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Dallas Section 8 tenants face possible rent increase or eviction due to impact of sequestration budget cuts

BY RUTH FERGUSON,
NDG EDITOR

Recipients of the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program received letters from the Dallas Housing Authority (DHA) dated March 29, 2013 indicating the rental pay-

ments DHA will issue to their landlord is being reduced by 6 percent due to a cut in funding. The cuts are a result of the automatic federal budget cuts implemented March 1 when Congress could not reach an agreement to forestall implementation

across the board budget cuts as a result of sequestration.

The letter states landlords will have until April 10 to notify DHA if they are willing to modify their agreement and accept the decrease in rental payments. If not, the tenant

faces the choice of moving or personally paying the rental increase.

Alice Basey, President of the Texas Tenants' Union, was very alarmed by these developments when reached by phone

See RENT, Page 4

Nearly half of commuters admit to texting while driving

DALLAS — Nearly half of commuters self-reported texting while driving in a recent poll, and 43% of those who did called it a "habit."

Commuters are texting and driving even more than teens — 49 percent, compared to 43 percent. And the problem has gotten worse. Six in



10 commuters say they never texted while driving three years ago.

So while efforts to raise awareness of the dangers of texting while driving are working — 98% of commuters surveyed said they know sending a text or email while driving isn't safe — there's

clearly more work to be done to change behaviors.

Survey sponsor AT&T is calling on employers to help end texting while driving by taking action during National Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April, and beyond. It's asking businesses to join

See TEXTING, Page 13

Payday lending drains nearly \$1 Billion from communities

BY CHARLENE
CROWELL

One of the worst ironies of the nagging economic recession is that consumers with the fewest financial resources have lost the most. Now, a new report finds that payday loans not only strip much-needed income from low-income families; but

also harms the economic viability of the communities where they operate, draining nearly \$1 billion a year. Written by the Insight Center for Community Economic Development (Insight Center), it also reveals other net negative impacts of these small-dollar, high cost loans on economic growth and

personal bankruptcy filings.

The Insight Center examined the net economic impact of the \$3.3 billion in interest that borrowers paid to non-bank payday lenders in 2011. The study found that if consumers collectively had an additional \$3.3 billion in discretionary spending, it

See DRAINS, Page 11



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Don Hill's hearing is April 30

See www.NorthDallasGazette.com for more details.



Harry LaRosiliere



Fred Moses

Two well-respected minority candidates campaigning for Plano's Mayoral Seat

See CANDIDATES, Page 9

Irving can take a page from Metroplex neighbor McKinney when dealing with joint public projects

See MCKINNEY, Page 3

The State of Equality and Justice in America: Masters of Our Own Fate

BY MARC MORIAL

"It is better to be prepared for an opportunity and not have one than to have an opportunity and not be prepared." - Whitney M. Young

In 1963, more than a quarter-million people gathered in Washington, DC to march for jobs and equality. The Great March for Jobs and Freedom was a watershed moment in American history - birthing now-iconic speeches

that voiced the hardships facing blacks as they sought a fair shot at an elusive dream.

As we fast-forward 50 years and reflect on the progress we've made toward economic equality, we meet the sobering truth that much has been achieved, but much more needs to be done. Some people use apparent proofs of progress - that Blacks are no longer barred from living, learning and earning where they want be-

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People In The News...



Theo Killion



Bernice J. Washington



Peter Chu

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Theo Killion

NEW YORK – A Better Chance, a national nonprofit that recruits academically talented and motivated students of color and guides them toward a variety of educational opportunities, announced that Theo Killion, Chief Executive Officer of Zale Corporation, will receive the 2013 A Better Chance DreamBuilder Award at the 50th Anniversary A Better Chance Awards Dinner to be held on Tuesday, June 11, 2013 at Pier Sixty at Chelsea Piers in New York City.

As a teenager in West Virginia, Theo Killion was recruited by A Better Chance to

matriculate at The Hill School, a small private college prep school in Pottstown, Pennsylvania. At The Hill School, Killion faced the greatest academic challenge of his life. Classes were held six days a week, and the pace was grueling. He was left back a year when he started and resented it, but in hindsight it was a wise decision because he then thrived. After finishing The Hill School, Killion graduated cum laude from Tufts University with a bachelor's degree in history and English. He stayed on to finish a master's degree in education in 1975.

"Theo is an alum whose journey exemplifies A Better Chance's mission and impact. He's someone whose talent may have been overlooked -- but A Better Chance opened a door for him and he's risen to the highest levels of leadership," said Sandra E. Timmons, President, A Better Chance. "Along the way, he has given back -- he is a long-time supporter and steadfast advocate of A Better Chance. He also served on the National Board of A Better Chance for many years. At every turn, he's been an exemplar of A Better Chance and its mission."

The A Better Chance DreamBuilder Award was pre-



sented for the first time in 2005. It is awarded to a leader who has demonstrated a com-

mitment to helping gifted young people achieve their dreams, and whose talent, de-

termination, hard work, optimism and leadership personify the attributes of A Better Chance Scholars. Diana Taylor, former Superintendent of Banks for New York State was the first recipient of the DreamBuilder Award. Other honorees include: Earvin "Magic" Johnson, professional athlete; Clarence Jones, Scholar in Residence at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Institute at Stanford University and A Better Chance Alumnus Deval Patrick, Governor of Massachusetts.

Killion says, "The A Better Chance experience gave me confidence, a sense of identity and exposure to a world I never knew existed."

Bernice J. Washington

Bernice J. Washington has been named Chair of the board of directors Texas Health Resources-Presbyterian Healthcare Resources. She is the first woman to hold the position.

Texas Health Resources is one of the largest faith-based, non-profit health care delivery systems in the United States and the largest in North Texas in terms of patients served. Texas

Health Resources was formed in 1997 with the assets of Fort Worth-based Harris Methodist Health System and Dallas-based Presbyterian Healthcare Resources. Washington chairs the system board of the Presbyterian hospitals. She is former chair of Texas Health Plano Hospital board and currently serves as a faculty member at The Governance Institute, an organization serving not-for-profit hospital



and health system boards of directors, executives, and physician leadership.

Texas Health has 25 acute-care and short-stay hospitals that are owned, operated, joint-ventured or affiliated with the system. It has more than 3,800 licensed beds, more than 21,100 employees of fully-owned/operated facilities plus 1,400 employees of consolidated joint ventures, and counts more than 5,500 physicians with active staff privileges at its hospitals.

In addition, Mrs. Washington serves on the DFW Airport Board of Directors and chairs the \$2 Billion Terminal Renovation and Improvement Program. She holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Missouri, Medical Technology-MT (ASCP) from Research Hospital in Kansas City, MO and a Bachelor of Science from Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA.

Peter Chu

DALLAS – This spring, critically acclaimed artist,

faculty. The convention will visit 15 cities across the

agency DFW from May 10-12.

"I am thrilled to have been selected as a faculty member for the first-ever 24 Seven Dance Convention, and am honored to be working alongside so many talented and hardworking performing artists," says Peter Chu. "I consider it a privilege to share my dance experience and education with America's next generation of emerging dance artists, and will be working hard to ensure that every student has a positive, yet challenging experience."

A remarkably talented artist, Chu has developed a multi-faceted and enviable dance career, keeping a strong foot in both the commercial and concert worlds over the last decade. After graduating from the prestigious Juilliard School in 2002, Chu joined Montreal's

BJM_Danse Company and then toured the world with Crystal Pite's acclaimed contemporary company Kidd Pivot. He wowed audiences in Celine Dion's Vegas spectacular *A New Day* and starred as the lead character in Christina Perri's *Jar of Hearts* music video.

As a choreographer, Chu has created expressive, imaginative and thought-provoking works for Naomi Stikeman's Caturm, Houston Metropolitan Contemporary Dance Company, and San Diego Dance Company. As artistic director of his newly launched dance company, chuthis., Chu has developed a memorable and haunting show, *Nothing Sticks*, enthusiastically received by audiences in New York City and Vancouver, B.C. He is also the recipient of the prestigious 2010 Capezio A.C.E. Award for Choreography.

