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MLK: Militant of the 21st century

By Lee A. Daniels

(NNPA) Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. hasn't been this alive since 1968.

He's no longer that visually distant, two-dimensional figure, limited to speaking a single sentence



taken out of context and shorn of its true meaning. Instead, the honest scholarship and media commentary considering what King faced and what he did have broken through the obscuring fog of conservative, and yes, centrist, propa-

In part, that's because,

ganda

today the confrontation between the forces of progress and the racist reaction to that progress is sharper than any time since the 1960s.

See Militant, Page 11

Irving still seeking a new City Manager

In 2013 the Irving City Council hired a professional search firm to engage in a national search for a new city manager to replace Tommy Gonzales. Gonzales departed after a great deal of conflict with the City Council and among City Council members. Ugly publicity re-



garding his management style and various actions were shared throughout the community.

The City Council hired Steve McCullough, the former City Manager, as the Interim City Manager, with a six-month contract, several months into the search process. Since that time, McCullough has worked diligently to begin putting an organization riddled with confusion, low employee morale, and poor public perception inside and outside Irving, back together into a cohesive smooth-running city government

It has been a daunting task, and one that was soon discovered would take longer than six months.

See Irving, Page 4





See Obamacare, Page 9



Killing and dying for respect

By Walter Fields NNPA Guest Columnist

There was some disbelief over social media when it was suggested the accused shooter of two Newark, New Jersey youth was prompted by the suspect's feeling disrespected. The suspect, a 15 year-old boy, is reported to have been angry because he believed two other young men had 'hit' on a girl he was dating. The boy's rage resulted in

the death of a 13-year-old girl, Zainee Hailey, who was struck by a stray bullet while taking out the trash on Christmas night. Another victim, a target of the shooter and one of the boys the suspect alleged to have acted disrespectfully toward him, died of his injuries. The third victim was shot in the neck and seriously injured.

While so-called crimes of passion are not rare, many adults can't fathom See RESPECT, Page 3

See Page 2

Celebrating a 25-year milestone of MLK celebration in Garland

By Gwendolyn Daniels

Through the foresight of a visionary president, over twenty-five years ago the NAACP Garland branch obtained a parade permit and began plans to host its first ever Martin Luther King, Jr. parade and march.

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The year was 1989 and presiding president Lela H. Green navigated her way through Garland city departments to complete the permit approval process. Next, she began soliciting local churches and community organizations to join the branch on Saturday,

January 13, 1990 for a new and momentous event, the Garland MLK parade and march.

Since that time the annual festivity has grown into a two-day celebration commemorating the impact

See MLK, Page 12

"Sweet J" Ekworomadu



/NorthDallasGazette!

People In The News...



Dennis Webb

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

Juliet E.K. Walker

Joyce "Sweet J" **Ekworomadu**

When the Harlem Globetrotters broke training camp this past September, many of the stars players headed straight to Bangor, Maine, to debut their 2014 "Fans Rule" World Tour. But while the team was making its first stop on the tour, one Globetrotter was on her way to showcase her talents elsewhere.

Sweet J Ekworomadu (eck-wor-oh-MAA-doo), who is among the Globetrotters' 2014 class of rookies, was on a plane to Maputo, Mozambique, Africa, where she competed with the Nigerian national team in the 23rd Afrobasket for Women tournament. Sweet J has been a member of the Nigerian national team since 2007. The parents of the Dallas native are from Nigeria but moved to the U.S. before she was born.

While Sweet J is proud to be part of the Nigerian national team, she is also honored to wear the Globetrotter uniform because it means she is a part of his-

Juliet E.K. Walker

INDIANAPOLIS -- Two founders of university centers focused on African American business ventures were honored for their contributions during an Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis lecture series named for historic businesswoman Madam C.J. Walker.

Juliet E.K. Walker, a pioneer scholar of black business history in America, received the first Madame C.J. Walker Lifetime Achievement Award during Walker/Frederick Douglass Annual Lecture Series on Dec. 6 at the Jewel Center in Indianapolis.

founder of the Center for Black Business History, Entrepreneurship and Technology at the University of Texas at Austin, where she has been a professor of history since 2001.

Bessie

the inaugural Madame C.J.

Juliet Walker is the

House-Soremekun, director of Africana studies in the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, received the Global African American Activist Ambassador Award.

tory Only a select uniform,

history. few females get the

opportunity to play for the

House-Soremekun is founding executive director of the Center for Global Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development, part of the School of Liberal Arts. The center's mission is to build entrepreneurial capacity and sustainable development initiatives in America and African countries.

Juliet Walker, who earned her Ph.D. in American history from the University of Chicago, is considered the foremost scholar in black business history in America.

Her development of that field is linked to the publication of her book, "Free Frank: A Black Pioneer on the Antebellum Frontier." Her book, "The History of Black Business in America: Capitalism, Race, Entrepreneurship," was the first comprehensive study of African American businesses.

team, and she feels blessed

to be the 12th female Glo-

Get

Crackin

betrotter ever.

"It is entirely befitting for Professor Walker to receive this prestigious award ... for the first woman to establish a major field in black entrepreneurship to (receive the inaugural) award named

See WALKER Page 16

Out of Texas State University, Sweet J was the fifth player in the school's history to record over 1500 points and 600 rebounds. She was named Southland Conference Player of the Year and Student Athlete of the Year in 2008, when she averaged 18.7 ppg and led the school to its first postseason win in program history in the Women's NIT, hitting the game-winning shot. Showcasing her shooting range, she made a school-record 82 threepointers her senior year and finished third in the 2008 College 3-Point Championship.

Sweet J's love of basket-

ball can be traced back to her days on the playground when she was 10. She remembers watching the older guys play and trying to mimic their moves. Playing basketball became something she couldn't go a day without doing.

Off the court, Sweet J enjoys skating, movies and music. Besides the Harlem Globetrotters, her favorite sports teams are the Dallas Mavericks and the Los Angeles Clippers. She has a crush on Channing Tatum, but she is terrified of spiders. Other things that people may not know about her

See SWEET J. Page 13



Dennis Webb

Speaking by phone with the North Dallas Gazette on Tuesday afternoon, Irving City Councilman Dennis Webb shared he is planning to kick off his re-election campaign soon.

"I am looking forward to running and serving another term," Councilman Webb shared.

"I am retired now and have a lot of time to give," he added referring to his recent retirement from the Grand Prairie Fire Department after 30 years of service

"Learning so much, I learned a vast amount about municipal government," Webb said. He takes pride in the key projects that he

worked on which helped to make a difference on, knowing that helped his constituents and the citizens of Irving.

Webb is planning to launch his re-election campaign website soon.

Right now a key focus is finding a new Irving City Manger to replace Tommy Gonzales who left the role last October. The three finalists reportedly include one local candidate Gilbert T. Perales from Irving; L. Todd Hileman, Glenview, Ill.; and Steven R. Sarkozy from Bellevue, Wash.

'We need someone who has experience managing major economic development projects," according to Webb. "We are in a very

competitive environment, and we need someone at the helm who can really lead us."

Also, Webb considers keeping the morale of the

city staff up a critical function of the manager's job. "Being an ex-city employee myself, I am very

sensitive to employee morale," Webb shared.





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A stark choice in the New Year

continue to search for work instead of

The unemployed were left in the

cold by the recent budget deal. Con-

gress left town without figuring out

how to pay for extended unemploy-

ment benefits, leaving the long-term

jobless to wonder how they'll make

But some Americans are much more

fortunate. In 2012, the top hedge fund

manager in the U.S., David Tepper of

Appaloosa Management, took home

\$2.6 billion in compensation. That's

\$50 million a week, or \$824 every sec-

ond of the year. We can only wonder

how the holidays were celebrated in

The 25 top hedge fund managers to-

gether took home \$14.4 billion in

earnings in 2012; this equals the

amount of money provided to support

906,280 unemployed Americans for

Unlike most upper-income profes-

sionals - like doctors, lawyers, ac-

countants and dentists - who pay up to

Tepper is not alone in his largesse.

his home.

an entire year.

their mortgage payments in 2014.

worrying about where the family will

be sleeping that night.

