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Crowd safety tips Boston Marathon bombings

In the wake of the explosions at the Boston Marathon, safety experts offer a reminder that there are steps that can be taken to protect yourself and your family in a crowd.

For those who find themselves in crowded areas, Signal 88 Security Vice President of Franchise Standards Tim Conahan



A Boston Marathon bombing victim receives medical attention from first responders. (Image via Flickr smi23le)

points to three keys to safety: be prepared, follow directions and stay aware. "These are simple ways to ensure you stay as safe as possible," says Conahan. "With so many factors out of your control, take a few seconds to do what you can."

Signal 88 Security draws on its experience

overseeing security services for events such as concerts, athletic events, NASCAR and Tough Mudder runs to provide the following personal security recommendations:

- Be Prepared Before a large event, coordinate with your family/friends where you would meet if separated.

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Long-overdue: effective approaches for reducing prostitution in Texas

AUSTIN – Texas incarcerates sex workers at a higher rate than most other states, and it is the only state in the nation to charge individuals engaging in prostitution with a felony. This punitive approach has not significantly deterred individuals



from prostitution or decreased the number of prostitution arrests. Instead, Texas' policies have resulted in high costs associated with policing, prosecuting, and incarcerating these individuals, and they have created collateral

See PROSTITUTION, Page 4

Before you rent, do your homework

BY JASON ALDERMAN

Maybe you're a college student looking to rent your first apartment; or a downsizing homeowner reentering the rental market for the first time in decades. Whatever your situation, there are many precautions you should take before renting any property. The last thing you want is to be saddled

with a 12-month lease you can't afford or to be stuck in a neighborhood you've come to detest.

As one who's been there, let me share a few tips for renting a home:

Before you even start looking, know how much you can afford to spend. Housing is the biggest monthly expense for most people so if you miscalculate

what rent is affordable, your budget will suffer from the get-go. Besides rent, don't forget such additional expenses as a security deposit, utilities, cable/satellite, Internet access, renters insurance, parking and laundry facilities and one-time move-in expenses like window treatments, appliances or rugs.

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NDGS VIEW



Public input sought before Don Hill's hearing

See www.NorthDallasGazette.com for more details.

COVER STORY



Rene Castilla (Place 2)



Juan Ronco (Place 1)

Three open city council seats have Irving voters headed to the polls

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Straighten Up and Fly Right! An Unforgettable Tribute to Nat King Cole

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COMMENTARY

Time to get smart on crime

BY BENJAMIN TODD JEALOUS

The United States has five percent of the world's people but twenty-five percent of the world's prisoners. For the sake of our families and future we must do better.

Our nation leads the world in the incarceration of our own citizens, both on a per capita basis and in terms of total prison population. The problem stems from the decades-old "tough on crime" policies from the Nixon/Reagan

era. We are stuck in a failed "tough on crime" mind state that is characterized by converting low-level drug addicts into hardened criminals by repeatedly locking them up when they should be sent to rehab for drug treatment.

More than 500,000 of the 2.3 million people behind bars in the U.S. are incarcerated for nothing more than a non-violent drug offense. And over 40% of them are people of color. Although rates of

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People In The News...



Pinkie M. King Gardner



Adrienne Lofton Shaw



Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks

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Pinkie M. King Gardner

DALLAS – The Dallas Independent School District will celebrate the naming of the Pinkie M. King Gardner Auditorium and the Robert A. Simpson Sr. Band Hall at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 20 at Wilmer-Hutchins High School, 5520 Langdon Road. The Dallas ISD Board of Trustees has named portions of Wilmer-Hutchins High School for Ms. Pinkie M. Gardner and the late Mr. Robert A. Simpson Sr. for their contributors to the Wilmer-Hutchins community. The event will feature remarks from Dallas ISD

School Board President Dr. Lew Blackburn, Dallas ISD Division 5 Assistant Superintendent Josephine Hernandez-Gutierrez, Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price, Hutchins Mayor Artis Johnson and Wilmer Mayor Hector Casarez, as well as family members of the two honorees. The celebration will include performances by the Wilmer-Hutchins High School Jazz Band and the Choral Ensemble.

Gardner, a lifelong resident of the city of Hutchins, is the only living member of

the first and only graduating class of the Wilmer-Hutchins Colored High School, which was destroyed by fire in 1939. She is a strong advocate for education and was an outspoken supporter of reopening the schools in Wilmer-Hutchins. A retired nurse, she continues to serve on the board of the Oak Cliff Boys and Girls Club, the city of Dallas Advisory Board for Older Adults and the state Advisory Council for the Aging in addition to serving as a Dallas County election judge.

The late Mr. Robert A. Simpson Sr. served as band instructor in the Wilmer-



Hutchins ISD for 31 years and was the district's first

African American band director. He touched the lives

of hundreds of students during his time as director of the Wilmer-Hutchins High School Marching Band. A professional musician who played with a number of popular performing artists, Mr. Simpson wrote and played music for Abnak Music Enterprise and served as music director for several arts organizations before founding and serving as the executive director of his own non-profit Third Coast Arts Center in 2002. In 2009, in honor of his contributions to the field of musical arts, he was inducted into the Dallas Metroplex Musicians Association. Mr. Simpson passed away in February 2009.

Adrienne Lofton Shaw

The Dockers brand have announced Adrienne Lofton Shaw will join the company as vice president and chief marketing officer on April 15. In this role, she will be responsible for creating and leading the Dockers® brand strategy and overseeing Dockers global marketing efforts. Lofton Shaw will report to Seth Ellison, executive vice president and president of the Dockers brand.

Lofton Shaw brings extensive global marketing experience across a variety of industries. Most recently, she was the senior marketing director at Under Armour, Inc. responsible for the global brand strategy for men's, women's and youth products, as well as accessories. Adrienne played an integral roll in successfully launching and developing a women's marketing strategy, brand positioning and voice.



"Adrienne is a leading marketer with proven

success at understanding and engaging consumers

around the world," said Seth Ellison, president of the Dockers brand. "We believe she has the passion, intellect and unique experience necessary to help connect the Dockers brand with consumers in a meaningful way to drive our business forward."

Prior to working at Under Armour, Inc., Lofton Shaw held marketing positions at Target Corporation, General Motors Planworks/Starcom MediaVest and Gap Inc.

"I'm thrilled to join the Dockers team and be part of the brand that invented and re-invented the khaki category," said Adrienne Lofton Shaw. "Together, I know we can tap into the brand's unlimited potential as we expand the relationship with our current consumer, and usher a new generation of loyalists into the brand."

Lofton Shaw replaces former Dockers chief marketing officer Jen Sey, who is now serving as senior vice president of e-commerce for Levi Strauss & Co.

Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks

DALLAS - The Faith & Philanthropy Institute

will be held 9 a.m. to noon on Thursday, May 2 at the



will host a forum in May about the glass ceiling facing women and the leadership deficit in the social sector. The Women Leading Greater Good Forum

Hackberry Creek Country Club, 1901 W. Royal Lane, in Irving.

Women fill nearly 70 percent of staff positions in nonprofit organizations

while men hold a majority of senior management positions. According to the national nonprofit strategy group Bridgespan, the nonprofit sector must attract and develop nearly 640,000 new senior management leaders to replace departing senior executive leaders by 2016.

A panel of 12 women leaders from the social, business, and government sectors will discuss solutions to this glass ceiling and executive leadership deficit in the social sector. The Faith & Philanthropy Institute has named 12 Women Leading Greater Good Honorees as panel members. Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, president and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Dallas and North Central Texas, is among the panelists.

