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Cultural pride is a fashionable asset

Self pride is beneficial for individual self-esteem. In some cultures, showing pride is almost mandatory to illustrate one's love and appreciation for community or a cause. In the world of pageantry, contestants are quite selective over the pageant gown that

is worn as it is an anticipated segment of the pageant. Judges and audiences typically expect contestants to wear traditional pageant gowns and wardrobe. However we found two accomplished women (Ms. Florida America 2013 – Amanda Wamunyima



Photo Steven Depolo / Flickr

and Ms. America 2013 – Chiniqua Pettaway) who embrace ethnic fashions and display cultural pride in their community.

Cultural fashions are more prevalent in ethnic-based pageants. A dynamic

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COVER STORY

NNPA chair blasts the NFL on behalf of athletes



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Students Make a Difference Through Volunteering

More than 380 UT Dallas students and staff got up very early on a recent Saturday morning, piled on buses and headed off to volunteer at 24 area non-profit and community agencies.

Viva Volunteer, the University's largest single service day of the year,



Students from the Diversity Scholars Program volunteer at the Barack Obama Leadership Academy.

gives students the opportunity to give back to the community and participate in the national Make A Difference Day.

Projects ranged from decorating elves' hats for a production at Dallas Children's Theater to painting rooms at the Richardson

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New Essence study reveals insights on media portrayals of Black women

NEW YORK -- From primetime television to cable news, African-American women consume more media than any other comparison groups, and today, there is more mass and targeted content featuring African-American women than ever before. Still, in a

2010 ESSENCE-commissioned study on the State of African American Women, it was revealed that 93 percent of media does only an 'okay' to 'poor' job of reflecting the audience the way they see themselves.

This year, ESSENCE commissioned New York-

based research firm Added Value Cheskin to bring more attention and definition to these findings with the proprietary study, Understanding Images of African-American Women in Society.

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COMMENTARY

The right side of history

By William Spriggs

A new day is arriving in America. After decades of being pushed around, America's workers are standing up.

After the Nov. 5 ballot initiatives in New Jersey (and estimated soon in the Seattle suburb of SeaTac), voters sounded loud and clear, "We are fed up and we won't take it any more." In New Jersey, voters raised the state's

minimum wage by \$1 effective Jan. 1. After an earlier victory in the California Legislature to raise the state minimum wage to \$10 an hour, this is the second major state to push back against the stagnant wage growth hurting America's families.

In SeaTac, the home to Seattle's airport, voters on Tuesday voted by a wide margin to set a \$15 mini-

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People In The News...

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LaDainian Tomlinson



Justice Wallace Jefferson



Allan Wollos

In October over 30,000 visited NorthDallasGazette.com - news added daily

LaDainian Tomlinson

DALLAS – The number “21” holds a special place in many football fans’ hearts, as that is the number of NFL legend and DFW native LaDainian Tomlinson. Now, the retired football players’ number is still doing great work – as that is how many hundreds of families in need LT’s Touching Lives Foundation aims to feed this Thanksgiving, along with help from TangoTab and Albertsons.

“Thanksgiving is a time to be grateful for our blessings,” said LT, who played for the San Diego Chargers,

New York Jets and TCU during his football career. “Our goal is to feed at least 2,100 families – and with the help of everyone out there, we can surpass that goal. “Being able to give these families in need here in North Texas a Thanksgiving meal is a great feeling, and I am hopeful it will help each of them kick off a very happy holiday season.”

LT is asking everyone to visit his website, www.LT-GivingThanks.com and donate \$5, \$10, \$20 or more to help a family in need this Thanksgiving. This is the



first time ever that LT has opened up this opportunity to donate online, which is being facilitated by Tan-

goTab. For every \$20 donated, you enter to get a chance to help hand out those meals right alongside

LT, spending some time with a football legend while making a difference in your community. Three donors will be picked and notified via email on November 21. The meal donations will take place, Saturday, Nov. 23, from 7 a.m. to noon.

LT is getting help in his mission by TangoTab, a Dallas-based company that helps people feed the hungry year-round, simply by dining out. TangoTab is a social and philanthropic venture with a mobile app that provides consumers with free restaurant deal offers. Every time someone uses a TangoTab deal, TangoTab donates a meal to

feed a person in need through a local food bank. This is a unique approach to solving a critical issue – Every time you eat, they eat.

“TangoTab’s goal is to bring passionate customer to participating restaurants while simultaneously helping fight the hunger problem here at home,” said Andre Angel, founder and CEO of TangoTab. “We have created a win-win-win model where diners save money, restaurants get traffic, and the hungry have a meal, too.” LT has endorsed TangoTab’s fight against

See GIVING, Page 6

Justice Wallace Jefferson

NEW BRAUNFELS - Former Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson has been named the 2014 Texan of the Year by the Texas Legislative Conference, the annual statewide forum that is marking its 48th year next March.

Jefferson will be presented with the award Thursday evening, March 27, at a special reception in his honor at the New Braunfels Civic/Convention Center. He will be joining an array of prominent past

honorees since 1974 including Barbara Jordan, First Lady Laura Bush, David Robinson and John Connally.

The Texas Legislative Conference is a nonpartisan organization of Texas business and political leaders who meet annually in New Braunfels to focus on public policy issues. This year’s topics on March 28 will include Water and Transportation Infrastructure, the Eagle Ford Shale and a media panel to review the March primaries and run-

offs.

According to Conference Chair and former State Senator Jeff Wentworth, Jefferson was appointed to the Court in 2001 by Governor Rick Perry and was subsequently elected to the bench in 2002 by the voters of Texas. He was named chief justice by the governor in 2004, becoming the 26th chief justice of the state. In 2006, he was elected chief justice; he was re-elected to a full term in 2008.

Jefferson made Texas judicial history – he was the first African-American justice and the first African-

American chief justice of the Texas Supreme Court.

During his time on the bench, Jefferson served as president of the Conference of Chief Justices, an association of chief justices from the 50 states and U.S. territories. Prior to joining the Supreme Court, Jefferson was a partner in San Antonio-based firm Crofts, Callaway & Jefferson, where he successfully argued two cases before the United States Supreme Court. He is a member of the American Law Institute and is certified in civic appellate law

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Richard Overton

On Monday morning, the President hosted a breakfast in the East Room of the White House for veterans and their families. In attendance was Richard Overton from Austin, Texas. Richard is the oldest living World War II veteran. The President honored the veteran in his remarks at Arlington National Cemetery, and thanked Richard for his selfless dedication and his courage when he faced adversity.

The President, joined by the Vice President, the First Lady, and Dr. Biden, also participated in a wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, where he spoke of the devoted

service that our veterans have given us, meeting every mission this country has asked of them.

“In the life of our nation, across every generation, there are those who stand apart. They step up, they raise their hands, they take that oath. They put on the uniform and they put their lives on the line. They do this so that the rest of us might live in a country and a world that is safer, freer, and more just. This is the gift they’ve given us. This is the debt that we owe them.”

President Obama also reminded Americans that our obligation to our troops

isn’t only supporting them during wartime, but it is also up to us to care for them when they finally come home. “This is how we’ll be judged. Not just by how well we care for our troops in battle, but how we treat them when they come

home -- and by the America we build together; by what we do with the security and peace that they have helped grant us; by the progress that allows citizens from Richard Overton to Jacare Hogan to play their part in the American story.