By Scott Klinger

At this moment, four out of every ten unemployed workers in the U.S. have been looking for a job for more than six months, the highest level of long-term joblessness since the Great Depression. While more people are buying goods and services now than four years ago, businesses are only beginning to hire back laid-off workers, and there are still three workers lined up for every open job.

In depressed towns and cities, the holidays have been tough for the longterm unemployed. And their situation is about to get much worse.

About 1.3 million Americans received their last extended unemployment check before New Year's Eve. Later this year, another 3.6 million long-term unemployed workers will lose support unless Congress renews this lifeline.

The unemployed who receive assistance get about \$300 a week, on average. That's hardly enough to cover rent or a mortgage and pay for heat, electricity and a phone – so they can

RESPECT, continued from Page 1

how a child could be driven to kill because of being slighted. It seems inconceivable to many people that being "dissed" could trigger such a violent response, let alone the actions of a teenager over youthful romance.

However, to dismiss the importance of "respect" among youth, particularly Black boys, is to miss the larger issue of social disconnection. We can condemn the actions of this young man, and mourn the death of an innocent bystander, but we had better come to terms with the degree to which many young people harbor deep resentment and anger over their nothingness in our nation.

Decades of indifference toward youth, and specifically young Black boys and men, has resulted in generations of young people who internalize any slight as threatening the little shred of humanity they possess. It is why the most innocuous comment can trigger the most extreme reaction. In communities where so little regard is shown for young people, they protect the only thing they have left – their dignity – at any and all cost.

This is not just a street-level reality; it persists in homes and schools. The belligerence of many young people in family environments is the direct result of their feeling belittled and abandoned. So many of our youth are raising themselves and forced to go it alone, that any suggestion of behavior modification is taken as a personal affront. The same goes on in the classroom. Stories of student rage and violence directed at teachers is often rooted in the young person's sense of being disrespected by an authority figure; the same tension that often surfaces during interactions with police. It could be the tone that is used by the adult, the body language or words spoken in a way that conveys the message that the young person is viewed as inferior.

It is why youth to youth interactions turn deadly. If you are not being respected by adults who are expected to demonstrate civility, you sure are not going to let a peer put you down. The alternative, perhaps walking away, is viewed as an act of submission, of cowardice that buys you nothing on the street except more abuse. If you can't protect your personal "space," you begin to question your very existence. And in a day and age when life is viewed through the shortest lens by many young people, the learning curve is irrelevant since there is no sense of the possibility of a tomorrow or adulthood.

To grasp the magnitude of what took the life of Zainee Hailey in Newark you must first acknowledge the message we have sent to young people. We don't care if they are living 39.6 percent of their earnings in income taxes, Tepper and his pals paid just the 20 percent capital gains tax on their fortunes, thanks to the "carried interest loophole." This hedge fund loophole saved Mr. Tepper alone more than \$400 million on his 2012 tax bill.

If this loophole were eliminated and hedge fund, private equity and real estate investment managers were taxed at the same rate as lawyers, dentists, doctors and the rest of us salaried employees, we would have another \$13 billion a year in revenue. That would be enough to cover the cost of extended emergency unemployment benefits through the end of 2015.

Earlier this month, President Obama said reducing inequality was "the defining challenge of our time." In fact, it is the challenge of the moment. For 1.3 million Americans, the challenge is immediate.

Providing assistance to the unemployed helps people get back on their feet after losing a job, and it allows them contribute to neighborhood busi-

See CHOICE, Page 4

in decent housing or have a place to call home. We herd them in school buildings that reek of indifference and then label them failures when we fail to live up to our moral and legal obligation to provide a quality education. Young people are easy prey for the drug trade when the adults in their lives are permanently severed from economic opportunity. And when our youth are pushed out of school and pushed into the underground and illegal economy, they become prey for an increasingly corporate criminal justice system driven by profit and little concerned with justice or rehabilitation. Respect? There is none shown young people so our youth will claim it by any means necessary.

Elected officials can call for all the police city and state budgets can muster and it will not matter. Preachers can evoke scripture and shout from their pulpits and it will not matter. Hell, at this point the tears of victims' families don't even matter much. It seems to me that unless we fundamentally alter our relationship with young people, make children and teenagers our priority, we stand little chance at stopping the bloodshed in our communities. Our only hope is in a radical restructuring of how we engage children from early childhood to young adulthood, and how we simultaneously support families and reform institutions that exist in theory to facilitate the transition to adult life.

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Health

Protect skin from outdoor cold, indoor heat

Special to the NNPA from the New York Amsterdam News

Although a long, hot shower or snuggling in a heavy sweater and other warm clothing in a toasty room may initially feel wonderful in winter, these measures to keep warm and comfortable are not wonderful for your skin. Humidity often drops in winter, and indoor heating also produces dry air. Drier air, hot water and even heavy, bulky clothing and the aging process can cause your skin to lose moisture or generate less of its own natural moisture. The result can be dry, itchy, irritated and flaky skin that no longer feels comfortable.

Skin is the largest organ in the body. Skin serves as a protective barrier, keeping harmful substances away from tissue, bones and blood vessels. It cools the body in hot weather by releasing water in the form of perspiration, which evaporates from the skin. Be good to your skin this winter by protecting and moisturizing it.

The following recommendations were adapted from material provided online by the American Academy of Dermatology and the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases.

Humidify and moisturize

Keep your home warm but not too hot.

Consider increasing the humidity and counteracting the dry heat in your home by adding a humidifier.

Avoid long, hot showers or baths. Keep showers and baths short and use warm, not hot, water. You may choose to bathe or shower less often, especially during the dry winter months.

For normal skin, regular bar soap and water will clean the skin efficiently, removing dirt, oil, sweat and dead skin cells.

For dry skin, soap may strip away too much of the skin's natural oils, leaving the skin feeling dry and tight. You may want to try a soap containing fatty materials like cocoa butter or lanolin, or a cleansing lotion or cream that will clean without removing too much oil.

For oily skin, soaps that are made for oily skin will help remove excess oil.

To avoid irritating the skin, scrub gently when washing.

When drying off, gently pat the skin dry to avoid irritation and redness.

Immediately after bathing and gently patting the skin dry, apply a moisturizer. The moisturizer should help to make the skin feel softer, prevent further water loss and allow the skin to rehydrate itself from within.

Choose a moisturizer that suits you and makes your skin feel comfortable. Check the ingredients. Lotions that contain a lot of alcohol will make the skin drier. Look for lotions and creams that contain any of the following: petrolatum, mineral oil, lineolic acid, ceramides, dimethicone or glycerin.

Reapply moisturizer throughout the day, such as right after washing your hands.

If a normal moisturizing regimen does not improve your dry skin, you may have a more serious skin condition and need to visit a dermatologist—a physician who has had additional training in conditions of the skin, hair, nails and mucous membranes. To obtain a referral to a dermatologist, contact your local county medial society.

IRVING, continued from Page 1

Several experienced City Council members, understanding the situation became convinced the City would be better off keeping the Interim for a much longer period. These Council members posted an item for the January council meeting to extend McCullough's contract an additional 24 months.

However, the mayor preempted this meeting by calling special meetings to review the findings of the search firm and to interview five designated by the firm as "finalists" (the original list of applicants included only 22 names, an unprecedented paucity of applicants for a city like Irving).

This list of five was re-

duced to three. The consideration of McCullough's contract extension has now been postponed to the Feb. 6 meeting. Whether that vote will be held depends on what the Council will do at another called meeting to be held Jan. 17, to interview the selected three.

Public contact, according to Council members spoken to, and to staff, has run heavily in favor of extending McCullough's contract. Conversation out in the public uncovers the same sentiments.

Anthony Bond, a local activist in the minority community, has said he has found no one in that community or in the broader city who does not favor keeping McCullough a longer period. "Irving is renewing itself

under Steve McCullough's leadership," Bond said.