"Women not only have to be visionary leaders and creative strategic planners, but they are challenged to increase their network of business associates," Dr. Mitchell-Brooks said.

Other panelists at the forum include Trisha Cunningham, chief citizenship officer of Texas Instruments; Dr. Paula Dobb-Wiggins, psychiatrist and adjunct professor at SMU Perkins School of Theology; Linda Perryman Evans, president and CEO of the Meadows Foundation of Texas; Hind Jarrah, cofounder and executive director of Texas Muslims Women's Foundation; Niki Nicastro McCuiston, nonprofit and business strategist; Nada J. Ruddock, director of Community Affairs at NBC 5/KXAS-TV; Dr. Claire Sahlin, chairper-

son of the Department of Women's Studies at Texas

University; See BROOKS, Page 4

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42 and what it takes to change a nation

BY MARTIN FROST

There is a scene near the end of the wonderful new movie "42" when Jackie Robinson asks Brooklyn Dodgers General Manager Branch Rickey a simple question: "Why did you do it?" He was asking Rickey why he took the courageous step to break the color barrier in major league baseball in 1947.

Rickey's response has particular resonance for white pro civil rights Democrats of my generation.

Rickey told a story about how, when he was the player coach of a team at a Methodist college in Ohio 40 years earlier, he had a very talented African-American catcher on his team and how he did nothing to help that catcher pursue his dream to play on a high level. He told Robinson he had regretted his inaction for years and vowed to set things right if he ever had a chance.

White southern politicians of my age (I was first elected to

Congress in 1978) grew up in a segregated society. I graduated from high school in Ft. Worth, Texas, in 1960 and the Ft. Worth public schools were not integrated until the late 1960's.

As a young person I realized segregation was wrong but, unlike the younger Rickey, I was not in a position then to do anything about it. Over a period of time I decided, like Branch Rickey, that I would help change things if I ever had the chance. I was not alone among white Democrats who came of political age in the 1970's and 1980's.

And there is a strong baseball connection in my coming of age. My local Double A baseball team, the Ft. Worth Cats, was a Dodgers farm team so I followed the Dodgers, along with the St. Louis Cardinals who were carried on radio throughout the south during my teenage years. Many players who ultimately made it with the Dodgers played for the Cats at some point in their career. As a kid, I

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A different perspective on the Boston Marathon Bombings

BY DR. LESLIE W. SMITH

As I reflect upon the events of today, I am reminded of how grateful I am for the free gift of salvation. Were it not for what Christ accomplished on the cross for you and me, I would be outraged at what occurred in Boston today. Instead, I am deeply saddened that in a country with more liberty than any other place on the planet, someone would dare to take that liberty as a license to destroy innocent lives once again. We are forced to face the reality of man's inhumanity to man that invariably results from sin sick souls.

Tonight, we pray for the victims and the perpetrator or perpetrators, for that is the way of the cross. Jesus, as He surren-

dered His life, asked His father to forgive those who were putting Him to death. We, as Americans and as believers, will survive this event. We shall never get over it, we shall never forget it, but we shall get through it...together.

Perhaps this might be an occasion when we can remember what joins us together instead of what drives us apart. We are Americans...not Black or White, not Hispanic or Asian, not Republicans or Democrats, but Americans. It is that reality and the grace of God that will get us through this.

May God bless you and may God bless the United States of America.

Dr. Smith is the Senior Pastor at North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship.

CRIME, continued from Page 1

drug use and selling are comparable across racial and ethnic lines, blacks and Latinos are far more likely to be criminalized for drug law violations than whites. One in nine black children has an incarcerated parent, compared to one in 28 Latino children and one in 57 white children.

This failed approach to criminal justice has both a direct and indirect impact on our children. Immediately, many children are faced with foster care as their parent is locked away for a non-violent drug offense. In our report, "Misplaced Priorities: Over Incarcerate, Under Educate", we found that situations like this lead to achievement gaps as early as grade school in communities that have high incarceration rates. The report also shows that mass incarceration siphons funds from our schools, leading to skyrocketing public education costs for students hoping to attend college.

There is no question that violent criminals must be locked up. Unfortunately, the "tough on crime" strat-

egy of the last four decades has become a dangerous distraction for law enforcement, diverting attention and resources away from violent offenders and onto non-violent acts that require counseling, not incarceration.

The fact is that so called "tough on crime" policies have failed our nation and its families. It is time to move to "smart on crime" policies that reduce sentences for drug offenses - most notably mandatory minimum sentences - and focus on rehabilitation and prevention rather than punishment. Encouragingly, this kind of reform is being sought on the state, local and national levels.

In the United States Senate, Chairman of Judiciary Committee, Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), and Senator Rand Paul (R-Ky.) have introduced the "Justice Safety Valve Act of 2013". The bill would allow federal judges to bypass federal mandatory minimum sentences when the sentence does not fit the crime. It is encouraging to see a bipartisan effort on criminal justice reform,

based on the notion that mass incarceration is draining state budgets and national prison capacities.

Meanwhile, President Obama released his budget proposal this week and called for the largest increase in drug treatment and prevention funding in at least a decade. This is a promising sign that key players in the White House are looking at drug addiction as a public health issue, instead of an issue of crime and punishment.

Progress is also being made in statehouses, where rising prison costs are straining state budgets. In Georgia, South Carolina and Texas, the NAACP and progressive groups have teamed up Republican legislatures to reduce mandatory minimum sentences and increase options for parole. In Texas, the NAACP worked with Tea Party leaders and a coalition of activists to pass 12 "smart on crime" reforms that resulted in Texas scheduling its first prison closure in state history.

Support for criminal justice reform is not just limited

to civil rights activists. This month, the NAACP, hip-hop pioneer Russell Simmons, Dr. Boyce Watkins and coalition of over 175 artists, actors, athletes, elected officials and advocates brought national attention to this issue by presenting an open letter to President Obama, urging him to double down on his efforts to move to a criminal justice model based on prevention and rehabilitation. With signers like Will Smith, Scarlet Johansen and Richard Branson, the letter has expanded the movement to bring and end to the failed "tough on crime" policies.

If we allow the current trends continue, one in three black males born today can expect to spend time in prison during his life. The time has come for all of us to do all that we can. The future of our families, states, and nation demand it. If we are going to find our way back to first in education and job creation, we must first decide to stop leading the world in incarceration.

Ben Jealous is President/CEO of the NAACP.

Ophthalmologists urge African-American seniors to get routine eye exams

To help curb vision loss among at-risk communities, the American Academy of Ophthalmology is reminding African-Americans about race-related risk factors for eye disease during National Minority Health Month in April. African-Americans

are more than twice as likely to develop diabetic retinopathy compared to Caucasians and are four times more likely than Caucasians to go blind from glaucoma. African-Americans also face a greater risk for cataracts.

Additionally, because

most serious eye diseases are age-related, African-American seniors are at especially high risk for eye diseases and blindness as they age. Because of these risk factors, ophthalmologists – medical doctors who specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of

eye diseases – encourage all seniors with race-related risk factors to get a comprehensive, dilated eye exam to detect problems early and prevent vision loss.

Seniors of all ethnicities may qualify for care through EyeCare America, a public

service program of the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. EyeCare America offers eye exams and up to one year of care at no out-of-pocket cost to qualifying seniors age 65 and older. Eligible patients are matched

with an ophthalmologist in their area to provide this care.