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Time to raise minimum wage

By George E. Curry

(NNPA) The first federal minimum wage of 25 cents an hour was established in 1938. Since then, it has been raised 22 times. It's time to increase the floor for the 23rd time, from its current \$7.25 to at least \$10 an hour.

According to the Center for Economic Policy Research, the value of the minimum wage peaked in 1968. If the minimum wage had been indexed to the official Consumer Price Index each

year, the minimum wage today would be \$10.52. The last time the minimum wage was raised was in 2007, when it was raised from \$5.15 to \$7.25.

Still, there is resistance.

Republican leaders say raising the minimum wage will cost jobs. But opponents, such as Washington Post columnist Jared Bernstein, argue that rather than job loss, employers compensate by charging higher prices and increasing productivity.

Another common myth is

that employers shouldn't be forced to pay young people the minimum wage. But 88 percent of workers who would be affected by raising the minimum wage are at least 20 years old and a third are at least 40 years, according to the Economic Policy Institute.

EPI found that of the workers who would benefit from the raise:

- The average age of affected workers is 35 years old;
- 88 percent of all affected workers are at least

20 years old;

- 35.5 percent are at least 40 years old;
- 56 percent are women;
- 28 percent have children;
- 55 percent work full-time (35 hours per week or more);
- 44 percent have at least some college experience.

The federal minimum wage is covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act. There are approximately 3.6 million workers, or 4.7 percent

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mum wage for hospitality and transportation workers, that includes paid sick days and protection for tipped employees. The mail-in votes in SeaTac are still being counted. Big Business spent big to defeat the will of the voters on these issues. Clearly they fear the 99 percent may finally stand up.

This is a movement that will continue to sweep the nation, like the workers at Walmart and McDonald's who also fight for \$15 an hour. And, those who stand in its way are going to be on the wrong side of history. In part this is old Yankee common sense that brought about the minimum wage 75 years ago in the depths of the Great Depression.

Stuck in an economic rut, clearly it was time to change decades of policies that let technological advances create millionaires but impoverish the workers who made the new products. New jobs like electricians, movie projection operators, telephone operators, recording engineers and automobile mechanics were created from 1895 to 1929. And while a tiny few bosses got rich, America's workers saw little benefit from these new skills, and the system collapsed of its own weight after financial speculators crashed Wall Street, betting

on the new economy.

This time, the Washington elite saved Wall Street, but turned their backs on reconstructing a new economic order to restore the middle class; instead, leaving working America the same fairy tale promise it has been hearing since the 1980s that the computer era would generate a new middle class. In 1935, tired of waiting for some invisible hand to lift up American wages to match the rising productivity of America's workers, the Wagner Act passed to empower workers to organize, and in 1938 the Fair Labor Standards Act was put in place to protect the wages of workers.

In 2013, while the Washington elite continue to debate downsizing the American Dream, people outside Washington are taking things in their own hands to right the ship and make the government work for them. This is the new tide that is turning.

When ten Republican members of Congress who get farm subsidy checks, like the family of Robert Aderholt of Alabama, voted to cut funds to the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) to help feed America's children, people took note. His vote to keep his family's share of a \$66,891 subsidy

shows that the tea party is more for the continuation of policies for the rich than solving the problems of America's families.

Last month, a study out of the Labor Center at the University of California, Berkeley, showed that workers in America's fast-food industry are forced by their low wages to rely on more than \$7 billion in public assistance to feed their families and for access to health care. This massive subsidy to multinational corporations earning billions in profits is inefficient. McDonald's, the world's second largest employer, had gross profits of more than \$2.7 billion last year.

Clearly the subsidy McDonald's gets from tax payers to help support the low wages of its workers isn't to save the company from bankruptcy. And, given America's trouble with obesity, it isn't because people need help to keep McDonald's prices low enough so we eat our way to heart attacks.

Now we see from Republicans in Congress their answer is to cut the subsidy by letting the workers starve. The voters in New Jersey and SeaTac know the correct answer is to tell American companies that America's workers will not starve to make them profitable; the answer is to pay the workers.

America's wages are out

of sync with productivity and the minimum wage is additionally out of sync with prices. If the minimum wage of the 1960s was adjusted for prices, and to let those at the bottom get just half the productivity growth, then today the minimum wage would be around \$15 an hour.

Some are looking at that wage with incredulity; testament to how we have gotten used to rotten wages. But, as the millions of America's workers who lost jobs in manufacturing and construction during the Great Recession know, it matters how low you can fall.

We remain nearly 1.9 million below the 2007 peak employment in construction and 1.7 million fewer in manufacturing after the labor market peaked in 2008; but employment at general merchandise retailers and food service establishments is up almost a combined 900,000 since their 2008 peaks.

And, if you are among those who think that \$15 an hour sounds too high because you don't make \$15 an hour, imagine what you would say to your boss if jobs at McDonald's and Walmart paid \$15 an hour if he didn't give you a raise. You will be joining the wave of history soon.

Follow Spriggs on Twitter: @WSpriggs.

FDA targeting trans-fat in processed foods

More than decade ago, a sea change began in the American diet, with consumers starting to avoid foods with trans fat and companies responding by reducing the amount of trans fat in their products.

This evolution began when FDA first proposed in 1999 that manufacturers be required to declare the amount of trans fat on Nutrition Facts labels because of public health concerns. That requirement became effective in 2006.

However, there are still many processed foods made with partially hydrogenated oils (PHOs), the major dietary source of trans fat in processed food. Trans fat has been linked to an increased risk of coronary heart disease, in which plaque builds up inside the arteries and may cause a heart attack.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that a further reduction of trans fat in the food supply can prevent an additional 7,000 deaths from heart dis-



Photo Steven Depolo / Flickr

ease each year and up to 20,000 heart attacks each year.

Part of the FDA's responsibility to the public is to ensure that food in the American food supply is

safe. Therefore, due to the risks associated with consuming PHOs, FDA has issued a Federal Register notice with its preliminary determination that PHOs are no

longer "generally recognized as safe," or GRAS, for short. If this preliminary determination is finalized, then PHOs would become food additives subject to premarket approval by FDA. Foods containing unapproved food additives are considered adulterated under U.S. law, meaning they cannot legally be sold.

If FDA determines that PHOs are not GRAS, it could, in effect, mean the end of artificial, industrially-produced trans fat in foods, says Dennis M. Keefe, Ph.D., director of FDA's Office of Food Additive Safety. FDA is soliciting comments on how such an action would impact small businesses and how to ensure a smooth transition if a final determination is issued.

Trans fat would not be completely gone, Keefe notes, because it also occurs naturally in small amounts in meat and dairy products. It is also present at very low levels in other edible oils, such as fully hydrogenated oils, where it is unavoidably produced during

the manufacturing process.

What Should the Consumer Do?

In the meantime, what should the average consumer do if he or she picks up a favorite food and sees that it has trans fat on the Nutrition Facts label? The best thing to do is to consider the amounts of saturated fat, cholesterol and trans fat. Choose the product that has the lowest combined amount of these nutrients, Keefe says.

Even if a food claims its packaging to have "0 grams trans fat," it's a good idea to look at the ingredients, says Honigfort.

Under current regulations, companies can make that claim if the food contains less than 0.5 grams of trans fat per serving. But if there is partially hydrogenated oil listed with the ingredients, there might be a small amount of trans fat. Selecting foods with even small amounts of trans fat can add up to a significant intake.

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FYI- We also have many other studies going on for Male and Female, different age group, different Ethnicity. Please check our website regularly for full detail of NEW STUDY posted every week for Male and Female, including Baby.

