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**Imagine 2020  
set to improve  
DISD in South  
and West**

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**Landry  
ready for  
Irving ISD  
issues**

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**Antioch CC  
CommunityFest  
set for this  
Saturday**

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# Claimants against the City of Irving Housing Dept. tell their story

By Nicole Scott  
NDG Contributing Writer

There is nothing that quite symbolizes the realization of the American Dream like home ownership.

It is that moment people diligently work and save for even sacrifice. Home ownership gives us a sense of pride, knowing we have something we can call our own and when the time comes even pass on to our loved ones. When we sign that mound of paperwork on closing day and receive the keys to our new home it is a cause for celebration.

Celebrating was exactly what Ella James anticipated when she applied for a home through the City of Irving's revitalization program in May 2011. James, a single mother and clothing retail supervisor says she was encouraged by the City of Irving's Housing Development Analyst Sara Ramirez to apply for a



*Ella James of Irving, standing in front of house she thought would someday be her home.*

home under the new HUD program. According to James, Ramirez claimed due to the nature of the program she wouldn't have to concern herself with getting approval from a bank for a mortgage and the process would take no longer than 45 days.

As James had never owned a home before she jumped at the opportunity and completed an applica-

tion. Within two weeks Ramirez informed her she had been approved and now all that was left was an inspection of the property she had chosen, an appraisal and for the funds to be released. James was anticipating moving into her new home by July. She had already informed her daughter's father, who had been kind enough to take them in until they moved

into their new home, she would be moving out.

Unfortunately things didn't go as she had planned. July came and went and James and her daughter still had not moved into their new home. When James questioned Ramirez about the delay she was told they were just waiting for the funds to be released.

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COMMENTARY

## Republicans Out On a Limb

By Bill Spriggs

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics released its latest numbers this week. Its preliminary number for people on payrolls, reported by private-sector establishments, is 116 million. That figure is higher than the last peak in January 2008, before President Barack Obama took office.

This marks 49 straight months of job growth

from the second year of the president's first term. It took four years and three months for both the president and George W. Bush to get private-sector employment back to the level when they took office. The difference is that employment was falling when Obama took office, so it took an additional year to make up for the jobs lost during the Great Recession while Bush was still president.

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## People In The News...

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Brig. Gen. Joe Vazquez



Dr. Icilma V. Fergus



Sonya Walker

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



## Brig. Gen. Joe Vazquez

Brig. Gen. Joe Vazquez has been selected as Civil Air Patrol's next chief executive officer and national commander by the organization's Board of Governors, after interviewing four candidates for the position during a meeting in Washington, D.C.

A change of command ceremony with Maj. Gen. Chuck Carr, the current national commander, will be held Aug. 15 during CAP's National Conference in Las Vegas. Vazquez, CAP's national vice commander since August 2011, will

serve as the organization's CEO for the next three years.

As CAP's 23rd national commander, Vazquez will lead CAP's 60,000 volunteers across the nation in fulfilling the organization's three congressionally chartered missions – emergency services, cadet programs and aerospace education. The national commander is a member of and presides over the CAP Command Council, which consists of the organization's 52 wing commanders, eight region commanders, national chief



of staff, command chief, chief operating officer, commander of CAP-USAF and national vice commander. "The past few years as

CAP's vice commander has given me a great appreciation for the outstanding dedication of our members throughout the nation," said Vazquez, who plans to "enhance the value of CAP membership and expand CAP missions with an eye toward new mission development."

Vazquez joined CAP as a cadet in 1975. During nearly four decades of service, he has served as commander at every level. Before becoming national vice commander, he served as commander of the Middle East Region commander from 2008-2011, the Virginia Wing from 2001-

2003, the Virginia Wing's Group 4 from 1993-1995, the Maryland Wing's Wicomico Composite Squadron from 1990-1992 and the Georgia Wing's Warner Robins Cadet Squadron from 1976-1978. He also served as vice commander of the Middle East Region from 2003-2007 and the Virginia Wing from 1997-2001.

A CAP command pilot with more than 3,400 flying hours, Vazquez is a single and multi-engine commercial pilot. He has participated as a mission pilot on 82 search and rescue or dis-

See VAZQUEZ, Page 11

## Dr. Icilma V. Fergus

The new President of the Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC) is Icilma V. Fergus, MD, Director of the Cardiovascular Disparities at Mount Sinai Heart at The Mount Sinai Hospital.

Dr. Fergus' inauguration occurred on the evening of Sunday, March 30 at the ABC's 40th Anniversary Reception held during the American College of Cardiology's 2014 63rd Annual Scientific Session held in Washington, DC.

In her new role as the new President of ABC, Dr. Fergus will work with the Board of

Directors, committees and members of ABC in the business and affairs of the organization and serve as its chief medical spokesperson and adhere to ABC's mission. Dr. Fergus was selected unanimously by ABC's membership and Board of Directors for her unwavering commitment to ABC's mission of decreasing health care disparities in cardiovascular medicine. Previously, Dr. Fergus served on the Board of ABC for 6 years and in the roles of Secretary and Chair of Community Programs.

"I am excited to start in my

new role as President of ABC to broaden our organization's impact and reach with the goal of ameliorating health disparities especially in cardiovascular disease," says Dr. Fergus, the new President of ABC and Director of the Center for Cardiovascular Disparities at Mount Sinai Heart at The Mount Sinai Hospital. "My mission is to empower all people to take charge of their heart health, especially those at higher risk for cardiovascular events and stroke, to take the necessary daily steps to reduce their other individual risk factors to maintain their heart health."

ABC was formed in 1974,

and represents the first organized effort by cardiovascular specialists to establish a platform for addressing the disproportionate burden of cardiovascular diseases and the special needs of minority populations. Its primary mission is to eliminate disparities in cardiovascular diseases through education, research, and advocacy.

Dr. Fergus serves as Director of Cardiovascular Disparities at Mount Sinai Heart at The Mount Sinai Hospital. In addition, she runs the Harlem Healthy Hearts program. Also, she is a member of the Senior Faculty in Medicine (Cardiology) at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.



## Sonya Walker

Sonya Walker, is the founder and CEO of Essance, Inc. a company that beautifies women and teenage girls from the inside and out. She is a sought after speaker, a life coach, an author, and a woman full of purpose. She currently writes for online forums and magazines.

Essance was created to fulfill a growing need in helping women love themselves from the inside out. Essance means to help bring out the nature in which you were created. Essance was designed to build the image of women and teenage girls through the word of God.

Training is one of the premiere services offered by

Essance. Like many of the services offered, training must be considered holistically, (mind, body, soul, spirit).

Prior to reinventing herself, Sonya was a hairstylist and makeup artist for 22 years. Her years of experience has taught her that no matter how beautiful of an image you create, if you don't believe in yourself, then you will have beauty without substance. Sonya has worked with some of the top radio personalities, entertainers, and photographers.

Sonya created a baby doll cap sleeve t-shirt line called Beautifully Speaking, to teach women and teens the

importance of positive confession. To learn how to speak well of themselves.

Her passion for beauty and love has created an organization that will leave

you feeling beautiful from the inside and out. Sonya's desire is to transform women from all walks of life to give themselves the greatest gift, LOVE.



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# North Dallas Gazette

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## Learning is more personal for DISD students in Lincoln, Madison and Pinkston feeder patterns

By Mike Miles  
Superintendent, DISD

We believe that every student in the Dallas Independent School District can learn and achieve. Our challenge is to provide students with a tailored education to prepare them for college or the workplace.

Our 159,000 students are unique individuals. They have different academic skill levels, live within a variety of home environments, and pos-

sess different personalities and talents.

Through our Imagine 2020 initiative more than 13,000 students in the Lincoln, Madison and Pinkston feeder patterns in south and west Dallas are raising their academic achievement and success. In fact, we've already seen great increases in progress at schools like



Raul Quintanilla Sr. Middle School and J.J. Rhoads Learning Center. Dallas ISD is supporting that growth with the addition of more resources and support in more than 21 schools, an innovative curriculum and greater engagement of parents and the community.

The goal of Imagine 2020 is to support, innovate and engage our students with teaching and learning based on their needs. Here's how Imagine 2020

See DISD, Page 6

## Letter to the Editor: Is Wendy Davis taking Black and Brown voters for granted?

By Anthony Bond

Let me start by saying I support Wendy Davis for Governor. But, right now I feel totally disrespected by the Wendy Davis campaign.

The day she stood for hours on the floor of the State Senate in Austin and filibustered for a just cause that she and many Texans believed in, I instantly became a fan. I immediately reached out to her office in Austin and encouraged her to run for

Governor, but got no response. I continued to call and email her various offices before she announced she was running, and many times after too — again with no response.