"We have had so much confusion and disharmony for so long, not to mention serious deficiencies in the services to our residents, that the stability Steve has brought us is too valuable to lose right now. We need to let him complete the reorganization the Council assigned him, complete the next year's budget process which is already underway, and shepherd through some of the larger projects in progress."

Indeed employees are much happier today than a few months ago. Two City employees we spoke to, who asked to remain anonymous, were clear. Both said

Irving political coalition kicking off spring election season

The political coalition of diverse community leaders in Irving, which helped to sweep John Danish and Allan Meagher into office last May, is organizing again this year. Members of the Muslim, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Sudanese, Korean, Black, Hispanic, Anglo and Jewish communities in Irving are working together to ensure a diverse voice is heard at the ballot box. Their goal is to provide a united presence, which is heard loud and clear, in this election and all future city and school board elections from now on.

Anthony Bond is the contact person for this diverse political coalition and he

shared,

"It has been demonstrated that if our diverse political coalition works with all the religious and secular leaders in the various diverse groups living in Irving, we can ensure our voices and votes make a big difference in all future city and school board elections. And that is exactly what we plan to do."

We will discuss potential candidates we can support as well as issues facing Irving in the future that we can support.

Anyone interested in participating can reach Bond at aebond09@yahoo.com for more information.

McCullough has brought stability and harmony back to Irving City Hall. Neither expects him to be a longterm employee, but both said they felt a tenure longer than six months would be beneficial. Both agreed there will be disagreements with McCullough's decisions just like with any manager.

"The difference," said one, "is that we trust Steve McCullough and believe he means what is best for us and what is right for the City."

In fact, one of the most common themes one hears in the community as well as from the employees is Steve McCullough is a person of unquestioned integrity, and one who knows the ropes. There is no question the City Council will hire a new city manager at some point, perhaps one on the current list.

The question is whether it will be sooner or later.



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City of Plano hosting events to celebrate MLK legacy

The Plano Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee has put together an amazing offering of ways the community can celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.:

Friday, Jan. 17, 6-8 p.m. - Candle Lighting Vigil: Join in unity for "A Light of Change," honoring the life and legacy of Dr. King. The Vigil is hosted by the Plano Community Forum at Haggard Park, 901 E. 15th St. in Downtown Plano across from the DART Rail Station. Festivities include a candle lighting ceremony, spoken word, music and tributes from City of Plano officials and community leaders. Contact: lindaj@planocf.com

Saturday, Jan. 18, 8 a.m. - Power Leadership Breakfast: College students honor Dr. King with the annual free breakfast and special tribute. The breakfast is hosted by the Collin College Board of Trustees and President Cary Israel at the Collin College Conference Center Spring Creek Campus, 2800 E. Spring Creek Pkwy. Elected Officials will participate in round table discussions with the community. MLK Unity Scholarships will be awarded. Contact: evelyn@planocf.com

Health & Information Fair: Immediately following the Power Leadership Breakfast, the public is invited to visit with more than 25 vendors in various fields, including health and education, in Collin College Spring Creek Campus' Atrium (just down the hall from the breakfast). Contact: terri@planocf.com

Sunday, Jan. 19, 7 p.m. - MLK All-

See PLANO, Page 15

Street parking requires adherence to state, local laws

LITTLE ELM -- Parking personal vehicles on Town streets is perfectly legal and, for the most part, a safe alternative to driveways and alleys, so long as the cars and trucks do not violate any of the applicable parking ordinances or state laws, says Police Chief Waylan Rhodes.

"Cars and pickups parked facing the direction of the lane's traffic flow are fine, as long as they follow some simple, commonsense rules," he said. "In addition to state law, the Town's Code of Ordinances is very clear on what's permissible and what can be cited by police officers." Police dispatchers report several calls from citizens with related complaints.

Chapter 98 of the Little Elm Code of Ordinances, Article V "Parking, Driveways and Vehicular Use Areas," available for review on www.littleelm.org, includes a section that provides clear direction to motorists on this subject.

Longest-tenured city manager in Lewisville's history to retire in April

Lewisville City Manager Claude King on Monday announced his retirement effective April 30. King has been Lewisville's manager since 1998 and has been with the city since 1989.

King, 59, holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, as well as a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of North Texas. He has more than 30 years of combined municipal and state government experi-

He initially joined Lewisville as the Capital Projects Coordinator and was promoted to Assistant to the City Manager in 1993, Assistant City Manager in 1994, and Deputy City Manager in 1996. King is Lewisville's sixth city manager since adoption of a home rule charter in 1963, and has held the position longer than any of his predecessors.

See RETIRE, Page 15

Among the most important aspects of this ordinance are those that relate to obstruction or interference with service vehicles, including police and fire apparatus, postal service delivery vans and trash and recycling trucks.

"We will sometimes mark a curb with a red stripe to indicate there is no parking allowed because of a fire lane or other emergency access," he added. "However, even if there is no visible See PARKING, Page 7

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The moral imperative of now



The tyranny of time is always the suffrage of all good things and all good men. Time withers not only the vines of the earth but of the heart and the spirit that drives the heart. There is without question a great relevance in executing the moral imperatives of the day, now! This position is life changing and lifesaving. Regardless of opposition, regardless of threats and the weariness of our struggles we should always accept the patriotic position of the moral imperative of now.

If you witnessed a child playing in the street with oncoming traffic would you hesitate to act to get the child out of harm's way? Of course not! The same instinctive position should be taken as it relates to our personal libertv.

History is brandished with many examples of Americans acting in the moral interest now. There are equal amounts of historical examples in which as a nation we have rejected the moral necessity of acting now.

Our founding fathers did "highly resolve" that the king represented a direct threat upon the liberties of the colonist. The declaration of independence was signed in 1776. However that was years after the colonist took abuse after tax raising liberty taking abuses from the king and his minions. Looking back it is interesting to see that even after the start of the revolutionary war less than 10 percent of the colonies took part in the struggle for independence. The majority of the colonies later recognized the moral necessity of the struggle but at the time support was anemic at best.

What is the lesson in that historical example? It is clear that you may be in the minority position, but that does not lessen the need to act now. Just because the majority of individuals reject your position that should not lesson your enthusiasm to act or your moral imperative to act now!

A lack of knowledge can be just as self-defeating as a lack of action. Most fail to act with urgency because they lack knowledge of the threat. The greatest threat to Americans today is the persistent and consistent passage of law, regulations and rules that constrict our lives.

In January 2014, 40 thousand new laws took effect. This assault on the daily freedoms of Americans at some point will be irreversible. The very existence of these wide arrays of written controls threatens your rights as a citizen. It may in fact criminalize certain behaviors.

These laws impede business and restrict where you live, what you drive, where you drive, how fast you drive, what you carry in your car, get the point? The greater point is when a government has the ability to enforce a law, that government will do so out of self-preservation. The only thing government produces is more government and it will protect its offspring.

Clearly we see in this the moral imperative to act now

We act by doing three things: one, we reject through the ballot box all attempts to continue to create more government; two we jealously guard our enumerated constitutional rights protecting us from the government; and three we engage in, where necessary acts of civil disobe-

See CURTIS, Page 6



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Education

DISD students honor CHOICE, continued from Page 3 the memory of MLK

Fourth- and fifth-grade students from 19 Dallas ISD elementary schools competed in the semifinal round of the 22nd Annual Gardere MLK Jr. Oratory Competition, on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at the Dallas ISD Administration Building.

Students each presented original speeches of three to five minutes answering the question: "If Dr. King were speaking at a March on Washington today, what would he say?"

Contestants were judged on delivery,

stage presence and decorum, as well as content interpretation and memorization.

More than 180 students took part in the in-school competitions held October 14-25 where 19 students were selected to represent each participating school in the district. The eight finalists will advance to the final competition held on Friday, Jan. 17, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., at The Majestic Theatre.

The competition which is presented, hosted and sponsored by Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP, is free and open to the public.