The art of the lie



Curtis Report

by Barry Curtis

It will come as no surprise to most, but we humans, well we lie. If that wasn't enough, apparently we do a lot of it.

In the book *The Truth about Lying*, by Robert Feldman, in the average 10-minute conversation we tell two or three lies, says Feldman. He is an American psychologist and one of the world's leading experts on lying.

Let's contemplate the consequences of that state-

ment. In a typical conversation you are having with a coworker for 20 minutes, you can assume they have lied to you at least six times. So what was the honest answer as to why I was taken off the project? Was my employee really sick when he called in? Is he really just a new guy or am I training my replacement?

Men lie differently than women. I didn't say we lie more, I said we lie differently. Men tend to tell lies that elevate their status in the world. We lie about how much money we make, how many sexual conquest we have had and

what positions we hold in the world.

Women on the other hand tend to tell lies that lessen the impact of living. Women lie about their age, and their weight. Also, unlike men, women lie about how few sexual encounters they have experienced.

Most of the lies we tell are "white lies." Those are the lies we tell when we are doing it for the greater good.

"Yes, dear you look great in those short shorts."

"No, dear your butt is not too big in those jeans"

Those lies keep the peace and contribute to do-

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STUDY, continued from Page 1

After dedicating ten days to recording the images they viewed on the Internet, television and other media, participants in the independent survey revealed a range of responses, including feeling 'saddened' and 'disrespected'.

During the first phase, the research firm conducted interviews with experts on the subject matter from academia, finance, and entertainment.

The digital ethnographies were central to the second phase in which online communities were created based on life stage and gender. Through innovative visual diaries, participants shared their unrestricted reactions to wide-ranging images of

African-American women across all media types. In a moderated forum, community members also had the opportunity to respond to visual images curated by fellow members. The final phase was a quantitative study that included 900 Black women, ages 18-54.

Consistently, Black women see and acknowledge many inspiring images of celebrities, from Oprah to Beyonce. However, the study establishes there is a dearth of imagery that reflects relatable images of everyday Black women.

The key findings were more pronounced among younger Black women who are at once more culturally open and more culturally af-

filiated. Additionally, a new lens on beauty led a set of emerging typologies that the audience would like to see more often in media.

"The study offers a path forward for marketers and content companies to create more authentic images of real women," says ESSENCE President Michelle Ebanks.

"By elevating the inspiring 'images of me', ESSENCE stands as that bridge to engage and connect with Black women. All women should be more visible and powerful in media."

"Our mission is to tell multi-generational Black women's stories as no one else can," added ESSENCE Editor-in-Chief, Vanessa K. Bush. "ESSENCE is the space for Black women to be heard, seen, and affirmed."

STUDENTS, continued from Page 1

Boys & Girls Club to separating trash and recyclables collected from a creek bank in Richardson.

UT Dallas students invested more than 1,900 volunteer hours this year, saving the agencies more than \$43,700 in labor expenses, said Monalisa Amidar, who

heads the Office of Student Volunteerism.

"We want students to be educated and effective volunteers. We help them learn about community needs and resources so that they can become active citizens. And it's a fun way to do service together," Amidar said. "Hopefully some of them

will become long-term volunteers at these agencies."

That appeared to be the reaction from Audra Jackson, who helped out with a fall children's festival for an afterschool program at Voice of Hope Ministries.

"It was great," said Jackson, an international political economy sophomore. "I would love to go back and volunteer. The organization itself felt like a small community."

Kinsey Miller, a mathematics sophomore, volunteered at AVANCE-Dallas, which helps strengthen families through parent education and family support

programs.

Miller went with fellow members of the student service organization Circle K International. Together they helped set up a health and wellness carnival, which provided face painting, healthy alternative snacks and outdoor games for children.

"It was really touching to be able to see at-risk families. It was eye-opening to me that there's so much of a need," Miller said. "It was good for us to get off campus, and especially to help make a difference in the

home life of these kids."

UT Dallas staff and faculty helped facilitate activities at each volunteer location.

Annie Benjamin, assistant director of Student Life programs, went with a team of students to help clean at My Possibilities, a non-profit day program in Plano for adults with disabilities.

"This was a really rewarding experience. It was helpful to learn more about this organization while we spent the day. Plus, our students learned to use a mop,"

Benjamin said.

Three groups stayed at UT Dallas for on-campus projects.

Tiffany Peart, a program coordinator for the Office of Student Volunteerism, worked on campus with 19 students to assemble snack kits and activity books for Foster Kids Charity. The team put together more than 500 kits.

"We heard the lunch call, but some students didn't want to stop working. We had some who were just in the zone," Peart said.



Students volunteer at Gardeners in Community Development.

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Why unpaid internships should remain just that ... unpaid internships

(BlackNews.com) There has been a lot of recent controversy about unpaid internships, and many former unpaid interns have circled back to file lawsuits against the companies they once worked for. Many agree that interns should be compensated, and should not work for free. But here's a different angle to consider.

The following are three reasons why "unpaid interns" should NOT be paid:

Because you agreed not to be paid. You applied for a non-paid internship, you were interviewed for a non-paid internship, you were accepted for a non-paid internship. And now you

wanna sue the company for not paying you? You well knew what you were getting yourself into.

Because you had other options. If you wanted to be paid, why didn't you just apply for a "paid" internship? Research shows that there are literally thousands of "paid" internship opportunities available throughout the country each year. Some offer salaries, some offer stipends - either way, they are paying you.

Because the experience may be more valuable than the salary. If you agree to do an unpaid internship, this does not mean that the experience itself can't be more

compensating than a paycheck. Some companies and organizations can give you a very valuable and educational experience that can lead to a high-paying job later. You may even pick up certain skills that others spend thousands of dollars to obtain, not to mention the amazing networking with other professionals that can help you reach your career goals. Even more, imagine how much more fuller and complete your resume will look. Not getting paid could still make the opportunity worth it!

To search hundreds of internship opportunities, visit www.FindInternships.com

Little Elm's recreation staff offers two Drop 'n' Shop Saturdays

LITTLE ELM - It's that time of year again, when shoppers and gift-givers begin to play the "hide and seek" game with their loved ones, ensuring that the joyful surprise of opening an unexpected gift lights up Christmas morning, according to Keri Kirkwood, Recreation Coordinator.

"Parents with young children who are confined to doing their shopping on weekends can have a hard time keeping a lid on their purchases, because the kids

are always there. We're giving moms and dads a chance to have two five-hour windows on a couple of the busiest shopping days of the season," she said.

Little Elm's Recreation Center staff will host a pair of "Drop 'n' Shop" days where parents can comfortably drop off their children at 1 p.m. and shop, wrap and hide gifts until 6 p.m. Kids between 5 and 12 years of age can play games, interact with other children, have snacks, read

stories, have fun and watch a movie while there.

The two days are Saturday, Nov. 30 and Saturday, Dec. 21. Cost is \$12 per child for each Saturday.

"Our staff is well versed in what kids like, what they enjoy doing, what games they like to play, which movies they want to watch, which books they like to read and they know how to keep them safe. Parents can feel confident that their children will be well-cared

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hunger and encourages everyone to use the app any time they go out to eat.

"No child or family should have to go hungry. Hunger has far-reaching impacts on our society, with more people going to bed hungry than anyone might expect," said Tomlinson. "I am excited to partner with

TangoTab, a company that is helping consumers and restaurants battle this important issue, because just like in life and on the football field, accomplishing something big takes a team approach."