I let her know in my messages that I am the Founder and Past President of the Irving NAACP and currently am a very active community activist that has worked with many others here in Irving. I shared that I have helped to put together a very diverse and active political coalition that rep-

resents thousands of voters here in Irving. But again, still got no response from the Wendy Davis Campaign.

As a Black voter, I am dismayed that even Wendy Davis, my grassroots heroine, is apparently like most politicians lately who take the Black and Brown vote for granted just because they are a Democrat. Now on the other hand, I have been receiving request after request incessantly to

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## REPUBLICANS, continued from Page 1

Early on, Republicans chided President Obama that he could not blame everything on Bush. Now Republicans have a problem, because going forward, it will be difficult to blame this president. Republican strategy so far is to be anti-Obama. So it means they cannot claim any success in the economy.

So far, payroll employment in the private sector has returned. The federal deficit is half its size, relative to the economy, from when the president took office. The broadest measure of economic growth, GDP per capital (the total value of all goods and services produced in the United States per person) is back to its peak too. The stock market is at record highs. Corporate profits are at a record high, as well. Business investment has returned to its previous peak, as well. The key components of the economy that Republican policies aim at are all back to record levels.

Going forward, what is it the Republican Party has to sell to America? At the moment, the president is selling a vision and set of policies to address the unequal growth of the recovery.

Incomes and wealth are back for the 1 percent, but not for the 99 percent. Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.), after blaming inner-city men for having a culture of laziness, put forth a budget this week that aims to help the 1 percent. The message of his budget for the 99 percent is that they will benefit if the top 1 percent receives even more favors from the government while cutting assistance to the bottom 20 percent.

That sell is tough. So far only the top 1 percent is gaining. If you think the problem facing the 99 percent is that the 1 percent needs even more before everyone else benefits, then you could buy the Republican plan. Or, as the Republicans hope, if you think people in the middle are better off if people on the bottom lose, then you could buy their plan. This is the limb Republicans have climbed out on.

The problem for the Republicans is that the children of the middle are facing low wages, the lack of employer-provided health insurance and they need help like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to hold on. Families also are increasingly depend-

ent on fair wages for women to make ends meet.

In the 1980s, when policies like gutting the purchasing power of the minimum wage hurt the bottom 20 percent, the middle did not make gains on those at the top. Instead, they merely did better than the bottom. The wages of the middle are far more dependent on how the bottom 20 percent does than on what happens to pay in the CEO office. The past 35 years make that clear. When the middle saw rising incomes from 1946 to 1979, the bottom saw rising incomes. The pay of those in the middle ultimately is a bargain on how low the bottom goes, not a bargain based on the idea of CEOs that workers need a raise when CEOs exercise their stock options. Young workers understand their bargaining position is weak because of the high cost of losing a job.

Broad-based, inclusive growth helps everyone. Increasingly, this is clear to Washington and the international elite. It looks like this is a moment when sentiment and facts line up. Or is the way off the limb for Republicans a hope that Democrats will flinch if the rhetoric turns to lazy inner-city men?

Follow Spriggs on Twitter:



# UCLA study shows a junk food diet increases fatigue

By Stuart Wolpert, UCLA

A new UCLA psychology study provides evidence that being overweight makes people tired and sedentary — not the other way around.

Life scientists led by UCLA's Aaron Blaisdell placed 32 female rats on one of two diets for six months. The first, a standard rat's diet, consisted of relatively unprocessed foods like ground corn and fish meal. The ingredients in the second were highly processed, of lower quality and included substantially more sugar — a proxy for a junk food diet.

After just three months, the researchers observed a significant difference in the amount of weight the rats had gained, with the 16 on the junk food diet having become noticeably fatter.

"One diet led to obesity, the other didn't," said Blaisdell, a professor of psychology in the UCLA College of Letters and Science and a member of UCLA's Brain Research Institute.

The experiments the researchers performed, Blaisdell said, also suggest that

fatigue may result from a junk food diet.

As part of the study, the rats were given a task in which they were required to press a lever to receive a food or water reward. The rats on the junk food diet demonstrated impaired performance, taking substantially longer breaks than the lean rats before returning to the task. In a 30-minute session, the overweight rats took breaks that were nearly twice as long as the lean ones.

The research is currently online and is scheduled for publication in the April 10 print edition of the journal *Physiology and Behavior*.

After six months, the rats' diets were switched, and the overweight rats were given the more nutritious diet for nine days. This change, however, didn't help reduce their weight or improve their lever responses.

The reverse was also true: Placing the lean rats on the junk food diet for nine days didn't increase their weight noticeably or result in any reduction in their motivation on the lever task. These findings suggest that a pattern of consuming junk

food, not just the occasional binge, is responsible for obesity and cognitive impairments, Blaisdell said.

"There's no quick fix," he noted.

What are the implications for humans? Do people who are overweight become less healthy or do less healthy people become overweight?

"Overweight people often get stigmatized as lazy and lacking discipline," Blaisdell said. "We interpret our results as suggesting that the idea commonly portrayed in the media that people become fat because they are lazy is wrong. Our data suggest that diet-induced obesity is a cause, rather than an effect, of laziness. Either the highly processed diet causes fatigue or the diet causes obesity, which causes fatigue."

Blaisdell believes the findings are very likely to apply to humans, whose physiological systems are similar to rats'. Junk food diets make humans — and rats — hungrier, he said.

In addition, the researchers found that the rats on the junk food diet grew large numbers of tumors throughout their bodies by

the end of the study. Those on the more nutritious diet had fewer and small tumors that were not as widespread.

Blaisdell, 45, changed his diet more than five years ago to eat "what our human ancestors ate." He avoids processed food, bread, pasta, grains and food with added sugar. He eats meats, seafood, eggs, vegetables and fruits, and he has seen dramatic improvements in his health, both physically and mentally.

"I've noticed a big improvement in my cognition," he said. "I'm full of energy throughout the day,

and my thoughts are clear and focused."

An expert in animal cognition, Blaisdell conducts research that addresses the relationship between health and lifestyle (diet and exercise) and the relationship between a junk food diet and cognitive impairments it may induce.

"We are living in an environment with sedentary lifestyles, poor-quality diet and highly processed foods that is very different from the one we are adapted to through human evolution," he said. "It is that difference

that leads to many of the chronic diseases that we see today, such as obesity and diabetes."

Co-authors of the research are Yan Lam, Matthew Lau, Ekatherina Telminova and Boyang Fan, UCLA undergraduate students in Blaisdell's laboratory; Hwee Chee Lim, the manager of Blaisdell's lab; Cynthia D. Fast, a UCLA graduate student in the lab; Dennis Garlick, a postdoctoral scholar in the lab; and David Pendergrass, a biology professor at the University of Kansas.

## LETTER, continued from Page 3

monetarily contribute to the Wendy Davis Campaign. Com'on Wendy!

I reached out to someone I know in Plano that finally gave me a name of a person who supposedly was working for the Wendy Davis Campaign in Irving. After several attempts to text, call and email this person, I finally spoke to her and was told she does not handle Irving and that someone who covers Irving would call me. That person finally did leave me a voice message saying that he understood that I would be walking a neighborhood in Irving for Wendy. What? I have never even talked to anyone about how I may be able to help the Wendy Davis Campaign. And that is exactly why I feel totally disrespected and severely disap-

ported in Wendy Davis.

My question to her is: If you treat your ardent sup-

porters, like me, like this, how do you believe you can win because many who you disrespect will not vote for you?

## Easter Egg Hunt

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up to  
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Saturday, April 19, 2014, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., on the grounds next to the funeral home -- hunt will start at Noon -- Eggs, Candy, Free Hot Dogs and Drinks.

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## Little Elm Farmer's Market now accepting vendor applications

LITTLE ELM — Building on its highly successful first year, the Little Elm Farmers' Market is returning for what promises to be another fruitful season, opening May 10 and running continuously until Oct. 18, at the parking lot of Hobby Lobby, according to Chad Hyde, Director of Parks and Recreation.

"We're extremely grateful to Hobby Lobby for the use of a portion of their parking lot where we were last year, and where we'll be this year," he said.

The market will be open every Saturday

from 8 a.m. to noon in the parking area of the Little Elm Towne Crossing shopping center, facing Hobby Lobby, 2700 Eldorado Parkway.

"Right now, we're still accepting applications from area growers and producers of vegetables, fruits, nuts, seeds and grains, as well as food specialty products like jams, jellies, spices, condiments, cheeses, eggs and meats," he said.

Vendor information and more details are available online at the city's Web site: [www.littleelm.org](http://www.littleelm.org).

## Why did the *Dallas Morning News* single out ALL TEMPS 1 Personnel?

Ron Hay of ALL TEMPS 1 Personnel issued a statement this week demanding a retraction from the *Dallas Morning News* in light of the "Temp firm has inside track" (DMN – March 16, 2014).

Hay feels like his company was picked out to be picked on by the daily.