“The first line of defense against eye disease is to get an eye exam and find out if there’s a problem,” said Richard P. Mills, M.D.,

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PROSTITUTION, continued from Page 1

consequences for the arrested individuals themselves and the communities where prostitution occurs.

“These women are daughters, sisters, mothers, of all races and ages, and they have one common denominator – they need some help to get off the streets,” said State Senator José Rodríguez. “Harsh penalties have harmed people who we might be able to help while failing to keep the streets clean. We must approach this issue with compassion for those who are victimized by the sex trade, and maintain a focus on keeping families safe, healthy and intact.”

A new report out today from the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition (TCJC) recommends that communities invest in diversion programs, which have a proven track record of success in offering individuals a safe and permanent exit from prostitution, while simultaneously saving the state and counties much-needed funds and positively impacting both public health and public safety.

“Repeatedly locking up these women without giving them any help is failing them, failing taxpayers, and simply moving the problem from one street corner to another,” said State Representative Eric Johnson. “I am committed to finding an

approach that will end this senseless practice and give people the tools they need to make better life decisions.”

Companion bills by Representative Johnson (H.B. 2801) and Senator Rodríguez (S.B. 1712) will offer individuals a viable exit from the business, while helping them avoid the devastating, lifelong consequences of a conviction.

•H.B. 2801 and S.B. 1712 will allow for participation in a pretrial intervention or deferred prosecution program that will provide much-needed support for individuals who engage in prostitution, creating long-

term reductions in recidivism and its associated costs. Participation in such a program, as available in the county and based on the consent of the district attorney, will require education, counseling, or treatment in regard to mental health, substance abuse, and sexually based issues. Furthermore, successful completion of the program may result in dismissal of the charges, where applicable.

•H.B. 2801 and S.B. 1712 will cap the punishment for offering to engage in (vs. soliciting) prostitution at a Class A misdemeanor, resulting in significant cost savings. Again, this prevents someone who

has become trapped in prostitution from becoming saddled with the collateral consequences of a felony conviction, which make it difficult to leave that lifestyle and often result in further offending. In addition, counties will forego the expense of felony prosecutions, and the state will see savings as a result of not having to incarcerate these individuals in state jails or prisons.

“Individuals become involved with prostitution for a variety of reasons,” said Dr. Ana Yáñez-Correa, TCJC’s Executive Director. “It may be a conscious, voluntary decision; it may be a means of survival; or it may

have been forced upon them. These women and men are far more likely to suffer from mental illness, drug and alcohol addiction, and past trauma than both the general population and many other individuals entering the criminal justice system. They need real help, and we believe these policies are a smart step for Texas.”

For a copy of TCJC’s report, *Effective Approaches for Reducing Prostitution in Texas: Proactive and Cost-Efficient Strategies to Help People Leave the Streets*, please visit www.texascjc.org/effective-approaches-reducing-prostitution.

BROOKS,

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Becky Sykes, founder and past president of the Dallas Women’s Foundation; Debbie Taylor, southwest regional director at Citi Community Development; Charity Wallace, director for the Women’s Initiative at the George W. Bush Institute; and Michelynn Woodard, vice president of philanthropy at JCPenney.

“The Women Leading Greater Good Forum is a new series of conversations hosted by the Faith & Philanthropy Institute that spotlights women on the frontlines of social change and empowers the next generation of women leaders,” said Faith & Philanthropy’s Founder and President, Sherrye Willis. “This forum is connecting women from all sectors of society to discuss the social challenges facing the health and well-being of our communities.”

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Curtis Report

by Barry Curtis

According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children 800,000 children under the age of 18 are reported missing each year. The number of Black children in that figure is an estimated 150,000. It is critical to note on the outset that "all" missing children are valued the same by this author, but I am troubled in thinking perhaps the media and law enforcement itself does not value our kids the same.

Let's look at the numbers first, if 800,000 kids go missing each year that is over 2,000 kids a day! According to the statistics some 20 percent of those are black. I

agree that's stunning, but let's reflect on this, here is the \$64,000 question? Do you see more news stories about missing black kids or non-black kids? Reflect in an honest manner. You and I both hit the jackpot on this one, of course we see far more stories about non-black kids. Does the media think that stories about pretty Barbie babies missing in the suburbs makes a better cover story than a little black kid missing from the projects of south central Los Angeles?

"Most people don't realize how many children of color are missing, and make assumptions because they don't see them on television." Says Gaestane Borders, president of PEAS IN A POD, a non-profit organization that monitors missing

black children. She goes on to say that "It's definitely related to bias against African-American children," said Borders. "They don't think they will sell or are newsworthy enough." That's stunning! What on earth are we allowing to happen?

Our children are being stolen and exploited under our self-indulged eyes. What social structure of any community can long endure such staggering numbers assaulting their families?

The law enforcement factors are equally baffling. Generally speaking does the nation's law enforcement see missing black kids differently? This is not an indictment of law enforcement. However, one must consider that possibility that our overworked, resource challenged

police forces across the country may see a missing black child as just another unfortunate product of the ghetto? Are police more sensitive to the more "power connected" white families that yield greater influence?

The facts as well as my questions are a power indictment of a black community that for once is not out raged enough about something. I challenge the black community to shout higher in an effort to be heard in the media over the sounds of HIP HOP. I challenge the black community to pay more attention to wear our kids play, eat and sleep.

I challenge the black community to love our black kids as much as the media thinks the white people love theirs.

Black young and gone

Summer registration underway at TSTC



WACO — For those planning to attend summer classes at Texas State Technical College (TSTC), registration is now underway. But hurry, as there is just a short window of time to register — registration ends Friday, April 26, and classes begin Monday, May 6. Registration is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

TSTC offers nearly 100 programs in everything ranging from Laser Electro-Optics and Landscape Design, to Auto Collision Repair, Environmental Health, Electrical Powerline Technician Line and much more.

Students also can choose online training, while high school students can enroll in dual credit classes and get a jump on their college degree. A complete listing of summer classes is available at www.waco.tstc.edu/classes.

Students seeking financial aid for the summer semester should contact the TSTC Financial Aid Office immediately at 254-867-4814. The TSTC Website, www.waco.tstc.edu, provides additional details and an online application.

To register or find out more, call 254-867-2360.

McKinney Skate Park holds grand opening event Saturday

MCKINNEY — The McKinney Skate Park at Gabe Nesbitt Community Park will host a grand opening event on Saturday, April 20 at 10 a.m. The Skate Park, located at 7001 Eldorado Pkwy., is the latest development in the large community park that is also home to The Courts tennis complex, John and Judy Gay Library, the

McKinney Green Garden and fields for baseball and softball.

The Skate Park grand opening features music, concessions, raffle prizes and a lot of skating. The park has elements for all skill levels, including three bowls, street elements, more than 30,000 square feet of concrete and shaded seating for spectators.

Vertigo Skate Shop and skateboard sponsors Element, Plan B, Enjoi and Almost will provide prizes and giveaways for participants at the event. Other features include DJ Fresh hosting the event, 60 free American-made hats and demos from Lucky Pro Scooter riders.

For more information, call 972-547-7480 or visit

the city website.

EXAMS, continued from Page 4

chairman of EyeCare America. "It is our goal to ensure that the cost of medical care never stops someone from getting a sight-saving eye exam."