Most recently, Chu's choreography was featured on

Season 9 of the world's most
See CHU, Page 10



Photo Credit Levi Walker

choreographer, and dance teacher Peter Chu will participate in the first-ever 24 Seven Dance Convention as an exclusive member of the company's prestigious dance

United States during the 2012/13 season, culminating with a national dance competition in Las Vegas from July 14-19. The convention stops in Dallas at the Hyatt Re-

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Texas Supreme Court ruling could impact Irving Entertainment Center lawsuit

On Friday, March 29, 2013, the Texas Supreme Court handed down a ruling against the City of McKinney in a government "takings" case. In this case, a real estate developer, El Dorado Land Company, had a contract with McKinney in which it had the future right to buy back land. McKinney refused to honor the buyback right, and when the developer sued, McKinney asked the court to dismiss the case, claiming "sovereign immunity."

This same argument has been made by the City of Irving in the suit filed by developer Las Colinas Group over the troubled Irving Entertainment Center. Under "sovereign immunity," a government cannot be sued – even if it breaches its contract – unless the legisla-

ture gives permission to sue.

One exception to "sovereign immunity" is when a government "takes" a person's property without paying for it. In the case before the Texas Supreme Court, the developer argued that McKinney's refusal to honor the buyback right amounted to a government "taking" of the developer's rights in the property. In a 9-0 opinion, the Texas Supreme Court agreed, unanimously slapping down McKinney's sovereign immunity argument.

A similar claim has been made by Las Colinas Group against Irving. One of the developer's complaints is that the City seized control and ownership of its intellectual property rights without



providing just compensation, which the developer estimates at \$75 million. Irving made the same argument as McKinney – sovereign immunity.

The trial court disagreed with Irving's sovereign immunity argument and denied its request to dismiss the "takings" claim. Ernest Leonard, Las Colinas Group's lawyer (who was also the

developer's lawyer against McKinney) said, "we believe that the recent decision by the Texas Supreme Court strengthens the rights of property owners against governments, and gives added strength to Las Colinas Group's claims against the City of Irving for its unjust taking of the intellectual property rights."

NDG Readers sound off in Letters to the Editor

Don Hill deserves justice

The sentence handed to Councilman Hill is clearly overkill if not plain shameful. If he had brought a pistol to the council chambers and cussed everybody out and then shot somebody, he would have gotten a similar sentence! The sentence he got is the kind usually reserved for folk who are a threat to public safety.

He did nothing but operate as Dallas politicians have always operated. It is rumored that his real crime was fighting against the North Dallas establishment and helping stop them from taking control of city council. His sentence is payback for fighting for the people - not that he's a saint.

The people of Dallas should rise up and reverse this judicial order.

Tell It All,
Dallas

Don Hill got what he deserved

I am sorry, NDG, but Don Hill violated the public trust and broke the law without a care in the world about who was negatively impacted by his actions. The community should come together in condemnation of this behavior instead of attempting to minimize the severity of Mr. Hill's breach of trust. And the sad puppy picture? That's just pathetic.

There is not a (published) unique set of moral, ethical or legal rules for politicians based on their "exposure" to potentially corrupt activities and/or relationships. They are elected to serve the public, not themselves, they are there to do the right thing for many, not the expedient or financially beneficial for a few. I'm disgusted.

Phil H. via NorthDallasGazette.com

Is Tommy Gonzalez a victim of racism?

As a long time resident of this city I have witnessed the record and biased by the Anglos of this city for the simple reason of who we are. Now the issues of the city manager (Tommy Gonzalez). He is supposed to be getting paid too much and they resent that because he is a Latino.

(Councilman) Joe Putnam even told me that Gonzalez has to go plus now he has convinced other council members to do the same even some blacks in the mix, so what do we have here, we have a city that has racism still fermenting in it's veins directed at us Latinos that have become the largest minority and is the apex of what this city is all about.

Manuel A. Benavidez
Irving, TX

Very disappointed Michael Basiden fans

Is this really true—are you serious!!! I listen to Michael Baisden's Show every day on my ride home from work. IT JUST WIL NOT BE THE SAME!!

Could it be the deal Michael could not be made included him not being in a political forum and not speaking up to issues like he does so well? We finally get someone who inspires the African American viewers and others and this happens!! It never fails!! I am truly pissed!!!

Tee via NorthDallasGazette.com

We invite all North Dallas Gazette readers to share their thoughts with us via our website or email editor@northdallasgazette.com. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, space and add headlines.

Free mosquito "dunks" offered to Lewisville residents on April 4-5

Lewisville officials have developed a program of public education, mosquito monitoring, and disease response intended to reduce the impact of West Nile Virus (WNV) on local residents and reduce the chance of widespread infection.

More than 30 people in Lewisville came down with WNV last year. Public health officials declared 2012 the worst season ever for WNV in North Texas, and there is concern that 2013 could be comparable. However, there are simple precautions people can take to protect themselves and their families from the disease.

The city will again offer free anti-larval mosquito "dunks" to residents this year, a program started in 2012. These dunks are safe when used as instructed, and can kill mosquito eggs and larva in standing water sources such as ponds, bird-baths and rain gutters -- all of which can be active breeding sources for disease-carrying mosquitoes. The dunk giveaway is scheduled for April 4 and April 5, 5-9 p.m. both days, at Central Fire Station, 188 N. Valley Parkway. There is a limit of two per Lewisville household.

Both the city and Denton County will begin active trapping of mosquitoes on

April 1, submitting those to the Texas Department of Health to test for the presence of WNV. City crews are regularly walking through and visually inspecting creeks and drainage channels to look for potential mosquito breeding sites.

Residents also are encouraged to report standing water on city-maintained property by calling Lewisville Animal Control at 972-219-3478.

The Texas Department of Health operates a toll-free WNV information line in both English and Spanish at 888-883-9997, and has expanded information posted on its Web site at tdh.state.tx.us.

Southern University Bayou Bash scholarship fundraiser

Southern University Bayou Bash scholarship fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday, June 1. This year's

event is very special because 2013 marks 30 years of Bayou Bash. They are seeking vendors and to reg-

ister to become a vendor visit www.suafddallas.com and select the Bayou Bash banner.

Summer Jobs Workshop

Urban League of Greater Dallas will hold a Summer Jobs Workshop on Saturday, April 6 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 4315 South Lancaster Rd. in Dallas. Students must be between the ages 16 to 21.

Those attending will learn:

- Who is hiring for summer jobs,
- What jobs are available for teens,
- How to have a great job interview,

•How to write an impressive resume,

•How to get a summer internship, and much more! To sign up, contact Tonja Henry at 214-915-4691 or thenry@ulgdncx.com.

RENT, continued from Page 1

late Wednesday afternoon. She estimates thousands in the Dallas area could possibly be homeless or face difficult choices, as a result of the \$75 or more monthly rental increase.

"If you are a senior citizen what do you think is going to happen? We can't afford to lose that voucher. This is so outrageous, where are we going to go?"

Basey points out the options are not as cut and dry as the letter from DHA presents it, because a lease is a legal binding document. She raises concerns

an individual's rental history will be negatively impacted. Also, if they must

move will the landlords return deposits timely. If not, families may not have the monies required to pay for a new deposit.

For many, a \$75 increase sounds nominal. However, Basey points out for seniors and citizens with disabilities on a fixed income this increase could mean no home, no food or no money for their utilities. She is concerned seniors will face choices such as if they are going to pay their rent or buy medication.

"I call this the 'just don't make sense Congress.' I am so upset I can't begin to talk about this thing straight."

A copy of the letter to tenants reviewed by the *North Dallas Gazette* indicates DHA is asking the landlords to agree to a temporary rent reduction and to defer the rent increases.

The letter ends with DHA's pledge they, "...are taking every measure to NOT terminate families from the Section 8 program due to sequestration. DHA does not believe this would be fair to our families."

The letter was received late in the day and no one from DHA was available for comment. Visit www.NorthDallasGazette.com for updates if a response is received.



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Forum for City Council Candidates for District 14

City Council Elections take place in May. All seven, yes count them seven candidates have agreed to come to attend the Park Cities/Central Dallas Democrats April meeting this Saturday for a forum. As Angela Hunt has reached her term limit, this is an opportunity for the public to learn which candidate will



be most likely to fight for the community's interests. The powers that be are re-

ally excited at the chance to elect a council that will rubber stamp their agenda.

Come learn whom to support in this race, whether it is your Council district or not. It is scheduled for Saturday, April 6 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Oak Lawn Branch Library, which is located at Cedar Springs at Knight.

Dallas Police kicks off new crime reduction program

The Dallas Police Department's Office of Community Affairs has implemented a Crime Reduction Program called 10/70/20, targeting three Multi-family Complexes in the North Central Patrol Division. The philosophy of 10/70/20 is that 10 percent of the people in the community are Non-Tolerant regarding crime and are in-

volved in the prevention of crime, 70 percent are Tolerant, and not involved, and 20 percent are the Criminal Element who commit crimes. The goal of this program is to mobilize the 70 percent to an attitude of Non-Tolerance and to identify arrest or deter the 20 percent from engaging in criminal activity.