"If the intent of your 'ex-

posé" was to ferret out the questionable behavior of others or even to question the existence of the North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency (NCTRCA), there has to have been a way to do this without the libelous inclusion of my company in your story. Our record of growth and expansion in both public

and private sector contracting is impeccable, and is reflective of my own personal standard of integrity."

The *North Dallas Gazette* will have a follow-up story on the certification matter in an upcoming issue. Meanwhile visit [www.NorthDallasGazette.com](http://www.NorthDallasGazette.com) to read Ray's scathing response to DMN's story.

# Is Dallas still a divided city?



### Curtis Report

by Barry Curtis

When we talk about the large issues facing Dallas, we inevitably speak about north and south. Our politics and economic developments all face the age old quagmire of South Dallas versus the northern part of Dallas. It's the sad state of this cities continued and sometimes bitter struggle for political and economic dominance.

Give or take a mile or two, Interstate 30 seems to be the line of demarcation. That's the Mason-Dixon of the city.

Downtown Dallas rest firmly in the northern cor-

ridor of the divided city. It's as if it is the Jerusalem of Dallas. A downtown shared by both the sophisticated upwardly mobile and affluent elements of the north and, the hip risk-taking urbanites of the south.

If you watch the faces of downtown Dallas you can see the concerned and inquisitive looks on the faces of the quickly moving visitors of the contested downtown area. They must be asking, do they dress like me? Look like me? Do they use bar soap or a liquid pump? Would it be briefs or boxers? Are they democratic or republican? Did they drive to downtown or ride the bus? These questions are all critical to determine if that person

scurrying about downtown is from the north or south.

Let me see, did that person pay in cash or use a credit card? Because we all know that there are fewer credit cards in south Dallas. That person walking across Main Street has a shopping bag. Is it from Macy's or Wal-Mart? You know the obvious difference there. Where do they eat lunch, the spot that actually has a valet or a drive thru window? You make the call.

By this point in this commentary you must be at least confused and a little ticked off. Is the author trying to be funny? Is the author serious? Well, perhaps both. Can you honestly deny much validity to this? Is there a divide in Dallas?

**Early Voting: April 28-May 6**  
**Election Day: May 10**

Early Voting Locations:	Election Day Voting Locations:
• Irving Arts Center	• MacArthur High
• Irving City Hall	• Irving High
	• Irving Fire Station #8
	• L B Barton Elementary
	• AS Johnston Elementary
	• Thomas Haley Elem.
	• JR Good Elementary
	• Mustang Park Rec.

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For directions and more information, visit us online at [www.AntiochChurchFamily.org](http://www.AntiochChurchFamily.org)



# Landry ready to take on issues affecting Irving ISD

By Jackie Hardy  
NDG Contributing Writer

On May 10, Irving residents will go to the polls with early voting beginning on April 28 through May 6.

In this upcoming Irving Independent School District (IISD) election cycle, only voters living in District 2 will be able to vote for the school board District 2 seat as it is a single-member voting district.

Garrett Landry and his wife, Loretta have been a resident of Irving just over three years.

Landry spoke with *North Dallas Gazette* via a phone interview regarding this upcoming election.

"I really want to make sure that every child is provided with the opportunity to attain a high quality education regardless of where they come from or their background," comments Landry.

Presently, Landry works for Teaching Trust, an education non-profit organization, as a Policy

Program Coordinator.

"In my current role, I work directly with principals and teachers everyday so I understand the needs of educators, the needs of campuses ...," adds Landry.

Landry has overseen a national student leadership program; executed a pilot program with Big Brothers and Big Sisters (BBBS) when he served locally as Chief of Staff for Justice of the Peace; and knows education policy.

He states, "I have a policy background in education so I understand education policy very well and that's a big function of the school board."

Landry feels some of the pertinent issues facing the District in this upcoming election is continuing to raise the bar for student



Garrett Landry

achievement and academics through innovative and creative ways as well as improve teacher morale and teacher retention.

"We have one of the highest ranking salaries of any district in North Texas and our teachers are leaving," exclaims Landry.

He expressed his concerns with teachers not having the freedom to teach.

"Teachers are no longer allowed to teach; they are dictated how they have to teach, what they have to teach, and when they have to put on the board."

He feels there is no one-size fits all approach to education; and teachers, in addition to principals should be given the flexibility to make decisions that best suit the needs of their respective classrooms and/or campuses.

Landry also feels strongly that the District needs to make sure 100 percent of the parents who have children where English is a second language are properly edu-

cated and informed on all available language options when entering the school system and also feels there needs to be a balance of students being proficient in English as well as in their core subjects (*i.e.*, math, science) in reducing high school drop-out rates.

"It's been my experience that kids that are completely proficient in English but have fallen behind in their (core) studies are just as likely to drop out as someone who doesn't speak the language," he adds.

Landry also shared his thoughts on the District becoming more intentional about reaching out to the community at-large (*i.e.*, parents, faith-based groups, etc) as well as continuing their efforts in building relationships with local businesses to help prepare high school students with skills and business connections leading to possible employment.

Expanding access to AP classes and the Signature Studies, which according to the District's web-

site, is a rigorous program of study students participate in, maintaining a schedule of core curriculum classes while focusing on their chosen area of interest were a few of the ideas Landry offered in helping the District accomplish college readiness/acceptance.

*North Dallas Gazette* also posed some questions regarding issues that are unique to the minority community (*i.e.*, equal allocation of MWBE contracts, fair administering of discipline to minority students, and closing the achievement gap among minority students).

"More transparency and ease of information," Landry discusses as ways the board can ensure MWBE's are getting fair bidding opportunities for contracts. He feels there are things that the District can do to incentivize bids and contracts for minority- and

See LANDRY, Page 16

## DISD, continued from Page 3

is doing that:

At the elementary level, we provide support and resources with an emphasis on ensuring that students can demonstrate and implement lessons.

To help keep lessons fresh and effective, several schools have introduced blended learning, a method that mixes skilled classroom teachers with online content using special software that reinforces the lessons. Specifically, sixth and ninth grade students are

provided Chromebooks (think laptops) to work on assignments aligned with both their current and targeted skill levels.

Imagine 2020 also places a strong focus on one of the most challenging groups in K-12 education – middle school students. We've implemented an accelerated instruction program at both Edison and Dade middle schools that helps students two or more years behind their grade level not only catch up to their peers, but

also succeed in the future.

These efforts will create a groundswell of high achievers that will populate Lincoln, Madison and Pinkston high schools. To ensure it, we offer in-school, personalized tutoring where students identified with high-needs work either one-on-one or in small groups with qualified tutors during the school day. The tutors focus on reading at the elementary level and math at the secondary level. To keep the momentum, an extended school day option is available for students at all three grade levels.

For these changes to be effective, we are providing students the attention and individual support they need.

There are more psychologists, and urban specialists at Imagine 2020 middle and high schools, complemented by assistant principals, department chairs and team leaders with roles that allow them to not only focus on students, but to support each other through team teaching and coaching.

Imagine 2020 supports our belief that all Dallas ISD students can learn and achieve. We are focusing re-

sources and quality teaching in our south and west Dallas schools like never

before.

The time is now for our students to succeed.



**Rose**  
**CANNADAY**

**Irving City Council - Place 5**

**VOTE ON ELECTION DAY! SATURDAY, MAY 10TH**

EARLY VOTING: APRIL 28TH - MAY 6TH

• Irving City Hall • Valley Ranch Library  
• Irving Arts Center

CONTACT THE CAMPAIGN

w: www.RoseCannaday.com

p: 972.885.6280

e: campaign@RoseCannaday.com

Post Ads: Put Ad by Rose Cannaday Campaign: Lowell Cannaday, Treasurer • 104 W. Northgate • Irving, TX 75062

**Young Sung**  
for Carrollton City Council Place 2  
*New Voice and Vision*

### Community Involvement

- 30-plus year Carrollton resident
- Fluent in both English and Korean
- Active member of the Korean Chamber of Commerce
- Children attend Killian Middle School and Carrollton Christian Academy



### Professional Accomplishments

- Court Interpreter and Mediator
- Real Estate Broker
- Department of Justice Language consultant
- Holds an MBA degree
- Endorsed by the Korean Chamber of Commerce
- Former an All American collegiate soccer nominee
- Interpreter/Translator for Korean World Cup National Soccer Team in 1994

"My family came to America for a better life. I am living the American dream and have been blessed beyond description. I now want to give back to this community. I offer international business contacts and insights that will help Carrollton get more jobs. I ask for your vote on May 10th and look forward to serving you."