Most eye diseases have no early symptoms, so the only way to detect them before vision is permanently damaged is through a dilated eye exam. The exam may uncover early signs of eye disease, like abnormal blood vessel growth or pupil responses, damage to the retina or optic nerve, and vision loss. The following symptoms may indicate that an eye disease has advanced:

- Vision loss
- Blank spots or dark areas in your vision
- Blurred vision
- Double vision
- Poor night vision

- Faded colors
- Sensitivity to light
- Eye pain

Anyone who experiences any of these symptoms should contact an ophthalmologist immediately.

To see if you or a loved one age 65 and older qualifies for care through EyeCare America, visit www.eyecareamerica.org.

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UTD students celebrate International Week



Students Eric Nezerwa, Mark Nwokocha, Fatou Kebe and Cordelia Osondu participated in the event to represent Nigeria.

International Week is a UT Dallas tradition that celebrates culture on campus. The student body at UT Dallas includes Comets who hail from 100 countries. During the week, held April 1-5, students shared information about clothing, cuisine, design and music at the signature Passport to the

World event and the International Talent Show. Other popular activities included Zumba dancing, henna and a dance party.

Spin Academy offered to help students writing skills

Spin Academy is a summer writing academy in Plano, slated to begin on July 8 and run through August 3. The academy will meet in the conference room at Haggard Library, located at 2501 Coit Road. The tentative schedule is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday for the four weeks.

Tonya Andris, the founder, said the academy is open to 10 students. Tuition for the academy is \$375, but there is an early-bird special (\$200) available through Friday, May 24. After Memorial Day, the price goes back to the standard rate. In addition, Andris confirmed two scholarship slots are available for economically disadvantaged students. For scholarship qualifications call 469-247-5478.

Andris, is a former newspaper journalist. For 13 years, she worked as a copy editor and freelance writer for newspapers and maga-



zines in Texas, including the *North Dallas Gazette*, *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, and

the *Houston Chronicle*. In 2005, Andris was trained by the Texas Education Association to grade Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills writing samples composed by 7th graders in the Lone Star State.

Andris currently attends Texas Woman's University, where she is a candidate for a master's in English.

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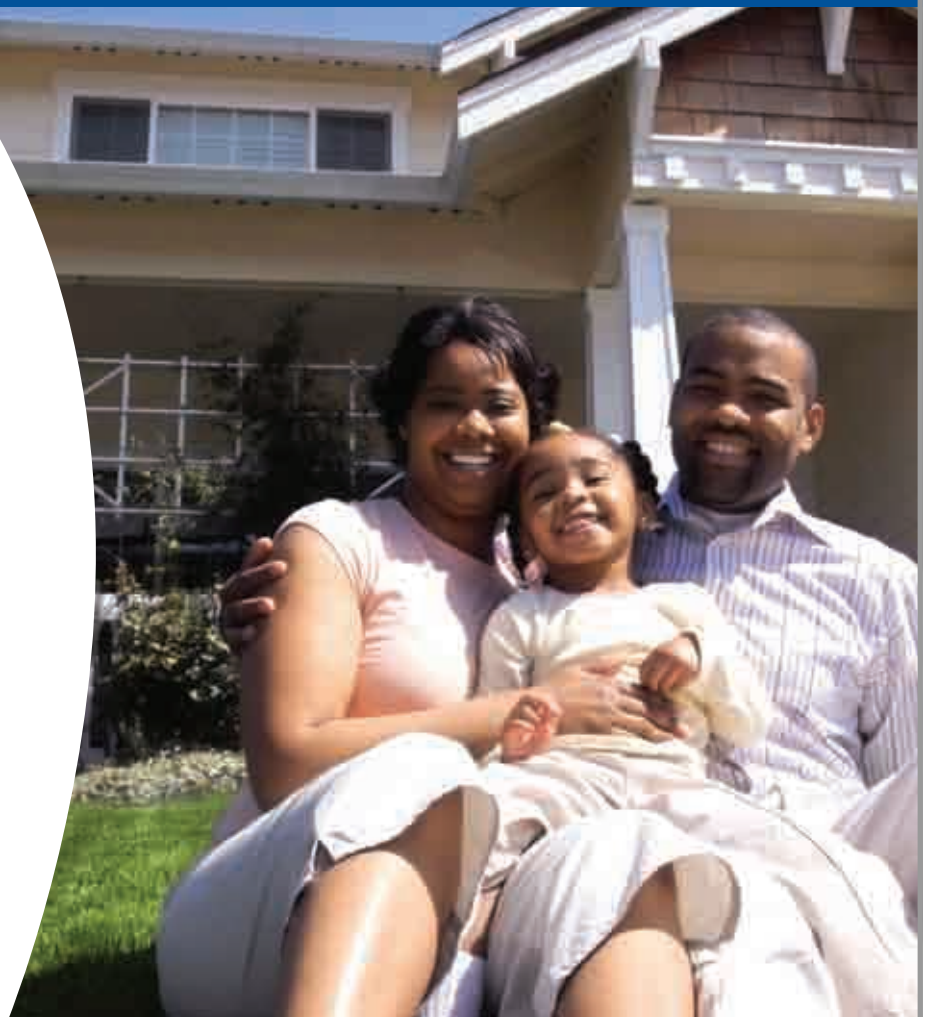
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43rd Annual USA Film Festival highlights

DALLAS – The USA Film Festival announces the schedule of events for the 43rd Annual USA Film Festival, April 24 - 28, 2013. All programs will be held at the Angelika Film Center, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane in Dallas.

This year's program highlights include:

- 90th anniversary presentation of the Harold Lloyd classic *Safety Last!* (restored digital print)
- 35th annual National Short Film & Video Competition (an Academy-qualified program)
- 25th anniversary screening of the John Carpenter cult classic *They Live* with Meg Foster in attendance
- Salute to veteran indie distributor Jeff Lipsky
- Academy Award®-winning filmmakers Nat Faxon and Jim Rash present *The Way, Way Back*
- Veteran documentary filmmaker Greg Barker presents *Manhunt*
- Actress/writer Abby

Miller presents *Congratulations*

- Director Susan Seidelman presents *The Hot Flashes*
- Caesar Must Die from Paolo and Vittorio Taviani
- Kevin Connolly's documentary *Big Shot*
- Linda Bloodworth-Thomason's documentary *Bridegroom*
- Feature debuts from Lake Bell (*In a World...*) and Lance Edmonds (*Bluebird*)
- New films from Sarah Polley's *Stories We Tell* and Lynn Shelton's *Touchy Feely*
- Japanese anime feature *The Princess and the Pilot*
- Feature documentaries *Blackfish* (dir. Gabriela Cowperthwaite), *Free the Mind* (dir. Phie Ambo) and *More Than Honey* (dir. Markus Imhoof)
- Texas ties – films from hometown filmmakers:
- Stephen Tobolowsky hosts a program of short films and filmmakers including veteran character actor Jim Beaver with *Night Riders*



- We salute writer/director David Gordon Green with his new feature *Prince Avalanche*
 - Actress Amy Acker presents Joss Whedon's *Much Ado About Nothing*
 - Writer Joey O'Bryan's Hong Kong thriller, *Motorway*, gets the big screen treatment
 - Writer Brad Hennig presents *The Hot Flashes* (a feature film created to support cancer screenings)
 - Dallas filmmakers Drew Rist and Don Merritt present their documentary *Bottled Up*, the Dublin *Dr Pepper* story
- Advance tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

Garland hosting 19th Annual Buyer/Vendor Mixer on April 26

The City of Garland is hosting the 19th Annual Buyer/Vendor Mixer on April 26 at the Garland Fire Administration office located

in Room 417 of the Auditorium at 1500 Highway 66 in Garland. The Garland Independent School District, the City of Mesquite, and the

City of Rowlett will have purchasing officials at the Mixer also.

