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Property Tax Savings for Seniors: What they should know

By Tamarind Phinisee,
NDG Contributing Writer

Property tax relief for seniors has been the topic of nationwide debate for quite some time. But the debate has picked up steam in the past few months in places such as Washington, DC and Pennsylvania, in an effort to keep seniors from losing their homes and to provide them with property tax relief.

This same issue is now at the center of the mayoral race for the city of Irving.

Mayoral candidate Herb Gears' platform focuses on increasing awareness about existing property tax relief already available to those aged 65 and older. Gears – who served as mayor for the city of Irving for six years from 2005 to 2011 – is running against current Mayor Beth Van Duyne. Earlier Gears served as an Irving city councilman from 1998 to 2004.

Property tax relief for



the community's seniors is an important issue to Gears, who says seniors are large contributors within the community via philanthropy, volunteering, voting and other efforts. Gears believes that making sure seniors are aware of the property tax relief available to them is a way to give back to Irving's

seniors.

"Who's better for Irving? They're consuming and polluting less and everywhere I go all the volunteers are seniors," Gears says. "Seniors are the core component of this city. We need to take a pause and say, 'Let's use some of our resources to make life better for seniors

"Seniors are the core component of this city. We need to take a pause and say, 'Let's use some of our resources to make life better for seniors in Irving while they're still alive.'"

- Herbert Gears,
Candidate for City of Irving Mayor

in Irving while they're still alive."

To help ensure the seniors are aware, Gears has mailed out forms about existing property tax relief to every Irving resident who is age 65 or older.

Property tax relief has actually been in place in Texas since 1979 when the Texas Property Tax Code was passed into law via the legislature. The bill, among other things, called for the creation of Central Appraisal Districts to oversee and ensure fair, equitable and accurate property taxation.

This law, and subsequent amendments, provides homeowners with property tax relief in the form of exemptions – which remove or reduce part of the value of the property from taxation, thereby lowering his or her property tax bill.

As such, all homeowners can seek an optional residence homestead ex-

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Cannaday looks forward to third term on Irving City Council

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Sung throws his hat in for Carrollton City Council Race

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Start early for good oral health habits

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COMMENTARY

Unequal Pay for Equal Work

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

When John and Ann started working on January 1, 2013, John had an immediate advantage. Because women earn 77 cents for every dollar men earn, it took Ann until last Friday [April 11, 2014] to earn the same amount of money that John earned in the calendar year of 2013.

The issue of unequal pay is so important that President John F. Ken-

nedy signed the Equal Pay Act 50 years ago. While we have come a long way, baby, the pay gap has remained stubborn. This is why President Obama signed the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act as soon as he assumed office.

This year, to commemorate National Equal Pay Day (that's the day Ann finally earns as much as John), the president signed an Executive Order

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Marissa Webb



Kerry Washington



Richelle Pain

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

Marissa Webb

SAN FRANCISCO — Gap Inc. announced Banana Republic has named Marissa Webb as Creative Director and Executive Vice President of Design, effective April 28.

She will be responsible for guiding the brand's overall creative direction, as well as leading global product design for Banana Republic Women's, Men's, and Accessories. Marissa will report to Global President of Banana Republic, Jack Calhoun.

"I am so excited for Marissa to bring her own

special touch to the brand," said Calhoun. "What she delivers today is so fresh and relevant, I know her design sensibility will move Banana Republic forward in our effort to deliver Modern American style. I can't wait to have her on board."

A celebrated fashion designer, Marissa Webb is most recently known for her eponymous upper contemporary label.

Prior to branching out on her own during 2011, she spent time at Polo, Club Monaco and over a decade at J. Crew Group Inc.,



where she served in various design roles, including Head of Womenswear and Accessories Design. Webb will retain her role as President and Creative Director

at Marissa Webb (M Webb LLC), in addition to her newly appointed role at Banana Republic.

Webb's first collection for Banana Republic is expected in the summer of 2015.

"I'm thrilled to be joining the extremely passionate, talented design and creative teams at Banana Republic," said Webb.