**Young Sung**

Pol adv pd for by Young Sung



## South Irving Task Force - North Dallas Gazette

## Irving Candidates Forum

**Irving City Council****Introducing the candidates...****Mayor's Race****Herbert Gears**

Although born in Cleveland, Texas and raised in Huffman, I chose Irving as my permanent home over 31 years ago. During my 12 years of service as an elected official, leadership and teamwork succeeded in making life better for the people in our City. It is time we recognize how we further benefit our community by making life better for our elderly. We can eliminate property taxes for seniors, a 2% impact to our budget, without raising taxes or cutting any services.

**Beth Van Duyne**

Did not submit response.

**Irving City Council District 5****Rose Cannaday**

Rose has been a strong supporter of the City's business community backing efforts to bring new business, jobs, and investment to Irving. She has championed the development of the Entertainment Venue, the Convention Center, the Convention Center Hotel, the completion of the DART light rail to the DFW airport, the



Heritage District, and the City's Transit Oriented Developments. She has also led in the planning and development of four new technological advanced libraries in Irving, understanding the need of community access to these services.

**Oscar Ward**

Oscar, candidate for Irving City Council, place 5 is a retired General Manager/Engineer in the building and materials industry and resident of Irving for 47 years.



He is married to Kaye Ward and they have two sons and four grandchildren. Utilizing both his engineering and financial analysis background; he was involved in both the water conservation and reuse solutions for cement manufacturing processes including; ready-mix concrete; aggregate mining processing; and concrete structural and masonry products.

**Irving City Council District 3**

**Irving City Council Candidate's Forum Part II will be featured in the April 17 issue.**

**Irving City Council candidate questions**

**Do you favor replacing the envisioned regional library system with neighborhood libraries? If so, how?**

**HG:** I would hope that the City would follow the direction desired by the various volunteer citizens groups like the Library Board, the Friends of the Irving Library, and others. We have a wealth of experience and knowledge in our citizenry and we should serve them in their passion to have the best library system possible for the users.

**RC:** When Patty Landers was still the Department head of the Irving Library system, I took a leadership role with Patty and other members of the city staff in analyzing Irving's library system. Together this group flew to California to visit the technologically advanced libraries and see what could be done to advance our library system into the 21st century. Due to the shape of the city, an idea was conceived to build a four library, stand alone system that would serve every citizen in the city: both adult and children. Library accessibility for everyone was a key factor. I do support the regional system and it is allowing us to provide the latest technology, programs, books, etc., for everyone. Money is always the issue on what you can provide, however, if there proves to be an area in south Irving that is unable to access the south library, then I strongly support addressing that issue and finding a resolution.

**OW:** The "regional" library systems is a concept that is now a reality as defined by the four (4) libraries, new South Irving (under construction), East Branch, Valley Ranch Branch, and West Irving Branch. The decision was made by the council to spend the money on a new South Irving Library instead of the neighborhood

libraries. The thought was that some of the neighborhood libraries were not utilized as much and that we could have more resources if we centralized. The decision has been made and I don't believe that it will be addressed again in the near future.

**Provide specific ideas as to how you will bring economic development to South Irving.**

**HG:** We should continue to invest in infrastructure upgrades including completing the north/south BNSF rail line which will connect our south Irving TRE station to the DART Orange Line in Las Colinas,

all the way to Denton and all points in between. The City should support developments and initiatives that attract people into south Irving, using institutional resources when it makes sense to do so.

**RC:** To attract new business and developers, you first have to create an atmosphere that is attractive for them to invest their money.

During my 7 years on city council, I have worked to address city code issues, tear down rat/roach infested apartments, create a schedule to replace water and sewer lines, put electrical lines underground whenever possible, focus on street repair and replacement, and set strong archi-

tectural and sign ordinances.

Our city is recovering from the recession, and working with the chamber, I have met with restaurant owners and other small business owners in attracting them to our city.

The Hines Development Company is set to build new homes at Delaware Creek and 6Th street ranging from \$250,000 to \$350,000. I am also working to develop the property by the Senior Citizens Center with homes for seniors or empty nesters over 55. The property by the Whistle Stop is prime for a high-end apartment complex. Bringing more density to the area with disposable income will provide the demographics

See IRVING, Page 8

## Sister Tarpley Thinks You Should Share Your Milestone Events



Sister Tarpley enjoys writing for the North Dallas Gazette and sharing special events and memorable occasions that positively affect our lives. We are excited to bring you the **North Dallas Gazette's Church Happenings**, where we share news and photos from the community of faith in Dallas.

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*North Dallas*  
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## IRVING, continued from Page 7

that attract new business.

**OW:** There are several projects in the planning stages to bring economic developments to South Irving. They are the single family homes in the Delaware Creek area, the Gateway proposal effecting both Irving Blvd. and 2nd Street, a Heritage District Farmer's Market with gourmet food trucks, entertainment, etc. between Main Street and Britain adjacent to the TRE tracks (Rambler Newspaper, Reference date 2/8/2014) for more details). In the interest of transparency, I am an investor in that proposal.

### What is your plan for bringing all roadways in Irving up to the same standard?

**HG:** With almost 70 square miles of City, roadway maintenance and improvement is a constant consideration that consumes more and more of our Capital Improvement Plan budget. Older roadways, although not exclusively, are mostly in south Irving which requires a greater level of investment. My plan is to make sure we understand the relationship between roadways and the quality of life in our neighborhoods and act accordingly with our resources.

**RC:** In 2007 a strategic plan was created and part of that plan was focused on the repair and replacement of streets and roadways, as well as streetscapes, pocket parks to enhance the appearance. We have done a lot in South Irving but more is still left to accomplish. The plan is in place, but money is always the issue on how much we can do each year. My primary focus on council has been the retention of our businesses and attraction of new business. These companies pay 73% of our tax base. If we can retain and attract new business and developments, it will generate new taxes which in turn allows us to do more sooner with our city streets.

**OW:** The city maintains a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that includes a schedule to upgrade and repair roads and streets over a specified period of time. At times the schedule may be interrupted to focus on unexpected emergencies as our infrastructure is aging. All new street replacement construction is built to new current standards.

### What is your schedule for up-

### grading Twin Wells Municipal Golf Course and what should those upgrades be?

**HG:** It is time we address the needs of our only public golf course. The best path would include the involvement of the users and their ideas of what improvements are needed.

**RC:** As I recall two bonds were passed in 1990 and 2000 worth a total of \$3 million dollars to upgrade the Twin Wells Municipal Golf Course. To date the bonds have not been sold.

The city opted to lease out the golf course to an individual who has never had the funds to care properly for the course and as a result it continues to operate in poor condition. The course is located in the flood plain and also part of it on top of a landfill. The county did some work to try and alleviate the flooding, but it only takes 1" to 1 1/2" to render the course unable to play. Since the lease option is not working, in my opinion I would prefer the city take back the operation of the course, sell the bonds available, and finally do the right thing by upgrading the course. If it met the standards of other surrounding municipal courses, the membership would grow in use and membership.

**OW:** There is \$1.75 million bond money available to fund certain upgrades including both the club/pro shop and the course itself. A study is currently underway by the Parks and Recreation (P/R) to finalize the design and estimates for the construction and we expect an update sometimes in the month of April.

### What will you do to restore cohesiveness and cooperation in the City Council?

**HG:** Leadership and teamwork were hallmarks of my previous service as a City Council member and as Mayor. Our City accomplished many great things with cohesiveness and cooperation including building our Heritage Senior Center, our Animal Care Campus and Dog Park, our Irving Health Clinic, our Champion Trail system, and our Irving Convention Center. Working together is the only way we can accomplish what we believe is for the greater good of the community.

### Rose Cannaday

This is the most difficult question of all. The mayor of our city has not been transparent and works in private without consulting the city council. When there is no collaboration or openness, this creates a division in the council. While the charter explicitly states the mayor is one vote, the mayor acts autonomously when off pursuing an agenda. In the case of the Cowboys, it was never brought to the council for discussion and in the case of hiring a new city manager; most of the council was not included. Then there are many surprises that show up on the agenda and no discussion has taken place leading up to it being put on the agenda.

I show up every meeting with an open mind and a focus on taking care of the citizens. I am a mediator by profession, so I am trained to work, listen and build consensus, but I can't turn a blind eye to a situation when something is inherently wrong.

Trust is a big factor in a relationship and it has been broken. How do you fix that? It's almost impossible.

**OW:** I was glad this question was addressed since the topic of civility is one important reason I decided to run for City Council. I have the temperament and personality to encourage fellow council members to carefully listen to each other's point of view. While council members will not agree with each other on every issue; they should listen and refrain from personal attacks, especially in the City Council and Work Session Meetings.

I will sign the new Ethics policy and pledge to recuse myself from any conflict of interest.

### Irving Independent School District

#### Introducing the candidates...

#### Irving ISD Board of Trustees District 12

#### Nell Anne Hunt

Since 1971 I have lived in Irving. My daughters attended Irving schools. I was very involved in the schools when my children attended, but I have stayed involved because I think it is the most important thing we can get right for the success of our country.