See MIXER, Page 13

Multicultural Outreach Roundtable Hosts National Day of Prayer on May 2

The Plano Multicultural Outreach Roundtable (MCOR) will host a National Day of Prayer program on Thursday, May 2 from 7 to 8 p.m. at Plano Municipal Center (City Hall), 1520 K Avenue. The public is invited to attend this

free event and reception. The reception immediately follows the service and is designed to foster dialogue between the various cultural and religious groups.

The Plano National Day of Prayer program celebrates

its seventh anniversary as an interfaith service. It is held in the evening to accommodate working people and school children. The program is characterized by brief prayers of an inclusive nature offered by

See PRAYER, Page 16

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Three open city council seats have Irving voters headed to the polls

BY: JACKIE HARDY

Nine candidates will be vying for the open Irving City Council seats of Place 1, 2 and 7 on Saturday, May 11. This election will include two single-member districts (Place 1 and Place 7) and one at large seat (Place 2).

In the Place 1 race there are two minority candidates competing, business owner Luis Reyes, 49 and data processor Juan M. Ronco, Jr., 25 along with business veteran, Loren Byers, 67 and former Irving City Council member John Danish, 62 who also served as Deputy Mayor Pro Tem during his tenure.

After stepping down in 2011 from the Place 3 seat, former councilman Allan Meagher, 50 has decided to put his hat in the ring for Place 2. Also Place 2 candidate Kensley Stewart, 52 is taking another attempt at running for city council as he unsuccessfully ran for the Place 3 seat currently held by Councilman Dennis Webb.

In addition to Meagher and Stewart, Rene' Castilla, 72 is setting his hopes for Place 2 and he is no stranger to Irving politics. Castilla currently serves as the Chairman of the Mayor's Human Relations Advisory Committee and has served on several local government committees and boards.

Student and 18 year-old Place 2 candidate, Francis Schommer is running on the

Below are responses the North Dallas Gazette submitted to each candidate:

What are the two top budgetary concerns/issues facing Irving residents?

Place 1 Candidates

Byers: Bond Service and infrastructure. Restructure debt at current rates. Doing as much infrastructure maintenance in house as possible. Competitive bid process that accounts for quality as well as cost.

Danish: Irving should have a comprehensive policy to ensure a reliable water supply for the future that addresses what sources we currently have, what we expect our needs to be, and what actions we should take to address these needs. Irving should take a proactive approach concerning our transportation needs. We need to update our Master Thoroughfare Plan to reflect our present and future needs.

Ronco: As our community is growing we need to continue to ensure that our residents are provided with an adequate water supply and that economic development continues to thrive thus we must continue to seek the cooperation of the proper entities as well as being fiscally efficient and taking initiatives to be more resource efficient at home.

Reyes: No Response

Place 2 Candidates

Castilla: Financing of



Gerald Farris (Place 7)

infrastructure in our older neighborhoods. Deteriorating fire support vehicles.

Place 7 Candidate

Farris: The primary focus of local government should be quality of life. It is still of great importance to find more avenues to infuse life into our aging neighborhoods. This is achieved by evaluating past successes and failures and taking an aggressive multi-faceted/departamental approach with actions and dollars. The value of these actions cannot be discounted in terms of maintaining and improving property values / revenues that comes back to the City.

What economic development and/or redevelopment projects you feel must be of priority within your respective district and the overall city?

Place 1 Candidates

Byers: A significant first step needs to be taken for the Heritage District. Something like putting the utility lines underground. Let's get some shovels moving! We need to be more proactive about DART and TRE service. We need to work with our appointed member on the DART board to push for the extension of the Orange Line to the South Irving Station and to expedite the TRE service to the north (to include a stop at the orange line). We need to put forth a big push to bringing the infrastructure to South Irving that will be a catalyst for positive growth in the area. Plus the proposal at <http://lorenbyers.com/proposals/>.

Danish: In managing stalled, redevelopment ef-



John Danish (Place 1)

forts past problems must be left behind. We must collaborate while we move into the future. Heritage Crossing has languished long enough while we pay the debt. Las Colinas projects can happen if we put our minds to solutions we can support. Upgrading our infrastructure and retail services in South Irving must be priorities. We also need to increase single-family residential housing in Heritage Crossing to stimulate retail services.

Ronco: I believe that many of the new development projects should place emphasis particularly in areas that have the potential to become major attractions. These areas include Downtown Irving, the Heritage area and many other areas of the city particularly because they are the heart and tradition of Irving and we can combine the old and new as this area provides the potential for that.

Reyes: No Response

Place 2 Candidates

Castilla: The city would greatly benefit from a Department of Economic Development that guides city planning and economic strategy

Meagher: No Response

Schommer: No Response

Stewart: The Entertainment Center with developers and contractors who are experienced in doing these projects and an operations partner who has experience as well. Heritage Crossing needs a vision that makes sense, is business friendly, is agreeable to the residents, and will not drain the city of millions of dollars.

Place 7 Candidate

Farris: The city needs a citywide comprehensive plan that will help all districts. This will allow for some re-zoning for properties that have outlived their purpose and find new life. In addition, the Irving Boulevard / Heritage Crossing; Beltline Road and Urban Center should continue as economic and development priorities as well as infrastructure improvements.

What are some specific solutions to bridge the gap between North and South Irving?



Juan Ronco (Place 1)

Place 1 Candidates

Byers: Working with citizen organizations to improve neighborhoods throughout the city to create cohesive bonds forged from a common interest for a better

volunteer hours and donated dollars to great causes in the community they call home. Those are the things that need to be encouraged and rewarded to unify our great city.

Danish: With the improving economy, land banked real estate around Heritage Crossing, and the rail connection to DFW Airport next year, the South Irving Train Station stands ready to accommodate new development that will offer our residents new shopping, dining, living, and working opportunities. The time has come for Irving to capitalize on the improving economy



Kensley Stewart (Place 2)

and leverage its assets for the revitalization of the Heritage District at Heritage Crossing, with the connection of the Orange Light Rail Line to DFW Airport. I believe Irving's best days are still



Loren Byers (Place 1)

platform of the "person who can bring a fresh perspective to Irving City Council," and incumbent Gerald Farris, 54 is seeking re-election for Place 7.



Rene Castilla (Place 2)

the various bond projects that are being considered.

Meagher: No Response

Schommer: No Response

Stewart: Crumbling in-

Campaign websites

Name/Place: Loren Byers/Place 1
Website: www.lorenbyers.com

Name/Place: Kensley Stewart/Place 2
Website: www.kensleystewart.net

Name/Place: Francis Schommer/Place 2
Website: www.francisschommer.com

Name/Place: Rene' Castilla/Place 2
Website: www.renecastilla.com

Name/Place: Gerald Farris/Place 7
Website: www.geraldffarris.net

city. I am proud that citizens stand up to volunteer to help out through their church or civic organizations to improve the entire city. I am grateful we are blessed with so many businessmen and women that give countless

ahead, and there is no better place to begin making good things happen than in South Irving's District 1.