"We are honored to partner with LT, and the great people at Albertsons and are

glad to be able to support The LT Touching Lives Foundation in their mission to help end hunger," said Angel.

LTGivingThanks.com has a radio promotional partnership with KVIL and "Zazza & Julie in the Mornings" on 103.7 KVIL, a radio show that wants to help LT and TangoTab feed as many families as possible this Thanksgiving.

JEFFERSON, continued from Page 2

by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

A graduate of the James Madison College at Michi-

gan State University and the University of Texas School of Law, Jefferson is the namesake for the Wal-

lace B. Jefferson Middle School in San Antonio. He has recently been honored with the 2013 Texas Exes' Distinguished Alumnus Award.

WellCare Health Care and their employees contribute over \$118,000 to the American Diabetes Association

TAMPA — WellCare Health Plans, Inc. this week announced the company, its employees and the WellCare Community Foundation contributed more than \$118,000 to the American Diabetes Association to raise awareness and funds to help the nearly 26 million people across the country who are living with the disease.

WellCare's employees across the U.S. raised more than \$43,000 by participating in the American Diabetes Association's Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes events in various cities. The employees, along with family members and friends, formed 22 teams with more than 300 registered walkers in Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, New York and Texas.

"As a managed care or-

ganization, WellCare has the privilege of serving millions of people across the country, many of whom are impacted by diabetes. Our goal is to help them lead better, healthier lives," said Dr. Steven Goldberg, WellCare's sen-



ior vice president and chief medical officer.

"This is WellCare's fifth year supporting the American Diabetes Association's annual Step Out walks, and I am proud to work with so many WellCare employees who have made a commitment to continuing the fight to stop this disease."

"In addition to the nearly 26 million children and adults in the U.S. who have diabetes, there are an-

other 79 million who have prediabetes, and if action isn't taken to change this serious trend, one in three Americans will have diabetes by 2050," said David McShea, national director, Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes.

"WellCare and its employees have donated more than \$350,000 to the American Diabetes Association over the past five years to support our cause, and have encouraged so many others to get involved in the fight against diabetes. On behalf of the association and families who are living with the disease, I applaud their efforts and thank them for their ongoing support."

CURTIS, continued from Page 5

mestic tranquility.

The justified lie tends to be the most devastating. Those are the lies we tell because we have justified the lie with a moral counterweight that if you don't tell the lie many will suffer or more will suffer than need be.

For example, if I were an American soldier and I knew the date and location for the D-Day invasion. I

would lie to the press and others to save lives. That's a good lie correct? That's justified correct?

A justified lie also includes a lie we subject others to because we do not want to admit failure or the fact that we were wrong. Instead of admitting we were wrong we embolden the original lie with a second or third lie. Instead of admitting we lied we will change

the historical facts about the situation to lessen the impact of the original.

Here is a good example; when the president says about Obamacare 'if you have healthcare and you like it you may keep it. If you have a doctor or hospital you like, you can keep it period.'

Was that a lie?

More info from Barry Curtis can be found at www.thecurtisinitiative.com.

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Six Dallas ISD schools receive Div. 1 rating at UIL contest

DALLAS - Dallas ISD high school marching bands received top honors this fall at regional competition. Six Dallas ISD schools all received ones at the University Interscholastic League (UIL) marching contest; three of which advanced to area competition.

For Thomas Jefferson High School, this is no new feat. This year marks the school's 16th consecutive year to earn a division one rating at UIL marching contest, and 18th year overall.

For others, this is the first division one rating in more than 10 years; and for Molina High School, this year marks the first year that the school's band received a one at UIL, ever.

The last First Division rating for W.T. White was 25 years ago.

The schools and their records are as follows:

4A Sweepstakes and advanced to Area Competition:

The bands from Thomas

Jefferson, Bryan Adams and Moises E. Molina High Schools received the 4A Sweepstakes Award and advanced to the Area competition.

Thomas Jefferson High School is directed by Tom Woody. Bryan Adams High School is directed by Dolores Perkins. Moises E. Molina High School is di-



rected by Lorenzo Parker.

Sunset, Skyline and W.T. White High Schools received the 5A Sweepstakes award.:

Sunset High School is di-

rected by Rametria Smith. Skyline High School is directed by William Young and W.T. White High School is directed by Keith Everett.

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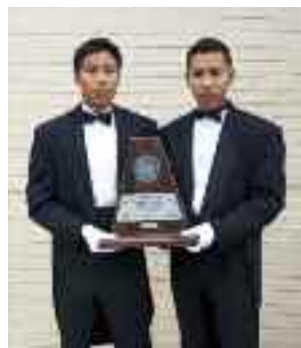
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Rich sounds...



The South Dallas Concert Choir performs on the outdoor “International Stage” during last weekends “Fiesta Latinoamericana held in the Automobile Building in Dallas’ Fair Park.

Photo credit: David Wilfong

**TOP TIPS FOR PUTTING YOUR LINKEDIN PROFILE TO WORK**

Brought to you by uberVU and the “LinkedIn Queen” Eve Mayer

Congrats! You have a job! So why does your LinkedIn profile still look like a résumé? If set up correctly, your profile can help you succeed in your current job. Follow these tips to change your LinkedIn profile from an online résumé to a powerful job tool.



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Headlines are right next to you. Use yours. It's your chance to stand out. Add your title, company, and location.



Choose a Professional Profile Photo
Look like you work when doing business. Use a professional headshot. Don't use a selfie or a photo of your dog.



Share Activity
Think you're not active enough? Share your work. It's your chance to stand out. Add your title, company, and location.



Don't Skip the Summary
Your current résumé is full of details. Add your work history. It's your chance to stand out. Add your title, company, and location.



Get Recommendations
Ask your boss for a recommendation. It's your chance to stand out. Add your title, company, and location.



Get Endorsements
Ask your boss for a recommendation. It's your chance to stand out. Add your title, company, and location.



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8 | Nov. 14-20, 2013 | North Dallas Gazette

NNPA chairman blasts NFL for 'almost a slave mentality'

By Hazel Trice Edney

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - Cloves Campbell, he chairman of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, a federation of more than 200 Black-owned newspapers, says the Washington Redskins' team - under fire from a Richmond, Va. publisher - is in sync with the entire National Football League in its apparent oppressive treatment of Black businesses and consumers.

"It's almost a slave mentality. They put us on the field and we entertain the master but we're not reaping any benefits from the business side of it," Campbell says. "It's not just the Redskins. If you look around the country, the NFL as a whole pretty much neglects Black businesses and the Black community," said Campbell, publisher of the Arizona Informant Newspaper.

He continued, "Here in Arizona, our Arizona Cardinals does zero with the Black community. Every now and then they might show up for a token Black event. But, I don't see our African-American newspaper here in Phoenix or in Arizona being supported by the Arizona Cardinals. I believe if you called other newspapers that have

Press, and the Richmond-based Washington Redskins Training Camp, which is partially owned by Bon Secours Health System.

In a letter to NAACP Chairman Roslyn Brock and CC'd to Campbell, Boone states that the team contracted no business with Black-owned or locally owned businesses at its first Richmond training camp between July 25 and August 16. That includes the failure to advertise in the Black-owned Richmond Free Press while advertising with the White-owned conservative daily, the Richmond Times Dispatch which has a history of pro-segregation leadership. The conflict is steeped in an age-old battle constantly waged by Black newspapers, which are historic targets for advertising discrimination.