March 30 the Dallas Po-

lice Department's Office of Community Affairs and North Central Patrol Division launched the program by assessing the needs of The Village on Timberglens Apartment Home. Officers and volunteers went door to door to assess the residents' relationship with the Police Department and their crime concerns.

Little Elm's Public Works sets Clean and Green event for May 4

LITTLE ELM - Residents looking to start summer a little lighter will have a chance to reduce their waste, and perhaps a little of their waist in the process, as Little Elm's Public Works Department hosts a Clean and Green trash and recycling event on Saturday, May 4, according to Kevin Mattingly, Public Works Director.

"We've configured the Public Works Service Center lanes in such a way that will allow us to direct traffic in a one-way drive-by trash and recycling drop-off circuit," he said. The Clean and Green event is set to start at 8 a.m. and continue until 1 p.m. There is no charge for the service,

but only Little Elm residents will be allowed to participate.

The Public Works Service Center, 1600 Mark Tree Lane, will allow vehicles to enter on the Mark Tree Lane side and travel through the facility drive-way stopping at the appropriate drop-off points for 1) document shredding and recycling, 2) electronic recycling, 3) metal recycling, 4) tire recycling, 5) bulky trash items drop, 6) tree and branch chipping and 7) hazardous household waste disposal. Vehicles will then exit through the FM 720 side of the facility.

"Because we'll have the drive-through configured into these categories, residents should think

about placing their items in the same order before leaving home. That gives us the ability to keep traffic moving in an orderly and trouble-free fashion," added Mattingly.

If residents have items in one or two categories, they can move directly to those drop-off points, without navigating through the entire driveway. For example, if a resident has documents to shred and recycle and some unused fertilizer, they can drive to the document shredding and recycling drop-off and then drive directly to the hazardous household waste drop-off, bypassing the other drop-off points.

"We'll have people available to help, but resi-

dents should keep their safety and the safety of our personnel in mind. Items should not be heavier than can be easily handled by two people," he concluded.

Proof of Little Elm residency will be required of all participants. A driver's license, utility bill or other document showing a valid Little Elm address will be requested.

Golfer tournament to raise monies to end global poverty in Dallas on April 8

DALLAS - On Monday April 8, over 100 golfers will take a swing at ending global poverty in the seventh annual Dallas Partnership Golf tournament at the Gleneagles Country Club in Plano, Texas. The Dallas Partnership Golf tournament is an initiative of the Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. (AKF USA) to raise awareness and funds that reduce poverty, hunger, illiteracy and poor health in Africa and Asia.

Dallas's 2012 golf tournament raised \$200,000 and is expected to raise more this year. One hundred percent of all donations and net proceeds from the tournament go directly to projects supported by the AKF USA; not a cent is spent on administration.

The tournament attracts high-level corporate executives, civic leaders and local celebrities. Registration and check-in will begin at 10 a.m. The tournament will begin at 12 p.m. with a shotgun start and hole-in-one contest and newly redesigned game challenge. This year golfers will have opportunities to win prestigious prizes such as a Lexus and a Jaguar at five different hole-in-one contests.

An awards dinner with live and silent auctions will follow the tournament at 5:00 p.m. A strolling magician will entertain guests as they network with fellow golfers during this hour. The highlight of this segment will be a helicopter ball-drop starting at 5:30 p.m. which will give golfers an op-

portunity to win an Apple package consisting of a MacBook Pro, an iPad mini and an Apple TV. To register, view the tournament schedule, learn more about the event, volunteer, become a sponsor or make a donation, visit www.partnershipsinaction.org/golf.

Golfers participating at this charity tournament help communities in some of the poorest areas of Africa and Asia create long-term, self-help solutions to lift themselves out of poverty. These contributions make a tremendous impact in creating opportunities for girls in Afghanistan to go to school, for farmers in Mali to feed their families, and mothers in India to lead healthy lives.

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SMU announces Eagle Scholars Summer Internship

Are you looking for an incredible summer opportunity to Inspire, Teach, and Motivate middle and high school students to Persevere to reach their goal of becoming college graduates? If so, the Vickery Meadow/ SMU EAGLE Scholars college-readiness internship was

designed with you in mind.

During the 7-week summer program, you will:

Lead - your own small class of students with another college intern

Experience - first-hand what it's like to teach

Share - meaningful college experiences with 5 to 7 Eagle Scholars

Enrich - your own leadership talent

The EAGLE Scholars Internship begins June 17 and runs for 7-consecutive weeks, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Interns must attend 2 weeks of professional development with Vickery

Meadow and 2 to 3 days of in-service with Americorps.

All EAGLE Scholars Interns must be members of Americorps and will receive a living allowance of \$1,800 and an education award of \$1,175 after com-

pleting 300 hours of summer service. Requirements: If you will begin your junior or senior year of college in the fall semester, or if you are a recent graduate (within 2 years), please go to the link below to apply for the

EAGLE Scholars Internship.

Apply at: <http://www.smu.edu/Simmons/CommunityEnrichment/Youth/EagleScholars/Internships>

Email vmeaglescholars@gmail.com for questions!

2013 Learn 2 Live Green Saturday, April 13

Learn 2 Live Green (L2LG) is a free, fun, family-oriented event helping North Texans live greener and save money with little to no sacrifices. L2LG is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 13 at The Shops at Legacy located near the intersection of Dallas North Tollway and Legacy Drive. It's easy to lead a healthy lifestyle and reduce your impact on the environment.

In its seventh year, L2LG continues providing classes, workshops and demonstrations to provide residents with the know-how and tools to achieve success in all things

green. While most educational events are free, this year online registration is required. Classes and workshops are available inside the Angelika Film Center and in a special storefront, the L2LG Green Space. Learn about urban gardening for homeowners and residents living in apartments or small spaces. Discover Do-It-Yourself (DIY) home projects to save energy and water. Get the facts and how-tos about backyard composting and the latest trend for organic composting - Bokashi.

For a complete schedule of classes and registration, visit learn2livegreen.com. See

lect any of the tabs for workshops or classes, and you'll be directed to a landing page with the registration hyperlink.

Volunteers are the backbone of L2LG and groups are encouraged to get involved. Contact Charlotte DeMolay at charlotte@plano.gov or call (972) 769-4313 by Friday, April 5.

Howard Garrett, "The Dirt Doctor," returns with a special demonstration garden featuring Texas Pure products and ample opportunities for one-on-one consultations with the expert on dirt. New this

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lic power utilities," said McKinney, "These designees should be extremely proud of this accomplishment and what it means for their communities."

"Receiving the RP3 designation means a lot to us," said Jeff Janke, Managing Director of Garland Power & Light. "It's an honor to be recognized on a national level for the work we are doing here in Garland."

The RP3 recognition program is in its eighth year. RP3 utilities hold the designation for two years and resubmit for consideration again at the end of that time period. APPA is the national organization representing more than 2,000 not-for-profit, community- and state- owned electric utilities. It is located in Washington, D.C.

This is the third consecutive time that GP&L has been named a Reliable Public Power Provider.

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Men Against Violence Rally

BY SHIRLEY DEMUS
TARPLEY

What an exciting and inspiring privilege it was to be in attendance at the 'first ever'-- in the USA, Men Against Violence Rally in Dallas on March 23.

This was the idea of Dallas' Mayor Mike Rawlings and was quickly endorsed by elected Texas State senators and representatives, elected city, county and other state officials, city leaders, community leaders, businessmen, celebrities, the Dallas Mavericks and Dallas Cowboys management officials.

There were endorsements and support from Mary Kay Cosmetics, Genesis Women's Shelter in Dallas, pastors, deacons, and church members from area churches.

Mayor Rawlings said, "This is amazing that the men of Dallas are this excited about something that's not about sports," in the wake of disturbing crime statistics. He added, "You can call a guy who hits a woman a lot of things, but you can't call him a man."



Reverend/Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, III

The goal was 10,000 men but due to the weather only an estimated crowd of approximately 5,000 men were in attendance. I saw a sea of men, male teenagers, and young schoolboys.

Jody Dean, long time disc jockey on KLUV 98.7, was the Master of Ceremonies. He asked for a show of hands and waving of towels to see how many men were from each part of the City of Dallas and from the surrounding cities in the Dallas Metroplex area.

