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Sisters, it is time to handle your business!

Wake up, turn Scandal off and get your act together!

That is the message Black women should take away from the Black Women in the U.S., 2014 report released this week by the Black Women's Roundtable Public Policy



Network (BWR). Yes, we have come a long way, but there are many areas needing urgent action.

"We look at the tragedies and the triumphs surrounding Black Women's lives across a variety of different indicators and areas of inquiry," adds Avis

Jones-DeWeever, PhD, Incite Unlimited and editor of the report. "Black women have made progress since key historical markers such as the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Brown v. Board of Education, and the onset of the War on

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Spring into action for patients in need

With the arrival of spring comes sunnier days, warmer temperatures and a chance at a fresh start. The American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to make blood donation part of their spring ritual and help support patients like 5-year-old Nathan Pennington.



Photo Cayusa / Flickr

In April of last year, Nathan was diagnosed with an aggressive form of brain cancer called medulloblastoma. Nathan has received several blood product transfusions to help sustain his life following surgery to remove the tumor and currently receives periodic platelet

transfusions as he continues his recovery.

"Nathan wouldn't be here without lifesaving blood donors – it's as simple as that," said Corey Pennington, Nathan's father. "Our family will always be grateful to all the blood donors who make

See SPRING, Page 4

Black preschoolers' suspensions triple that of white students study reveals

By Freddie Allen

WASHINGTON, DC (NNPA) – Even before they typically learn to read, Black preschoolers – some as young as 4 years old – are taught a disgusting lesson: They are three times more likely to be suspended from school than

their White classmates, according to a recent study by the civil rights division of the U.S. Department of Education.

"Black students are suspended and expelled at a rate three times greater than white students. On average, 5 percent of White students are suspended,

compared to 16 percent of Black students," the Department of Education study found.

Black children account for 18 percent of the nation's preschoolers, but nearly half of students in that age group suspended

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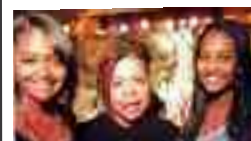
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COVER STORY

Income inequality is growing in the U.S.



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Singers on the road to stardom

See Talented teens, Page 10

COMMENTARY

It's time to end the NCAA's 'Plantation Economics'

By Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.

(NNPA) "It cannot be said that the employed scholarship players are 'primarily students.'" With that statement, a regional director of the National Labor Relations Board last week accepted a petition by Northwestern football players that they were employees under the NLRB and could organize and form a union.

His reasoning was sim-

ple and compelling. The players faced all the demands of a job – in the hours the players worked, 40-50 hours a week during the football season, the control the coaches exerted, and the athletic scholarships that are a form of pay. The players said they wanted a union largely to negotiate about health care and practice hours.

Many who love college sports can't bear to think

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Dr. Lawana Gladney



Dr. Frederick D. Haynes



Angela Ray

In March over 61,000 visited NorthDallasGazette.com - news added daily!

Dr. Lawana Gladney

Authors, lectures, storytelling, music and cultural performances will all be part of the Dallas Book Festival to be held from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 12 at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young St. The family event will feature more than 30 local authors and vendors. All programs and activities are free and open to the public.

Dr. Lawana Gladney will be one of the featured authors at this event. Emotional wellness doctor, speaker, trainer, author, and

CEO of Emotional Wellness, Gladney has communicated her message internationally to companies, schools, and churches. She is the author of *If You're in the Driver's Seat, Why are you Lost?* described as a "roadmap to an amazing life," providing strategies to help people plan the life they want.

She will appear with fellow author Betty Ibarra at noon in the O'Hara Room, seventh floor.

Other events and activities at the Book Festival



will include:
Dallas Museum of Art: Children's Studio Cre-
ations, Reuse, Recycle, READ! Make a bookmark by weaving found materials

into rug canvas. Learn how to become a DMA Friend, a free membership program that allows you to earn badges and points to unlock special awards when you visit the museum. Second floor craft area.

Alma y Corazon Tejano Ballet Folklorico Company: A colorful performance of traditional dance and customs of Hispanic regions by a diverse group of students ages 3 to 30. First floor lobby area.

Discovery Wall: Atmos Energy and the Dallas Public Library Children's Center will present a Discovery Wall trip to the Cleveland

Institute of Music. Students from the Cleveland Institute of Music will present brief performances and talk about their motivation, inspiration, and how intense musical training affects their lives. Second floor Kahn Pavilion.

Lettering as ART! Informative and fun workshop for children ages 4 to 11 on the beauty and elegance of lettering design. Marissa Anchia will lead a discussion on the evolution of letters, showcase various styles (old and new) and inspire participants to appreciate the art form. Second

See GLADNEY, Page 4

Dr. Frederick D. Haynes

It has been said that image is everything; but for leaders like Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, III, action is everything. This is why Dallas' Omicron Mu Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated has chosen to honor Dr. Haynes. He will receive the 2014 Image Award at the sorority's scholarship luncheon Saturday, April 5, at the Hilton Anatole. The luncheon, presented by the Legacy of Service Foundation, begins at 12 noon and tickets are \$75. Attendees will enjoy special entertainment from Dallas Black Dance Theatre, who has created new dance

works for this event themed "An Afternoon in Harlem."

Dr. Haynes is the Senior Pastor of the Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas. In his 31 years of service to his congregation, the membership has grown to nearly 12,000. Pastor Haynes leads with a commitment to Christ, passion for people and yearning for community transformation. As an active champion for social change, Dr. Haynes serves on the Board of Directors of the National Action Network, Conference of National Black Churches, Paul Quinn College, and was a committee

member for the MLK Memorial Foundation, leading to the erection of the first African American Monument on the Washington D.C. Mall. In 2012, EBONY Magazine listed him in their "Power 100" of the nation's most influential African Americans.

"Pastor Haynes is committed to service, scholarship and social justice," states Cynthia Robinson-Hawkins, President of the Omicron Mu Omega Chapter. "These are some of the same aims of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. It is an honor for us to celebrate him at our Image Award luncheon for the significant contributions

he has made in the community."

The Legacy of Service Foundation began as the Omicron Mu Omega Foundation in 1993, to provide scholarships and support service projects in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. The Legacy of Service Foundation awards scholarships annually to college bound students in DFW and supports activities and service projects that seek to improve the quality of life within the community.

Proceeds from the luncheon are used to support these efforts. Last year, 11 students received scholarships totaling \$21,000.



Angela Ray

Angela Ray has teamed up with writer and award-winning director Nathan Ross Freeman to co-produce his third feature film, *The Other Way Around*. Principal photography is scheduled to begin on May 16 in Philadelphia.

The Other Way Around stars Wendy Pearson-Bautista and Don W. Newton, two theatre professionals with over forty years of combined acting experience. Also, making his film debut is Michael Dorsey, from the hit television show, *The Biggest Loser*. No stranger to being in front of the camera, Dorsey has also appeared on NBC's

The Today Show and *Access Hollywood*.

The film tells the story of Edmund and Simone who have been married for 30 years. Almost. In 5 days from the start of the film, Edmund secretly shops for wedding rings. He is going to surprise his wife, Simone, on their 30th Anniversary. On bended knees he will ask to renew their vows. At the same time, the same moment, Simone is across town secretly having divorce papers handed to her. She will surprise Edmund with 'serve' of these divorce papers after dessert, with wine, on their anniversary. The dramatic comedy

explores the depths of true love.

Ray is excited to be working with Freeman again. "I am honored that

Nathan asked me to be a part of this project. We have had a mutual respect for each other for so many

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North Dallas Gazette



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Website:

www.NorthDallasGazette.com

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The North Dallas Gazette, formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded in July 1991, by Mr. Jim Bochum and Mr. Thurman R. Jones. North Dallas Gazette is a wholly owned subsidiary of Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

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Can we make it to the 'Promised Land?'

By Ron Daniels

(NNPA) Friday, April 4, marks the 46th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr/s assassination on a balcony in Memphis. Black America and people of goodwill in the nation and the world were stricken by grief, frustration and anger at the murder of this great man of justice and peace. Indeed, rebellions erupted in urban centers across the nation by people who could not fathom how an apostle of non-violence could be struck down so viciously and violently. It was clear that America was at yet another cross-road in the quest to achieve racial, economic and social justice.

Despite constant death threats, Dr. King never flinched in his determination that this nation should be made to live up to its creed. The night before he was murdered, he reluctantly mounted the podium at the Mason Temple Church in Memphis and seemed to have a premonition of his impending demise. Yet, he proclaimed that he was not afraid dying. In the

most memorable part of his oration he took the audience to the "mountaintop" with him and declared that he had "seen the promised land." Sensing that his life would be cut short he said, "I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land."