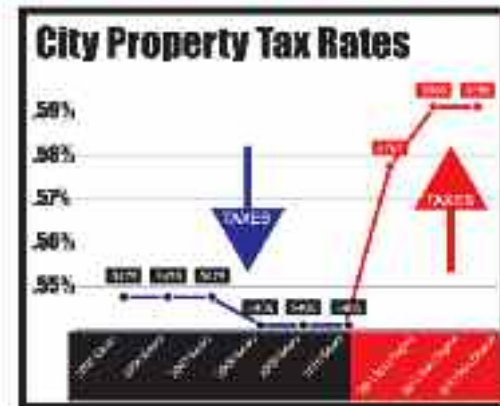


See CANDIDATES, Page 9

## THE WRONG DIRECTION

In the last 3 years...

**Our City has taken a turn for the worse!**



After being promised the opposite...

**The City of Irving increased spending by \$15 million and raised taxes by 11%**

...In just 3 years!



\* All Data Taken from the City of Irving Official Website.

## A BETTER DIRECTION

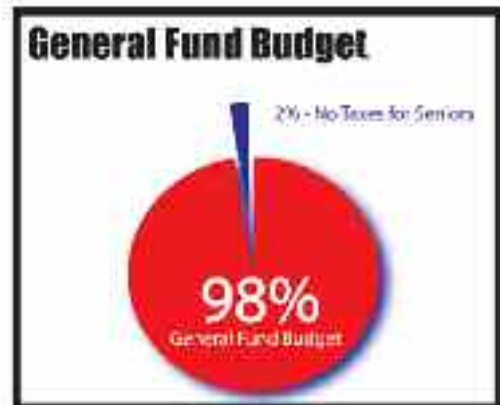
Leadership and Teamwork

With Herbert Gears Serving as Mayor, the City of Irving:

- reduced spending by \$15 Million and
- lowered taxes by 1.5%!

**We MUST Restore What has Been Absent for the Last 3 Years—Leadership and Teamwork**

Gear's current proposal to cut taxes by \$5.2 million will minimally impact the City budget.



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





## CANDIDATES, continued from Page 8

I have been honored by the Irving Schools Foundation as a Fellow. I chaired a fundraiser for the Foundation, and I served on the Board. I have been in leadership positions all over the city, and I was the founder of the Great Flag Caper that places thousands of American flags all over Our Town on the 4th of July.

### Garrett Landry

Garrett has dedicated his career to youth development, including at-risk students within IISD, piloting mentorship programs aimed at truancy prevention, as well as heading up a national leadership development program for high school students. Currently, Garrett works for Teaching Trust, an education non-profit, working to provide leadership and professional development to teachers and principals. Garrett and his wife, Loretta, residents of the Historic Hospital District, have committed their lives to the betterment of kids and teens. Loretta, a Baylor faculty member, works to fight child hunger in North Texas. Garrett serves on the IISD Strategic Planning Committee, the Irving YMCA Board, and coaches young athletes



challenge of becoming bilingual. It is important to meet the needs of every single student and encourage their parents to be involved.

**GL:** We need to ensure students are both proficient in their coursework and proficient in English, by the time they exit the dual language program. We as a district cannot sacrifice either focus as it is paramount to the achievement of the student. Students need to be exited from a dual language program at the moment they are able to achieve equally in both languages. Lastly, we need to make sure our parents are properly educated on ALL the language options for their children, including immersion.

### What is your position on the use of school campuses after hours for public meetings and activities?

**NH:** I think using the buildings after hours is a good use of taxpayer investment. I do think the charge should be enough to cover the actual expense plus give some extra for the school.

**GL:** The strength of our community and the bond each neighborhood has with its local school is paramount to the success of our District. As taxpayers, the public (as long the content is not something counter to the mission of the City or District) should be able to use IISD facilities, and only have to pay for the staff required for the meeting or event, if provided by IISD. It is in the best interest of the District to fully engage our community within our schools and vice versa, and the process should be simple, with as little cost as possible.

### Are you willing to bring Irving's tru-

### ancy cases back to the Irving JP Court from the Grand Prairie JP Court?

**NH:** Yes.

**GL:** Yes. There are a number of reasons it is more appropriate for "Failure to Attend School" and "Parent Contributing to

Truancy" cases to be filed in the Irving JP Court, as they had been until the 2012-2013 school year. Most important of which, is there are ZERO public transportation options in Grand Prairie, putting an undue burden on our families in Irving trying to get to court. When Court is missed due to lack of transportation, a "Failure to Appear" case is issued, furthering the burden. Ulti-

mately these cases should be heard in the Truancy Court system.

### Describe what you know about the IISD homeless population, including the extent of it, the conditions, and your recommendations to improve the situation.

**NH:** The solutions for the homeless population are complex. I believe the schools should attempt to educate the children, but the myriad of other services needed are best left to social agencies.

**GL:** According to the U.S. Department of Education, last year there were

See FORUM, Page 13

**Important Dates**

**April 10**  
Last day to register to vote

**April 28**  
First day of early voting

**May 6**  
Last day of early voting

**Saturday May 10**  
Election Day

**VOTE EARLY AND TAKE SOMEONE WITH YOU**

**Solid Dependable Leadership for Irving**

- Served as one of two Irving representatives on the Community Service Block Grant Board of Directors for the Urban League of Greater Dallas.
- Served 6 years on the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Irving. Re-appointed to a second term November 2010
- Served on the Mayors Human Relations Advisory Committee (Mayor Herb Green)
- Was part of two delegations representing the City of Irving in the All American City award contests in Atlanta Georgia and Louisville Kentucky
- Founder and present Pastor of the Bear Creek Community Church 2001 Finley Rd. Irving Texas. Served as the non-elected secular pastor for 18 years.
- Implemented the Bear Creek Community Church Summer Math, Reading and Writing enrichment program for Irving youth. Was recipient of the IISD Golden Apple Award for support of IISD youth.
- One of several organizers and former President of the Grand Prairie Firefighters Association
- Served on the Trustee Board of the Renaissance Charter School
- One of the founders of the Bear Creek Development Corporation (First Community Housing Development Corporation in the City of Irving)

# RE-ELECT Webb

**ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF DISTRICT 3 AND THE ENTIRE CITY OF IRVING**

*"In my first term I learned a lot about municipal government that will enable me to be an even more effective council member next term. It's important we elect experienced leadership to guide Irving's future in this very competitive environment."*

**Some first term achievement I Initiated**

- Initiated a \$125k dollar renovation of a substandard park in district 3 (Doris Park)
- Responsible for Fire Dept. EMS personnel covering IISD Stadium during High School football games instead of private contractor, saving the IISD money and providing more efficient service.
- Prevented the closing of Sam Houston and Austin middle school recreation centers
- Pushed for LCG lawsuit mediation/settlement
- Organized and chairs the new Council Public Safety Committee
- Worked to increase the Therapeutic program (program for disabled residents) from 3 days a week to 5 days a week starting the summer session
- Established, hosted, and personally funded the first of 4 citizen's water tours of the city's water utility system. (7 hour tour)
- Working with staff to create a new boarding home ordinance to address rehabilitation homes coming to Irving.
- Help establish the first sustainable Community Garden in Irving on my church property
- Part of delegation to accept the Malcom Baldrige Presidential Award in Baltimore MD.

**Thank You for your Vote In 2011.** District 3 voters gave me a 63% victory in my first term. As you can see from some of the accomplishments above I have been focused on the community despite the tremendous amount of time and effort the other duties the office entails. I desire to return to the council to continue my advocacy for district three and initiate new ideas that will benefit Irving.

**TO DONATE**

Make checks payable to:  
Dennis Webb Campaign  
520 Gilbert Rd. Irving, Texas 75061

For Campaign Sign call 972-849-8421 or email at webbdennis7@gmail.com

"Pol. adv. Paid for by Dennis Webb Campaign, Monica Tidwell Treasurer"

- Born November 10, 1958; Jefferson Texas. Age 55
- Married for 31 years to Lydia Webb.
- Blessed with three children (Danae Jo, Robert, Myka) and 5 grand children (Kymberl, Dameron, Henrykel, Ryland and Dae)
- Graduated from Surtex High School in 1977
- Attended Southern Bible Institute 1987-1989
- Attended Criswell Bible College in Dallas Texas 1991-1996
- Retired from the City of Grand Prairie Fire Department (18 years) Served 20 years as a Lieutenant
- Founder and Senior Pastor of the Bear Creek Community Church, Irving Texas (18 years)
- Has lived in the same home in district 3 for 31 years.