When I looked around to see, all I could see were towels and men jumping up and down shouting "Man Up." It



Mr. Richard Fleming, C-FB ISD Board Secretary, Sister Tarpley and Mr. Lew Blackburn, Dallas ISD Board President.

seems to me, even with the rain and threat of a storm, if they didn't have 10,000 men, the communities were still well represented.

Throughout you could see church members in their T-shirts, various Christian clubs and organizations were also in their "Dallas Men Against Violence" T-shirts. Men had "Be a Man" buttons and everybody wore purple ribbons in support of the movement to stop domestic violence. Many carried small signs and banners with the message, "Man Up" against violence. The focus on both mental, as well as, physical

violence.

Dallas ISD Board President Lew Blackburn and Carrollton-Farmers Branch (C-FB ISD) Board Secretary Richard Fleming (the first Black elected on the C-FB ISD board) were there lending their support for ending violence and school bullying.

There were homeless men, celebrities, church pastors, deacons, laymen, and other elected Dallas school trustees, radio and TV personalities, business owners, Christian Motorcycle Club riders, school age children, teachers, principals, and even women in attendance.

Although there women did attend, this was all about men standing up, "Man Up" and speaking up; therefore, only men were speakers. They shared stories about abuses in their own families and their reactions to it, how they over came it and why they were eager to be a part of this rally.

Some noted speakers were Texas Senator Royce West, State Representative

Rafael Anchia, and the six Dallas City Councilmen, leading the six pledges for the men, teenage boys, and younger boys to stop the mental and physical violence against everybody.

Dallas Chief of Police David Brown, Emmitt Smith, Roger Staubach, Dale Hansen, and Steve Jones from the Dallas Cowboys to name a few other high profile

See VIOLENCE, Page 16

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WHEN: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2013 AT 7:00 PM



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Ramtech completes new modular building project for First Baptist Church Frisco

Design-build commercial modular construction firm Ramtech Building Systems of Mansfield has completed the installation of three new modular buildings for First Baptist Church Frisco (FBC).

The 23,386 square foot project includes a 6,750 square foot middle school student worship center with a 13-foot high vaulted ceiling, and 12 fellowship classrooms. The other two facilities include an 8,060 square foot 14 classroom adult education facility



with a fellowship area, and an 8,576 square foot building with six classrooms and 14 private offices with adjacent administrative sup-

port areas for the ministry staff.

As the general contractor for the modular construction project, Ramtech

managed all of the site preparation. A HardiePan-el exterior with a stucco finish was used to match the masonry finish of the existing structures, while the interiors include vinyl covered gypsum wall coverings, commercial grade carpet, and lay-in tile ceilings. Ramtech provided the canopies and steps, ramps, and landings for each building.

As part of the company's continuing focus on developing modular church building projects for faith-

based organizations, Ramtech was chosen to provide the new facilities in order to meet the demand for additional space due to First Baptist Frisco's rapidly growing congregation. Started in 1902 in what was then only a one-horse train stop town, FBC Frisco is located in one of the fastest growing cities in Texas. The Church expects to add 1,100 new members and to use the buildings for a minimum period of four years while permanent expansion plans are developed at a new site.

According to Steve Stege, Executive Pastor of FBC Frisco, "Ramtech exceeded our expectations with these buildings and we will definitely relocate them to any future site that we develop."

All of the modular buildings used for the FBC Frisco project were designed and manufactured at Ramtech's Mansfield manufacturing facility, part of a 20 acre development located in the southern part of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.

Richardson church to host a free all-day workshop for the unemployed and under-employed

A free Job Search Workshop by Career Transition Ministries Team is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, April 27 at The Heights Baptist Church, 201 W. Renner Rd. at US-75 in Richardson.

Free lunch and materials are provided. The all-day workshop will teach

proven job search skills, including:

- * finding your job focus
- * resume critique and development
- * effective networking skills
- * creating a 30-second elevator presentation
- * interviewing techniques

* developing a 2-minute verbal resume and more.

Doors open at 7:45 a.m. Check-in begins at 8 a.m. in the Mezzanine. Pre-registration is required due to limited seating. Register online at <http://www.theheights.org/jobseekers/>

The Heights Jobseekers Ministry serves the community by assisting jobseekers with tools, resources, networking opportunities and workshops. For more information email jobseekers@theheights.org or call Pam at 972-238-7243.



Photo credit: David Alvey

Career Transition Ministries Team

LEARN, continued from Page 6

year is the buzz on bees, literally. Visit the bee box area and learn how to make honey in your backyard from the experts of the Texas Honeybee Guild. Have you heard the clucking about backyard chickens? Meet cute chicks,

get the scoop on coops; and discover the facts about homegrown eggs, benefits of backyard chickens and what local ordinances allow.

L2LG 2013 features lots of children's activities inspiring families to get outside

and enjoy nature - Nature Rocks! Chet Garner, host of the Emmy award-winning PBS show "The Daytripper," provides ideas for day trips throughout Texas. Discover the wonder of nature in Texas! Ranger Rick wants to

meet little environmentalists from North Texas, too. Children plan their own community at the Build Your GREEN City! area courtesy of the Dallas Center for Architecture and Michaels. Entertainment at the L2LG

Main Stage includes Radio Disney's "Rockin' Road Show," The TI Jazz Band (Texas Instruments), The Critterman, Blackland Prairie Raptor Center's Predators from the Sky, plus The Bubble Lady performs a show

every hour in the L2LG Green Space.

For more information, visit learn2livegreen.com or contact Melinda Haggerty at (972) 769-4391 or melinda@plano.gov.

EQUALITY, continued from Page 1

cause of their race, not to mention the election and re-election of our first Black president - to conclude that Blacks in America have overcome.

However, a shiny veneer of progress cannot justify the elimination of affirmative action in education and employment; the roll-back of voting rights protections and relegation of this precious franchise to increasingly partisan legislatures; or a cut back on social investments that can help current and future generations thrive in a fast-changing economy.

Taken alone, our achievements could be hailed as good progress in the pursuit of full equality. But unfortunately, the African-American condition has only im-

proved primarily within our own community. This means that economic disparities with whites persist and cast doubt on what we thought was meaningful change.

These disparities underscore the need to reinforce our fight for lasting economic empowerment and for policies driving development in under-resourced communities. For example, the National Urban League launched our ongoing "War on Unemployment" in 2011, which included the release of our 12-Point Plan: Putting Urban America back toWork. We expanded the program in January of this year with a ground-breaking endeavor, Jobs Rebuild America - a series of public/private investments to-

taling more than \$70 million over the next five years.

Beyond each of us actively working toward solutions, our ongoing struggle cries out for the kind of coalition advocacy that drove many of the civil rights and economic victories in the 1960s. Between November 2012 and January 2013, I helped to organize a historic convening of civil rights, social justice, business and community leaders to identify and push for public policy priorities to drive economic recovery and rebirth for African-American and urban communities and all low-income and working-class Americans. This policy agenda was embodied in an official Communique that included specific recommendations

with clearly defined objectives to move us forward as a community.

When I compare these recommendations with the demands made on that August afternoon in 1963, I am struck by how little has changed.

In 1963, as today, the most pressing demands centered on economic equality, educational opportunity and parity, and civil rights. But instead of fighting against discrimination in hiring or a \$2 minimum wage, we're fighting for job training and wage equity. Instead of calling for school segregation to end, we're demanding an end to disparities in educational investment. Rather than calling for meaningful civil rights legislation, we're fighting to preserve those

very rights our ancestors fought and died for and to retain the practical application of civil rights and equality through affirmative measures to achieve diversity in jobs and education.

Our experience since the Great March says that we must be vigilant in protecting our hard-won rights. To paraphrase William Ernest Henley's poem "Invictus," we must become masters of our own fate to fully realize the economic prosperity we demanded on that day in 1963.

If we are to honor Whitney M. Young, one of the unsung visionaries of the Great March and the Urban League's leader from 1961-1971, we must not only be prepared to seize opportunity when it comes, we must

be committed to creating opportunity when it does not.

Marc Morial is President/CEO of the National Urban League. This article - the twelfth of a 20-part series - is written in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. The Lawyers' Committee is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, formed in 1963 at the request of President John F. Kennedy to enlist the private bar's leadership and resources in combating racial discrimination and the resulting inequality of opportunity - work that continues to be vital today. For more information, please visit www.lawyerscommittee.org.