As we reflect on King's courage and optimism in the shadow of death, the question is: Can we make it to the Promised Land? Clearly Dr. King was speaking to the long suffering sons and daughters of Africa in America when he referenced "we as a people." But given his fervent belief in the promise of the Declaration of Independence and Constitution, there is little doubt that he also believed that one day America as a nation must arrive at the Promised Land. King also knew that for the "promise" to be realized Black people and people of good will in the "beloved community" would have to struggle to achieve its fulfillment. There would be trials and tribulations because there were forces

deeply committed to restricting economic and political democracy to an elite "few" to the exclusion of the "many" in this society.

As Dr. King peered over into the Promised Land, he saw a nation that embraced his concept of an Economic Bill of Rights modeled after Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Four Freedoms," where every human being would have a decent standard of living: a land where no-one would lack for a job with a living wage or guaranteed annual income, quality affordable housing, healthcare and education.

To get to the Promised Land, Dr. King was preparing a Poor People's Campaign to galvanize the "many" to struggle for an Economic Bill of Rights even in the face of the fierce resistance of the "few" at the commanding heights of capital and finance. To get to the Promised Land, King also warned that the people, those who aspired to create the change must themselves undergo a change, a personal

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of it as polluted by money. But here's the reality: it already is. Big-time college athletics – particularly Division I football and basketball – is a profitable, professionalized industry. The TV rights for the new college football playoffs total \$7.3 billion – with a "b" – over 10 years. The TV rights for March Madness, the basketball playoffs, total \$10.8 billion over 14 years. College football and basketball alone generates an estimated \$6 billion a year, more than the National Basketball Association. The University of Texas football team generated nearly \$70 million in profit in 2011.

Everyone is making money, except the players whose play generates the revenue. Famed coaches in public universities are often the highest paid employees in the state. Urban Meyer of Ohio State will be paid \$24 million over six years. The 15 highest football coaches in 2011 made \$53.4 million. The 13,877 Division I players got zero dollars in pay.

They do receive scholarships that by the NCAA's own figures average about \$3,000 short of the cost of attending college. The NCAA is making millions peddling the images and jerseys of players, even after they graduate, yet the athletes don't get a dime. Many come from poor families, and can't even afford a trip home on spring break. And if they accept help from a fan, they can lose their eligibil-

ity and their scholarship. As sports-writer Dave Zirin concludes, "the population that is most desperate for an escape out of poverty is the population that has gotten the rawest possible deal from the NCAA."

This has, as Taylor Branch has written, more than "the whiff of the plantation." On the cotton plantation, everyone got paid – the land owner, the overseer, the wholesaler, everyone except the slaves who actually picked the cotton. They were chattel, had no rights that a White owner was legally bound to respect. They benefitted, it was claimed, from the paternal care of the plantation owner, providing them with room and sustenance.

Similarly, everyone gets paid in big-time college athletics except the players who actually risk their bodies to provide the show. The NCAA dubs them "student-athletes," using the claim of "amateurism" to deprive them of any remuneration. But big-time college sports aren't like the amateur sports of a Division III school. The demands on the players aren't voluntary; they are mandatory and consuming. The injuries they risk aren't minor; they can be career or even life threatening.

It wasn't a good idea for the South to base its economy on slave labor. And it isn't a good idea for universities to be the producers of professionalized, big money sports entertain-

ment. It surely conflicts with the stated educational mission of the university.

But however regrettable, that is what has developed. And that reality renders the claim of "amateurism" an utterly cynical smokescreen. The argument that athletes should not share in the money that they are producing because it will remove them from their role as students is simply preposterous from programs that are require commitment of 50 hours a week to the sport.

Led by Ed O'Bannon, former athletes, including Oscar Robinson, have sued the NCAA for profiting from the use of their likenesses without permission or contract. The courage of the young men from Northwestern will encourage others to act. These young men produce an entertainment that literally hundreds of millions across the world pay to watch and cheer. They generate literally billions in revenue. It is simply inconceivable in a free market economy that they should be treated as chattel with no rights of contract. From picking cotton balls to now passing footballs and basketballs, it is still all sweat and no equity, all work and no reward. Workers should be paid for the profits they help to generate. That is as true for the stars of stage and screen, for the skilled workers in steel plants as for the gifted athletes in college athletics.

Jesse L. Jackson is founder and president of the RainbowPUSH Coalition.

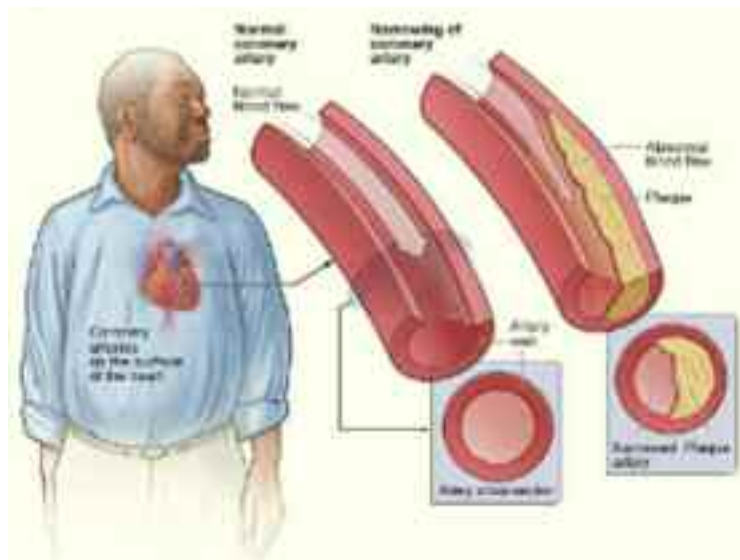
HIV-infected men at increased risk for heart disease, large study shows

The buildup of soft plaque in arteries that nourish the heart is more common and extensive in HIV-infected men than HIV-uninfected men, independent of established cardiovascular disease risk factors, according to a new study by National Institutes of Health grantees.

The findings suggest that HIV-infected men are at greater risk for a heart attack than their HIV-uninfected peers, the researchers write in *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

"These findings from the largest study of its kind tell us that men with HIV infection are at increased risk for the development of coronary artery disease and should discuss with a care provider the potential need for cardiovascular risk factor screening and appropriate risk reduction strategies," said Gary H. Gibbons, M.D., director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), part of NIH.

"Thanks to effective treatments, many people with HIV infection



Plaque buildup in the arteries that nourish the heart, a condition called coronary atherosclerosis, narrows the arteries and increases the risk for heart attack. (Image: NHLBI)

are living into their 50s and well beyond and are dying of non-AIDS-related causes—"frequently, heart disease," said Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), also part of NIH. "Consequently, the prevention and treatment of

non-infectious chronic diseases in people with HIV infection has become an increasingly important focus of our research."

NIAID and NHLBI funded the study with additional support from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, part of NIH.

SPRING, continued from Page 1

sure patients like Nathan have the blood they need."

Make a difference this spring by rolling up a sleeve for patients in need. Visit redcross-blood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to learn more and schedule an appointment.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities:

Collin County

• April 23, 3 - 7 p.m., Plano Super Bowl, 2521 Avenue K, Plano, Texas

Dallas County

• April 16, 2 - 6 p.m., Victory Place at Coppell, 550 N Denton Tap Rd, Coppell, Texas

• April 16, 7 a.m. to 12 p.m., Victory Place at Coppell, 550 N Denton Tap Rd, Coppell, Texas

• April 16, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., El Centro College Building B, 801 Main Street, Dallas, Texas

• April 16, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., University of Texas at Dallas Activity Center, 800 W. Campbell, Richardson, Texas

• April 18, 8 a.m. to 2:30p.m., Cedar Hill High School Performing Arts Center, 1 Longhorn Blvd, Cedar Hill, Texas

• April 18, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Win-free Academy Charter Schools, 1661 Gateway Blvd, Richardson, Texas

• April 19, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., The Parks at Walnut Apartments, 10000 Walnut Street, Dallas, Texas

• April 19, noon - 4 p.m., Islamic Association of North Texas, 840 Abrams Rd., Richardson, Texas

• April 21, 7 a.m. to noon, Baylor Medical Center at Garland, 2300 Marie Curie, Garland, Texas

• April 22, noon - 5 p.m., Aviation Institute of Maintenance, 400 E Airport, Irving, Texas

• April 23, 1 - 6 p.m., St John's Episcopal Church and School, 848 Harter Road, Dallas, Texas

• April 23, 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., St John's Episcopal Church and School, 848 Harter Road, Dallas, Texas

• April 28, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Desoto High School, 600 Eagle Drive, Desoto, Texas

• April 29, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Baylor University Medical Center, 3500 Gaston, Dallas, Texas

• April 30, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., New Tech High School at Coppell, 113 Samuel Blvd, Coppell, Texas

• April 30, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Trammell Crow Center, 2001 Ross Avenue, Suite 325, Dallas, Texas

GLADNEY,

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Floor craft area.