While Bon Secours placed paid advertisements for the training camp in the Times Dispatch, the Free Press was sent press releases, Boone said in an interview.

Brock, who has served as NAACP chair since 2010, is vice president for advocacy and government relations for the Bon Secours Health System, Inc., in Marriottsville, Md. Boone believes her corporate position has caused her to compromise her stance for eco-



nomistic of Richmond government and big businesses, this Bon Secours decision disgracefully enhanced Richmond's shameful reputation as 'The Capital of Poverty,' with 25 percent of Richmond's population suffering in poverty."

When Brock had not responded to his letter for more than a month, Boone followed up with a Nov. 1 email pointing out, "This raises the unavoidable question of whether Bon Secours is restricting you from living up to your responsibility to honor the NAACP mission?"

He continued, "In the interest of fairness and the image of the NAACP, I respectfully suggest that you break your silence."

Brock responded to Boone by email that same day, stating, "The matter you reference in your letter is local in nature and should be handled directly by the Richmond Branch NAACP and Salim Khalfani at the Virginia State Conference NAACP. I have forwarded your correspondence to them and shared the information with the leadership of Bon Secours Health System in Richmond."

In an email, responding to a question from the Trice Edney News Wire this week, Brock said

that she had not publically commented on Boone's complaint because it is a local issue.

Brock's email said she had "also discussed the matter in detail with" Campbell, who is serving his second term as NNPA chairman. At a Sept. 17 reception in D.C., Campbell, Boone and other NNPA publishers praised Brock for her leadership and gave her an award for social justice.

While Campbell verbally blistered the NFL, including the Redskins, he balanced his response by saying he agrees with Brock that the issue in Boone's case is local since the economic decisions appear to have been made by the mayor and Bon Secours' Richmond entities.

"At the end of the day, I think [the criticism of her] is unfair just because she works for Bon Secours. That's her day job. We all volunteer at some time with the NAACP," Campbell says, referring to Brock's volunteer chairmanship. "While we want to see Mr. Boone and his publication get what it deserves and more so; that is definitely a local issue."

Boone, who recently announced he has stopped using the term "Redskins" in the Richmond Free

Press because it is "racist", argues that the Redskins' and Bon Secours' exclusion of Black businesses underscores and illustrates the team's mentality under the controversial name, which is receiving growing national pressure for change.

In her email to the Trice Edney News Wire, Brock also clarified that the NAACP has long stood against the Redskins name because of its roots in racism. "The NAACP passed a resolution more than ten years ago against racial slurs being used as mascots. In the last few months the NAACP signed on letters with the Oneida Tribe, based in Washington and the National Coalition on American Tribes especially in support of their efforts to change the Redskins name," she wrote.

Neither Mayor Dwight C. Jones; nor Virginia NAACP President King Salim Khalfani could be reached for comment by deadline. Bon Secours representatives did not return repeated phone calls.

Meanwhile, Boone, a recipient of the State NAACP's Oliver W. Hill Freedom Fighter Award, remains focused on his quest for economic justice, promising Brock "fairness and balance" in upcoming coverage of her leadership positions with the NAACP and Bon Secours.

Such economic battles have been hard fought in Richmond and in Black and grassroots communities across the nation. Former Richmond City Councilman Chuck Richardson, known for his historic advocacy for Black businesses and contractors, recalls researching Washington Redskins' racism as far back as 1961. That's when he wrote a research paper in junior high school about the team and how the Redskins was "the last professional football team to allow Blacks to play for them," he said in an interview. "This harkens back to that painful time. It hurt then and I would have thought that a greater degree of change might have occurred, but the mentality still exists. It seems so much has changed and yet so much remains the same."

"It's almost a slave mentality. They put us on the field and we entertain the master but we're not reaping any benefits from the business side of it,"

-Cloves Campbell

[teams] in their markets, I don't believe they're doing much for them either. I believe the NFL as a whole takes the Black community for granted although we are their major product on the field."

Campbell was responding to questions pertaining to a conflict between NNPA member Ray Boone, editor/publisher of the award-winning Richmond Free

Press, and the Richmond-based Washington Redskins Training Camp, which is partially owned by Bon Secours Health System.

"Bon Secours, along with Mayor Dwight C. Jones and the Washington team, blatantly denied, contrary to the Mayor's pledge, black businesses and other local businesses the opportunity to receive vendor contracts inside the training camp," Boone wrote in a Sept. 27 letter to Brock. "Charac-

NDG Gossip: Patti LaBelle and son testify bodyguard's trial

By Shenice Sanders,
NDG Intern

Back in 2011 Patti LaBelle's bodyguard was in a altercation with a West Point cadet named Richard King.

The bodyguard, Efre Holmes was charged with assault and the case is now being tried in a Houston courtroom.

Holmes' attorneys said he was just defending LaBelle and her son, Zuri Edwards. King testified he doesn't remember what happened. He had a blood alcohol level of .28. Edwards told a Texas jury on Friday that he was hit in the face by a man at a Houston airport terminal after the man shouted racial slurs at his mother.

Efre Holmes, 45, the bodyguard, then took the stand. He surprised the courtroom, when he began to tear up, reports Houston TV station KHOU:

When his attorney asked why he was so emotional, the 6-foot-3, 350 pound



man said, "I'm trying to figure out why those pictures weren't in there before." He was referring to grainy still photos which had been enhanced by the defense. They were taken from surveillance video, purportedly showing Richard King in a scuffle with the body guard

and LaBelle's son.

Holmes said he was trying to keep the West Point Cadet from getting into LaBelle's limo. King, who was 23 at the time, denied starting the fight, but admitted he had been drinking before walking up to the limo. On the stand, Holmes said he

heard King tell someone on his cell phone, "This (expletive) black guy won't let me in the car."

The body guard said he pushed King with an open hand to get him away, but never struck him. King went down and hit a pillar with his head and ended up in the hospital.

According to the *Houston Chronicle*, LaBelle testified Thursday that she and her son, who works as her manager, had just arrived in Houston with Holmes. She said Edwards was loading luggage into an SUV for a trip to a performance at a Louisiana casino when King staggered up to the limousine in which she sat.

King jiggled the door handle to try to enter the limousine and called her names when Edwards intervened, LaBelle said. King punched Edwards, and Holmes punched King, she said.

"Nobody was trying to hit that kid," said LaBelle, 69. "He started everything."

Prosecutors have shown surveillance video showing Edwards chest-bumping King, drawing a punch from King, and Holmes punching King three times in the face. LaBelle's hairdresser then got between the two and hit

King.

Reports have confirm, King, now 25, has filed a lawsuit against the Grammy Award-winning entertainer and Holmes.

LaBelle has filed a countersuit.

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Light Crust Doughboys

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Starz on Encore to offer new channels to spotlight African-American and Hispanic programming

BEVERLY HILLS -- Already a favorite for consumers as the most widely subscribed premium pay TV service in the United States with 35 million subscribers, Starz has strengthened ENCORE and its family of thematic multiplex channels and service offerings. The new ENCORE pack of channels bring programming enhancements to further super-serve the nation's evolving demographics and focus on groups who over-index in viewing within the premium pay TV category.