Two well-respected minority candidates campaigning for Plano's Mayoral Seat

BY: JACKIE HARDY,
NDG CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

On May 11, Plano residents will decide the fate of mayoral candidates Fred Moses and Harry LaRosiliere. The two candidates are vying for the mayoral seat because Mayor Phil Dyer is not seeking a second term. Their candidacy is historic for the City of Plano because the victor will become the first African American mayor for the city.

Plano has a population of just a little over 250,000. Information provided by the Plano City Planning office, showed minorities living in Plano make up approximately 39.4 percent, African-Americans are 6.9 percent of that total, equaling an estimated 18,688 people according to the data from the 2007-2011 American Community Survey.

Long-time residents have seen the demographics of their city changing, but like most cities it has taken awhile for local government to reflect the change. In 2011, Mayor Dyer honored former councilman David Perry for his service to Plano (May 1990 - January 1996) as well as honored him for being the first African-American elected to the city council. Perry also ran for the mayoral seat in 1996 but was unsuccessful.

Candidate Fred Moses is the founder and CEO of Telecom, a Plano-based electric supply company with about 20 employees. His company has operated for 28 years and has gained both national and local recognition.

Telecom has been the recipient of several awards, including the "Supplier of the Year Award" from the Minority Business Development Center of the U.S. Department of Commerce, "The M Award" from Mi-



Harry LaRosiliere

Vision /Plans for Plano:

- Plano to be the premiere city to live, work, and play
- Is a city that encourages diversity in neighborhoods that have aged gracefully, being renovated and rejuvenated
- Offers diverse educational, recreational and cultural opportunities for all our citizens to enjoy
- Maintaining a strong Economic Development Strategy by continuing to fund the program using creative measures such as use of sales tax revenue to bolster the fund.
- Delivering quality services in an efficient manner through best practices and leveraging technology

Endorsements:

- Plano Firefighters Association
- Honorable Pat Evans, 3-term Mayor of Plano
- Honorable Florence Shapiro, Former State Senator and Mayor of Plano
- Brian McCall, Former State Representative (R-Plano)
- Honorable Mabrie Jackson, CEO/President, North Texas Commission, Former City Councilmember

Note: Visit candidate's website at www.harry4mayor.com to see a full list of endorsements

nority Business News, and the "MBE Supplier of the Year Award" from the Dallas/Fort Worth Minority Business Development Council as well as the recipient of the "Gold Star Supplier Award" and the "Partnership Award" from Texas Utilities. Moses has also served on the Board of Advisors of the *North Dallas Gazette*.

"Plano is a great community and where we have raised our family," Moses shared. "Running for mayor is another opportunity for me to be involved on a new level. Hopefully, those things that I have done has prepared me to be a great representative for the city."

Since 2008, Moses has served as chairman of the Collin County GOP. He co-founded, as well as served as Chairman of Plano Community Forum, a non-profit organization that gives scholarships to students within the Plano Independent School District (PISD).

Moses was key in helping the city implement their Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration.

Other boards and committees he has served and/or currently a member of include: Chairman of Plano Chamber of Commerce Executive Board in 1994 (seven years), Plano Economic Development Board



Fred Moses

Vision /Plans for Plano:

- Inspire growth and development within the city
- Keep taxes low by working to expand business and revenue base.
- Support our great school system by supporting the great work that the School Board leaders are doing.
- Work with our City Council and citizens to develop a plan to address the needs of our aging city and maintain the quality of our city with the high standards we have come to enjoy.
- Ensuring Plano remains safe and secure.

Endorsements:

- Rick Neudorff, Former County Chair, Mayor Pro Tem
- Keith Self, County Judge - Collin County, TX
- Shep Stahel, Plano City Council 1999-2008
- Cheryl Williams, County Commissioner
- Rep. Jodie Laubenberg, District 89, TX House of Representatives

Note: Visit candidate's website at www.mosesformayor.com to see a full list of endorsements

(former President), Plano Community Home for Seniors (former President), and Plano Day Care Center Board since 1984 (Treasurer).

Opponent Harry LaRosiliere who was born in Haiti and moved to the U.S. at the age of three, also feels he has been preparing for a life of service his whole life.

"In my late 20's I discovered that helping people was my calling. I have since devoted my professional life as a financial advisor and my personal life of service to achieve that goal."

LaRosiliere is a Financial Advisor for UBS Financial located in Addison. He served two terms as City Council member for

Place 5 (2005-2011) and throughout his tenure he held the titles of Deputy Mayor Pro Tem and Mayor Pro Tem.

LaRosiliere also accredits his readiness to lead from serving on various Plano boards and committees and some of them include: Planning and Zoning Commission (2008-2011), Economic Development Board (2005-2007), Community Finance Committee (2006-2011), Tax Abatement Council Committee (2006-2008), Arts of Collin County Commission (2005-2006 and 2010-2011), and CASA of Collin County Advisory Board (2006-present; served as Chairman from 2000-2001).

"I am the candidate who has a proven track record in municipal governance and shown a true commitment to involvement in municipal governance and I've been given responsibility by two mayors to head up key committees and boards," explains LaRosiliere when asked what distinguishes him from his opponent.

"Harry is an exceptional person and will make a wonderful mayor. He has such a talent for bringing people together and helping create win-win situations," according to Pat Evans a former Mayor of Plano.

The Plano City Council voted 8-0 for Resolution No. 2013-2-19(R) on Feb. 25 to support the Cotton Belt Rail Line project. They voted to continue the pursuit of legislation to form a special district to facilitate development of the Cotton Belt Rail Line. The project is a planned 62-mile commuter rail line set to provide services from cities in the northeast sector of Dallas to southwest Fort Worth with a major terminal at DFW Airport.

"I anticipate positive effects similar to that of the DART station at 15th St. It would create a transit-oriented neighborhood, an area that would attract younger families; and businesses and restaurants would open to support the people that move to the area," commented LaRosiliere in a written statement regarding his thoughts on the economic benefits of the Cotton Belt Rail Line.

Recently, the Council also adopted another resolution entitled the Downtown Plano Vision and Strategy Update, which will serve as a guide to set forth policies and goals for future residential/ commercial developments related to the continued revitalization of downtown Plano and the

See PLANO, Page 15

NDG Gossip: Magic Johnson's son, EJ, comes out of the closet

By Kendria Brown,
NDG Intern

Earvin Johnson III, son of sports legend Magic Johnson, was spotted hand-in-hand with another man, when he revealed that he was gay.

This may have come as a surprise for some people, but not for EJ's parents- Cookie and Magic Johnson. They proudly stand behind their son and are happy for him! They embrace his sexuality and (Magic) Johnson has stated that, "Cookie and I love EJ and support him in every way."

If EJ's decision is to date men, his parents have no argument for him. They naturally accept their son's

decision and believe in him to do whatever makes him happy.

Magic and Cookie have 3 children together ranging from ages 18 to 21. They have been married since 1991, which is also the year Johnson (Magic) came out to the public and revealed his HIV status. Johnson continues to support the LGBT community.

EJ, who is 20 years-old and the couple's middle child, is a student at New York University. EJ and his father both appear to have a close relationship with one another.

When interviewed the night he was seen holding hands with his alleged boyfriend, EJ stated he was



EJ Johnson and friend.

rooting, "hoping and praying" for the Los Angeles Dodgers- which is the team his father helped to purchase last year.

What do think of EJ's "coming out-of-the-closet" or his parents' reaction? Comment on www.Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette.

Pitch, Hit and Run competition comes to Garland

GARLAND - Boys and girls ages 7 through 14 will have a chance to show off their baseball or softball skills in a contest that could ultimately lead to national recognition. The City of Garland's Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a free Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit and Run competition. The event will be held on April 13 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Holford Baseball Complex located at 2420 North Shiloh Road in Garland.

Presented by Scotts, the program gives youngsters an opportunity to compete in a competition that recognizes individual excellence in core skills.

Boys and girls are divided in to four age divisions: 7/8, 9/10, 11/12, 13/14, and have the opportunity to advance through four levels of competition, including Team Championships at Rangers Ballpark and the National Finals at the 2013 MLB All-Star Game. Individual pitching, hitting and running champions, along with the all-around champ in each age and gender group will advance to the next round.

Participants must bring a copy of their birth certificate and have a parent or guardian fill out a registration/waiver before the start of the competition.

Feature film with Johnny Depp is seeking cast members

A feature film with Johnny Depp is currently casting for principal, supporting, and extra roles. The pay is up to \$842 per day depending on role and experience.