Building Blocks for the Beginner: Basic Writing Workshop presented by Darryl Gregory of FST Publishing.

Attendees will get 'hands on' practice developing a book premise; an essential element in promoting your book and developing a publishing strategy.

Freeing the inner writer: Presented in Spanish, this workshop will help people get started in the fascinating process of creative writing. Through fun exercises, participants will acquire the tools to build literary texts, including types of narrators, characters and dialogue.

Author Speak: Book discussion led by local authors Karen Blumenthal, LA Starks and Harry Hunsicker. Second floor, Siddie Joe Johnson Room.

For more information and a complete schedule of events and activities visit www.dallasbookfestival.com.

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COVANCE

Mrs. Thelma Franklin celebrating 100 years of life and still going

By Carrenza Thurmond

My oh my how fast time does fly. It may seem as if it was only yesterday that the birth of Mrs. Thelma Franklin was announced. Grandson Willie C. Cochran, pastor of the South Dallas Faith Based Outreach Ministry Church, thought that it was a good time to give thanks for his grandmother's marvelous life of 100 years.

Just to think when one was in grade school it was a big thing to be able to count to 100, but for Mrs Franklin it was just a good living and the trust in God. Mrs. Franklin however, was born in March 14, 1914 to the parents of Mr. Richard and Amanda Smith of Shreveport, La.

Thelma herself had seven children and only two are living today. They are Ms.

Virginia Perry and Mrs. Mercile Duncan. Mrs. Franklin was the 13th out of 15 children, and is the only living sibling of all.



We were told that she attends church at the Turning Point Ministry Church of Dallas, Texas where Pastor B.L. Walker is in charge. Her hobbies are quilting and reading the Holy Bible. She is very well loved by the many people of her community and around town.

It's not every day that many people can live to get to be a 100 years old, but for those who have, may God bless and keep you, just as he

has with Mrs. Thelma Franklin. Best wishes to you and your family, and to do one thing just keep on keeping on as this world turns -- from day to day, week to week, month to month and year to year - with plenty of joy and peace of mind.

Plano Telephone Town Hall – City leaders to discuss 2014-17 three year financial forecast with citizens

The City of Plano will provide new information on the 2014-2017 three year financial forecast. Citizens will have the opportunity to give input on the 2014-15 budget. The city welcomes public input, questions, comments, and ideas about where to allocate funds and priorities for our community. Citizens can participate by receiving a phone call from the city or by calling 888-409-5380. They can also watch and listen live at www.plano.gov, or attend in person. The city will also be accepting questions through social media on

www.facebook.com/cityofplanotx and Twitter @cityofplanotxpr using the hashtag #PlanoTownHall.

The City of Plano is always looking for new ways to communicate and engage with citizens. Two years ago, we launched Plano Town Hall, a convenient way to join the conversation with Council and City Staff about current topics of interest.

It is scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the Senator Florence Shapiro Council Chambers at Plano Municipal Center, 1520 Avenue K in Plano.

Notification system 'Blackboard Connect' can save lives

PROSPER - The spring season is traditionally the time when weather instability can bring about violent storms, straight-line winds and other destructive and dangerous weather events, says Fire Chief Ronnie Tucker.

"Spring time weather can not only be unpredictable, it can also go from one extreme to another in the blink of an eye," he said. "That's why it's important for residents to have some sort of early warning system or procedure. An early warning can save a life."

In Prosper, residents can sign up for Blackboard Connect and receive phone, e-mail or text messages whenever a weather event is anticipated. Signup can be accomplished at www.prosper.tx.org or www.prosperfire.com by clicking on the Blackboard Connect icon.

Here are some frequently asked questions about the system.

What is Blackboard Connect?

Blackboard Connect is a unique service allowing Town officials the ability to notify residents and businesses with time-sensitive information. This web-based system features multiple capabilities for notifying the community about emergencies, events and activities. Unless the situation dictates something different, severe weather emergencies will be sent to all contacts in the system.

What is the advantage of signing up?

Should a situation arise where the Town needs to notify a portion or all of the population, the Blackboard Connect system can launch a pre-recorded message providing residents and businesses with pertinent information and instructions for action to be taken if needed. This system also has the capability of sending the message via email and SMS text message. The system can convert text to voice allowing for fast, simultaneous messaging by all three mediums.

Will I get calls in the middle of the night telling me it's raining?

No, the system works off of the National Weather Service severe thunderstorm and tornado warnings only. The system will not send out a message if it is just raining or a watch of any kind. It will however send out a call during the night if the National Weather Service issues a severe thunderstorm warning or a tornado warning.

What's the difference between a "warning" and a "watch"?

The simplest distinction is that a weather watch indicates possible severe weather, while a warning indicates that severe storms or the conditions that produce severe storms have been observed in nearby areas and will likely reach the location being warned.

DART's paid parking demonstration ends April 2

Dallas Area Rapid Transit's two-year paid parking demonstration known as Fair Share Parking and implemented at Northwest Plano Park & Ride, Parker Road, North Carrollton/Frankford and Belt Line stations will end Wednesday, April 2, making it free to park at DART facilities.

A reserved parking program at Parker Road Station for both Plano and other service area residents with a parking permit will be implemented Thursday, April 3, that will

allow priority parking at lots east of Archerwood Street and north of the station.

Previously issued Platinum Parking permits will be honored along with new permits obtained from the Parker Road Station Monitor from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

More information is available at DART.org/ParkerRoadStation or by calling 214.979.1111.

Paper, Plastic or Stupidity



Curtis Report
by Barry Curtis

I don't expect much from our local Dallas City Council so I tend not to be shocked or surprised at their sheer lack of real world worthiness. Recently, even I was a bit perplexed and outraged at the council's spiraling into Twilight Zone type stupidity.

The council just voted into effect the so called "environmental fee ordinance" which bans the single-use carry out bag at all city events and facilities. However, it does still allow retailers to use paper or plastic bags.

Sounds interesting huh? Well it gets worse.

Beginning January 1, 2015 retailers will have to charge you 5 cents per plastic bag. That right 5 cents for the use of a bag. The store gets to keep 10 percent of the money they charge you. That is a kind of bag kick back to the stores I presume.

If stupidity amongst Dallas politicians were a virus, Dallas would be in the throes of an epidemic and councilman Dwaine Caraway would be the most infectious. Councilman Caraway is the brain child (and I use that term loosely) of this ill-conceived law. His winding, shifting and convoluted logic concerning this ban defies even the most liberal of homo-sapiens intelligence.

Keep in mind there have been no studies done to see if these plastic bags are even an issue? I would argue that the greater problem is water bottles; at least that's what I see more of.

Here are some points that Councilman Caraway should take note of, and indeed research: How did the council come to this conclusion that paper bags are a grave threat to the Dallas environment? Was it personal observation by Councilman Caraway? Perhaps he came to this rush of intellect on a windy day?

This ordinance is anti-business. It imposes on the

retailer an unreasonable burden of charging their customers for a product or service they have historically provided for free. This burden of inconvenience and a fee will be passed on to the Dallas consumer.

There will undoubtedly be lawsuits from bag manufacturers and retailers. Did you calculate that cost to the city into your plan Councilman Caraway? Of course you didn't. This is just the classic radical liberal intrusion into our lives. At the core of radical intrusion is a belief that for every problem the solution must be big government taxation to solve it.

No matter what, in the end if the bags are taxed or not, they are still being used. The same plastic bags will end up in the same land fill or under the same oak tree on a windy day. The only difference now is they will be a more expensive eye-sore.

Thank you to the Dallas City Council.

You can reach Barry Curtis at www.thecurtisreport.com.

RAY, continued from Page 2

years and I am happy that we are teaming up on this film."

The two met over a decade ago in a playwrighting class. Later, Ray went on to understudy a role for Freeman's play, Hannah Elias. In 2009, as the co-chair of the Hayti Heritage Film Festival, the two teamed up again.

"Angela Ray is simply amazing. Thrilled to collaborate with her and looking forward to continuing this creative relationship," Freeman said.

Freeman's first feature, Mr. Bones was the winner of five First Place film festival awards to include Best Feature, 2009 Philadelphia Film Festival ~ Distinguished Film,

2009 Santa Barbara African American Film Series ~ Closing Ceremony Film, 2009 Cine Noir, Festival of Black Films, Wilmington NC, ~ Best Feature, 2007 Sweet Auburn International Film Festival, Atlanta, GA ~ Best Drama, 2007 Southern Appalachian International Film Festival. Freeman later co-produced the Feature Documentary, Authoring Action which also won several awards.

Ray is no stranger to working behind the scenes. For two years, she co-chaired the Hayti Heritage Film Festival. Under her leadership along with her co-chair Dilsey Davis, the festival expanded to four days, added an awards cer-

emony, and included networking events with the films screenings.

She also produced eight years of the Mahogany Dime Awards, a ceremony that honors African American women who reside in North Carolina.