### Irving ISD Candidate Questions

### What is your view of how best for dual language programs to work?

**NH:** The dual language programs should be evaluated on an individual basis. It is very important for a child's success to speak English, and the younger the better. Native English speakers often like the chal-



# Antioch Christian Church CommunityFest 2014 slated for Saturday



*Pastor Norris McGill and wife Tonya*

Serving the community is at the heart of the purpose for the ACC CommunityFest 2014 scheduled this Saturday at Antioch Christian Church in Irving.

“Our ministry exists in our community to serve the people in it, Pastor Norris McGill shared. “The ACC CommunityFest is our way of giving back to everyone in the community. Every-

thing is free.” This includes not only free food, but also free medical exams and a free clothing giveaway.

"It's the best way we know how to truly display the love of Jesus to everyone who comes. The members of Antioch personally sacrifice possessions time and talent to make this event a success. We invite everyone to come out and

be a part of this great event and witness the true spirit of giving," Pastor McGill added.

The ACC CommunityFest 2014 kicks off on Saturday, April 12 from 10

a.m. – 1 p.m. at Antioch  
Christian Church, located at  
2041 W. Walnut Hill Road  
in Irving.

For more information,  
email [info@antiochchurch-  
family.org](mailto:info@antiochchurch-family.org).

# Dallas Theater Center's 2014-15 season will feature world premiere of Stagger Lee

Dallas Theater Center Artistic Director Kevin Moriarty announced today the theater's 2014-2015 season, which will take place at the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre at the AT&T Performing Arts Center and the Kalita Humphreys Theater on Turtle Creek. DTC's 2014-2015 season will expand from its current seven productions to nine total productions next season. In addition to popular musicals, comedies and dramas, DTC is producing two world premieres and launching a new multi-year classical theater initiative.

Dallas audiences will be the first to see the world premiere musical *Stagger*



*The upcoming season will feature the world premiere of Stagger Lee from DTC's Playwright-in-Residence Will Power's*

Lee, by DTC's Playwright-in-Residence Will Power and Justin Ellington, directed by Patricia McGregor, with music supervision by Daryl Waters. It reboots

the legendary tales of Stagger Lee, Frankie and Johnny, and Long Lost John with an original score that celebrates the history of African-American music.

throughout the 20th century. Stagger Lee was developed in collaboration with The Meadows School of the Arts, Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas as a part of Will Power's Meadows Prize residency.

“Our 2014-2015 season will make use of DTC’s two incredible theatrical homes, both designed by award-winning architects – the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre at the AT&T Performing Arts Center and our historic home, the Kalita Humphreys Theater. These spaces will be filled with our most expansive season yet,” said Moriarty.

A campaign poster for Joyce Foreman, District 6 School Board member. The poster features a portrait of Joyce Foreman on the left, wearing a red jacket with a black collar. To her right, the text reads "ELECT JOYCE FOREMAN FOR DALLAS ISD SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 6". Below this, a bulleted list highlights her qualifications: Graduate of Dallas ISD, 30 years of service to Dallas ISD, Knowledgeable, Courageous, and Former Vice Chair of Dallas Area Rapid Transit and Executive Committee Member for Greater Dallas Chamber. At the bottom, it says "COMMITTED TO THE COMMUNITY, DEDICATED TO PROGRESS" and "THE PEOPLES SERVANT". The background shows a cityscape with a large American flag graphic at the top.

**Election May 10, 2014**

**ELECT JOYCE FOREMAN**  
**FOR DALLAS ISD  
SCHOOL BOARD  
DISTRICT 6**

- Graduate of Dallas ISD
- 30 years of service to Dallas ISD
- Knowledgeable
- Courageous
- Former Vice Chair of Dallas Area Rapid Transit and Executive Committee Member for Greater Dallas Chamber

**COMMITTED TO  
THE COMMUNITY,  
DEDICATED TO PROGRESS**

**"THE PEOPLES SERVANT"**

Admitted 10 years ago by Texas Political Campaigns to Dallas ISD School Board District 6, November 2004; Dallas, TX 75248

**LA MOVIDA BAR & GRILL**

A black and white photograph of a large bucket filled with ice and several beer bottles. To the right of the bucket is a woman in a bikini, looking upwards and to the side.

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## HOUSING, continued from Page 1

"Every time my move in date would come she would push it back again. I started to think something must be wrong. This doesn't sound right", James said. But she was determined and refused to lose hope or give up. "I'm not walking away. She's going to have to tell me no," James said.

In April of 2012 James lost her job causing the status of her application to change. After securing employment she informed Ramirez. But now Ramirez informed her she now had to wait six months after being on her current job before she could re-submit all of her paperwork.

Although James was employed she was not working a sufficient number of hours which she informed Ramirez. Ramirez indicated if James switched jobs she would have to start the process over again from the beginning. Although James was reluctant, she was left with no alternative as her current job was not enough to make ends meet.

In May of 2013 she was able to land gainful employment and immediately informed Ramirez. She was now told she would have to wait 30 days. More than two years had passed since James initially applied for a home. She was beginning to feel overwhelmed. Her relationship with her daughter's father began to deteriorate as a result of her having to constantly extend her stay far beyond what she originally stated.

James expressed to Ramirez she and her daughter were now living in a hostile environment and was concerned for their safety. Ramirez assured her every-

thing would be finalized and she and her daughter would without any doubt be able to move in their new home by Aug. 30.

After everything James had endured, switching jobs, home insecurity, she wanted to be positive nothing would fall through with her moving into her new home so she took extra precautions and kept in close contact with Ramirez.

In the beginning of August she called to check the status of things and was told she needed to provide additional paperwork, which she did. A couple of weeks later Ramirez told her HUD had all of the paperwork and she was just waiting for a response. A few days before Aug. 30, her expected close date, James received a call from Ramirez asking her to come to her office. The wait was finally over she thought.

James was anxious to meet with Ramirez as she was in desperate need of some good news. She and her daughter were abruptly forced to leave the place they had been living with practically the clothes on their back. When James and her daughter arrived at Ramirez's office she was surprised to see Ramirez's supervisor and the Director of Housing, Chris Hooper present as well. In her heart she knew the meeting would not go as she had hoped.

Ramirez informed her she would not be getting the home after all. The reason — one of the check stubs James submitted from her job only had one week of work as opposed to two.

Heartbroken and humiliated James stood up and

walked out of the office with her daughter who, unlike her was not able to hold back the tears. Looking up at her mother crying she asked, "Mom, are we homeless now?"

"Who does that? Who could be so cruel" asked James? "That is one person [Ramirez] who does not need to deal with people. She does not bring families together. She destroys them."

James feels that is exactly what Ramirez did, not only to her and her daughter, but her daughter's father as well. As a result of the animosity that was created during her extended stay, James says her daughter's father no longer has a healthy relationship with his daughter. He felt James was misleading him the entire time about the home and simply taking advantage of his kindness. In his mind, the process couldn't possibly take two years.

As a result of her experience with the City's Housing Department, James is still extremely distraught, as evident by her tears when we spoke. She says the ordeal has been a nightmare for her and her daughter. They are now living in a small one-bedroom apartment, saving and awaiting the opportunity to apply for a home from the Habitat for Humanity. James remains hopeful and encouraged. Partly because she has learned she is not alone in her experience.

Anthony Bond, community activist in Irving, shared, "I accompanied Ella James to the South West Regional Office in Fort Worth and agreed to be her representative in her Fair Housing Complaint she filed against the City of Ir-

ving's Housing and Human Services Department. It saddens me to no end to see a single Black Mom, struggling to raise a smart and beautiful daughter, be treated this way."

Laura Alfaro, a single parent and immigrant from Mexico applied for a HUD home under the City's Tudor Lane Project in March of 2013 and encountered almost an identical experience as James. According to Alfaro over a course of four months Ramirez gave her false hope that after she had completed her application and submitted certain paperwork she had been approved for a home.

Alfaro says Ramirez kept requesting additional paperwork. She scheduled a meeting with Alfaro and asked her to bring home insurance quotes, even gave her a closing date of Aug. 30 [just like James] leading her to believe the house was hers.

In July, when Alfaro met with Ramirez, things did not go at all how she anticipated. Instead of finalizing her home ownership process she was told she did not qualify due to her debt to income ratio being too high. Hearing this Alfaro felt angered and humiliated.

Based on the misinformation Ramirez had given her, she had informed her family and seven-year-old son they would be moving into their new home by the end of August. She even gave the apartment complex, where she was residing, a two-month notice and did not renew her lease.

Alfaro's, as well as James,' experience with the City's Housing Department and specifically Ramirez, has left quite an indelible stain on their memories.

However, apparently they are not alone. In fact, James says Ramirez told her she had been getting some bad press and asked if she would write a letter of approval, expressing how good of a job Ramirez was doing. She even asked James if anyone had approached her regarding her experience with her. Quite naturally, James declined Ramirez's request.