Gardere Intellectual Property Associate Lisa Hemphill, Gardere Bankruptcy and Business Reorganization Associate Evan Baker, Gardere Corporate Partner Robert Sarfatis and Gardere Trial Associate Sadie Butler, (front row) Sedailiah Rochelle of Thomas Tolbert Elementary School, Aisha Young of William Brown Miller Elementary School, Jamiya McNeil of Charles Rice Learning Center, Kayla O'Neal of J.P. Starks Math, Science & Technology Vanguard Elementary School, Ahmad Crawford of Thomas L. Marsalis Elementary School, Luke Nayfa of Harry C Withers Elementary School, Etana King of John Neely Bryan Elementary School and Chaelon Simpson of Ronald E. McNair Elementary School.

Dallas Arboretum starts year with \$5 admission through Jan. 31

DALLAS - To kickoff the new year and encourage people to enjoy the gardens, the Dallas Arboretum is offering \$5 admission now through January 31. This offer is only available when purchasing tickets at the gate.

"The Dallas Arboretum is one of the top 10 botanical gardens in the world, according to the Travel Channel, and it's pretty nearly all year long," said Brian Shivers, Dallas Arboretum board chairman. "With this discount for entrance, we want to encourage people to see the pansies, ornamental kale and winter plantings, to walk the one mile fitness trail throughout the garden, and to get a sneak peek as we get ready for the 30th anniversary of Dallas Blooms."

2014 marks the 30th anniversary of the Dallas Arboretum's major floral festival Dallas Blooms with the theme "Birds in Paradise." Bank of America is the presenting sponsor of Dallas Blooms, with Park Place Dealerships and Celebrity Cruises as supporting sponsors. Dallas Blooms begins on February 22, 2014, and runs through April 6, 2014. The garden explodes with color as more than 500,000 spring-blossoming bulbs burst, and the beloved peacock topiaries return to spread their colorful petal tails in the Jonsson Color Garden.

As part of Dallas Blooms, the Dallas Arboretum also launches its Bird House Exhibit, life-size playhouses designed by local architects to complement this year's theme, Birds in Paradise. This creative exhibit is located in the Lakeside Exhibit Area. Children can play in these bird houses, while learning about bird predators, bird adaptations, how they find prey, how they camouflage themselves and survive, how they migrate, how they create nests, lay eggs and more.

For more information on Dallas Blooms' 30th anniversary, call 214,515,6500 or visit the Arboretum's website at www.dallasarboretum.org

nesses and the local economy while it's trying to recover. Unemployment benefits keep millions of the neighbors of the unemployed working - in grocery stores, gas stations, companies and utility banks.

Allowing federal unemployment assistance to expire sucks money out of

croachment on our liberties.

CURTIS, continued from Page 5

local economies already suffering from sluggish job growth, resulting in more local job loss and deeper pockets of depression.

But reducing inequality isn't just about helping those struggling at the lower ends of the income distribution; it also requires reining in excessive compensation at the top. Changing the tax

of now. There can be little

dience, to reject the enheart the moral imperative

sition when the answer is to sit and do nothing. Morality

code to ask a few thousand of our wealthiest citizens to pay taxes like the rest of us

is just ensuring everyone

Congress has a choice to

make: will we help five mil-

lion families soldier through

tough economic times, or

will we continue to allow

those who have prospered

the most to live by a differ-

ent set of rules, apart from

the rest of us?

plays by the same rules.

suggests actions now. Read The Curtis report at www.thecurtisreport.com.



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NAACP calls for improvement in banking diversity

BALTIMORE - The NAACP released findings from its Opportunities & Diversity Report Card: Consumer Banking Industry. Details in the report highlight key areas where the banking industry can improve to ensure their workforce, leadership and suppliers adequately reflect the demographics of the United States.

"Equal opportunity for people of color in the United States remains an unrealized goal," stated Interim NAACP President and CEO Lorraine Miller. "The banking industry will add nearly 1 million jobs with a living wage and



wealth generating opportunities over the next decade and more people of color are graduating with degrees in accounting, finance, IT, MBAs than ever before. We look forward to working with leading banks in strengthening their diversity and inclusion efforts and connecting more members of our communities to these opportunities."

The report card, which is based on 2011 data, reveals top management positions remain firmly dominated by white employees, despite the development of programs to increase diversity and inclusion and dramatic increases in the number of minority college graduates entering the workforce over the past 20 years.

Information submitted by banks during the survey period indicates that they continue to struggle with diversification in their supplier purchasing. 1.6 percent of banks' supplier budget is the most any bank spent on

African American suppliers and 5.3 percent is the most any bank spent on firms owned by people of color.

"During this period of high unemployment and declining wealth, which is even more pronounced for African Americans and other people of color, Americans need living wage jobs with long-term career tracks," stated Dedrick Asante - Muhammad, NAACP Senior Director of Economic Department.

Information submitted by banks during the survey period also indicates many banks continue to create products which feature high cost credit or fee-based

products hurt the grades of several banks in this report. "This thorough and accu-

rate report could apply to many other industries as it

services. These high-cost illustrates the nation's slowly evolving progress on race," states Gary Bledsoe, NAACP Board Member and Chair of Housing Committee



Gina Smith & Associates 2201 Main Street, Suite 512 Dallas, 75201 www.GinaSmithLaw.com

DISD educators earn highest professional credential in teaching

DALLAS--Five Dallas ISD teachers have earned the highest professional credential in the field of teaching – National Board Certification in 2013.

The teachers are Rhonda Bliss, Arturo Salazar Elementary School; Ignacio Javier Fernandez-Castro, S.S. Conner Elementary School; Tiffanye Lockhart Oliver, Harrell Budd Elementary School; Olubukola Olaloko, Barack Obama Male Leadership Academy; and Iheanacho Orabuchi, L.L. Hotchkiss Elementary School. The teachers will be recognized at the Jan. 23 Dallas ISD Board of Trustees meeting.

The National Board Certification is a voluntary process established by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). The certification process involves a rigorous performance-based assessment that can take up to three years to complete.

Through the assessment process, teachers document knowledge of their subject matter; provide evidence that they know how to teach the content to students most effectively; and demon-

At left, DISD

teachers commem-

ing National Board certification, the

orate their receiv-

highest profes-

in the teaching

profession.

sional credentials



PARKING, continued from Page 5

marking on a prohibited area, motorists are responsible for knowing the law." For example, the ordinance states that it is an offense to park within 15 feet of a fire hydrant or fire department sprinkler and standpipe connection. These designated no-parking areas are generally not marked with either painted curbs or

signs.

Similarly, a vehicle is in violation of this ordinance if it prevents access to a mailbox, postal drop box, or similar postal receptacle used by the United States Postal Service, during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. If, however, a vehicle stops or parks momentarily to

load or unload passengers or cargo, there is no violation.

Also covered in the ordinance is blocked access to a trash or recycling container when a collection truck is attempting to empty it. And, while trash containers are not to be left out on noncollection days, parking in front of one on non-pickup days is not an infraction.

strate an ability to manage and measure student learning.

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8 | Jan. 16-22, 2014 | North Dallas Gazette

Cover Story

Justice for Irving residents

By Faith Camp NDG Contributing Writer

Irving, Texas is known for its diversity, prosperity, and thriving housing market. Irving has established a reputation of thriving in the midst of a recession while other cities are surviving. However, not all of its residents feel and experience the relative prosperity of this great city.

Lisette Caraballo, owner of iRealty in Irving, says she believes some of her clients are not being treated fairly by the Housing and Human Services Department (HHS) in Irving, Texas. She stated her clients are trying to achieve the American dream of home ownership and they are not receiving the assistance from HHS she feels they deserve.

Julia Simons, a 50 year-old widower with a 13-year old son, is one of the clients at iRealty. She described her experience trying to get the updates regarding her status with closing through HHS of Irving as, "No one should be belittled and made to feel inferior, or treated as a nuisance as I was."