As co-producer, Ray is assisting with an aggressive crowdfunding campaign for the film. The team of producers have chosen Indiegogo for this endeavor. With only twenty days left, every moment is crucial and Ray is committed to making this film a success.

"I know we can make our goal," Ray said. "It's a lot of work, but what's the alternative? Actually, I'm not interested in the alternative."

UNCF and the Will and Jada Smith Family foundation surprises student with scholarship on Queen Latifah show

UNCF (United Negro College Fund), the nation's largest minority education organization, delivered an overwhelming surprise to Ashley Booth, a deserving student at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina. As part of the 35th annual UNCF An Evening of Stars fundraising

show, UNCF president and CEO Dr. Michael L. Lomax arranged for the first of three ten thousand dollar checks to be awarded to the freshman who plans to become a veterinarian.

During the segment, Booth was surprised with the initial ten thousand dollar check from UNCF fol-

lowed a generous matching check of ten thousand dollars from the Will and Jada Smith Family Foundation. Sony Pictures Television, the parent company of the Queen Latifah Show, closed the deal when another ten thousand dollar award was added, bringing the generous total to thirty thousand

dollars.

"Against the costs of tuition, room, board and books totaling just over \$25,000, Ashley Booth is an almost ideal representative of the college financial aid challenges that are facing contemporary college students," said Lomax. "Despite doing every-

thing right – earning great grades in high school that landed her a spot at Johnson C. Smith, an outstanding UNCF member institution where she is pursuing a STEM degree in Biology – Ashley and her mother are required to

See UNCF, Page 7

Ella Baker: Remembering my favorite civil rights heroine

By Marian Wright Edelman

(NNPA) *"Until the killing of Black men, Black mothers' sons, becomes as important to the rest of the country as the killing of a White mother's son — we who believe in freedom cannot rest until this happens."*

—Ella Baker

The quote above is from Ella Baker 50 years ago, and like so much about this visionary civil rights leader it is still just as relevant today. She was talking about the murders of Civil Rights Movement workers James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner, who disappeared together in Mississippi in June 1964. Chaney was Black, and Goodman and Schwerner were White.

Ella Baker was an outspoken warrior against injustice and inequality her entire life, and always, always unwilling to rest. Her words continue to be a rallying cry for all of us who believe our nation still does not see and value Black and White children's lives the same way.

I first met Mrs. Baker during my senior year at Spelman College in Atlanta. She was a staff member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and was often a powerful behind-the-scenes adviser to close colleagues like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Ella Baker believed in servant leadership and shared leadership rather than charismatic leadership and encouraged young people like me to find and lift our own voices and join

them with others.

She was instrumental in founding the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and fought to make sure we retained our own independent organization as students rather than simply becoming the youth arm of the Dr. King-led SCLC. Julian Bond, Diane Nash, Bob Moses, and many other fellow student activists and young activists were all influenced by her example, counsel and convening and share a special debt of reverence and gratitude.

Ella Baker was born in 1903 in Norfolk, Va. She had a strict mother, a warm and caring father, and a large extended family of grandparents, uncles, and aunts who shared what they had with the poor. She was a fighter and as a child beat up White children who called her names. Since there was no schooling for Black children beyond elementary years in her area,

she went off to boarding school at Shaw University in Raleigh, N.C. and was valedictorian of her high school and college graduating classes.

She moved to Harlem, got caught up in its excitement, and went everywhere to hear lectures and speeches and read in libraries to learn everything she could. After working as a domestic and as a waitress, she got a job with the Negro National News published by George Schuyler who later recommended her for a job at the NAACP. She rapidly rose through NAACP ranks. "Wherever she went," her biographer and friend Joanne Grant wrote in Ella Baker: Freedom Bound, "she created a whirlwind, leaving a scatter of papers, notes, leaflets, church programs, and phone numbers in her wake. . . She never let up her struggle to increase the role of the rank and file."

Ella Baker pushed for or-

ganizational structure and rules in the NAACP just as she did later at SCLC and SNCC. Ella Baker was the one who sat down with Bayard Rustin and Stanley Levinson to discuss how to create a continuing movement out of the Montgomery bus boycott, which led to SCLC's formation. As the first staff member hired for SCLC, it was Ella Baker who tried to put the new organization in operating order so that Dr. King was not just a leader who reacted to and jumped from one event to the next. She worked to give SCLC the capacity to plan and implement action. And Ella Baker was the one who convinced Dr. King to bring me and about 200 other Black college students who had been arrested for engaging in sit-in protests to open up lunch counters around the South

to a meeting at her alma mater, Shaw University. My first plane ride ever was from Atlanta to Raleigh for that meeting. SNCC was the

meeting's result.

Ella Baker was fully aware of but unimpressed

See BAKER, Page 12

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Chef Cassondra shares healthy recipes in 'Heart to Heart' event in Dallas

Executive chef and culinary artist Chef Cassondra demonstrated how to prepare healthy meals while on the run at the recent Heart to Heart event.

Chef Cassondra tops the list as one of the Texas Chefs Move To Schools with First Lady Michelle Obama's obesity initiative.

More than 350 people enjoyed

Ninth annual Writer's Breakthrough Workshop scheduled for May 24

The 9th annual Writer's Breakthrough Workshop is sponsored by Grace LaJoy, with Cornerstone Baptist Church, where Dr. William McKissic is pastor. The free workshop will be held on Saturday, May 24 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Cornerstone Baptist Church. The church is located at 5415 Matlock Rd in Arlington.

The workshop is de-



signed to help those who have a gift to write but do not understand the self-

Methodist Charlton Medical Center's Heart to Heart event held on Feb. 22.

The Heart to Heart event is a fun-filled occasion, during which women and their families and friends are encouraged to stay heart-healthy and improve their overall wellness.

See CHEF, Page 8

publishing route, copyright laws to protect their work, or the steps to have their book printed and shared with readers.

To register, please RSVP by e-mailing your name, address and phone number to poetry@grace-lajoy.com. Registration for the workshop is FREE, but guests must RSVP. For more information call 816-318-1388.

UNCF, continued from Page 6

take out a significant amount of student loans. They have already assumed \$24,000 of debt for her education and by the time Ashley graduates she could be \$100,000 or more in debt. These scholarships will go a long way to help alleviate some of the burden they will assume to assure Ashley gets the education she deserves."

Queen Latifah asked Ashley and her mother, who were seated in the audience, to

come up on stage to speak with her about being a STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) student. Ashley, who attended Irvington High School in Irvington New Jersey, where Queen Latifah also attended, was unaware that she had been brought to Los Angeles to receive a scholarship.

Here is a link to the moment: <http://bcove.me/w9h1wk3s>.



Ashley Booth is overwhelmed when she learns UNCF is providing her with a scholarship during appearance on Queen Latifah's talk show.



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CHEF,

continued from Page 7

Between the early-morning health screenings and the main event, everyone had plenty of activities to keep them informed and involved. Whether you wanted to learn more about Zumba or belly dancing, how to help your heart, or your personal fashion style, there was something for everyone. Women took advantage of heart-healthy foods, tried operating the robotic technology of the da Vinci Surgical System (now available at Methodist Charlton), and relaxed with soothing chair massages.



Executive chef and culinary artist Chef Cassandra shares healthy recipes with guests.

SISTERS,

continued from Page 1

Poverty, but many areas remain that need urgent action."

The following are some of the key findings from Black Women in the U.S., 2014:

The maternal mortality rate for Black women is fully three times that of white women and is on par with several developing nations.

Black girls experience an out-of-school suspension rate fully 6 times that of white girls.

Black women over 65 have the lowest household income of any demographic group in America.

Still, Black women are especially reliant on Social Security in their retirement years. In fact, if it were not for

social security, the poverty rate for Black women would more than double.

Is that the future you want for your daughters, mothers, sisters or yourself?

Watching the Real Housewives of Atlanta is not going to make the problems go away or fix them. Read the full report at www.NorthDallasGazette.com and start making a plan to do better. Now!

TRIPLE,

continued from Page 1

more than once, compared to White children who represent 43 percent of preschoolers and 26 percent of students suspended more than once, according to the report.

Daniel Losen, director of the Center for Civil Rights Remedies for the Civil Rights Project at UCLA, told the Associated Press: "Just kicking them out of school is denying them access to educational opportunity at such a young age. Then, as they come in for kindergarten, they are just that much less prepared."

Florida, Indiana, North Carolina, Rhode Island, and South Carolina reported the widest gaps in the racial disparity suspensions between Black and White students. New Jersey, New York and North Dakota reported the smallest gaps.

Black students also account for nearly 30 percent of students referred to law enforcement in what many civil rights advocates have called the school-to-prison pipeline.