Transcendence is a film that centers on a scientific team consisting of husband and wife Will and Evelyn, and Max. The three are attempting work on stem cell and advanced computer technology, which will change the fundamentals of human life. After an anti-

technology organization assassinates Will, Evelyn uploads his brain into a prototype supercomputer attempting to create the world's first machine that

can think for itself. When the anti-technology organization finds out that the procedure was successful, they set out to take possession of the machine with

the intent of demolishing it along with Will and the technology to ever create another like it.

For more details call 702-447-0507.

CHU,

continued from Page 2

recognizable televised dance show, *So You Think You Can Dance?* - which showcased his signature style of contemporary dance to mainstream audiences.

Chu will join fellow contemporary, tap, jazz, hip hop, and ballet artists at 24 Seven Dance Convention, which features an immensely talented faculty of Sonya Tayeh, Danny Wallace, Lauren Adams, Brooke Pierotti, Twitch, Anthony Russo, Jess Hendricks, and Francisco Gella. The team will work with thousands of America's top aspiring dancers, from the ages of five to 19, at various events across the country through all-day workshops, special choreographed performances, and adjudicated competitions.

2013 KNOWLEDGE IS POWER CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 6, 2013

9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Registration will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m.

Bill J. Priest Center, 1402 Corinth Avenue, Room 1530, Dallas, TX, 75215

This conference will provide information about doing business with public entities; workshops aimed to stimulate the growth of minority and women-owned businesses; and business to business networking.

There is no cost for this event;
however, registration is required.

Complimentary breakfast and lunch will be provided.



SESSION AGENDA

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Registration and Continental Breakfast	
22 sing.Die to Be Roundtable. The State of Public Procurement and Doing Business within a Public Procurement Environment	Kimi Tate, Dallas ISD Mark Booker, Garland ISD Rusty Talbot, Mesquite ISD Ben Collins, City of Dallas Gary Holcomb, City of Garland Le Sealey, City of Mesquite
22 sing.Strategies. Joint Venture Partnerships	Attorney Rebecca Hicks, Hicks Law Group Annie Partee, Dallas ISD
13 on. Business Testimonials	Successful Business Owners and Joint Venture Partners
Business Strategies. How to Act and Sound Different From your Competitor	Karl Graf, 6 POINT Management Group
Business to Business Networking.	



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FTC's Top 10 list for 2012

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) released its top 10 complaint categories for 2012.

For the first time ever, the agency received more than two million complaints. Of the two million

complaints, 18 percent were related to identity theft. Of those 18 percent, almost half were related to tax or wage fraud.

Here is a complete list of the top 10 complaint categories:

1. Identity Theft - 369,132 complaints
2. Debt collection - 199,721 complaints
3. Banks and Lenders - 132,340 complaints
4. Shop-at-Home and Catalog Sales - 115,184 complaints
5. Prizes, Sweepstakes and Lotteries - 98,479 complaints
6. Impostor Scams - 98,479 complaints
7. Internet Services - 81,438 complaints

8. Auto-Related Complaints - 78,062 complaints
9. Telephone and Mobile Services - 76,783 complaints
10. Credit Cards - 51,550 complaints

The FTC uses the Consumer Sentinel Network to

record complaints throughout the year. The secure database is available to more than 2,000 civil and criminal law enforcement agencies across the country and helps agencies research cases and track targets.

DRAINS, continued from Page 1

would have resulted in \$6.34 billion in economic activity and created 79,000 jobs.

In comparison, payday lending activity added \$5.56 billion to the national economy and created 65,000 jobs.

Combining these figures shows a net loss from payday lending of \$774 million in economic growth and over 14,000 jobs -- in addition to \$169 million lost through Chapter 13 bankruptcies.

The report states, "This nearly \$1 billion loss in economic activity should serve as a strong signal that, in addition to the well-documented harm to the families directly receiving payday loans, payday lending harms local community economies

and the overall economy."

"Payday lending drains over \$2.5 million from the economy each day", continued the report. "In addition, we estimate that more than 38 people lose their jobs each day due to the economic drain of payday lending."

Payday lending has been a centerpiece of the Center for Responsible Lending's research and policy efforts over the past decade. CRL also supported the new report's development.

Earlier CRL research determined that each year 12 million Americans become entrapped in payday loans, taking out an average of nine loans per year. With more than 22,000 locations, there

are more than two payday stores for every Starbucks coffee store.

CRL has also documented how storefront payday lenders tend to concentrate locations in low-income and communities of color. The Southern states of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and South Carolina had the highest number of payday stores per 10,000 residents. Outside of the Deep South, Missouri and Nevada were the only states with comparable density of payday storefronts.

Similarly, the Insight Center found that five states were charged the greatest amount of payday loan interest were California, Texas,

Florida, Mississippi and Illinois. In these locales, financial payday losses ranged from \$135 million in California to \$55 million in Illinois.

Remarking on the Insight Center's new findings, Keith Corbett, CRL executive vice-president said, "Payday lending is really financial assault

on communities of color. By preying on consumers with few resources, this predatory product takes what little they have and winds up leaving borrowers worse off than before these loans."

Corbett's comments are underscored by the Insight report. "Far from creating op-

portunity, payday lending creates impoverished households and endangers local economies.

Charlene Crowell is a communications manager with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at: Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org

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Weeknights

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Daily

Activity Time Highland Hills at Highland Hills Branch Library, 3624 Simpson Stuart Rd.; 214-670-0987

Personal Views: Texas Black Folk Artists at African American Museum, 3536 Grand Ave.; 214-565-9026

Every Tuesday

Dallas Comedy House Open Mic at 2645 Commerce St; 214-741-4448

April 5

16th Annual Excellence in Education Scholarship Luncheon at noon at the Dallas Convention Center, Ballroom "A" at 650 South Griffin Street in Dallas.

April 6

DSO on the GO at Allen Performing Arts Center, Allen at 7:30 p.m. www.DallasSymphony.com/DSOontheGO for details

Dance Planet 17 at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts; Free; Info: 214-219-2290

Miss P.E.A.R.L. of Dallas Inner-Beauty Scholarship Pageant at Bishop Lynch High School, 9750 Ferguson Rd. at 7p.m.; \$10; Info: 214-854-7494

April 7

Dog Bowl at the Cotton Bowl on April 7 from 1 - 5 p.m. the event is free and open to the public

Dallas Poetry Grand Slam Championship at Poor David's Pub at 5:30 p.m.; \$10 & \$15; Info: 214-565-1295

April 13

5K Run for Human Rights at Bachman Lake

Park, 3500 Northwest Hwy at 8:30am; \$10-\$35; Info: 214-273-4331

April 16

Rihanna: Diamonds World Tour at American Airlines Center at 7:30 p.m.

April 17

Irving International Women's Purse Auction at Las Colinas Country Club, 4400 N. O'Connor Blvd. in Irving at 6-8:30 p.m.; \$50; 972-831-8866

April 18

Lecture and book signing: Novelist Joe Coomer, 6:30 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. lecture will read from his first novel, *The Decatur Road*, which is being republished by Degolyer Library at SMU <http://smu.edu/cul/degolyer/>

April 20

Earth Day Dallas Earth Day Dallas at Fair Park, 3939 Grand Ave. at 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; FREE; 214-310-1200

DSO on the GO at Stone-

briar Community Church, Frisco at 2:30 p.m. DallasSymphony.com/DSOontheGO for details

Sharepoint 2010 for Business Intelligence training at 320 Decker Drive, Suite 100; Irving; 800-540-3192

Dallas March for Babies at Norbuck Park, White Rock Lake at 9 a.m.; 972-232-1348

Fort Worth March for Babies at Farrington Field to Trinity Park at 9 a.m.; 682-201-3037

Earth Day Dallas at Fair Park, 3939 Grand Ave. Dallas at 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Free

April 21

Family Funday in Irving at Irving Arts Center in Irving at 2 - 4 p.m.; Free; 972-252-7558

April 22

International film: Girl Rising Screening at Sid Richardson Lecture Hall 1, West Bowie Street in Fort

Worth at 6:30 - 10 pm; Free; Info: <http://girlrising.com/see-the-film/>

April 23

Just Say YES Luncheon - "Pointing Youth in the Right Direction" Tickets are \$100; Sue Bailey - Phone 972- 437-0002 ext. 223 or sbailey@justsayyes.org

April 26

Human Trafficking Lunch and Learn at The Texas White House, 1417 8th Avenue in Fort Worth at 12 noon; \$10 (covers lunch); Info: 817-289-0461

Pathway to Healthy Living Health Fair at Stone Ridge Apartments, 600 E. Arkansas Ln in Arlington from 4 - 7pm; Free; Info: 469-759-9002

April 27

Early Voting begins Today! In Dallas County; Early Voting April 27 - May 7; Info: 214-819-6300

April 30

Big, Hot, Cheap, and

Right: What America Can Learn from the Strange Genius of Texas at Fort Worth Club, 306 W. 7th St. in Fort Worth at 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.; \$55; 214-965-8403

May 5

Nasher Sculpture Center and Dallas Architecture Forum present Design Symposium features The *New York Times* Chief Architecture Critic Michael Kimmelman at 2 pm.