Ronco: I feel that in order to bridge the gap, we must work to redevelop

See VOTERS, Page 13

Straighten Up and Fly Right! An Unforgettable Tribute to Nat King Cole

MINNEAPOLIS - *Straighten Up and Fly Right! An Unforgettable Tribute to Nat King Cole* featuring Maurice Jacox will be playing at the Majestic Theatre in Dallas, TX on Sunday, April 28, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. and promises to be an unforgettable way to spend a spring afternoon.

SUAFR began seven years ago in the Twin Cities and has toured Regional Performing Arts Centers and Theaters throughout the upper Midwest. Formed by Bob Pontious and Maurice Jacox, SUAFR brings its audiences back to an innocent time in

live music performance by recreating the aura, the sound, the memories, and the authentic re-production of the sound and stylings of Nat King Cole.

By utilizing authentic instruments of the time, crisp narration and extensive research into Cole's music, this show straddles the line between concert performance and theatrical presentation. The audience will hear highlights of Cole's recording career and life story and songs that are typical of his vast repertoire. That repertoire includes Ramblin' Rose, L-O-V-E, Unforgettable, Mona Lisa,



Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer, and of course, Straighten Up & Fly Right.

Jacox, winner of the Minnesota Music Academy Jazz Award, City Pages Best Male

Vocalist and the Blues Society Best Blues Artist brings experience and a wealth of knowledge about Cole's life story to the stage. His command of Cole's vocal skill is brought to the stage with tenderness, wit, and a genuine respect for the music of Nat King Cole.

Straighten Up & Fly Right: An Unforgettable Tribute to Nat King Cole, was conceived, originally arranged and produced by Twin Cities musician Bob Pontious. He was the pianist for the show until his untimely passing in 2010. Toward the end of Pontious'

life, Jacox promised to keep the show alive. This performance is part of the second tour of the show since Pontious' passing.

A video sample of *Straighten Up & Fly Right: An Unforgettable Tribute to Nat King Cole* is available on YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80Z-ZLpl7I_A.

The *Straighten Up and Fly Right! An Unforgettable Tribute to Nat King Cole* featuring Maurice Jacox, with 8-piece ensemble begins at 4 p.m. at the Majestic Theatre. The Majestic Theatre is lo-

cated at 1925 Elm Street in downtown Dallas.

The cost is \$25 plus facility fees and sales tax. For more information call 214-670-3687 for directions and further information. Tickets are available online through PreKindle at www.prekindle.com, www.heartlandconcertartists.com and www.straighten-up-and-fly-right.com. Phone orders call 1-888-454-4353 or e-mail support@prekindle.com. Tickets may also be purchased the day of the show at the Majestic Theatre, beginning at 2:30 p.m.

Fame auditions scheduled

GARLAND — Garland Civic Theatre has scheduled auditions for a production of the popular musical, *Fame* on May 18 and 19. This is a production for Next Generation Players, ages 8 to 18. All of the auditions will be held at 108 North Sixth Street in downtown Garland.

Appointments are required for all auditions. Please call 972-485-8884 to

schedule your appointment. Appointments are available on each day 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. A parent must accompany their minor children. Auditioners should bring a headshot and resume to their appointment, but no experience is required. They should be prepared to sing 16 bars of a Broadway song and 16 bars of a ballad. Please bring sheet music for songs. Auditioners

may or may not be asked to sing both songs.

From the hit motion pictures, television series, and international stage success, "*Fame*" is nothing short of a global phenomenon. The book is by Josh Fernandez, lyrics are by Jacques Levy, and music is by Steve Margeshes.

Set during the last years of New York City's celebrated High School for the Performing



Arts on 46th Street (1980-1984), *Fame* is the bittersweet but ultimately inspiring story of a diverse group of students as they commit to four years of grueling artistic and academic work. With candor, humor and insight, the show explores the issues that confront many young people today.

With its topical subject matter, multi-ethnic cast of actors, singers, dancers and in-

strumentalists and high-energy, contemporary pop score *Fame* is an ideal musical for young performers.

Rehearsals begin on June 3, with performances scheduled for Wednesday through July 31 – August 4. All the shows are at the Granville Arts Center, 300 North Fifth Street in downtown Garland. Visit the GCT website at www.garlandcivictheatre.org or call 972-485-8884.

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Presented By:

NATION, continued from Page 3

knew the story of how a white southerner, shortstop Peeewe Reese, had befriended Robinson during his very tough first year in the majors.

I crossed a personal Rubicon in my attitude on race relations when my long-time hero, Stan Musial, retired from the Cardinals 50 years ago. I needed a new hero and in no time that became Cardinal pitcher Bob Gibson. Gibson was a ferocious competitor who personally

willed the Cardinals to World Series victories in 1964 and 1967. For a white southerner to have an African-American hero was nothing short of stunning.

This was about the time I started to seriously contemplate a career in politics. And like Branch Rickey, I decided to make a difference in race relations if I ever had a chance. My impact pales in comparison with what Rickey did by integrating baseball, but as a congressman I

stood with Ron Dellums on trying to stop apartheid in South Africa, supported extension of the landmark Voting Rights Act and voted for other civil rights legislation on a consistent basis. In my own way, I made a small difference.

I was not alone among my white contemporaries elected from the South during this era. Whereas southern white Democrats had once stood as a barrier against civil rights, a num-

ber of white Southerners of my generation took stands for racial equality, even if their politics were somewhat conservative on other issues. The world had changed.

The magnificent movie "42" reminds us of how far we have come as a nation and that this change did not happen easily. Martin Luther King Jr. and his supporters like Congressman John Lewis (D-Ga.) faced even more violent challenges when

they took a stand for civil rights a generation after Jackie Robinson played his first game for the Dodgers.

America is such a sports crazed nation that it should come as no great surprise today that the battle for civil rights made great strides on an athletic field before our laws were changed by Congress.

Go see this movie even if you don't care a whit about baseball. It tells us a lot about

the courage it takes to make change in America.

Frost represented the 24th Congressional District of Texas from 1979 to 2005. He was chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee in 1996 and 1998 and served as chair of the House Democratic Caucus from 1999 to 2003. He is a partner in the Washington office of the Polsinelli, Shughart law firm.

BOSTON, continued from Page 1

rated. And although it's unthinkable, Conahan suggests mentally rehearsing how you would react if you were confronted by an act of violence, such as an explosion or active shooter. "Decide what objects you would choose for the best cover," advises Conahan. "If there is no cover, determine your next step. Run, hide or fight!"

•Follow Directions When you arrive at a crowded place, help maintain order by parking in designated spaces or as directed.

Don't ignore signs or barricades, which are often placed to control a crowd. Once you're part of the crowd, stay safest by following its flow rather than going against it. Conahan also recommends taking a bathroom break before getting in a long line.

•Stay Aware Create a habit of scanning a room, event center, or concert hall for the nearest emergency exit when you arrive, in case you need to escape quickly. Watch out for signs of trouble, including if those around

you suddenly turn to the same direction and the noise level increases. Additionally, if you see someone put down a bag and walk away, notify security personnel, law enforcement or the event organizer immediately.

•In Case of Emergency: If you find yourself in a situation such as the explosions at the Boston Marathon, leave the area immediately. Leaving will reduce your risk of further injury and allows first responders to properly assist other victims.

Use these keys to safety to be ready the next time you're part of a crowd. Signal 88 Security stresses while

it's important to be responsible for your own safety, by following these guidelines there is no reason to live in

fear. However, if you ever do feel uncomfortable or threatened, follow Conahan's simplest advice, "Go home!"