"Black students represent 16 percent of student enrollment, 27 percent of students referred to law enforcement, and 31 percent of students subjected to a school-related arrest. In comparison, white students represent 51 percent of students enrolled, 41 percent of referrals to law enforcement, and 39 percent of those subjected to school-related arrests," stated the report.

For the first time in 14 years, the Ed-

ucation Department collected data from all 97,000 public schools and its 16,500 school districts, responsible for 49 million students.

"This data collection shines a clear, unbiased light on places that are delivering on the promise of an equal education for every child and places where the largest gaps remain. In all, it is clear that the United States has a great distance to go to meet our goal of providing opportunities for every student to succeed," Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said in a press release. "As the President's education budget reflects in every element – from preschool funds to Pell Grants to Title I to special education funds – this administration is committed to ensuring equity of opportunity for all."

The Education Department report comes on the heels of research funded by the Atlantic Philanthropies and the Open Society Foundations that showed that implicit bias contributes to racial disparities in student suspension rates from kindergarten to the 12th grade.

In a study titled, "The Essence of Innocence: Consequences of Dehumanizing Black Children," researchers from the University of California, the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and the University of Pennsylvania, concluded that after 9 years old, "Black children and adults were rated as significantly less innocent than White children and adults or

children and adults generally."

A majority of the survey participants were White women, the same group that is also over-represented among public school teachers.

Researchers found that Black boys may be perceived as more than 4.53 years older than their actual age, which meant that a 13 year-old might be "mis-perceived" to be an adult by law enforcement officials.

The report continued: "These outcomes are particularly worrisome for Black children, who are 18 times more likely than White children to be sentenced as adults and who represent 58 percent of children sentenced to adult facilities, the report stated.

In recent speeches Attorney General Eric Holder has urged school administrators, lawmakers and parents to work together to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline that often has far-reaching consequences for young people that get swept up into the criminal justice system.

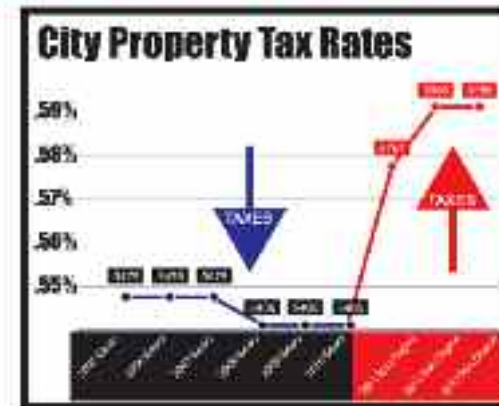
Holder said that the report was critical and showed that racial disparities in school discipline policies are not only well-documented among older students, but actually begin during preschool.

"Every data point represents a life impacted and a future potentially diverted or derailed," Holder said. "This Administration is moving aggressively to disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline in order to ensure that all of our young people have equal educational opportunities."

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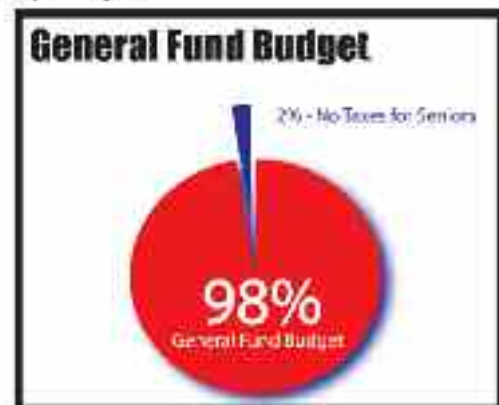
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We need a better direction in the mayor's office.



NUL State of Black America: Growing income inequality

By George E. Curry
NNPA Editor-in-Chief

WASHINGTON (NNPA) – The wealth gap between African Americans and Whites has expanded in recent years and is not likely to narrow without significant reductions in Black unemployment and changes in a system that favors the wealthy over poor and middle class Americans, according to the National Urban League's 38th annual State of Black America report titled, "One Nation Underemployed: Jobs Rebuild America."

The report is scheduled to be released Thursday at a news conference at the National Press Club in the nation's capital. In a statement accompanying the report, Marc H. Morial, president and CEO of the National Urban League, said: "The 2014 State of Black America and corresponding Equality Index indicate that while each state and city has its own economic recovery story to tell, the consistent refrain is that there is an urgent and growing disparity between the few who are reaping the rewards of economic recovery and the majority who are still reeling from aftershocks of the Great Recession."

Morial added, "While 'too big to fail' corporations went into the bail-out emergency room and recovered to break earnings and stock market records, most Americans have been left in ICU with multiple diagnoses of unemployment, underemployment, home losses and foreclosures, low or no savings and retirement accounts, credit denials, and cuts in education and school funding. We must work to restore the very essence of 20th century America – the possibility of upward mobility for all – with a focus on meaningful solutions to these pressing challenges, including job creation and training, and ensuring that Americans are paid livable wages for the work they do."

The 2014 Equality Index is a yardstick used to measure how well African Americans are doing relative to Whites. In computing the Equality Index, 30 percent of the final score is based on economics while health and education each gets 25 percent and so-

cial justice and civic engagement each receives 10 percent on a 100 percent scale.

Explaining the Equality Index, the authors say: "That means rather than having a whole pie (100 percent), which would mean full equality with Whites in 2014, African Americans [with an index of 71.2 percent] are missing about 29 percent of the pie."

In other words, the larger the Equality Index, the closer Blacks are to reaching parity with Whites.

The Equality Index has declined from 73 percent in 2006, to 72.1 percent in 2010 to 71.2 percent in 2014. However, scholars caution that the overall figure might reflect progress in some areas and retrenchment in others.

Relative to last year's Black Equality Index:

Civic Engagement index improved from 99.9 percent to 104.7 percent;

Economics dipped slightly, from 56.3 percent to 55.5 percent;

Social justice declined barely from 56.9 percent to 56.8 percent;

Health (76.8 percent) and education (76.8 percent) remained unchanged;

The report also found:

Black median household income (\$33,764) is about 60 percent of Whites (\$56,565), down from 62 percent before the recession;

The poverty index for Blacks compared to Whites is 29 percent – 28.1 percent of Blacks live in poverty vs. 11 percent of Whites;

Black-White unemployment equality is 50 percent or 2:1 and

When it comes to wealth, Blacks (\$6,314) have only a 6 percent Equality Index when compared with Whites (\$110,500).

Unlike African Americans, Hispanics saw their Equality Index with Whites increase slightly, from 74.6 percent in 2013 to 75.8 percent in 2014, which was 4.6 percent higher than African Americans.

In a chapter titled, "Policies of Exclusion Perpetuate the Racial Wealth Gap," Thomas M. Shapiro wrote: "The dramatic and widening gap in household wealth along racial lines in the United States reflects policies and institutional practices that create different opportunities for whites and African



Marc Morial at last summer's national convention (National Urban League Photo by Lawrence Jenkins).

Americans. Personal ambition and behavioral choices are but a small part of the equation."

Shapiro wrote, "In gross terms, the difference in median wealth between America's white and African American households has grown stunningly large. The wealth gap almost tripled from 1984 to 2009, increasing from \$85,000 to \$236,500. The median net worth of white households in the study grew to \$265,000 over the 25-year period compared with just \$28,500 for the Black households."

He said five factors account for two-thirds of the proportional increase in the racial wealth gap: number of years of home ownership, average family income, employment stability, college education and financial support and inheritance.

According to Shapiro, home ownership accounts for 27 percent of the growth in the racial wealth gap. He said reasons home equity rises dramatically faster for Whites include:

White families buy homes and start acquiring equity eight years earlier than Black families because they are more likely to receive family assistance or an inheritance for down payments;

A larger up-front payment by White homeowners lower interest rates;

Residential segregation places an artificial ceiling on home equity in non-White neighborhoods and

The home ownership rate for White families is 28 percent higher than rates for Blacks.

"Hard evidence shows in stark terms that it is not just the last recession and implosion of the housing market that contributed to the widening racial wealth disparities," Shapiro wrote. "Past policies of exclusion, such as discriminatory mortgage lending, which continues today, ensure that certain groups reap a greater share of what America has to offer while others are left out."

No one expects the wealth gap to narrow without some reduction in unemployment.

Valerie Rawlston Wilson, an economist in the National Urban League's Washington bureau, noted in her introduction to the report: "More than one-third of unemployed workers have been out of work for six months or longer and one in four has been jobless for a year or longer. Though the unemployment rate declined by 1.2 percentage points from January to December 2013 – the largest decline over a single year since the recovery began – labor force participation also reached a 35-year low in December. This downward trend in labor force

participation raises concerns about underutilization of America's labor capacity, or underemployment."

She explained, "If we factored in the number of people who want and are available for work (but are not actively looking for a job) along with the number of unemployed workers actively looking for a job, and those who are working part-time out of necessity (but would prefer full-time work), the actual rate of underemployment was 13.1 percent at the end of 2013, nearly double the official unemployment rate."

