful, and more fulfilling when we follow the model Jesus provided. It may not always please everyone. Jesus never sought to please everyone. Ask the Lord each day how you and He are to spend your



Ms. Leah Dure` a senior student at Newman Smith High School in Carrollton, Texas and a member of the Junior Usher Board at Word of Life C.O.G.I.C; Dr. Gregory Voss is the founder and senior pastor.

time. Yield your schedule to Him. Let Jesus direct your every activity. You may discover that He desires you to cut back some things in order to spend

more time alone with Him. He will be faithful to show you. And you will become more fulfilled because you are centered in His will for you.

COLLEGE, continued from Page 5

also held positions in the IT industry with companies such as IBM, System Resources Consulting, & Chase Communications.

At Everest College Dallas Campus, Mr. Peters is credited with increasing student enrollment by 20 percent, creating a student mentorship program, starting the first ever Career Colleges and Schools intramural basketball team, and creating strategic partnerships in the Dallas community that turned into opportunities for his student body.

He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Marketing from Southern University

Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He's also active in a variety of professional, civic, and cultural organizations including: Dallas Habitat for Humanity, Big Brother Big Sister, Career Colleges and Schools of Texas, PTA – Good Shepard Episcopal School of Dallas, and Jack & Jill of America.

David Beckford of the Fort Worth campus had this to say: "My number one priority is to only hire individuals who are passionate about helping students attain their career goals. As Eleanor Roosevelt famously said; 'The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.'"

Mr. Beckford has worked for institutions of higher education for over 11 years and has held leadership positions for 10 of those years. Mr. Beckford is an experienced leader in higher education and has held positions such as Director of Admissions, Director of Education, Executive Director and Campus President. He is passionate about a successful outcome for all students and takes an active role in creating the environment that leads to high student satisfaction ratings. The College of Health Care Professions campus located in Fort Worth, Texas is the third campus that he has

opened in his career. He takes great pride in planting the seed to success, nurturing it and watching successful growth.

"As Campus President, I plan to maintain a focus on ensuring a quality learning environment, while maintaining high regulatory standards," Beckford said.

Mr. Beckford received a bachelor's degree in Hospitality Management from Florida International University and holds a master's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Global Technology Management from America InterContinental University.

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NDG Bookshelf



BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER
NDG CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Your former classmate leads such an interesting life.

She told you this summer about the trips she took recently: Aruba, Paris, Johannesburg, Tokyo. She waves perfectly manicured hands as she describes partying all night, leisurely meals, Sundays with an unspooled newspaper, and a fun job, unencumbered.

You hate her.

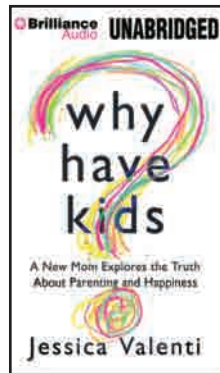
Yes, you love your kids. But

would you choose parenthood again if you had a second chance? That's one of the intriguing questions in *Why Have Kids?* by Jessica Valenti.

Two days after she toured a New York hospital's maternity center, Jessica Valenti gave birth, two months early. It was not what she had in mind when she made her birth plan and once her daughter came home, parenting wasn't what she imagined.

There were no blissful bonding times for Valenti and her daughter. No Madonna-like baby-at-the-breast scenarios and no Fierce Mama moments. Valenti says she loved her child, but not like she figured she "should."

NDG Bookshelf: Why Have Kids?



Things got better eventually, but not before Valenti realized that parenting "needs a paradigm shift." The ideal that's been long-touted is nowhere near reality and "that disconnect is making us miserable."

Children, she says, won't make you happy; in fact, having children can upset your self-image and your relationships. Breast-feeding isn't something "everybody" can do and yes, children need their parents but they also need a break from them, and vice versa. Mother doesn't al-

ways know best and furthermore, says Valenti, raising kids isn't the "hardest job in the world." It's certainly easier than, say, "being a firefighter or a factory worker..."

The surprising truths, she found, are that most Moms and Dads

love their children but some wish they'd never chosen parenthood. Parents have gone to jail for acting upon what they thought was best for their child. And the 1950s family isn't ideal anymore, either; in fact, Valenti discovered that the best way to

have a happy, healthy child is to give him lesbian parents.

Ultimately, she says, the thing to do is forget about everything you've heard. Let go of those unattainable ideals and should-have's. Relax, and "... do the real work of loving [your] kids and have fun doing it."

So you're feeling skeptical about some of what those expecting-a-baby books expect you to believe? You might have good reason for that...

In *Why Have Kids*, author Jessica Valenti is sometimes deliciously in-your-face, sometimes ranting, but always eye-opening and quite a bit shocking as she looks at research and viewpoints, takes on baby-wearers, "elimination communica-

tion" and Attachment Parenting, and examines laws that can chill parents to their bones. She presents reasons to have children and reasons not to have them, which is something prospective parents and the vehemently child-free should both know.

Then she explains how all of the above have created a kerfuffle that will affect us for generations to come.

Overall, this is a thought-provoking, controversial, but fascinating book and I liked it a lot. I think that, for parents and non-parents alike, *Why Have Kids?* will give birth to a lot of interesting conversations.

Why Have Kids? (New Harvest \$23, 179 pgs or Brilliance Audio \$29.99 5CDs/ 5h 20m)

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