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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 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 De-

Golyer Library at SMU <http://smu.edu/cul/degolyer/>

Concerts at the Arboretum: Blaze of Glory at Dallas Arboretum, 8525 Garland Road at 7:30 p.m.; 214-515-6500

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

DADA Bike Swarm form 1:30 - 5 p.m. Cyclists of all age levels and abilities are invited to the Dallas Art Dealers Association and Bike Friendly Oak Cliff's Bike Swarm as part of the DADA Spring Gallery Walk at 223 West Jefferson Boulevard. The event is free and includes a self-guided tour of the art galleries located in the Design District.

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 25

Richardson Young Professionals Happy Hour 5 - 7 p.m. at Fuzzy's Taco Shop, 561 W. Campbell Rd., Richardson

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

Beekeeping Classes at Pan African Connection Bookstore, 828 Fourth Ave at 12 noon; Info: 214-565-8466

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.fineartschamberplayers.org

May 17-19

Wildflower! Richardson's Arts & Music Festival; <http://www.wildflowerfestival.com/>

May 19

The Singers Celebrate! at Mesquite Arts Center, 1527 N. Galloway in Mesquite

May 23

Wells Fargo is hosting a **Home Preservation Workshop** in Dallas at the Hyatt Regency Dallas.

May 25

8th Annual Writer's Breakthrough Workshop at Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. RSVP to poetry@gracelajoy.com or 816-318-1388.

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VOTERS, continued from Page 9

areas in need in order to bring all of Irving up to par. Upon that task, we must work to attract all people to all parts of Irving and create an that incorporates unity despite socioeconomic status.

Reyes: No Response

Place 2 Candidates:

Castilla: Create a Community Development Program that guides the redevelopment of neighborhoods, resulting in a master plan for one Irving that bridges the gap between north and south Irving, thus

eliminating the image of Irving is two cities in one.

Meagher: No Response

Schommer: No Response

Stewart: #1 Let's stop with the North versus South terminology. It's not productive and presents an "US ver-

sus THEM" mentality...We are ONE Irving, we have two distinct areas with different needs.

#2 Let's stop talking about placing lines underground and start doing it. We have a lot of work to do... let's get started.

Place 7 Candidate(s):

Farris: I don't know that "gaps" necessarily need to be bridged. All aspects of the city have different amenities, attractions, needs and weaknesses. All areas of the city need Council's attention for

various reasons. These needs will shift over time.

The Irving League of Women Voters will be hosting a Candidate Public Forum at Irving City Hall on April 22 at 6 pm.

RENT, continued from Page 1

Scope out the neighborhood. Determine how safe you feel walking around, especially if you'll be parking on the street. Come back to see if the neighborhood's character changes at night or on the weekend. Also note the proximity to parks, schools, grocery stores, public transportation and busy commuter routes.

Thoroughly inspect each potential rental:

- Consider total useable space – sometimes a smaller unit with a well-designed floor plan is more desirable than a larger space with a poor layout.

- Use a tape measure to measure each room to determine whether your furniture will fit. Ensure there's sufficient closet, cupboard and storage space.

- Look for safety features like deadbolts and peepholes on exterior doors, well-lit corridors, stairwells and parking structures, smoke detectors,

fire extinguishers and bars or other security features on first-floor windows.

- In multi-unit buildings, note the condition of common areas – that's a clue how attentive the owner/ manager is regarding upkeep.

- Note the condition of appliances, plumbing fixtures, floors/carpeting, electrical outlets and switches, light fixtures, walls and windows. If you spot damaged or worn items, ask whether they'll be replaced. If not, make sure they're noted in the rental agreement.

Once you find a suitable place, read the rental agreement carefully. Don't hesitate to ask a lawyer or more experienced friend to review it. If not spelled out in the lease you may want to ask the landlord:

- How much is the security deposit and what are the requirements for getting a full refund?

- How are rent increases determined?

- What happens after the lease term ends? Often, it'll convert to a month-to-month rental agreement where you can leave anytime with proper notice (usually 30 days).

- How many tenants are allowed?

- Can you sublet the unit

before your lease expires?

And finally, be aware that many landlords check credit reports of potential tenants. Before you start looking, check your own credit report so there are no surprises.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

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MIXER, continued from Page 8

Speaking by phone Teresa Dapney in the City of Garland's Purchasing Department shared what attendees will discover at the Mixer.

"The event is open to all industries and they can receive help to get registered as a Historically Underutilized Business (HUB). We can help them understand the importance of being bonded and having the proper insurance," according to Dapney. She also mentioned visitors can learn more about Bid Sync the tool the City of Garland uses to receive and process bids.

Vendors will have an opportunity to learn how to do business with government agencies such as the school district and municipalities. It can be challenging to understand the intricate step-by-step process. That is why officials are prepared to answer questions regarding the benefits of minority certification.

For more information call the Garland Purchasing Department at 972-205-2415.



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OF CHRIST IN PLANO**

April 2013

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Mondays – Fridays

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

April 21, 2013 8 a.m.

Join us in Early Morning Worship Service; stay for Bible Classes at 9:30 a.m. and for 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 19, 7 p.m.

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

April 20, 9 a.m.

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

April 21

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 24, 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 20, 10 a.m.

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

April 21, 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 24, 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**

**George Bush Fwy
at Jupiter Road
On the Garland/
Richardson Border
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www.followpeace.org**

**CHRISTIAN CHAPEL CME
TEMPLE OF FAITH
CHURCH**

April 21

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

April 22, 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**

**DAYSTAR
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April 2013

For those in need visit Helen's House on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. (exceptions are bad weather and holidays) to receive, to give, to comfort and to fellowship. Call 972-480-0200 for details.

**Pastor Minnie
Hawthorne-Ewing
635 W. Campbell Road
Suite 201
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@the-ship3c.org

**April 21, 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 24, 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 21, 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 21
8 a.m. and 11 a.m.**

Join us in our 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 24, 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 21, 7:30 a.m.

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

April 22, 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 21, 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 23, 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
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Sunday Morning Worship
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Allen, TX 75002
9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Night Live
200 W. Belmont Drive
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7:00 p.m.

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In studying the book of Genesis, the story of Abram and Sarai before God changed their names. The Word of God said, "So she said to Abram, 'The Lord has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my maidservant; perhaps I can build a family through her.' Abram agreed to what Sarai said." Genesis 16:2

Assumption is based on our own reasoning. Abraham and Sarah fell into presumption when they assumed that they had gotten too old to have a child; and without God intervention they were too old to have child.

However, God had promised a son to Abraham and Sarah - a son who would fulfill His promise to birth a nation. But Abraham and Sarah were past the normal age for childbearing. So, they assumed that God needed help to work out His plan.

Many believers make the same mistake every day. We make assumptions about what we believe God is doing and wants us to do. However, before we really have full assurance that God has spoken to us on the matter and revealed His perfect action plan, we move forward with our steps to get it done.

How do we protect ourselves from presumption? The Proverbs tell us that there is safety in a multitude of counselors (read Proverbs 11:14); discussing our decision with someone else for confirmation, it is believed, protects each of us from the deceit of our own heart. This process will protect us from assumption and encourage us to move in faith.

The next time you believe God is directing you toward a specific action; pray first, after that, discuss with some close, spiritual friends who will take the time to prayerfully consider your request.

If you don't have consensus, wait until you do before you move forward. God will move through this process to His desired will for the matter.

Because when you combine knowledge plus action, you have faith in God.

The Word of God says, "For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith." Hebrews 4:2

The people of Israel were called out of the bondage of Egyptian slavery. God said they would be brought out of 400 years of slavery so that they might worship Him.