According to Caraballo, the expected role of the Irving Housing Human Services in the first time home buying process for all Irving clients includes, Irving Housing Human Services Department certifying first time home buyer applicants and determining their housing eligibility. Also, their ability to afford the monthly payment amount.

Caraballo has sought answers as to why some of her clients have had similar experiences to Simons. She feels her clients were treated unfairly, and no reasons were given explaining why their paperwork was drastically delayed.

"Many families have been in the City of Irving recertification process for more than a year after being approved by a bank for the mortgage loan and approved by the City for the Down Payment Assistance," Caraballo said. This is much too long of a process without the proper communication, to the clients and their Realtors.

"The endless certification process administered by the City of Irving's Housing and Human Services Department has been a









Whether it is insulation blowing in from the ceiling vents (top left), damaged door frames (top right), leaking faucets (above left) or broken grout in doorways (above right), the property is in serious need of repairs.

constant theme among many families trying to purchase a Tudor Lane home." Caraballo added, "These families have been told over and over again that their documents have expired and they have to submit new documents as well as extending closing dates. The City of Irving's Housing and Human Services Department has failed these families."

According to Caraballo these families have worked with local Realtors and are not fighting this battle alone. However, they still feel their voices are being unheard and justice is nowhere to be found. Therefore, iRealty decided to take their concerns to a higher power.

"The issues were communicated to past members of Irving City Council and current members of Irving City Council. Most recently, the issues were communicated to interim Irving City Manager, Steve McCullough. Sadly, communicating to all these city officials has produced no action," according to Caraballo.

As a result of the Irving officials' lack of responsiveness, Caraballo began to help some of her clients file HUD complaints. "The Human Services Department has forced many home buyers in the down payment assistance program to file HUD complaints under fair housing rights violations."

Simons filed a complaint with HUD on June 20, 2013. She said she found out her file was not sent over to the Texas Department of Housing and Human Affairs (TDHCA) until four days after she filed her complaint. She was surprised when the TDHCA confirmed to her realtor that nothing with her name was ever entered in their system by the city of Irving, before that date. When the file finally did reach TDHCA, it was incomplete and incorrect.

Finally, after waiting two years to close and move into her home, she was shocked to find that her home was not in the condition she was told it would be in by the city inspector.

"I moved into my home on Dec. 28 and no one from the city has called me to come and repair the items that are not working properly. My realtor is still working to get them to come and do the right thing," Simons said.

Caraballo said, due to the lack of follow up of the numerous

client complaints to the city of Irving, she has requested the City of the Irving leadership to sponsor an independent investigation into the actions of Irving's Housing and Human Services Department.

"This issue is not going away and City leaders will have to take action to discover the real concerns that are occurring inside the Housing Human Services Department. We will continue to communicate these issues to the City Council until a formal independent investigation is completed," Caraballo said.

Caraballo said she is determined to see justice for her Irving residents.

Editor's note: The Irving Housing and Human Services Department was contacted but no response received by press time.

AT&T launches 'Beats Music' streaming entertainment option

DALLAS — Beginning Jan. 21, AT&T is introducing an innovative new offer for families to experience the music they love with an exclusive offering from Beats Music. Working together, AT&T and Beats are addressing the challenges that exist with current music subscription services today – lack of unique personalization and high costs to enjoy premium music for the family.

With Beats Music, AT&T customers on a multiline account get unlimited streaming music and downloads for offline listening for up to five family members across 10 devices. Each family member can get 24/7 access to more than 20 million songs and a unique curated experience, and the entire cost for the family is just \$14.99 a month, exclusively from AT&T. And it gets even better – you get 90 days free for your family – so you can try it and see how much your family can save.

Beats Music and AT&T offer families the music experience



they've been waiting for:

• Family-friendly. AT&T wireless customers on a multiline account can get music how they want, when they want, at a fantastic price.

• Unlimited streaming and downloads. AT&T customers with Beats Music get unlimited access to curated music (both streaming and downloaded for offline listening) of the songs, albums and playlists they love to hear, no matter where they are. Five family members can each get their own personal music, on their own personal devices, and create their own playlists. They can continue to access those songs, albums and playlists for as long as they are subscribed to the Beats Music service.

• Human-curated content for the ultimate personalization. In addition to the best personalization technology, Beats Music is unique because human experts curate hand-picked songs while streaming to deliver just the right tune at just the right time. Imagine having your playlist created by the top music experts based on your mood or specific moment. Until now, streaming services haven't delivered this level of personalization with a human touch.

"Our collaboration with Beats Music is solving two major industry challenges. Beats Music is focused on delivering a different music service with personalized curation from real industry experts and AT&T is focused on breaking the affordability barrier that currently exists for families in subscription and downloaded music. Everyone in the family loves music," said David Christopher, AT&T Mobility Chief Marketing Officer. "AT&T developed an innovative offer that lets each member of the family enjoy unlimited downloads of the music they love, as well as access to all that is unique about Beats Music – all at breakthrough value on a premium wireless network."

Beats Music is the first and only music service created by artists and music professionals. By matching the best technology with the best music expertise, Beats delivers effortless, curated music experiences that are both personalized and contextual to each listener. The Beats Music experts cover all genres and have over 300 years of music industry experience which ensures whoever the listener is, they get the right music every time.

"We're excited to be able to offer our breakthrough service through the nation's premier mobile service," said Ian Rogers, Beats Music CEO. "This exclusive collaboration will allow Beats Music to lead the music streaming category by making the benefits of a premium experience available to the biggest audience. Thanks to AT&T's commitment to an integrated approach with Beats Music, this is an affordable way for everyone in the family to enjoy the right music that's right for them."

AT&T's exclusive \$14.99 a month offer of Beats Music gives AT&T wireless customers unlimited music access across 10 devices for up to five family members with the first 90 days free. Individual AT&T wireless customers can get the same access across three devices for \$9.99 a month with the first 30 days free.

Beats Music will be available for download on nearly all major platforms or from a PC beginning Jan. 21.

Beats Music will be available in AT&T stores and online at att.com/beatsmusic on Jan. 24.

Laughter at the library

By Tom Keener

Comedian and author Darryl Littleton speaks at the Allen Public Library 7:30 p.m. Thursday, January 16. The author of Black Comedians on Black Comedy: How African Americans Taught Us to Laugh and co-author of Comediennes: Laugh Be a Lady, Littleton will discuss the black comedians who paved the way for icons like Bill Cosby, Whoopi Goldberg, Richard Pryor and Eddie Murphy.

Beginning his comedy career writing sketches for "The Tom Joyner Morning Show" on CBS Radio, Littleton soon became a regular at the world famous "Comedy Store" and adopted the stage name "D'Militant" for his slicing and incisive social and political commentary. In addition to guest-starring on Robert Townsend's WB sitcom "The Parent Hood," Littleton has also appeared



Darryl Littleton

on "The Apollo Comedy Hour," "Uptown Comedy Club," HBO's "Def Comedy Jam," Comedy Central's "Make Me Laugh," Byron Allen's "Comic's Unleashed," and ABC's "America's Funniest People."

In 2007, Darryl appeared on National Public Radio following the release of his first book, Black Comedians on Black Comedy, chronicling the history of African-American comedy. This account features interviews with 125 of the industry's biggest stars. It was also the basis for the documentary Why We Laugh, by award-winning director Robert Townsend that made its premiere at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival and on Showtime in February 2010. In addition to tracing the roots of black comedy from slavery to contemporary times in this book, Littleton also explored the theme that getting people to laugh, even under the worst of circumstances, is the essence of a true comedian.

Littleton is the first African-American on the advisory board of the Comedy Hall of Fame and served as script supervisor, touring host and personal writer for actor and comedian Katt Williams.

The library is located at 300 N. Allen Dr. For more information, call 214-509-4911.