And things are even worse for African Americans, Wilson said.

"For African Americans, these challenges are even greater," she wrote. "Though the Black unemployment rate briefly and narrowly dipped below 12 percent for the first time since 2008 at the end of last year, 42 percent of Black unemployed workers are long-term unemployed and 28 percent have been jobless for at least a year. The rate of underemployment for African Americans was 20.5 percent, compared to 11.8 percent for white workers and 18.4 percent for Hispanic workers."

For the first time, the State of Black America provides an Equality Index for 77 major metropolitan areas. The report provided charts for Black-White income equality and unemployment equality.

Summarizing the discussion on income inequality, Morial said, "An Oxfam report released in January confirmed what the Urban League Movement has posited for the last few years: in the U.S., where the gap between rich and poor has grown at a faster rate than any other developed country, the richest one percent of Americans have received 95 percent of the wealth created since 2009 – after the economic crisis – while the bottom 90 percent of Americans have become poorer."

Morial explained, "When we overlay that with the disproportionate impact of unemployment on African Americans and other people of color, as well as the impact of the twin terrors of racial income and wealth gaps, we see an even direr situation."

Talented teens hitting the road to stardom

By Janice Malone
Special to the NNPA from the
Tennessee Tribune

BATON ROUGE, La.—Morgan and Tyler are two teen sisters who have a lot to celebrate. During the recent spring break, the talented duo didn't bask in the sun on a beach nor spend hours on their social media pages. Instead, they collaborated on music for their upcoming debut CD, with legendary music producer, Charlie Singleton, one of the original members of the R&B funk group Cameo.

In addition, they collaborated

with Felton Pilate, a member of Confunkshun and writer/producer for MC Hammer. Morgan and Tyler were introduced to producers Singleton and Pilate by Adrian Taylor, a top entertainment and finance executive. Adrian says, "When I saw Morgan and Tyler, I called two of the best guys in the music business, Charlie Singleton and Felton Pilate. Both producers have signed on to produce the girls."

Felton launched MC Hammer's career by being instrumental in helping Hammer secure a \$40 million deal with Capitol Records.

The award winning producer also wrote, produced, and sang most of the hit songs for '80s R&B Group Confunkshun. Tyler and Morgan recently traveled from their Baton Rouge, La. home to New York for

meetings with their agent, and later to Atlanta to begin recording. While in the Big Apple, the sisters had a chance to meet with legendary singer/songwriter Valerie Simpson.

Singleton, also a native of Baton Rouge, wrote most of the hits for R&B funk group Cameo. There's a long list of music pro-

See TEENS, Page 16



(L-R): Tyler, legendary songwriter/singer/producer Valerie Simpson and Morgan pose for the cameras in NYC at the world famous Sugar Bar Restaurant.

The Original Big Mama: Irma P. Hall reflects on 40+ years in drama

By Chelsea Jones
Special to the NNPA
from The Dallas Examiner

"One finger pointing the blame don't make no impact. But you ball up all them fingers into a fist, and you can strike a mighty blow. This family got to be that fist." — Big Mama in Soul Food

When people spot her in public, she's immediately recognized as Big Mama from the film Soul Food (1997), or Mrs. Marva Munson from The Ladykillers (2004), or even Mildred from Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns (2008).

But her name is Irma P. Hall.

The 79-year-old actress has achieved wide acclaim during her highly successful acting career, which has spanned over four decades. She is known to portray various characters, many of which are caring matriarchs that offer sound advice, with grace and style.

Critics deem her such a natural on stage and screen that it's hard

to believe she started acting by accident. She began her journey as a teacher.

Born Irma Dolores Player Hall on June 3, 1935, in Beaumont, Texas, she moved with her parents to Chicago where she attended elementary and high school. She spent two years at Briar Cliff College in Sioux City, Iowa, and graduated from Texas College in Tyler.

Since childhood she possessed a love for foreign languages and decided to major in French and minor in Spanish. Her plans were to become a store buyer and study dance. However, those plans were quickly thwarted after she received an epiphany during her first days of teaching.

For nearly 30 years, she either taught French, Spanish, Latin, English and/or theater arts at various schools in Texas, including Dallas schools Booker T. Washington High School (1962-1967),

See HALL, Page 12

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Beginner’s Guide to Google Analytics helps users understand marketing data

Seattle internet marketing company, Fannit.com, recently released a beginner’s guide to using Google Analytics which provides a helpful walk-through of the website tracking tool.

The guide is designed to help business owners, managers, or marketers learn how to work their way around the tool, utilizing all available data to further business goals.

Fannit lays the groundwork for understanding Google Analytics

by walking readers through not only the major aspects of Google Analytics, but the different subsets as well. This includes functions like assessing demographics, visitor behavior, and other basic visitor metrics.

The guide provides an instructive tutorial with helpful clarifications of function about things like: using the dashboard, shortcuts, intelligence events, real time data, and acquisition.

“Google Analytics is more than

just a tool to see how many people came to visit a website,” said Fannit COO, Neil Eneix. “It’s one of the most powerful free tools that a business can use to gather business intelligence.”

The guide also includes practical advice on how the different aspects of Google Analytics can be used for gathering marketing data. Fannit plans on providing several articles in the future about advanced aspects of the Google Analytics tool.

Dallas Regional Chamber accepting applications for the 40th class of Leadership Dallas

This week the Dallas Regional Chamber opened its application process for the Leadership Dallas Class of 2015, the region’s premier leadership development program.

Founded in 1975, Leadership Dallas aims to provide our city with an ongoing source of diverse leaders who are prepared and committed to serve as catalysts

and sustainers of positive change for the quality of life in the Dallas region.

“Each year we look for the best and brightest emerging leaders who are passionate about our community. These individuals are looking to apply their talents to impact regional issues and strive to make Dallas the best place to live and work in the na-

tion,” said Shannon Nail, Vice President of Member Engagement for the Dallas Regional Chamber.

Each year up to 55 individuals are selected by a panel of community leaders, Leadership Dallas Alumni and Dallas Regional Chamber executives to participate

See LEADERSHIP, Page 13

PROMISED, continued from Page 3

“revolution” that would translate into creating a just and humane society.

Hence he proclaimed, “I am convinced that if we are to get on the right side of the world revolution, we as a nation must undergo a radical revolution of values. We must rapidly begin the shift from a ‘thing-oriented’ society to a ‘person-oriented’ society. When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, materialism and militarism are incapable of being conquered.”

The people must create a “moral movement” to get to the Promised Land and that movement cannot countenance a system incompatible with “person-oriented” values. Therefore, those who would get to the Promised Land must challenge and change systems of oppression and exploitation; they must advance a politics of social transformation. As King put it, “True

compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar; it comes to see that the edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring.”

As we witness the calculated, mean-spirited assault on Blacks, labor, women and poor and working people by rightwing extremists, the explosive growth in mass incarceration within the prison-jail industrial complex and the ever increasing concentration of wealth in the hands of the few, we must continue to be inspired by King’s view from the mountaintop. Black people in particular must be dedicated to leading ourselves and the down-trodden/dispossessed to the Promised Land.

Ron Daniels is President of the Institute of the Black World 21st Century and Distinguished Lecturer at York College City University of New York. His articles and essays also appear on the IBW website www.ibw21.org and www.northstarnews.com. He can be reached via email at info@ibw21.org

Hey Irving, Pick Us Up!

You can find a copy of the North Dallas Gazette at any one of these fine businesses and organizations. Be sure to pick up a copy every week to stay on top of the issues important to the Irving area in particular and the DFW African American community as a whole.