Beginning December 2, 2013, subscribers can look forward to the following changes:

ENCORE BLACK Replaces ENCORE DRAMA – Showcasing popular programming for the African-American community, ENCORE BLACK will bring a terrific combination of commercial-free premium movie content, comedy such as "Martin Lawrence's 1st Amendment Stand Up," and the introduction of TV favorites including: "What's Happening!," "Diff'rent Strokes," "227," and "Amen." ENCORE BLACK will be

originated in HD and service the strong viewership from the African-American community, which has historically over-indexed on premium channel viewership. The December launch will spotlight Academy Award® nominee, actor Samuel L. Jackson with films such as Unbreakable, Losing Isaiah, Freedomland, One Eight Seven, and more.

ENCORE ESPANOL Moves to a Lower Tier – For the growing Latino audiences who want 24/7 Spanish-Language premium content, ENCORE ESPANOL will now be made available to multichannel video distributors in the United States to be part of their popular, lower-cost Spanish-language channel bundles. ENCORE ESPANOL will now enjoy its own Spanish-language film programming from worldwide suppliers and be more than a Spanish-language version of the flagship ENCORE channel. ENCORE ESPANOL will showcase U.S. Television Premieres of Sin Otono, Sin Primavera (Ecuador), Estrella del Sur (Columbia), La Llamada (Argentina), and Lo Azul del Cielo (Co-

lumbia).

ENCORE CLASSIC Replaces ENCORE LOVE – A new addition to the ENCORE HD channel portfolio, ENCORE CLASSIC will be a favorite for the Baby Boomer set, with a mix of generational evergreen movie favorites and classic TV series. Leveraging the deep and broad ENCORE movie library of new release and favorite hits, ENCORE CLASSIC will add TV hits, "Murphy Brown," "Magnum, P.I.," and "Night Court" to its programming slate. Classic movie titles will air every night with a new favorite every day of the month at 8 p.m.. Films include Kramer vs. Kramer, American Graffiti, Independence Day, Breaking Away, Stand By Me, Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery, Good Will Hunting, Tootsie, Basic Instinct, The Notebook, and more.

"The Graveyard Shift" Horror Blocks Reigns over ENCORE SUSPENSE Nightly starting at 8 p.m. – Younger viewers can get their blood-

See STARZ, Page 13

'Selling out' and 'Buying in'

By James Clingman
NNPA Columnist

During the enslavement period of Africans in America, the Meritorious Manumission Act of 1710 was enacted in Virginia. It was the legal act of freeing a slave for "good deeds," as defined by the national public policy, and could be granted to a slave who saved the life of a White master or his property, invented something from which a slave master could

make a profit, or "snatched" on a fellow slave who was planning a slave rebellion or to run away. Let's assume that's where the term "selling out" came from.

Three hundred years later, Black folks are still dealing with sell-outs, but I think we should take a different look at this issue. Selling out is a very negative term, especially among Black folks; but for those who sell-out, it seems to be a very profitable term. Some of our prominent

Black spokespersons are very well off financially because they sold out. They started out as strong Black advocates and activists, and now they are nothing more than sycophants for various causes, political parties, businesses, and politicians.

I have often been told that everyone has a number, a price they would accept to sell-out. I wonder what the number was for Marcus Garvey – I wonder if he even had a number. When I listen to his speeches and

read his papers, I doubt it. Also, I think about MLK and how much it would have taken for him to sell-out. Although many do have a special number, a price for which they would sell-out, there have been and still are some who did not and seemingly will not sell-out, no matter what.

That's where economic empowerment applies. The more self-reliant we are, the less apt we are to sell-out because we have our own economic independence

and cannot be bought. Oh that our leaders were all economically secure and had a high level of consciousness; where would we be now? Business ownership and control, with the ability to create jobs, as well as a code of conduct among our people, yes, complete with penalties and sanctions, would curtail the inappropriate behavior of selling one another out.

Some of our "leaders" are known for selling us out, and we know who they are;

I don't know how they are sleeping, but I know they are eating pretty well from having done so. They rail against "the man" or criticize us, their brothers and sisters, in order to obtain their manumission. The question is: Are they really to blame for our demise? As I said, we know who they are, so I ask, "What is our role in their actions?" Are we really enablers for these Benedict Arnolds?

See **BUYING**, Page 13

Study shows African-Americans are biggest users of online job search

WASHINGTON - Studies show African Americans are more likely than the public at large to use the Internet to look for a job, and particularly when it comes to using mobile devices and social media for that purpose, according to research unveiled today by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

The report from the Joint Center, "Broadband and Jobs: African Americans

Rely Heavily on Mobile Access and Social Networking in Job Search," was released today at a Washington broadband technology forum organized by the Institute and featuring remarks from Commissioner Mignon Clyburn of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

The study, funded by the Joyce Foundation, explores the importance of Internet

access to job search among African Americans. It found that African Americans are more likely than other segments of the population to use the Internet to seek and apply for employment, and are also more likely to consider the Internet very important to the success of their job search.

In addition, the report found that confidence in one's own digital skills correlates with a higher likelihood of using the Internet

for job search, suggesting that efforts to improve digital literacy would allow more people to take advantage of the dynamic employment tools that the Internet has to offer. This is particularly important given the high and ever-growing proportion of job openings that can be found only

through online platforms.

"This study not only underscores the potential of broadband and mobile technologies in driving policy solutions in economically distressed communities, but it also shows the success that African Americans are having in making the most

of digital platforms in finding work. It also tells us that ensuring digital literacy and broadband access and adoption in every community is a worthwhile endeavor that will pay off in real terms," said Joint Center President/CEO Ralph B.

See **ONLINE**, Page 13



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Must pass a Physical and Drug Screen

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WAGE, continued from Page 3

of all hourly paid workers who are at or below the federal minimum wage of 7.25 an hour. Employers are allowed to pay students and the disabled – defined as those “whose earning or productivity is impaired by age, physical or mental deficiency, or injury” – less than the minimum wage. It also places limits on workers who derive part of their income from tips.

A study by the Congressional Research Service found that 40 percent of those earning the minimum wage or less work in “food preparation and serving related occupations.” It also discovered that 72.2 percent have at least a high school diploma and 8 percent have a bachelor’s degree or higher.

Robert Greenstein, president of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities testified before Congress in February: “I would note that over recent decades, the minimum wage has been allowed to erode and is now 20 percent lower, after adjusting

for inflation, than in the late 1960s. For this and a number of other reasons (relating in part to globalization of the economy), wages for low-paid jobs have fallen.”

A fact sheet by Economic Policy Institute found, “A disproportionate share of minorities will benefit from a minimum wage increase. African Americans represent 11% of the total workforce, but are 18% of workers affected by an increase. Similarly, 14% of the total workforce is Hispanic, but Hispanics are 19% of workers affected by an increase.”

Washington State has the highest state minimum wage at \$9.19, indexed to inflation. California enacted a law that will raise its minimum wage to \$10 over three years. Some cities have wages that are even higher. The minimum wage is \$10.55 in San Francisco. And in the recent election, New Jersey voters approve a constitutional amendment increasing the minimum wage from \$7.25

to \$8.25.

Where city or state minimums exceed the federal standard, workers receive the higher wage.

The movement to increase the federal minimum wage has stalled in Congress. In March, the House voted 233 to 184 against raising the minimum wage to \$10.10 by 2015, with all Republicans voting in the majority.

Two Democrats, Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa and Rep. George Miller of California have sponsored legislation, called the Fair Minimum Wage Act, to raise the federal minimum wage. The hope to overcome past opposition by adding some sweeteners for small businesses, including allowing them to deduct the full cost of equipment and expansion up to \$500,000 in the first year.