Do you have a upcoming event? Send information to: Entertainment@NorthDallasGazette.com

Community Trust Bank energy finance director named to Top 20 Under 40 list by Oil and Gas Investor magazine

DALLAS — Community Trust Bank's Energy Finance Group Managing Director Christina Kitchens has been named to Oil and Gas Investor Magazine's "20 Under 40 in Energy Finance" listing for 2014. The magazine's yearly feature

acknowledges the rising professionals whose entrestars in finance, including investment banks, private equity, commercial and merchant banks, as well as the energy sector.

In its January issue, the publication features summary sketches of 20 chosen

preneurial spirit, creative energy and intellectual skills set them apart, according to its editors.

As CTB Energy Finance Group director, Kitchens leads a team that provides specialized financing solutions to the domestic oil and gas industry. The group principally focuses on relationship banking for firms seeking \$2.5 million to \$100 million in a revolver or term facility secured by oil and gas assets. Kitchens brings to CTB her expertise

conservative politicians and

theorists are trying to re-

store inequality of opportu-

nity as the law of the land.

It tells us we should adopt

Lee A. Daniels is a long-

time journalist based in

New York City. His essay,

"Martin Luther King, Jr.:

The Great Provocateur,"

appears in Africa's Peace-

makers: Nobel Peace Lau-

reates of African Descent,"

to be published by Palgrave

Macmillan in March.

King as The Militant of the

21st Century, too.

in offering senior debt facil- ties and select energy servities to exploration and production, midstream, royal-

ice firms.

See KITCHENS, Page 16

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MILITANT, continued from Page 1

Today, as in the 1960s, American society is grappling with elevating new groups of Americans to full citizenship. Today, as in the 1960s, it's being forced to confront the meaning of its widespread poverty and joblessness, and its diminished educational opportunity. Today, as in the 1960s, Black Americans' right to vote is under siege from conservatives, as are women's reproductive rights. And today, as in the 1960s, the country is debating the extent of government's responsibility to protect individuals' access to opportunity.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s words and actions seem relevant again because they've always presented a challenge to the status quo and always urged individuals to live up to humanity's best possibilities.

That command has become particularly compelling again because of the remarkable juxtaposition of present-day developments and anniversaries of past landmark events. The latter include: the 50-year anniversaries of the climactic years of the Civil Rights Movement, especially the year 1963, when King delivered his "I Have A Dream" speech at the March on Washington: and of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, whose support of the civil rights struggle, tentative though it was, made him Blacks' most important presidential ally since Abraham Lincoln. And it also includes the 150th anniversary of the Civil War and the Emancipation Proclamation.

The completion of the King Memorial in Washington - and the welcome controversy about its design helped immeasurably as well. The controversy itself was a metaphorical breath of fresh air, blowing away at least some of the clouds of stultifying hero-worship that had for too long distorted the fact that the real Martin Luther King, Jr. was, above all, a great provocateur.

Speaking in the early 1990s, when the conservative political ascendancy was at its height, Rev. Hosea Williams, one of King's lieutenants during the civil rights struggles, explained that "There is a definite effort on the part of America to change Martin Luther King, Jr. from what he was really about - to make him the Uncle Tom of the century. " Williams insisted, "In my mind, he was the militant of the century."

Williams was right, and King's importance - his militancy - is still not completely understood today.

He didn't "make" the Civil Rights Movement. He wasn't its operational leader or its major tactician. But he was its national and international spokesman – the man who, speaking in that rich baritone, could turn words into emotions that were otherwise inexpressible and into word-pictures that represented the entire tapestry of the centuries-long Black freedom struggle.

Dr. Martin Luther King

Jr.'s 13-year life on the national stage brilliantly represented the courage it took in those decades to challenge the seemingly overwhelming power of the South's racist power structure. Far less acknowledged is the courage it took for King – after the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and his being awarded the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize - to resist the temptations of partial success and his own fame.

Instead, King kept moving leftward, to confront the racial and economic injustice that had created and maintained the Black ghettos of the North, and the national hubris that had led America into the quagmire of war in Southeast Asia.

For this he was pilloried by President Lyndon B. Johnson and much of the White liberal establishment, and a good portion of the civil rights and Black political establishment, too.

His insistence that nonviolence was still a viable means of social change was ridiculed, as were his plans to stage a multiracial Poor Peoples March on Washington and involve himself in the bitter sanitation worker's strike in Memphis, Tenn.

But those difficult years were actually King's finest hours. At the moment of his assassination, he was standing where he had begun his public life: with ordinary Black people who were being unjustly denied their human rights.

King's refusal to submit offers a lesson to take to heart at this moment when

Visit www.NorthDallasGazette.com and click on Community Calendar for more events!

MLK, continued from Page 1

that one man made in the lives of Americans and many other people throughout the world. Although the Garland NAACP sphereheaded the event, over the years all components of Garland including the city, the school district, and the chamber have joined with churches, businesses and local organizations to make the MLK weekend of celebrations a true community effort.

I personally am very thankful to have participated the first few years of the Garland parade with my church group. Approximately three years after the first event President Green entrusted me to become the coordinator of the Garland MLK parade and march. The first thing I did was invite elected officials from the City of Garland and the Garland Chamber of Commerce to participate.

However, it was not until the year that I changed the parade route to end in downtown Garland at the Granville Arts Center that vast spectator participation increased. We requested the Garland Independent School District to add marching bands and drill teams, and DART along with local radio stations threw in their support.



Changing the route to end in the downtown area greatly extended the parade route. Therefore, the time was right to approach the miles of auto dealerships along the I-635 corridor asking them to lend courtesy cars to enhance the event. The response was tremendous! Spectators now enjoy the procession of shiny, new vehicles that are showcased in the Garland MLK parade every January. These additions to Garland's parade and march propelled the event to become one of the largest suburban parades in the state.

Over its 25-year history, Gar-

land has had an array of personalities to serve as grand marshals of the MLK parade. They include: Mayors Ruth Nicholson, Bob Smith, and Ronald Jones; the historic duo of City Councilwoman Annie Dickson and School Board Trustee Linda Griffin - the only two African Americans to serve concurrently on the City Council and the Garland ISD; former Dallas Cowboy Everson Walls and Dallas County Criminal District Judge John Creuzot.

In addition to grand marshals of notable status Garland's MLK parades continue to draw an abundance of officials elected to the Garland City Council, to state and county offices, and many judges from around the Metroplex. Candidates running for elected offices routinely make their way to participate in Garland's MLK activities.

In recent years Garland became widely known as the city that "never cancels its MLK parade and march." This new reputation came about during a year of sleet, snow, and rigid temperatures. That particular year all other cities canceled their parades in Dallas, Collin and Tarrant Counties except for Garland. The media flooded our phone lines for quotes on the decision to proceed with our celebrations. But we explained that long ago we decided to never cancel the MLK parade, as Dr. King never canceled us out. Despite the weather the event took place on schedule and was a great success!

January 18, 2014 will mark a quarter century of parades hosted in Garland celebrating the life and legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We invite you to please join us!

Parade Route

Parade starts on Dairy Road @ Garden Drive (near Embree Park), Garland, TX, 75040

- It proceeds north on Dairy Road to Highway 66 (Avenue D)
- West (Left) on Highway 66 (Avenue D) to First Street
- North (Right) on First Street to Highway 66 (Avenue B)
- West (Left) on Highway 66 (Avenue B) to Fifth Street
- North (Right) on Fifth Street to Austin Street

The parade ends at the Granville Arts Center, 300 North Fifth Street, in downtown Garland, (75040).

2014 MLK Theme/Grand Marshals/Commemorative Program

The 2014 theme is "Preparing Our Youth for Success in the 21st Century." Grand marshals for the quarter-century celebration in Garland will be attorney Gary Bledsoe who serves as Texas State NAACP president and Mrs. Linda Lydia, the Texas State NAACP secretary.

The celebration continues with an MLK Commemorative Program in the Granville Arts Center, 300 N. 5th Street, downtown Garland, immediately following the parade and march. Garland's massive MLK Communitywide Youth Choir will perform. They are led by clinician Reuben Lael Griffin. This event is free and open to the public.