We contacted the City as well as Ramirez for a response regarding the allegations against them. Ramirez did not respond prior to the publication of this story, however the City's Manager of Communications and Media Relations, Meribeth Sloan sent the following statement:

"The city firmly asserts the allegations are entirely lacking in merit and truth. The City of Irving remains committed to placing qualified families in the Tudor Lane Homes," according to Chris Hooper, Senior Director, Community Resources,

City of Irving.

Both Ella and Laura have filed formal HUD complaints against the City's Housing Department and Ramirez, and, have spoken to HUD investigators.

Accountability is what these two women want from the City's Housing Department. Public records show that as of this printing, the pre-existing home and town homes Ella and Laura were approved for by Ramirez, are still owned by the City of Irving and remain vacant.

Their American Dream may have been temporarily delayed by the City's Housing Department and Ramirez's actions, but these two women will still strive to become homeowners one day.

*If you have or know of anyone who has had a similar experience with the City of Irving Housing Department contact us. We would love to hear your story.*

## VAZQUEZ, continued from Page 2

aster relief, 52 counterdrug, 13 bay patrol and 12 homeland security sorties. In addition, his emergency services experience includes service as an incident commander for 21 missions.

He is also an FAA commercial-rated glider instruc-

tor pilot and has given more than 250 cadet glider orientation rides.

Vazquez was one of 10 applicants for the position. Candidates were required to be a CAP member in good standing, hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited

college or university and have completed Level V of the CAP Professional Development Program.

"Gen. Vazquez's lifelong commitment to Civil Air Patrol has focused on leadership positions of increased responsibility," said retired U.S. Air Force Maj.

Gen. John Spiegel, BoG chairman.

"As such, he is fully prepared to lead CAP as the new CEO/national commander. The members of the board of governors look forward to working with him as we address the future challenges of CAP."

### McCarthy Building Companies

McCarthy requests bids for the UTSW Site & Parking Garages Parking Control Eqpt be submitted before 2:00 pm Thursday, April 17, 2014.

Bid documents are available for review at McCarthy's Private iSqFt planroom and other area Plan rooms. For a complete list contact McCarthy.

A payment and performance bond will be required. A prebid date / time is TBD.

McCarthy is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages all MBE/WBE/DBE/HUB firms to submit bids to:

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3329 Country Club West

Irving Islamic Center Valley Ranch - Valley Ranch Masjid

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Antioch Christian Church

2043 W. Walnut Hill Ln

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For the 411 in the community, go to [www.northdallasgazette.com](http://www.northdallasgazette.com)



**FORUM,** continued from Page 9

nearly 700 homeless children in Irving ISD. Irving Cares and Brighter Tomorrows valiantly support these individuals; however, the high transient population within our District puts too great a burden on our students' ability to achieve at their highest levels. Additionally, over 80% of our students qualify for free or reduced priced meals. When our students are food insecure, studies show it hurts their ability to achieve. We must be certain our campuses are equipped to connect our families with all city, state, and federal programs they are qualified for.

**What is your position on charter schools? Vouchers?**

**NH:** Good charter schools enrich the educa-

tional opportunities for students and their families. The low-performing charters should be closed. The successful ones should be encouraged. I am not in favor of vouchers because they do not help the low-income families.

**GL:** I believe our primary focus should be making sure our traditional public schools are the very best educational options for our students. It is my intent to grow our schools and raise our achievement to new heights, so as alternatives are not sought out. I am encouraged by recent legislation, SB2, which bolsters the standards to which Charter Schools are held accountable – it is vital that we can trust the quality of these schools. I am not supportive of vouchers, as they pull funds from our District

and inhibit our ability to strengthen our schools and fully support our students.

**What type of programs should we offer to prepare students for the varied work opportunities following graduation?**

**NH:** Irving is doing a good job of offering a myriad of career opportunities for the student who will go into the work force after high school graduation. The college-bound students are not given enough opportunities to experience advanced classes and programs.

**GL:** Although I would love to see every student on a college path, I realize that is not for everyone, however, we must guarantee each of our graduates are successful in the career path they choose. I am in favor

of expanding our signature programs and removing enrollment caps.

Additionally, we must grow our work study opportunities so our students leave Irving ISD with either college acceptance in hand, or the networks and skill sets needed to be a successful new employee. We can do this with greater success by allowing our students and community to better engage with one another.

**Would you support creating public access and programming at the Nimitz Planetarium?**

**NH:** Absolutely. The Nimitz Planetarium should be utilized to benefit all the citizens, not just the students.

**GL:** Absolutely. Once again, as taxpayers, the community supports the facilities provided by the Dis-

trict, and should be able to enjoy them, especially something as special as a Planetarium and its programs. There would be preference given to any and all school activities, but the public should have access other times.

We should admit tickets

to the public with proof of a valid IISD address for a nominal fee (to cover staff salary), while charging a higher fee if the IISD resident has an out of District guest.

We should be showing off the Planetarium, not keeping it a secret.

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Small Community Newspaper looking for a partime student graphic artist.

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**McCarthy Building Companies**

Requests bids for the "UTD Campus Landscape Enhancement Project Phase II" RFP NO.: 302-765 be submitted before 2:00 pm Tuesday, April 22, 2014. This project will consist of the phased build-out for additional landscape upgrades to enhance the area north of the original Mall project from the Plaza Core to the Administration Building, and the North-South and East-West pedestrian corridors across the campus. Bid documents are available for review at McCarthy's Private iSqFt planroom and other area Plan rooms. For a complete list contact McCarthy. A payment and performance bond may be required. McCarthy is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages all MBE/WBE/DBE/HUB firms to submit bids to:

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programs for individuals.

**April 13,  
9:30 a.m.**

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

**April 16,**

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

**April 17, 12 Noon**

Join us for a Between Job  
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**April 13,  
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 16, 7 p.m.**

Join us for Bible Study  
Night; we are studying the  
Book of Matthew at this  
time.

Dr. Terrance Woodson,  
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1944 E. Hebron Parkway  
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8 a.m.**

You're invited to our Sun-  
day School at 9:30 a.m. and  
stay for Morning Worship  
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for all of His blessings.

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Worship Services as we  
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0567 or they may be sub-  
mitted via email to: prayer-  
line@theship3c.org

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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 13,**

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.

Also at 2 p.m. our Theater  
& Arts Ministry presents,  
"Break Every Chain. "A  
Story of Redemption and  
Forgiveness Which Applies  
to all of us". "For all have  
sinned, and come short of  
the glory of God;" Romans  
3:22.

**April 16, 7 p.m.**

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Bible Study to learn more  
about God's Word.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr.,  
Ed.D.  
Senior Pastor  
1550 Edelweiss Drive  
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Admin. Building Address  
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Allen, TX 75013  
972-359-9956  
www.theship3c.org

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**April 13,  
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 16, 7 p.m.**

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

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.  
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Plano, TX 75074  
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www.smbcplano.org

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we worship, honor and  
magnify God's Holy name.

**April 14,  
7 p.m.**

Come to Monday School as  
we study the Word of God.  
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**Wednesday Night Live**  
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# God knows the End to the Beginning



Send email to: [salesmanager@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:salesmanager@northdallasgazette.com) to sign up for Sister Tarpley's weekly electronic newsletter.

As we sometimes wonder about life and why we are here on earth, it is good that ... "God Knows the End to the Beginning."

Years ago, Al Capone virtually owned Chicago. He was notorious for enmeshing the windy city in everything from bootlegged booze, prostitution, and murder.

Capone had a lawyer nicknamed "Easy Eddie." Eddie's skill at legal maneuvering kept Capone out of jail. Capone paid Eddie very well and gave him special dividends.

Easy Eddie's family occupied a fenced-in mansion that filled a Chicago block, with live-in help and all of the conveniences of the day.

Although Eddie gave little consideration to the atrocity that went on around him; he had one soft spot; a son that he loved dearly; the

son had the best of everything: A good education, clothes, cars, etc.

Nothing was withheld and price was no object. However, Eddie tried to teach his son right from wrong. He wanted his son to be a better man than he was.

Yet with all his wealth and influence, Eddie couldn't pass on a good name and a good example to his son.

One day, Easy Eddie reached a difficult decision; he wanted to rectify wrongs he had done.

To do this, he had to go to the authorities and tell the truth about Capone, clean up his tarnished name and offer his son some semblance of integrity.

He had to testify against "The Mob"; he knew that the cost would be great. Within one year of testifying, Easy Eddie's life ended in a blaze of gunfire on a Chicago Street.

But in Eddie's eyes, he had given his son the greatest gift that he had to offer, at the greatest price he would ever pay.

World War II produced many heroes. One such man was Lieutenant Commander

Butch O'Hare. He was a fighter pilot assigned to the aircraft carrier Lexington in the South Pacific.