In his State of the Union address in February, President Obama proposed a federal minimum wage of \$9.

The EPI study stated. “When describing who would see a raise if the minimum wage

were increased, it is important to look at everyone who earns between the current minimum wage and the proposed new one, as well as workers earning just above the new minimum wage (who would likely also see a small pay increase as employers move to preserve internal wage ladders). The typical worker who would be affected by an increase in the minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour by 2015 looks nothing like the part-time, teen stereotype: She is in her early thirties, works full-time, and may have a family to support.”

George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of Emerge magazine, is editor-in-chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service (NNPA.) He is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach. Curry can be reached through his Web site, www.georgecurry.com. You can also follow him at www.twitter.com/currygeorge and George E. Curry Fan Page on Facebook.

DROP-IN, continued from Page 6

for and entertained,” said Kirkwood.

The Little Elm Recreation Center is located at 303 Main St., and includes a wide array of activities, play equipment, balls, and facilities to keep the youngsters safely entertained. Constant monitoring by adults is assured.

“Parents, of course, can do anything they want during the five-hour window on those Saturdays, including enjoying a quiet cup of coffee, visiting with friends, cooking or just taking a quiet break. We’ll leave that up to them,” she added.

Prior registration is required either online at <https://apm.activecommunities.com/littleelm/Home> or in person at the recreation center. Walk-ins cannot be accommodated.

For more information, the recreation staff can be contacted at (972) 731-3277.



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ONLINE, continued from Page 11

Everett.

The study's other key findings include:

African Americans rely on social media and on mo-

bile devices for job search at higher rates than the general population;

50% of African American Internet users said the Inter-

net was very important to them in successfully finding a job, significantly higher than the 36% average for the entire sample;

46% of African American Internet users used the In-

ternet at some point when they were last looking for a job, either by online search, emailing potential employers or using social networking sites. This compares to 41% for all respondents;

36% of African Americans said they applied for a job online the last time they were in the job market, compared with 26% for all respondents; and

31% of African Americans said social networking sites are very important to

job search, which is seven percentage points greater than the entire sample (24%).

Copies of this report can be found by going to the Joint Center's website, located at www.joint-center.org.

BUYING, continued from Page 11

This brings me to the second part of this article's title – the buying in part. Some of us, despite knowing who the culprits are, are like Pavlov's dog, salivating at every word they speak and hoping for a treat or some other reward because we have been so obedient to them. So who's the real culprit in the sell-out game? The one selling out or the one(s) buying in?

We will always be sold out if we keep buying in to the empty rhetoric and promises of good times to come. We will continue to complain about the sell-outs, but we will also continue to be left out of the

prosperity they enjoy.

Carter G. Woodson said, "Negroes, choose their leaders but unfortunately they are too often of the wrong kind. Negroes do not readily follow persons with constructive programs. Almost any sort of exciting appeal or trivial matter presented to them may receive immediate attention and temporarily at least liberal support." We choose and follow sell-outs with great zeal, so we should stop blaming them and start blaming ourselves.

The sell-out/buy-in game is most prevalent in political circles, or at least connected to politics in some

way or another. Black people are divided over the most trivial political issues, unlike other groups that couldn't care less – they care about economics.

Blacks are also divided over personalities, and as Carter G. Woodson said, we usually go with the misleading, do-nothing politicians, and the ones who are scared to make waves. You know the type; docile, non-threatening, scratching and grinning, and all talk but no action. But so what? They are gettin' paid and lovin' it.

We are the ones who are suffering because, even though we are holding fast and not selling out, we are buying in to the sell-outs' mission; so we may as well be selling out ourselves.

The point is that we

should stop concentrating so much on who is selling out and spend more time dealing with the fact that many of us are buying in to what they say and do. We must be critical thinkers and let these manumission seekers know that while they may continue to sell-out, we will not continue to follow them. That's on us, brothers and sisters, not them.

Jim Clingman, founder of the Greater Cincinnati African American Chamber of Commerce, is the nation's most prolific writer on economic empowerment for Black people. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati and can be reached through his Web site, blackonomics.com.

STARZ,

continued from Page 2

thirsty and chilling need for horror on ENCORE SUSPENSE every night of the week beginning at 8 p.m. and airing until approximately 4 a.m. with "The Graveyard Shift."

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Worship at 10:45 a.m.

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Senior Pastor
George Bush Fwy at
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www.followpeace.org

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Service as we praise God
for all of His blessings.

November 20, 7 p.m.

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Hall for details.

November 17, 8 a.m.
Join us in Early Worship at
200 W. Belmont Drive loca-
tion in Allen as we praise
God and at 9:30 a.m. at
1550 Edelweiss Drive in
Allen for Sunday Morning
Worship.

What's on Your Mind?
Don't copy the behavior, at-

titude and action of the
world. Let God transform
you into a new person by
changing the way you think.
Romans 12: 2a. Join us for
one or both of our Worship
Services as we praise God
for the victories in our lives.

November 20, 7 p.m.
You're invited to join us for
Wednesday Night Live in
the Joycie Turner Fellow-
ship Hall on Belmont Drive,
with old school prayer and
testimony. Also, come to
our Corporate Prayer and
our Kidz Zone (an environ-
ment to equip children to
grow and to show God's
love.)

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed.D.
Senior Pastor
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Worship Service at 10 a.m.

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Senior Pastor
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Plano, TX 75075
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November 20, 7 p.m.
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Wednesday in Bible Study.

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Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org

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November 18, 7 p.m.
Come to Monday School as
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lowship each Friday as we
praise and worship God.

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Wednesday Night Live
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CULTURAL, continued from Page 1

new trend is the expression of cultural fashions in the world of mainstream pageantry. Today's popular Media channels have a reputation for portraying less than stellar images of black women.

Being an American Black woman in this era is a critical issue, because so many expectations exist that are very insulting concerning black women. Along with the excessive use of the "N-Word" that permeates many African-American social scenes.

The airwaves and social networks are filled with images and language that suggests young black girls are to emulate music Video Vixens, Gold Diggers or they are modern Jezebels; to be addressed using the "b-word".

However, we have found two accomplished women who offer a positive image, and they defy these negative stereotypes while displaying cultural pride as community heroines.

Ms. Wamunyima (a first-generation immigrant from the country of Zambia) sparked a trend when she not only wore an ethnic-inspired evening gown but her entire wardrobe during

the Ms. America 2013 pageant week's activities comprised of trendy ethnic inspired designs.

During the competition, Amanda wore an ivory satin evening gown with metallic gold lace trim and crystals at waist and off shoulder, and side slit. Amanda explains, "My wardrobe is styled by TeKay Designs in Houston Texas.

I'm proud of my culture. I want to show my cultural side through ethnic fashions. Because I'm from Zambia, I want to shine a light on African fashions to support the designers. African fashions are more than just clothing; because the garment tells a story in tribal context.

For example; the fabric that is used in traditional Musisi dresses often signifies a geographical region and tribal expression. There is also a new generation of Africans who are more inspired by western designs fused with African fabrics.

And they call these looks Afrique-Chic. So, I wear ethnic fashions to share more about whom I am." Amanda has sparked a cultural style trend in mainstream pageantry. Since winning her title, you will

find Amanda adorned in opulent cultural fashions and representing her title at events while advancing her humanitarian cause.

Amanda's mission is to lend her voice to ieEmbrace organization as her humanitarian cause. ieEmbrace provides hospitals and clinics with medical supplies and equipment; as well as offering youth development programs.