May 10

Visionary Women Luncheon at Omni Hotel Dallas, 555 S. Lamar Street at 12 p.m.; 214-827-0813

May 10-11

Full Moon Fever: A Tribute to Tom Petty DSO Pops Series at 8 p.m. Tickets: 214.692.0203 or www.DallasSymphony.com.

May 11

FREE Bancroft Family Concert at 3 p.m. at the Dallas Museum of Arts located at 1717 North Harwood, Dallas www.fineartscham-

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Prosper to celebrate National Telecommunicators Week

PROSPER - The Town of Prosper is among the thousands of communities throughout the nation that will pay tribute to their dispatch operators during National Telecommunicators Week April 14-20, according to Communications Supervisor Sidney Snyder.

"Dispatchers, 9-1-1 operators or telecommunicators are all names that refer to those men and women who provide that calming voice when you dial 9-1-1. Our job is to act as that solid, unbreakable bridge between people facing emergencies and the public safety personnel who will ultimately respond. We're that critical link in the chain that makes it all work," she said.

Prosper has operated its own emergency call center at

Town Hall for about three years, and currently has seven telecommunicators who are trained and certified in quickly and accurately dispatching appropriate emergency resources, providing critical instructions to persons awaiting help, and serving as the calming, comforting and compassionate telephone companion to the distressed.

"Each of our telecommunicators is skilled in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, bleeding control techniques, and some of us have even been known to talk surprised fathers through childbirth," said Snyder.

As part of the celebration, the Prosper Police Department is asking young residents to participate by submitting a drawing of "A Day in the Life

of a Dispatcher." The communications personnel in three categories will judge drawings: ages 2-5, 6-10 and 11-15. Prizes will be awarded for best drawings in each category.

"We'll give each winner a commemorative t-shirt, and we'll hang all of the entries in our lobby area," she said.

The dispatch office operates 24-hours a day, 365 days a year, and in addition to dispatching police, fire and EMS personnel to emergencies, the telecommunicators serve as the first contact for people seeking help. "For that reason, we're known as the first first-responders. Without the initial interaction between us and

persons at the site of an emergency, our first-responders would be at a dangerous disadvantage," she added.

An important part of the dispatcher's job is maintaining that vital link not only between people seeking help and public safety personnel, but also between the various agencies within the public service sectors. That connection allows police and fire personnel to know what each is doing, and allows dispatchers to relay real-time information which can assist in criminal apprehension and in coordinating search and rescue operations.

"We're where it all starts, and sometimes, we get the sat-

isfaction of seeing a good ending to a difficult situation. Either way, we try to accomplish our jobs with professionalism, decorum, stability and steadiness," she said.

Drawings may be dropped off between April 14 and 20 at Town Hall, 121 W. Broadway

St. in the downtown area, at the Dispatch office, 110 Main St. or given to any police officer, firefighter or EMS technician. Please include the name of the child, age and contact information on the backside of the drawing.

TEXTING, continued from Page 1

the more than 165 organizations already engaged in the Texting & Driving-It Can Wait movement, and to use the policies, technologies and communications materials available free at att.com/itcanwait to help move their employees beyond being aware of the danger to making a personal commitment not to text and drive.

"Businesses can help keep their employees and others on the road safe by encouraging responsible behavior behind the wheel, including obeying all laws related to the use of electronic devices," said U.S. Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Thomas J. Donohue. "We also encourage all businesses to consider joining the 'It Can Wait' movement to end texting while driving. Together we can help turn the tide on this serious issue."

Through It Can Wait, AT&T has reached millions with the insight that most text messages are trivial, and no text is worth dying for. It has made the dangers of texting and driving real and personal by giving thousands of people hands-on experience with driving simulators and sharing the heart-wrenching stories of people — like Jamie Nash in this video — whose lives have been forever changed by texting-while-driving accidents. More than 1.3 million personal commitments never to text and drive have been made at ItCanWait.com, through Facebook, text-

to-pledge, tweet-to-pledge or at events.

"Through the It Can Wait movement, AT&T is collaborating with employers, nonprofits, law enforcement, educators, legislators, professional associations and government agencies nationwide," said AT&T Senior Executive Vice President and Global Marketing Officer Cathy Coughlin. "I'm confident, together we can save lives by encouraging millions more to make the personal commitment never to text and drive."

For more information, please visit www.ItCanWait.com.

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April 2013

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Mondays – Fridays

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

April 7, 2013 8 a.m.

Join us in Early Morning Worship Service; stay for Bible Classes at 9:30 a.m. and for Easter Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.

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

**BIBLE WAY
COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH**

April 5, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Women's Fellowship as we praise God; worship Him and Study His Word.

April 6, 9 a.m.

Join us for Men's Fellowship as we worship and praise God; and we study His Word.

April 7

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

April 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, three things are incorporated when they come, children learn and they play and have fun.

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

**CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH
IN RICHARDSON**

April 3, 8:45 or 11 a.m.

You're invited to our Morning Service as we honor and praise God for His blessings to us.

April 6, 10 a.m.

"Love Languages" Couples Workshop; call the church for details.

April 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, honor and praise.

**Dr. Terrence Autry,
Senior Pastor**

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www.followpeace.org**

**CHRISTIAN CHAPEL CME
TEMPLE OF FAITH
CHURCH**

April 7

Join us in our Morning Worship Experience at 8 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. Come and be blessed of God.

April 8, 7 p.m.

Join us for God's Daughter's Bible Study; as we study God's Word and worship His name.

**Rev. Kwesi R. Kamau,
Senior Pastor
14120 Noel Road
Dallas, TX
972-239-1120
www.cctof.org**

**DELIVERANCE
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April 2013

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

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

**Monday – Friday
9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

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

**April 7, 8 a.m.
And 9:30 a.m.**

Join us for Worship Services as we praise God for the victories in our lives. Come and grow with us. You're also invited to a new series of teaching, "Guaranteed Victory". God will "Equip, Elevate, and Empower" you; call the church for details.

April 10, 7 p.m.

Join us for our Church Wide Fasting each Wednesday (100% juice & water only); the fast begins at 12:01 am with our 1st prayer at 3:30 am; 2nd prayer at 12 Noon, and the closing prayer at 6 pm. Then join us for 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
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956
www.theship3c.org**

**SAINT MARK MBC
IN MCKINNEY**

April 7, 9:30 a.m.

Join us in our Morning Worship Service and stay to enjoy our Education Ministries at 10:45 a.m.

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

**SHILOH MBC
IN PLANO**

April 7

8 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Join us in our Easter Sunday Morning Worship Service as we praise and honor God. Our theme this year is "SMBC: A Church Focused on Excellence while Teaching the Word, Preaching the Gospel, Reaching the World." Also, after both services ministers and deacons are available to meet with you for prayer or questions.

April 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**

**THE INSPIRING BODY
OF CHRIST CHURCH**

April 7, 7:30 a.m.

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

April 8, 7 p.m.

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

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

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

Early Prayer, 5 a.m.

Join us in prayer early in the morning at 5 a.m. on Monday – Thursday at 1-661-673-8600, Code # 142219 and please put your phone on mute. God will meet you and prayer does change people, things and situations.

April 7, 9:30 a.m.

Join us for Sunday School with Elder/Superintendent Greg Mason; Sis. Vicki Mason, adult class teacher and Evangelist Elizabeth McAfee, children class teacher and Director of our children's choir. Then stay for Morning Service at 11 a.m. as we worship, honor and praise God for His goodness.

April 9, 7:30 p.m.

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

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

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Sunday Morning Worship
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Wednesday Night Live
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"And I will give thee the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the Lord, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel." **Isaiah 45:3.**

If you are going through a trial that seems to be lasting, to you at least, a long time, now is the time to tie a knot to the end of your rope and continue to trust God.