On Feb. 20, 1942, O'Hare's entire squadron was sent on a mission. After he was airborne, he looked at his fuel gauge and realized that someone had forgotten to top off his tank. He didn't have enough fuel to complete his mission and get back to his ship.

Reluctantly, he dropped out of formation and headed back to the fleet. As he was returning to the carrier, he saw a squadron of Japanese aircraft speeding toward the American fleet.

The American fighters were on a maneuver and were all but defenseless. O'Hare couldn't reach his squadron and bring them back in time to save the fleet; or warn them of the approaching danger.

There was only one thing to do. He must divert them from the fleet.

Laying aside all thoughts of personal safety, he dove into the formation of Japanese planes.

Wing-mounted 50 caliber's blazed as he charged in, attacking one surprised

enemy plane and then another.

He fired on as many planes as possible until all his ammunition was spent. Undaunted, he continued the assault, trying to clip a wing or tail in hopes of damaging as many enemy planes as possible.

Finally, the exasperated Japanese squadron took off in another direction. Deeply relieved, Butch O'Hare and his tattered fighter limped back to the carrier. The film from the gun-camera mounted on his plane told the tale. It showed the extent of O'Hare's attempt to protect his fleet. He had destroyed five enemy aircraft.

O'Hare became the Navy's first Ace of W.W. II and the first Aviator to win the Congressional Medal of Honor. At 29 years of age, O'Hare was killed in aerial combat. O'Hare International Airport in Chicago is named in tribute of Butch O'Hare. His statue and Medal of Honor is located between Terminals 1 and 2.

Butch O'Hare was Easy Eddie's son. God is so awesome!



Ms. Brittany Beans, Senior at R. L. Turner High School was named a National Merit Scholar 2014 and was recognized at the 04-03-2014 C-F.B. School Board meeting; her mother, Mrs. Rhonda Lawson and younger sister, Little Miss Regina Lawsons were proud to see her honored.

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[www.biblewayirving.org](http://www.biblewayirving.org)

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PASTOR: DR. JAMES L. BROWN  
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THURSDAY: 7:00 PM  
FRIDAY: 7:00 PM  
SATURDAY: 7:00 PM  
SUNDAY: 10:00 AM  
WEDNESDAY: 7:00 PM  
THURSDAY: 7:00 PM  
FRIDAY: 7:00 PM  
SATURDAY: 7:00 PM

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972-423-8833  
[www.avefchurchofchrist.org](http://www.avefchurchofchrist.org)

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Sunday Bible Class .....9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship .....10:45 am  
Evening Worship .....3:00 pm  
Wednesday Bible Class .....7:00 pm

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**COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**  
330 E. Princeton Avenue, Suite 100, Carrollton, TX 75006

Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11:15 am  
Wednesday Prayer: 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm  
[cbbf.org](http://cbbf.org) 972-437-3491

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Contact Information: 972-423-6695  
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# NDG Bookshelf: A Call to Action: Women, Religion, Violence, and Power

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

No Gurlz Allowed.

Once upon a time, you might've seen a sign that said that, or hung one in spite. Girls had cooties then. Boys were dumb. It was a part of childhood, but you're an enlightened adult today and we've come a long way.

Or have we? Author Jimmy Carter says that worldwide cultures of violence and economic disparity still perpetuate abuse of women and girls. In his new book *A Call to Action*, he examines the issues.

Because he grew up in an atmosphere of relative racial tolerance, Jimmy Carter says that he was, early in life, somewhat oblivious to the "ravages" of discrimination in the South. When he was "about fourteen," he became quietly, fully aware of segregation in his community. Today, he says that "the most serious and unaddressed worldwide challenge is the deprivation and abuse of women and girls..." a situation he says is "largely caused by... false interpretation" of religious tenets and tracts, and by violence and warfare.

The prevailing situation for many

women and girls in China, India, the Middle East, and some African countries is well-known: female circumcision, child marriage, dowry deaths, "honor" killings, rape in warfare, lack of freedom, and genocide of female infants are things we gasp at and have nightmares over. But Carter says that Americans are also to blame for a part of the worldwide lack of equality for women.

The Carter Center has noted that "Almost everywhere... women are relegated to secondary positions of influence and authority..." Many religious leaders continue to interpret Scripture in a way that pushes women into subservient roles in church and at home. The number of incarcerated African American women has "increased by 800 percent" since Carter's presidency. More women graduate from college, but colleges hire a low number of female professors. Sexual assaults are vastly underreported and often unpunished in colleges and in the military. Sexual slavery continues in our cities. And women still trail men in their paychecks.

So what can be done?

Carter offers twenty-three "actions"

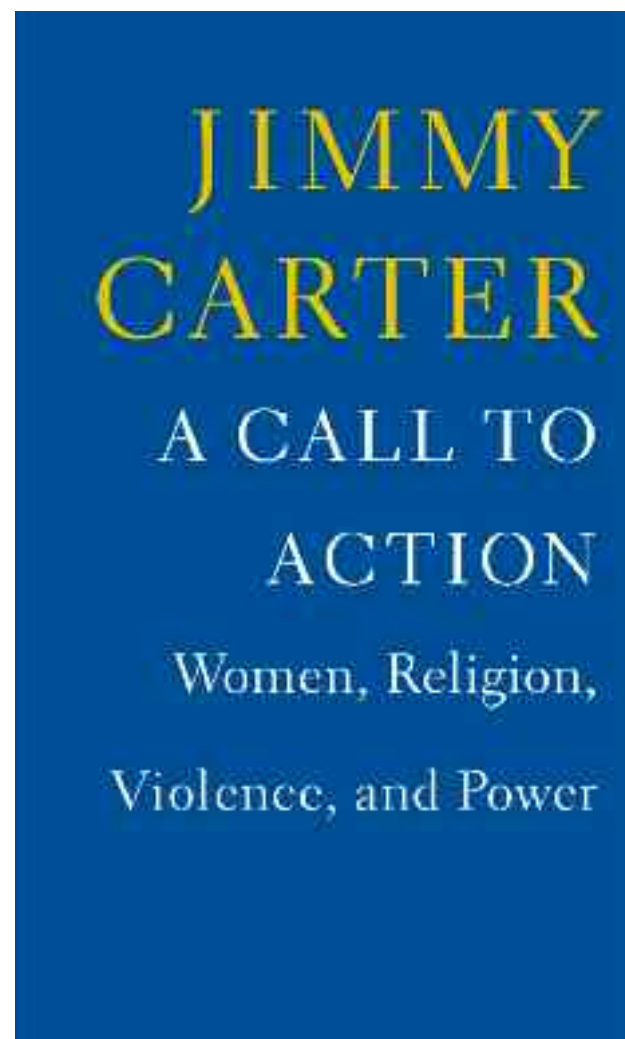
to carry out - but first, we need to change the language of change: start using "human rights" instead of "women's rights" because, by benefiting women, these actions benefit men, too.

It's hard not to feel ineffectual while you're reading "A Call to Action."

Author and former President Jimmy Carter presents huge problems in this small book - ones that occur overseas as well as domestically, and that encompass seemingly insurmountable issues. They range from the definitely irritating to the downright deadly, and though Carter offers his end-of-book "actions" to rid society of inequality, I didn't see much on how one individual can effect change.

And yet - there's enough food for thought here to keep your mind working overtime. Carter's words stick like proverbial glue. Is that enough to spur readers to do what his books' title asks?

That's something to ask yourself as you read this contemplative, timely discourse on issues that many of both sexes have considered. *A Call to Action*, in fact, is not just for gurlz only.



## LANDRY, continued from Page 6

women-owned businesses or local businesses to allow equal opportunity that ensures that due process is fair and open to all businesses.

According to a *Dallas Morning News* article published Feb. 28, 2011 (which this article sourced State data from the past three years from when the article was written) reported black students in Texas are much more likely to be removed from their regular classrooms than students of other races when the choice is left at the discretion of school administrators.

The article also referenced data compiled by the Texas Education Agency which showed that "black student referrals to 'disciplinary alternative education programs' were twice the rate of those for Hispanics and three times the rate for whites for incidents not serious enough to warrant automatic removal."

"In discipline there's often more to teach and learn from in a mistake than

there is in a 100 percent perfect student.

"Those are all teachable moments and we as a District need to take advantage of those moments and truly teach right from wrong, implementing some character development curriculum into our current curriculum so that children are actually

being built as student leaders," says Landry.

Regarding closing the achievement gap among minorities his stance is making sure there is an equitable distribution of Irving's very best teachers in all schools. He supports offering monetary incentives to recruit high performing teachers to low performing

schools.

"We need to ensure that standards and curriculum is best directed toward all students, not some, but all," remarks Landry on closing the achievement gap among minority students.

For more information about Landry visit his facebook page: [www.facebook.com/VoteLandry](http://www.facebook.com/VoteLandry).