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Iglesia Santa Marie de Guadalupe 2601 S. MacArthur				Po' Boys Restaurant 4070 N. Beltline Rd. Ste. 100
The Chateau on Wildbriar Lake 1515 Hard Rock Rd				Girl Friends Africa 4070 N. Beltline Rd. Ste. 134
Bombay Sizzlers 397 East Las Colinas Blvd, Ste. 180	Roy's Pawn Shop 635 E. Irving Blvd	Senter Park Recreation Center 907 S. Senter Rd	Shady Grove CME Church 3537 E. Gilbert Road	VW Barbership 4070 N. Beltline Rd. Ste. 143
Le Peep 4835 N. O'Connor Blvd.	Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church "The Green" 3329 Country Club West	Austin Recreation Center 825 E. Union Bower Rd.	Emmanuel Baptist Missionary Church 511 Gilbert Road	Northlake College 2000 College Blvd Bldg. A
Mattito's Tex Mex 1001 MacArthur Park Drive	Irving Islamic Center Valley Ranch - Valley Ranch Masjid 9940 Valley Ranch Pkwy W.	Houston Recreation Center 3033 Country Club Rd.	Ben Washington Baptist Church 3901 Frisco Ave	Antioch Christian Church 2041 West Walnut Hill
Taqueria El Tacazo 1150 W. Pioneer Drive	Irving Salvation Army 1140 E. Irving Blvd	Cimarron Park Recreation Center 201 Red River Trail	Shepherd Church 615 W. Davis	Kasbah Grill 2851 Esters Rd
Capistrano's Café & Catering 4650 W. Airport Frwy	Antioch Christian Church 2043 W. Walnut Hill Ln	Georgia Farrow Recreation Center 530 Davis Street	West Irving C.O.G.I.C. 4011 Conflans Road	Fresh Food Store 4020 W. Northgate Drive
Empress of China 2648 N. Beltline Rd.	Lee Park Recreation Center 300 Pamela Drive	Heritage Senior Center 200 Jefferson Street	Bible Way Baptist Church 4215 N. Greenvew Dr.	Lee's Catfish 1911 Esters Road
The Spirit Grille 4030 N. MacArthur Blvd #112	Lively Pointe Youth Center 909 N. O'Connor Rd	iRealy Office Building 320 Decker Drive	Strictly Business 4159 W. Northgate	Danal's Mexican Restaurant 508 N. O'Connor Rd
El Rancho Restaurant 1210 E. Irving Blvd	Mustang Park Recreation Center 2223 Kinwest Pkwy	Irving Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 135 S. Jefferson	Washateria 3712 Cheyenne Street	Fred's Pit Barbecue 808 E. Irving Blvd
504 Salon 3414 W. Rochelle	Northwest Park Recreation Center 2800 Cheyenne St.	Irving City Hall 825 W. Irving Blvd	New Life Ministries 3706 Cheyenne Street	Gary's Barbershop 2117 Story Rd.
Irving YMCA 220 W. Irving Blvd		Irving Public Library 801 W. Irving Blvd	Elisha Mane Attractions 3704 Cheyenne Street	African Village Restaurant 3000 N. Beltline Rd
Mitchell's Barbershop 4020 N. Beltline Rd			Bear Creek Community Church 2700 Finley Rd.	New Look Barbershop 3317 Finley Rd.
				Irving Arts Center 3333 N. MacArthur #200

BAKER, continued from Page 6

by the men she worked with who devalued the advice of women and sometimes resented her forcefulness, prodding, and "mothering." She made no special effort to be ingratiating. She labored at SCLC as she had at the NAACP to raise money, conduct voter registration drives, speak to citizens groups (sometimes ten times a day), and travel to community after community to help people help themselves.

I remember her counsel as I think about sustaining and strengthening the Children's Defense Fund's mission today and future tomorrow for the long haul struggle to create and maintain a level playing field for every child. I learned from her the crucial importance of training a successor generation of young servant-leaders which has been a strong priority of CDF's since its inception.

We all honor Ella Baker by keeping her belief in freedom and equality alive until it becomes reality for every mother's child.

Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund whose Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to www.childrensdefense.org.

HALL, continued from Page 10

Sarah Zumwalt Jr. High School (1967-1971), T.W. Browne Jr. High School (1972-1976) and James Madison High School (1976-1984). Periodically, she also worked as a school publicist and contributing editor for The Dallas Express, the Elite News and The Dallas Weekly newspapers.

Introduction to Acting

In 1972, director and actor Raymond St. Jacques was in Texas to produce and star in the film Book of Numbers. Hall had been hired as the film's interim publicist. One day on the set, St. Jacques heard her reciting a poem to a group of writers and artists.

Impressed, he asked her to audition

for a role. Hall mentioned that she told him, "I don't know anything about acting. I've been in school plays, but all kids have been in school plays."

Nevertheless, she auditioned and got the small role of Sweet Georgia Brown. Hall, then a 36-year-old single mother of two, was shocked, yet excited.

"When I was in costume and makeup, I remember telling my daughter, 'These people are going to really put me in this film,'" Hall said.

Hall recalled being extremely nervous because she had never acted before. However, D'Urville Martin, one of the film's co-stars, took her under

his wing and encouraged her to just do her best. She didn't want to mess up, so she continuously practiced her lines and did a lot of praying.

She commented that St. Jacques, after reviewing the footage from daily tapings, pulled her aside and informed her that she had natural acting abilities that needed to be developed. He assured her that God had given her a gift, and she was obligated to use it.



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AT&T hiring over 3,000 nationwide, nearly 300 in DFW now

AT&T will hire more than 3,000 retail sales and sales management employees nationwide over the next several months.

Nearly 300 of those positions are available now in the DFW area, including five positions for bilingual team members. The new employees are needed to



meet increased customer demand in the company's growing retail business.

"AT&T's award-winning retail team is focused on delivering an extraordinary customer experience with every interaction," said Paul Roth, president of retail sales and service for AT&T Mobility.

"We are pleased to invite more people to join the AT&T family and add to an

already amazing team."

"Creating a great retail experience starts with a knowledgeable and friendly team. Our customers expect a high level of service when they walk into our stores, so we are investing in our workforce to ensure we are providing just that," added

Roth.

With 243,000 employees, AT&T is one of the largest employers in the country. It continues to hire in growth areas including wireless, video, cloud services, sales

and mobility applications. AT&T is also committed to diversity and veteran recruiting.

More information on AT&T job openings can be found at www.att.jobs.

Dallas ISD hosting 'Invitation-only' job fair for teachers on April 5

Dallas ISD Job Fair for certified teachers is scheduled for 8 a.m. – Noon, Saturday on April 5 at Emmett J. Conrad High School located at 7502 Fair Oaks Ave. in Dallas.

Dallas ISD HCM department is hiring teachers in all certification areas, including English language arts, special education, social studies, ESL, and elementary generalists.

The job fair will provide information about signing incentives for bilingual ed-



ucation, science and mathematics.

Interested candidates must register online at http://bit.ly/DallasISD_JF April 5 to receive an invita-

tion to the event.

Dallas ISD is the second largest school district in

Texas and the 12th in the nation, enrolling more than 158,000 students.

It is comprised of portions of 11 municipalities in the North Texas area. Dallas ISD operates 25 high school and middle school campuses as well as 154 elementary schools.

The district operates with a budget of more than \$1.6 billion annually. The district office is at 3700 Ross Ave.

LEADERSHIP,

continued from Page 11

in the ten-month educational program. Leadership Dallas is designed to enable participants to grow their understanding of the challenges facing our community, offer unprecedented networking and build confidence to become actively involved in promoting positive change.

"During the year, class participants develop a true understanding of the critical challenges facing our region," said Nail. "Our goal, once participants have graduated from the program, is that they are able to take the leadership capabilities they've developed through Leadership Dallas and combine it with the regional knowledge they've acquired to enhance their position as community leaders."

In 39 years, Leadership Dallas has graduated more

than 1,800 men and women who continue to provide leadership in the region.

To apply, interested individuals should fill out an online application and provide a resume, up to three references and a professional headshot. Leadership Dallas tuition is \$4,500. As a valued supporter, Dallas Regional Chamber members are eligible for a 25 percent discount on tuition. Financial assistance through scholarships is available to a limited number of participants who may not otherwise be able to participate. Tuition covers all program materials, class days, the retreat and meals.

Applications are due no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, May 9. For more Leadership Dallas information visit www.leadership-dallas.org.



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sources and assistance for
job readiness and training
programs for individuals.

**April 6,
9:30 a.m.**

You're invited to join us in
our Sunday Morning Serv-
ices.

April 9,

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

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

**BETHEL BIBLE
FELLOWSHIP**

**April 6,
9:45 a.m.**

You're invited to our Sun-
day worship Service as we
Study the Word of God,
praise and worship Him for
all of His blessings. Our
mission is to empower indi-
viduals to live like Christ.

April 9, 7 p.m.

Join us for Bible Study

Night; we are studying the
Book of Matthew at this
time.

Dr. Terrance Woodson,
Senior Pastor
1944 E. Hebron Parkway
Carrollton, TX 75007
972-492-4300
www.bethelbiblefellow-
ship.org

**BIBLE WAY
COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH**

**April 6,
8 a.m.**

You're invited to our Sun-
day 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
972-257-3766
www.biblewayirving.org

**CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH
IN RICHARDSON**

**April 6,
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

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April 6,

You're invited to join us for
our Sunday Worship Expe-
rience at 8 a.m. or 10:45
a.m. Come and be blessed
of God.

Rev. Kwesi R. Kamau,
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14120 Noel Road
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972-649-0566 and 972-649-
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mitted via email to: prayer-
line@theship3c.org

For Community help the
Assistance Center serves
Collin County by respond-
ing to people in crisis for
emergency shelter, clothing,
food, and access to medi-
cine and medical services
for county residents. Call

the church or Allen's City
Hall for details.

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.

**April 6,
Super Sunday**

Join us for a day of fellow-
ship and fun at 9:30 a.m. at
1550 Edelweiss Drive in
Allen for Sunday Morning
Worship.