MLK Youth Extravaganza -January 19, 2014 - Granville

Arts Center Brownlee Auditorium Youth groups from area churches will showcase their spiritual talents in praise dance, step routines and military style drills on Sunday afternoon, at 300 N. 5th Street, downtown Garland, 75040, beginning at 4:00 P.M. Admission is free and the Garland MLK youth extravaganza is open to the public.

For more information on these events, please contact the NAACP Garland unit at 972.381.5044, voice box #5, or visit the NAACP Garland unit's Web site at: www.garlandtxnaacp.org.

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Take charge of business at Texas **Business Conference in Grapevine**

AUSTIN - The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) will host Grapevine-area business owners and managers at the soldout Texas Business Conference on Friday, Jan. 24 at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Grapevine. The conference will provide valuable information for employers and business owners concerning the legal issues associated with operating a business in Texas.

"As a former business owner, I understand firsthand the challenges employers and managers face as they run a business. Our agency is committed to connecting Texas employers with the tools they need to navigate state and federal employment laws, and the unemployment claims and appeals processes," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Hope Andrade. "Texas is a large,



continued from Page 2

are that she is an only child, she can roll her stomach and she can't swim – which made the coolest experience she's ever had of jet skiing on the Mediterranean Sea quite scary. Besides learning how to swim, she would also like to learn how to play the piano.

Sweet J is proud to be part of an organization that provides family entertainment and a positive influence to youths, such as when she and her female teammates - TNT Maddox and T-Time Brawner - became registered as Adult Girl Scouts.

Sweet J is unique in many ways, and now being a female player on the Harlem Globetrotters can be added to that list. She hopes it will show young girls that anything is possible with faith, hard work and dedication.

diverse state and the Texas issues regarding hiring, Business Conference series is one way TWC brings agency resources directly to employers in their local area. We want to do our part to ensure all Texas employers have access to this valuable information."

Employers will receive practical, up-to-date information for operating a successful business and managing employees. Seminar topics will include: Texas employment law and the basics of hiring; business retention and expansion; employee policy handbooks; handling unemployment claims; independent contractors; and federal and Texas wage and hour laws.

Participants will receive the latest edition of the popular publication Especially for Texas Employers and the accompanying CD, which address basic legal

post-employment and workseparation policies. Certified public accountants who attend can earn six hours of continuing education credit, and other conference participants may qualify for gen-

See TBC, Page 16

GRAPHIC ARTIST

Small Community Newspaper looking for a partime student graphic artist. Prefer student (intern) that's available on a per project basis. Must have knowledge of Quark and Indesign software. Work will be done at company office. Must be professional and dependable. Fax resumes to: 972-509-9058, or email to: inquiries1909@gmail.com



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Church Happenings

AVENUE F CHURCH OF CHRIST IN PLANO

Mondays – Fridays

Call 972-423-8833 for AF-FECT. Inc. or email: AF-FECTxInc@aol.com for counseling services, resources and assistance for job readiness and training programs for individuals.

January 19 9:30 a.m.

You're invited to join us in our Sunday Morning Services.

January 22

Join us for Morning Bible Class at 10:30 a.m.; and come back for Evening Bible Classes at 7:00 p.m.

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

BIBLE WAY COMMUNITY **BAPTIST CHURCH**

January 19, 8 a.m.

You're invited to our Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. and stay for Morning Worship Service as we praise God for all of His blessings.

Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Sr. Senior Pastor 4215 N. Greenview Drive Irving, TX 75062

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Fasto D.W., Safeed D

972-257-3766 www.biblewayirving.org

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN RICHARDSON

January 19, 8:45 or 11 a.m.

Join us in one or both of our Worship Services as we honor and praise God for His many blessings.

Dr. Terrence Autry, Senior Pastor George Bush Fwy at Jupiter Road on the Garland/Richardson Border 972-991-0200 www.followpeace.org

CHRIST COMMUNITY CONNECTION, INC.

January 18, 10 a.m. Join us for our 17th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. city-wide parade; starting at Jamestown Street, behind Carrollton City Hall, going West to Josey Lane turn left, South on Josey to Keller Springs, turn left, East on Keller Springs to Kelly Blvd. turn right, South on Kelly Blvd. and end at Ted Polk Middle school on Kelly Blvd. Call Juanita Rainwater for details at 972-242-0933.

> FELLOWSHIP **CHRISTIAN**

> > 972.359.98%

800

7 (20 p.m.

Construction

203 W Beimort Drive + Aller, 18,79013 A Kingdom Building Church

CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "The Ship"

Monday - Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

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

For Community help the Assistance Center serves Collin County by responding to people in crisis for emergency shelter, clothing, food, and access to medicine and medical services for county residents. Call the church or Allen's City Hall for details.

January 19, 8 a.m.

Join us in Early Worship at 200 W. Belmont Drive location 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, attitude 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.

January 22, 7 p.m. You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word

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

PROFESSIONAL **ACHIEVERS COMMUNITY EXCEL-**LENCE (PACE)

February 2, 3 p.m. African American Read-In Pace has partnered with the Josey Ranch Branch of the Carrollton Public Library to host their Annual Read-In in the Community room of the library at 1700 Keller Springs Road, in Carrollton, Texas. Guest speaker, Chuck Siler author, political cartoonist, and contributor to noted publications. He is a retired programs curator for the Louisiana State Museum and has been an artist/journalist since junior high school. Currently, he is a contributor to the Black Commentator, Chickenbones, See Me Online, and others.

The Read-In is endorsed by the International Reading Association. Over a million



www.NorthDallasGazette.com

readers of all ethnic groups

from the United States, the

District of Columbia, the

West Indies, African coun-

tries, and more have partic-

ipated over the years. The

goal is to make the celebra-

tion of African American

literacy a traditional part of

Black History Month activ-

please contact: Historian

Committee Chair – Tracey

Richardson, csrich47@hot-

SHILOH MBC

IN PLANO

January 19

8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Join us for one or both of

our Worship Services as we

praise and honor God. Sun-

day School starts at 9:45

a.m. After each service

ministers and deacons are

available to meet with you

January 22, 7 p.m.

for prayer or questions.

For information,

ities.

mail.com

469-585-6844

www.pacedfw.org

You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word; and/or our Health & Fitness Ministry in the annex will resume for 2014.

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**

January 19, 7:30 a.m. You're invited to join us as we worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name.

January 20, 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

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14 | Jan. 16-22, 2014 | North Dallas Gazette

'It's Practical to Be Peaceable'



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

NOTE: This is the month, as a nation, we pause to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. It's hard to find a man more peaceful than he was. Therefore, we can learn a valuable lesson when we consider that ... "It's Practical to Be Peaceable."

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Matthew 5:9.

It has been told that after listening to some children hollering and screaming at each other while talking on the phone, a man wondered why the guardian didn't stop them.

And while listening to another young lady describe her employer's conduct during her, "first and last day" of employment on that job; the man wondered why an employer would speak to a "first day, especially," employee in that manner.

After all, a peaceable individual speaking in a calm

thy 2 with

non Hodridae. Minister

voice initiates good will and actively promotes peace within a home or a place of business.

Individuals learn by watching the actions of others; some are lead to think that to get along with people and to succeed in this world, one must be intimidating, abusive, aggressive, mean-spirited and even violent.

Hence, all the current abusive behavior and death of children in homes, at the daycare and at school are seen. There are even abuses and deaths of individuals in business offices, on the street, in stores, etc.

It is wise to do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Will you do aggression for aggression? Or is it practical to be peaceable?

Of course it's practical to be peaceable: To be peaceable means having a Calmness of Heart:

"A sound heart is the life of the flesh."

Proverbs 14:30(a). "Wisdom resteth in the heart of him that hath understanding."

Proverbs 14:33(a). Many medical reports indicate that anger and hostility can become triggers for strokes and heart attacks. One journal, speaking of

972-257-3766

972-423-8833

Early Sunday Morning Sunday Bible Class.....

Sunday Morning Worship.

Sunday School

Sunday Wonthip Ned Hole Study people with heart disease, compared explosive anger to poison.