Presenting culture in the forefront is a stylish asset, even more so at gala events that are as highly profiled as the Golden Icons Academy Movie Awards (GIAMA) ceremony.

Amongst the celebrities and socialites, we met with pageant winner Chiniqua Pettaway the reigning Ms. America 2013. Ms. Pettaway's striking appearance in a body sculpting bronze gold lace dress with pleated undertones made her a paparazzi magnet as she arrived to accept interviews.

This is intended, because Ms. America knows to leverage media attention to advance her humanitarian mission to the forefront.

"I embrace my culture by being active in the African-American community as a mentor to young women. I coach at youth development programs. I teach etiquette classes and lecture young

people about life, the importance of education and how it will affect their life in the long term." states Pettaway.

As a humanitarian, Chiniqua Pettaway extends her time to support many areas of her community. She extends her time to youth initiatives, social dignitaries, civic groups and spiritual organizations; as well as local entrepreneurial start-ups.

Pettaway is especially passionate about her platform of service "Guard a Heart" a heart health awareness foundation. Guard a Heart's mission is to fight heart disease with their campaign, "Know your Risk, Save a Life." Heart conditions are the number one killer of men and women in America. Chiniqua Pettaway is a small business owner herself, and her title as Ms. America offers Chiniqua unique opportunities to connect with other businesses and to form meaningful relationships.

"I want to wear ethnic fashions that show my cultural pride. TeKay Designs is a young cultural design business and I'm willing to support that platform. The fashions are extremely co-

hesive as a collection; and you can always identify TeKay's signature design. TeKay's fashions are vibrant in color with diverse styles. The garments are distinctly ethnic, but the looks will compliment anyone. TeKay diversifies the models so when people of different ethnicities see the dresses, they can see themselves wearing TeKay's fashions too.

I embrace culture one-hundred percent! And so long as I like the garment, I'll wear it! It's important for me to project a positive image. Popular Media today has a heavy influence on what African-American youth emulate. There are certainly some poor examples being projected in the Media.

As I see it, there is a huge gap between where the African-American culture actually has advanced to, and the perception of where

we've advanced to. We do not have a lot of good role models for African-American youth to relate to in popular Media so I try to be that positive image and that's why I'm active in the community. I want to have a real presence, and lead by example." explains Pettaway.

Ethnic fashions are an asset, and offers a nonverbal expression of pride that automatically signals social status. It is cultural pride that motivates communitarian ways.

Historic African-American leaders have always used cultural style to express direction when implementing plans, and to motivate people.

Amanda Wamunyima and Chiniqua Pettaway are two of many untold examples of how sister-hood holds up the neighborhood —adorned in cultural style!

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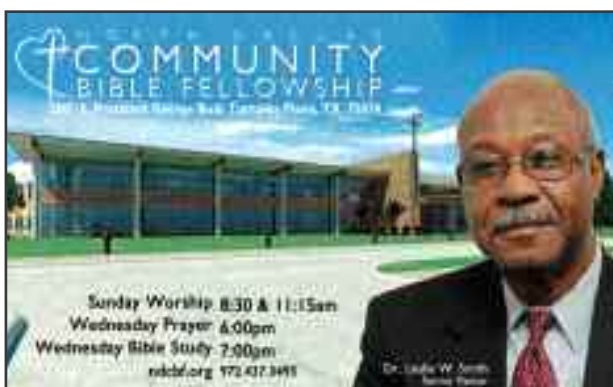
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***Furious Cool: Richard Pryor and the World That Made Him* offers behind the scenes look**

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Dirty, nasty, filthy.

That's what your mother claimed "those words" were. You said them once... and were never allowed to say them again in her presence. They were bad words.

They were dirty – unless, of course, Richard Pryor said them. Then they were hilarious, fall-down-funny, and in the new book "Furious Cool" by David Henry and Joe Henry, you'll read a few of them, and more.

Peoria, Illinois is like "[w]hatever you think of when you hear the name," Richard Pryor once said to an audience in 1966. He was born there, the son of a vaudevillian and a prostitute, and was raised in his grandmother's bordello. There, as a small boy, he learned to get laughs – though his childhood

was overall rough and marked with things little boys should never see.

When he was just nineteen, Pryor married his pregnant sixteen-year-old girlfriend, the first of his many marriages. He was unemployed then, but "soaked up everything" he saw while lounging around, watching TV. Shortly after his son was delivered prematurely, he left his young wife, moved back to his father's house, and began performing at local Peoria clubs.

From there, Pryor bounced around between Toronto, New York, and Las Vegas. He played the "Chitlin Circuit," performed on The Ed Sullivan Show, and learned to mimic Bill Cosby's act. For a time, Pryor left the stage and moved to California to live a "flower children" existence with his second wife then, following a

brief separation from her, he moved to Berkeley where he spent his days reading the works of Malcolm X.

It blew his mind. It also changed his act.

Embracing the "N" word and inspired to "speak truth," Pryor revolutionized comedy with the "raw language of the streets." People flocked to concerts and comedy clubs where he performed. His genius poured forth.

But though his stage career soared, Pryor's personal life was in shambles. He loved cocaine, cognac, women, and guns, but the four together was a bad mix and his behavior "grew increasingly bizarre." His addictions out of control, he sought help and entered a hospital in 1979.

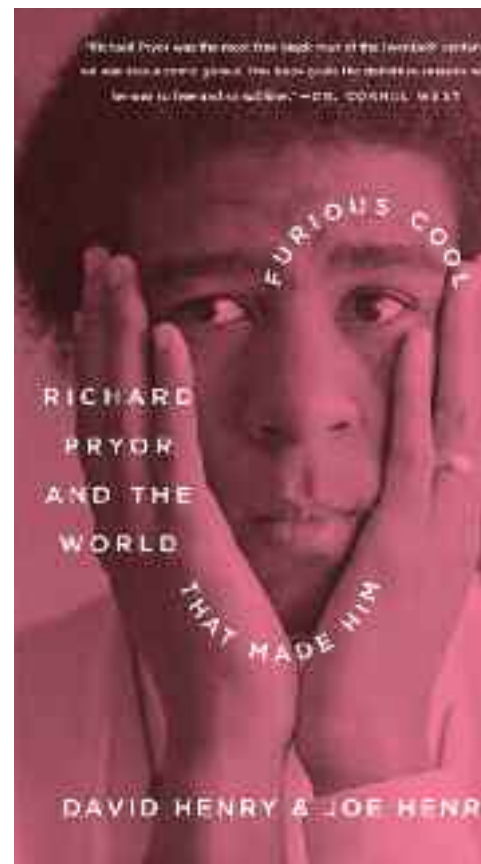
Later, he insisted to everyone that he was "off drugs for real this time."

He lied.

"Furious Cool" is a wonderful, wonderful book. But I was wrung out when I finished it, as if I had watched a car accident in excruciatingly slow motion.

That's a testament to authors David Henry & Joe Henry, both of whom had a relationship with Pryor at the end of his life, and who had access to his story. Here, Henry & Henry give us a sense of the once-in-a-lifetime genius that Pryor was, but because we know how this tale unfolds, it's painful to read. We watch his self-destruction through these pages, and feel powerless.

And yet – "Furious Cool" is impossible not to enjoy. It's filled with history, memories, laughs, and yes, an abundance of profanity – but if you want to read a story of a complicated comedy genius, it would be a dirty shame to miss it.



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