April 9, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our
Wednesday Night Live
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

**SHILOH MBC
IN PLANO**

**April 6,
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
for prayer or questions.

April 9, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our
Wednesday's Bible Study to
learn more about God's
Word.

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

**THE INSPIRING BODY
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**April 6,
7:30 and 11:30 a.m.**

You're invited to join us as
we worship, honor and
magnify God's Holy name.

**April 7,
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
https://ibocchurch.org

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CHURCH OF
GOD IN CHRIST**

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day – Friday at 1-661-673-
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mute. God will meet you
and prayer does change
people, things and situa-
tions.

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

www.theship3c.org Fellowship Christian Center Church 972-359-9956

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Pastor
Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr.

Early Morning Service
200 W. Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
8:00 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship
Story Elementary
1550 Edelweiss Drive
Allen, TX 75002
9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Night Live
200 W. Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
7:00 p.m.

Like Bible Studies...

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Your treasures in God's darkness



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

"And I will give thee the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest that I, the Lord, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel."

Isaiah 45:3

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

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

What you may perceive as dark periods in your life are designed to be treasures from God. They are riches stored in secret places. You,

perhaps, cannot see the treasures in your darkness because of the pain and fear that you are feeling.

But, God has a purpose for your trials. During these trying times you are completely at God's mercy for breakthroughs in your life. You will never know how personal God is, or that He can be trusted to meet the deepest needs in your life.

You will never experience God's faithfulness without your trials. God wants you to know that you are "called by your name;" that every hair on your head is numbered. God is aware of every activity that you are involved in. His love for you knows no bounds and He will use every opportunity to show this to you.

An old adage says, "God's answer to your prayer is seldom early, but it is never late!" If you trust Him, God will give you the grace you need and at the right time. If you keep a right attitude and not allow bitterness or resentment to take hold, then at the right time, in due season (if you faint not); God will answer your prayers.

Habakkuk 2 tells us that

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

Believe that God is at work in your life bringing about what He knows is best for you. Ask God for patience as you faithfully wait for your situation to improve.

"For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry."

Habakkuk 2:3

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

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

the problem comes to your mind, quote a scripture and praise God.

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

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

To God you're unique and one of a kind. Your life can be what you want it to be. Take the days just one at a time.

Learn to count your blessings, not your troubles. With God, you'll make it through whatever comes along. Understand that your treasures are "stored in secret places," have courage and be strong.

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



Kobe Lewis, Founder and CEO of Smartway Ads, a new and innovating way for businesses to advertise and be noticed.

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Sunday Morning Worship	10:45 am
Evening Worship	3:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Class	7:00 pm

Ramon Hodridge, Minister
Radio Program @ 7:30 am on
KHVN 970 AM Sunday Mornings

COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
330 E. Prosperity Parkway, Suite 100, Prosper, TX 75078

Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11:15am
Wednesday Prayer: 6:00pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00pm

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Isiah Joshua, Jr.
Pastor



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NDG Book Review: *Real Happiness at Work*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You started a business to make money.

You accepted the job to feed your family, pay bills, or save for retirement. You founded a corporation because you saw a need and it could be lucrative. You took the position because it was in your field and it offered opportunities.

You didn't accept work because it makes you happy... but it would be nice if it did. And you might actually achieve that if you read *Real Happiness at Work* by Sharon Salzberg.

Put a bunch of different-thinkers in a building. Give them tasks, salaries commensurate on experience, ability to voice their opinions, and tell them to work together.

That can be recipe for drama and stress; for sure, it's representative of the

place where most full-time-working adults spend the majority of their waking hours. So how can you ensure that your experiences in that place are good ones?

Salzberg says that there are Eight Pillars of Happiness in the Workplace you should shoot for: balance, concentration, compassion, resilience, communication and connection, integrity, meaning, and open awareness.

Without the first pillar, balance, Salzberg says that it's "hard to do a good job or enjoy our work." Balance can be achieved through meditation, mindfulness, and allowing for "mental space," even when you're in a crowded room. One of the keys to balance is keeping personal life and work life separate.

Concentration allows us to focus on individual tasks, which "frees our mind of

distraction and actually makes us more productive." Humans, remember, are not well-wired for multitasking.

Compassion allows you to put yourself in someone else's shoes, and eliminates judgment for others as well as for yourself. Utilize compassion for you, and you'll overcome self-doubt and self-blame.

Resilience lets you bounce back "without rumination or regret." Communication and connection promote "skillful self-expression." Integrity keeps you on a path you can live with.

Meaning allows understanding for how you experience work: is it a job, a career, or a calling? Your answer will help you find pleasure in your work.

Finally, open awareness lets you accept your job as it is, without "feeling a need" to change it. It "leads

to acceptance," and "the end of conflict" and day-to-day struggles for the illusion of control.

Let's put this right out there: "Real Happiness for Work" is very new-agey.

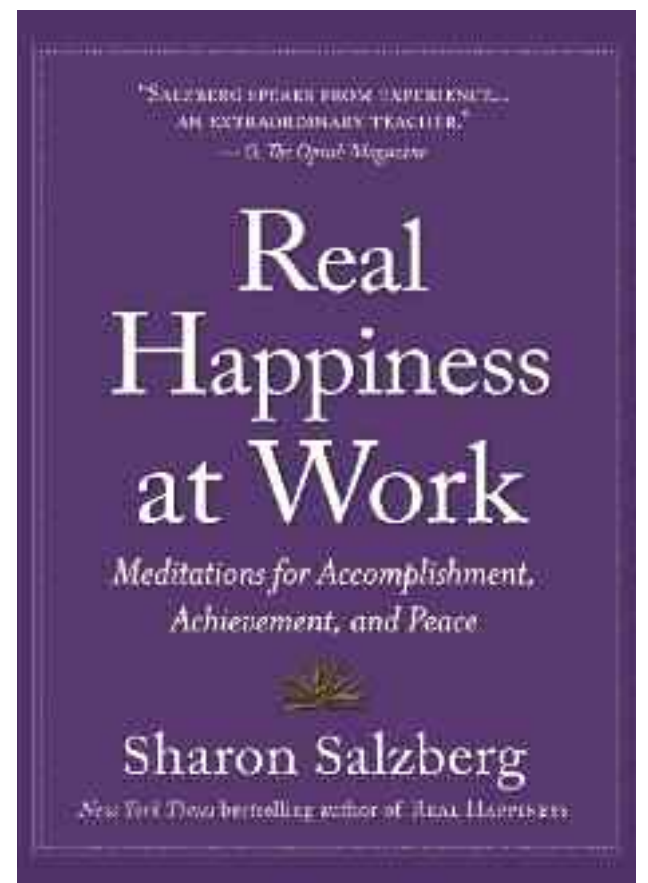
Meditation and a Zen-like attitude are at the heart of author Sharon Salzberg's teachings here.

No more anger, self-doubt, or simultaneous projects; you want "one-point attention" and "loving-kindness" instead, which she says is achieved through meditation at work.

That's good in theory, but may be difficult at many workplaces I can easily think of. It may be impossible at others. Regardless, there's no doubt that this would take plenty of practice and wouldn't be easy.

And yet – experts know meditation works and it's hard to argue with that.

This book was too new-



agey for me but if you're at the end of your work-rope, it might be worth a try. For you, *Real Happiness at Work* could, maybe, start a better workplace.

TEENS, continued from Page 10

ducers who are ready to work with the young sisters. Two 15-year-old songwriters are submitting material for the talented sisters.

In addition, record producer Angelo Remon has signed on to add his talents to the sisters' debut project. Angelo was the producer of Keith Sweat's last album. He's quite impressed with the music style of Morgan and Tyler.

Adrian Taylor says he is trying to get a song for the girls that Angelo Remon wrote for Usher that he did not use. "Morgan & Tyler will have a big hit with that song," said Taylor.

Seventeen-year-old Morgan co-wrote one of their dance songs, "Fooling Myself," along with Felton Pilate. Once their album is complete it will be distributed by Universal Records.

Morgan, a junior at Woodlawn High School says, "So far I have learned how to perform in the stu-

dio, which I didn't know anything about before. I like artists like Alicia Keys and Beyonce. Maybe one day I will get to meet them both."

Tyler age 14, who attends Woodlawn Middle School, says that she is not afraid to

sing. She says, "I find a lot of comfort in singing with my sister. It's a bond that no-one can break." In Tyler's case, she likes such artists as Whitney Houston, and Christina Aguilera.

In addition to music, Morgan and Tyler are equally as talented in the area of acting. They re-

cently signed with The Carson Adler Agency in New York, for theatrical acting and also signed on with The Brock Agency for regional acting and print commercials.

To follow Morgan on Twitter @morgan_preece. To follow Tyler on Instagram at: tylerpreece.

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