It stated that, "Getting really mad can mean getting really sick." Violence, anger, and frustration can cause sleep problems, stress, stomach and nervous conditions which can affect one's health.

On the other hand, those who pursue peace can develop "a calm heart" and reap many helpful benefits.

Learning God's purpose for a peaceful world and developing a new attitude can do wonders for cultivating a calm heart.

God's word, doctors, and many individuals can tell you from personal experience as well, that developing a peaceable spirit can improve your emotional, physical and spiritual health. Ephesians 4:22-24; Isaiah 65:17; Micah 4:1-4, and Proverbs 15:13

Happier relationships with others will benefit when you display a peaceable spirit. "Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor (scream), and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Ephesians 4:31 & 32.

Those who display an aggressive, mean-spirited behavior and abusive speech often drive others away and find themselves along, without dependable friends, family, co-workers and employees.

When a person is enraged he/she stirs up contention, but one that is slow to anger quiets down quarreling. Hope for the Future:

"A peaceable spirit shows honor and respect for mankind; and for the expressed Will of God. "Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it." Psalm 34:14.

When we acknowledge God and learn to obey His life-giving teachings, this opens the door to a personal friendship with Him and with mankind.

With a strong relationship with God, we gain "the Peace of God" which is an excelling peace regardless of the challenges that life may bring.

Yes, it's practical to be peaceable, and then we can experience a 'calm heart', a 'meaningful relationship' and a 'solid hope for the future'. These blessings can be yours when you do your best to "be peaceable with all men."

PLANO, continued from Page 5

Community Choir Concert: A musical tribute to Dr. King, featuring Special Guest, American Idol Season 5 Finalist George Huff. The public is invited to join the choir. Rehearsal will be Sunday, January 19 at 4 p.m. at the performance location First United Methodist Church, 3160 E. Spring Creek Pkwy. The church is led by Senior Pastor Paul Gould. Contact: charles@planocf.com

Thursday, Jan. 23, 7

p.m. - Plano ISD MLK Tribute: "We Belong: Celebrating Five Decades of the Dream," Williams High School Auditorium, 1717 17th St.

Enjoy PISD students' Parade of Nations featuring special guest television and film star, IRMA P. Hall (Soul Food). Contact: lindaj@planocf.com

For more information about MLK activities and the Celebration Committee, visit www.planomlk.org.

RETIRE, continued from Page 5

"I could not have found a better community to work in, a better group of elected officials to work for, or a better staff to work with, than I have experienced here during my tenure," King said in making his announcement to the Lewisville City Council.

"I became interested in municipal service because of the opportunities it represented to make cities better places for those living in them and I believe that, as a team, we have accomplished a great deal toward that end since 1989."

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church





Isiah Joshua, Jr. **Íastor**



2013 Theme: SMBC: A church Focused on Excellence while Teaching the Word, Preaching the Gospel, Reaching the World

Worship Times: 8 and 11 a.m. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Mid-week: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Youth Church: Every 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sunday at 10:45 a.m. AWANA: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Contact Information: 972-423-6695 www.smbcplano.org



Sonday Worship 8:30 & 11:15am

Wednesday Prayer & 00pm

Vednesitay Bible Study 7:00pm ndcbl.org 172:437.349

Evening Worship Wednesday Bible Class .7:00 pm Radio Program @ 7:30 am on KHVN 970 AM Sunday Mornings

Friendship is a-flutter in 'The Invention of Wings'

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Your best friend has been all a-flutter about something lately.

You haven't seen much of her, in fact. She's been sticking close to her nest but that's okay. Next time you get together, it'll be just like you were never apart.

That's the way a longtime friendship is: no matter how much you don't see one another, you know your friend is somewhere and, as in the new novel "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd, she'll come flying when you need her.

Eleven-year-old Sarah Grimké did not want to own a human.

Already at that age, she understood that it was wrong to have slaves but Mother insisted. The Grimkés were one of Charleston 's finest families. It would be unseemly



Sue Monk Kidd

for a proper young lady to be without her own handmaid. So for Sarah's birthday, Mother gave her Hetty, also known as Handful.

For most of her nine years, Handful figured she'd be a seamstress like her mauma, but it wasn't to be. After she was given to Miss Sarah, she was told that she was to sleep outside Miss Sarah's bedroom, like a personal servant would do. But most nights, Handful crept away to Mauma, where she listened to stories of her granny-mauma, and



laid beneath quilts that gave her dreams of flight.

Though Sarah tried to give Handful her freedom,

tion, a founder of the Texas

Energy Leadership Series

and a member of the Texas

Her involvement in the

Texas oil and gas industry

has led to business distinc-

Energy Council.

KITCHENS, continued from Page 11

Kitchens joined CTB in August 2013, having previously served as senior vice president and division manager of the Texas Oil and Gas Lending group at F&M Bank in Dallas.

She is currently the board director for the Texas Energy Update trade associa-

WALKER, continued from Page 2

after the first female selfmade millionaire in the United States," said Walker's letter of nomination.

The Walker and Douglass lecture series was co-hosted and co-created by the Africana Studies Program, an academic unit of the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, under the leadership of House-Soremekun, and the Frederick Douglass Papers in in the Institute for American Thought in the School of Liberal Arts, led by Professor John Kaufman-McKivigan.

The theme for this year's event was "The Life and Times of Madame C.J. Walker: The Historical Development of a Business Empire."

Madam Walker was a self-made African American millionaire, having made a fortune from beauty and hair-care businesses before her death in 1919. Juliet Walker was the luncheon keynote speaker for the event.

The Activist Ambassador Award acknowledges House-Soremekun, also professor of political science and Africana studies at IUPUI, for investing in multicultural networking; exhibiting hope and faith for a brighter future for African-Americans; and bridge building to ensure the African-Ameri-

can community is enlightened and enhanced.

she did the next best thing:

she taught Handful to read,

which was also illegal.

tions and honors among her

peers and colleagues for the

Kitchens was most re-

cently named among Dallas

Business Journal's "Who's

Who in Energy Finance"

past several years.

for 2013.

"The presentation of this award is emblematic of the impact that Dr. House-Soremekun has made both at home and abroad," said David A. Scott Sr., who presented the award to House-Soremekun on behalf of the African American Restoration Movement of Indianapolis and the Globe Changers Movement. lash and Sarah, by banishment from her father's library. It was the final straw for Sarah, who suddenly understood that she would never become a lawyer like her brothers. No, society was where

They would both be pun-

ished for it: Handful, by

Sarah belonged, though she thought it dreadful. Once she entered a world of dances and parties, she rarely saw Handful. Sarah didn't need a handmaid any more and Mother was happy to have Handful back. Handful had become quite the seamstress.

But Handful had also found life outside the homestead walls, sneaking out as much as she could - though if caught, punishment would be swift and harsh but she wasn't afraid. They could own her body. They would never own her mind. Sweeping, reaching, and maybe just a tad too long, "The Invention of Wings" is one of those books that pulls you into another world and makes you believe.

That's because, as you'll learn by reading the author's notes, Sue Monk Kidd based a lot of this novel on reality. Yes, there really was a Sarah Grimke, about whom Kidd says she wanted to write a "thickly imagined story...." She succeeds at that endeavor by adding Handful and her mauma. The anger that bubbles just beneath these two characters' lives, the hopes they harbor and the plotting they do makes this book what it is.

And what it is, is nearperfect. For book clubs and Saturday afternoons, bedtime and lunchtime, if you're looking for the years' first great novel, here you go. "The Invention of Wings" absolutely soars.



TBC, continued from Page 13

eral professional credits. Texas Business Confer-

ences occur several times a year at locations throughout the state. For a list of upcoming events, visit TWC online atwww.texasworkforce.org/ texasbusinessconference. More information about the resources available to Texas employers can be found atwww.texasworkforce.org/ svcs/commrs/empcommr.ht ml

The conference is from

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center, Texas Ballroom, located at 1501 Gaylord Trail in Grapevine. Attendees may check in from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.