God desired to bring them into a place of milk and honey - the Promised Land. Yet, that generation never entered into the Promised Land because they never took what they knew in their head and transferred it to their heart. Also, it never resulted in actions that were based on what they believed.

If we don't act on our beliefs, then we remain in the desert like the people of Israel who never received God's promises. They did not combine what they knew in their head with a faith that was put into action.

Faith versus Assumption



Dr. Gregory Voss (back to the camera), Pastor of Word of Life COGIC in Carrollton, Texas; former Mayor Ron Branson, City of Carrollton and others in prayer on "First Thursday Prayer" each month around City Hall's flag pole, praying about the stress in people's lives and God's comfort for all.

For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God, "For, All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever. And this is the word that was

preached to you." 1 Peter 1:23-25.

Ask God to give you strength, wisdom, knowledge and a sensitivity to recognize His plan for you. Pray that you will have eyes to see and ears to hear God's message and a heart to feel the prompting of the Holy Spirit to speak, to act, to make a difference in your

life and the lives of others.

Don't forget to thank God for all that He has done for you; and what He will do through you for His glory and honor. He is forever your creator, He loves you, guides and He protects you.

God is the difference between "Faith and Assumption."

St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church recognized at State Capitol in celebration of 80th Anniversary

Dallas -- Both houses of the Texas Legislature paused to recognize the work and witness of St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church for 80 years of service to the city, state, and nation.

Members of St. Luke along with senior pastor Dr. Henry Masters traveled to Austin on March 19 to be in attendance for *St. Luke Day at the Capitol*. Senator Royce West read proclamations from the House floor by Rep. Helen Giddings and from the Senate. *St. Luke Day at the Capitol* served as the kick off for a year of reflection and rededication.

St. Luke was organized in April, 1933 as St. Paul Mission to minister to the needs of the southeast Dallas community. After years of meeting in the homes of members, the church began worshipping in Duckett Hall in the Frazier Courts Projects.

Throughout its 80 years, St. Luke has been a church

committed to serving the community and in the late 1970's under the leadership of Rev. Zan W. Holmes, Jr., the word "community" was added to its name.

The celebration of the church's 80th anniversary features activities throughout the year including a *Community Cleanup*, *Chu-rch Picnic*, and **See COMMUNITY, Page 16**

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NDG Bookshelf



BY TERRI
SCHLICHENMEYER

Not in a hundred years.

There was just no way. From the minute you saw her, you knew everything you needed to know about *that woman*. She was a schemer, she was ghetto, she was the worst kind of liar, and a friendship between the two of you was **not going to happen in a hundred years**.

Famous last words, huh? Because you got to know her

NDG Book Review: Readers will love *Friends & Foes* in a hundred ways

a little and danged if she wasn't okay after all. But can she be trusted? As you'll see in the new novel *Friends & Foes* by ReShonda Tate Billingsley and Victoria Christopher Murray, that's up for discussion.

Rachel Jackson Adams was absolutely giddy.

Her husband, Lester, had recently snatched the presidency of the American Baptist Coalition (ABC) from Hosea Bush in a big election, and it was Rachel's finest moment. Being First Lady of the ABC was what she'd wanted for ages. That, and squashing Jasmine Bush into the ground.

Whenever she thought about Rachel Adams, Jas-



mine Bush just rolled her eyes. Rachel was backwoods and everybody knew it. She wasn't very bright, either, which made it easy

for Jasmine to get the better of the heffa.

Take, for instance, that election. Jasmine had rigged it so that Lester Adams would win because she knew about some illegal activity going on with Pastor Earl Griffith and the ABC. If Lester was president, then he and Rachel would look guilty by association. If they got arrested, then Hosea could swoop in and take over the ABC.

That was what Jasmine had on her mind when she was scheduled to be on *Oprah* to talk about her non-profit organization. But then Rachel got her nose in and made a mess, which became an even bigger mess when she found

Pastor Griffiths dead in his hotel room. Not knowing quite what to do, Rachel dragged Jasmine back to the room but the body was gone!

That was just fine with Jasmine. Maybe even better, because it made Rachel look like a psycho. But when Rachel panicked and Jasmine fell deeper into the situation, she had to admit that maybe Rachel wasn't all that bad. They'd never be friends, but frenemies might be able to figure out what was going on...

I wasn't all that thrilled with *Friends & Foes* when I first got it. I'm tired of novels where Christian ladies act UN-Christianlike; I've had too many of them. I wasn't sure I

could finish this book – but I'm very, very glad I did.

Authors ReShonda Tate Billingsley and Victoria Christopher Murray made me laugh in what turns out to be a rompy mystery with plenty of comedy and no profanity. Though I had a bumpy start, I ended up really enjoying this book and its characters, and I can't wait for the next installment.

If you're looking for something that's silly in a good way, give this book a try. It's a sequel but you can read it first – and if you do, you'll love *Friends & Foes* in a hundred ways.

Friends & Foes (Simon and Schuster; \$15.00, 279 pgs)

St. Philip's hosting Real Men Pray

St. Philip's School and Community Center invites the public to participate as they celebrate Real Men Pray. A spe-

cial chapel service for Dads, Granddads, and all significant male members of the St. Philip's families - past, present

and future. This chapel service is Monday, April 29 at 8:15 a.m. in the St. Philip's Morning Star Chapel. St. Philip's is located

at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, Dallas. For more information, call 214-421-5221.

PRAYER, continued from Page 8

clergy from various faith communities. Those who speak a language other than English will have their prayers projected in English so all might understand them.

Mary Alice Garza, MCOR Co-Chair, with help of other MCOR members has or-

ganized the Plano National Day of Prayer ceremony. MCOR is an all-volunteer organization that promotes varied cultural educational activities for Plano. For more information on the Plano Multicultural Outreach Roundtable, visit www.PlanoMCOR.org.

COMMUNITY, continued from Page 15



Rep. Helen Giddings greets Rev. Dr. Henry L. Masters and members of St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church for their day of recognition.

an on-going oral history project, *Tell Your St. Luke Story*.

The 80th anniversary worship service is scheduled for Sunday, April 28 at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m., with Rev. Gerald Britt, vice-president of City Square preaching.

All are invited to St. Luke as they celebrate 80 years of service to the community and *Continuing Strong in the Lord*. For more information, call St. Luke Church at 214-821-2970.

Bible Way Community Baptist Church



Dr. Timothy J. Wilbert, Sr.
Senior Pastor

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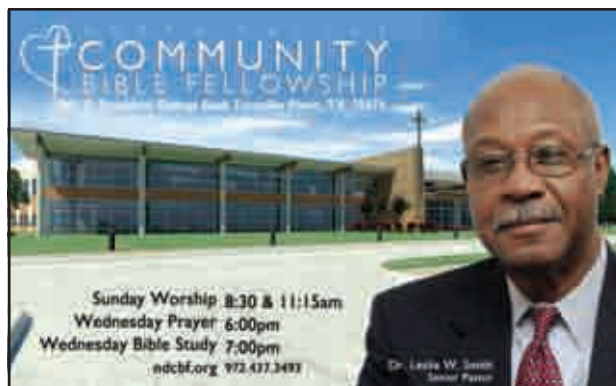


Ramon Hodridge, Minister

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Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 am
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Isiah Joshua, Jr.
Pastor



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and 5th Sunday at 10:45 a.m.**
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Contact Information: 972-423-6695
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