You may find yourself out of your comfort zone because you are in a difficult place in your life. However, study the scriptures and allow God to lead you to certain passages that will help to increase your faith and help you to hang on until your situation change for the better.

What you may perceive as dark periods in your life are designed to be treasures from God. They are riches stored in secret places. You, perhaps, cannot see the treasures in your darkness because of the pain and fear that you are feeling. But, God has a

purpose for your trials. During these trying times you are completely at God's mercy for breakthroughs in your life.

You will never know how personal God is, or that He can be trusted to meet the deepest needs in your life. You will never experience God's faithfulness without your trials. God want you to know that you are "called by your name;" that every hair on your head is numbered. God is aware of every activity that you are involved in. His love for you knows no bounds and He will use every opportunity to show this to you.

An old adage says, "God's answer to your prayer is seldom early, but it is never late!" If you trust Him, God will give you the grace you need and at the right time.

If you keep a right attitude and not allow bitterness or resentment to take hold, then at the right time, in due season (if you faint not); God will answer your prayers.

Habakkuk 2 tells us that God has an appointed time to answer your prayers so that you receive just what you need at just the right time to live victoriously and happily.

Believe that God is at work in your life bringing about what He knows is best for you.

Ask God for patience as you faithfully wait for your situation to improve. "For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry." **Habakkuk 2:3.**

Remember, Satan will attack your mind and will tell you that no one cares about you or your problem and he will try to convince you that you are alone with this problem. Instead of giving in to those evil thoughts don't forget to open your Bible and turn to scriptures in the Word of God that guarantees you that your needs will be met.

Tell God that with the help of the Holy Spirit, you won't take back your problem. This is not an easy thing to do; but every time the problem comes to your mind, quote a scripture and praise God.

A pastor once told his congregation, you can't stop temptations and evil thoughts from coming to your mind, but you don't have to let them build a nest there.

Your Treasures in God's Darkness



(L to R) Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD Board Secretary Richard Fleming (1st Black Trustee on C-FB board), Sister Tarpley and Texas Senator Royce West at the first-ever Men Against Violence Rally in the United States, Downtown Dallas. Other pictures and can be viewed at www.northdallasgazette.com

Learn to find your treasures in God's darkness for you. The next time you're facing a problem, give it to God. He has volunteered for the job and you can trust Him to do it well. After all, He really does care for you.

To God you're unique and one of a kind. Your life can be what you want it to be. Take the days just one at a time. Learn to count your blessings, not your troubles. With God, you'll make it through whatever comes along. Understand that your

treasures are "stored in secret places," have courage and be strong.

It is Spring time, time for a new beginning, we have plenty to be thankful for. Learn the true meaning of Easter, and this weekend, have a happy and blessed Easter!

PLANO, continued from Page 9

DART Rail Corridor.

LaRosiliere thinks connecting downtown with Collin Creek Mall would only help further the goal of economic development for the area. He also believes a complete renovation and re-development of Collin Creek Mall through the collaboration of private/public funding would generate an economic boom to the area.

Moses advised he would be looking to partner with private developers to develop concepts of businesses that would draw people to the downtown Plano area.

Moses asserts, "I will continually work with the other city council members to maintain Plano as one of the best places in America to live."

For more information about candidate Harry La-

Rosiliere visit: harry4-mayor.com and for candi-

date Fred Moses visit: mosesformay-or.com.

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You've been practicing your autograph.

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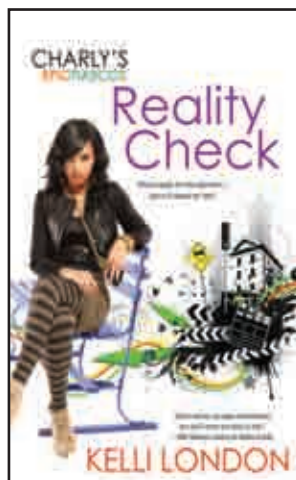
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NDG Book Review: "Reality Check: Charly's Epic Fiascos" by Kelli London

be famous one day. In the new book "Reality Check" by Kelli London, fame finally happens to a NYC teen. Too bad her dream turns out to be a nightmare.

To Charly St. James, there was no doubt that she'd be a star someday. She'd do anything to make it happen, even if it meant sneaking into a sitcom filming, pretending like she belonged there. And it worked: when she was caught on-set by a man who promised fame, he loved her persistence so much that he cast her in a new reality show.

This new life in New York was going to be a lot different than it was in Chicago, and Charly knew



she had a lot to learn. The show was about rewarding people who really deserved it, which spoke to Charly's heart. The fact that she'd be working with Annison – the

beautiful star Charly had been watching on TV since forever – was just icing on the very yummy cake.

The men on the show were tasty, too: Sully, with his scruffy good looks, charmed Charly because he was a lot like her. Liam, with his smooth British accent, made her knees weak. Yes, the men on the show were hot, but Charly had a boy already: Mason was the love of her life but they just didn't get to see one another enough.

So there it was: Charly got her dream job where she was allowed to bring her puppy, Marlow, with her to work. Life was good – until it started getting weird.

Sully said that Annison couldn't be trusted, which is something Charly learned quick. Liam accidentally kissed Charly, which may not have been accidental and which made Mason jealous. In a matter of weeks, Charly went from co-host to host to assistant to off the show, and she had no idea why.

Forget the mic check. Was it time for a reality check?

Just like the first book in the "Charly's Epic Fiascos" series, I didn't like this novel much at first. Reality Check isn't very based in reality – I mean, seriously, what teen forces her way into instant TV stardom?

That almost never happens... but what does hap-

pen is that a book kind of gets under your skin and makes you smile, which what author Kelli London did here. I grew to really enjoy this story, partly because Charly's a gutsy girl and partly because she doesn't become a stereotypical diva. That's a very good surprise, which turns this into a rather good book.

If you dream of fame and fortune, be careful what you ask for. And if you want a decently fun novel, Reality Check is a book to write down.

"Reality Check: Charly's Epic Fiascos" by Kelli London (2013, Dafina Teen, \$9.95, 288 pages)

VIOLENCE, continued from Page 7

men there to lend their support.

Chief Brown said the issue has emerged as his department's "highest priority."

"Each year we have over 13,000 domestic abuse cases, we have 4,000 warrants that currently need to be served and we have about 400 people we're looking for to bring to justice." Chief Brown also said, "One message we have to abusers: You can run, but you can't hide."

There were many teary eyes when Dale Hansen delivered an emotional and haunting story from his youth. When he was seven years old, Hansen said he saw his mother's nose bro-

ken by a punch from his father.

"My dad was the strongest man," Hansen said. "Never has such a big man looked so small in the eyes of a little boy."

Roger Staubach said, "It's amazing that we even have to have this rally," and he added, relating a story about a friend who bore witness to domestic violence in his home.

Dallas Cowboys receiver Dez Bryant made a surprise appearance, introduced by Steve Jones, he made a brief comment; Bryant apologized for his role in a domestic altercation with his mother. He was arrested for allegedly hitting his mother, however the

charges were eventually dropped by the Dallas District Attorney's office. The agreement he reached last November requires him to attend counseling sessions and stay out of trouble for a year.

Bryant said, "I made a mistake and I just want everyone to know it's not good to hit women."

Mayor Rawlings said his next priority is raising money for shelters and working with faith-based groups on counseling. He is also working with legislators on a "three strikes" law for serial abusers.

With the rain and storm threat, in my opinion, this was a successful event and I look forward to the second

Men Against Violence Rally in the Dallas Metroplex area.

The highlight of the rally was the closing remarks from the renowned and electrifying Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, III, and the Senior Pastor of the Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas.

For the past 30 years, Pastor Haynes has led with a commitment to Christ, passion for people and yearning for community transformation. To that end, he has grown Friendship-West to nearly 12,000 members during his tenure as Pastor. Possessing a commitment to education he has a Bachelors Degree from Bishop College, a Master of Divinity degree

from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry from the Graduate Theological Foundation.

Dr. Haynes is an author, radio show host and foremost a Pastor. In all he does, he exudes the mantra of the late

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. – believing in the urgency of now, marrying theology with a call to impact our sociological issues.

Pictures from the rally can be viewed at www.northdallasgazette.com and NDG's other social media channels.

Bible Way Community Baptist Church



Dr. Timothy J. Wilbert, Sr.
Senior Pastor

4215 N. Greenview Dr. • Irving, TX 75062
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Ramon Hodridge, Minister

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www.avefchurchofchrist.org

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Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 am
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