"The brand has such a beautiful history which I truly admire.

"This is an amazing opportunity for me to combine my unique vision with a brand that has such a strong legacy. I'm excited to be

joining Banana Republic and being able to make an impact for our modern customer."

Gap Inc. also announced that it intends to join M Webb LLC's minority investors by investing in the Marissa Webb label. Initially launched exclusively at Barneys New York, the Marissa Webb Collection is now available in over 30 stores globally, inclusive of select locations within Gap's Intermix division, as well as online.

Calhoun will work with Webb as a strategic partner in the growth and development of her business.

Kerry Washington

NEW YORK -- Steve Stoute's acclaimed 2011 book, *The Tanning of America: How Hip-Hop Created a Culture that Rewrote the Rules of the New Economy*, is now available as an audiobook narrated by Scandal star Kerry Washington. A portion of the proceeds from the book will go toward Washington's charity, the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

The *Tanning of America* serves as a pop culture anthology that chronicles the impact of hip-hop on the economy over the last thirty

years. Stoute traces how the "tanning" phenomenon raised a generation that has the same mental complexion based on shared experiences and values, rather than the demographic boxes that have been used to a fault by corporate America.

The Tanning of America provides a translation guide to bridge the language gap and engage the most powerful market force in the history of our country. The book was transformed into a four-part VH1 Rock Doc, *The Tanning of America: How Hip Hop Changed Us*, which

aired in February of 2014.

"I chose Kerry Washington to narrate *The Tanning of America* for the audio format because she represents a generation that pushed boundaries in order to be heard and respected," said Stoute.

"Throughout her career, she has exemplified what it means to be an artist, a humanitarian, and a political activist. I'm honored she agreed to read the book and represent the values of tanning."

"I am honored to play a small role in bringing this important book to the world," said Washington. "By examining hip-hop through the lenses of ethno-

musicology, marketing analysis, sociology and Stoute's own personal reflections as a cultural pioneer, *The Tanning of America* helps us to understand how the American dream has and continues to be redefined by the transformative forces of inclusivity and aspirational drive embodied in the journey of hip-hop and pop culture."

A versatile, fearless, Emmy-nominated actress who continues to shine on both the big screen and small,

The Tanning of America audiobook is available on iTunes, Audible and everywhere audiobooks are sold.



Richelle Payne

PHILADELPHIA — Richelle Payne was named president of the National Black Public Relations Society (NBPRS), effective immediately. Payne succeeds outgoing NBPRS President Deborah Hyman, former director of global communications at Verizon.

Payne is partner and senior director of brand management at Ascendant Group, a CEO branding firm that works with Fortune 50 executives, entrepreneurs, and major media personalities and New York Times best-selling authors. Based in Philadelphia, she is an award-winning writer with more than 24 years of experience developing and driving comprehensive PR pro-

grams.

"Richelle Payne will provide the leadership to continue the growth of NBPRS by bringing a fresh perspective on our ever-changing industry, analyzing how those changes impact PR professionals, and creating programs and partnerships that address issues specific to member needs," said Hyman who will serve on the NBPRS Board of Directors as the Immediate Past President.

"Deborah Hyman is an insightful, inspiring leader whose expertise creating win-win partnerships has helped forge and secure relationships with some of the most recognized corporate brands. Her top priority to

broaden our national footprint resulted in the formation of the New Jersey chapter and the restart of the South Florida, Los Angeles and New York chapters, for

a total of 10 chapters," said Payne.

Payne's top priority is industry awareness and advo-

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NDG endorses Irving City Council candidates

The North Dallas Gazette enthusiastically extends endorsements for the re-election of Irving City Council Members Rose Cannaday (Place 5) and Dennis Webb (Place 3) in the May 10 election.

Throughout their council tenure, each has demonstrated a progressive vision for the future of Irving. Their decisive, yet coalition building, leadership was vital given the dysfunctional state of the City Council recently. Also, their continued support of the Las Colinas Entertainment Center is another example of why Irving voters need their voice of reason on the council.

Unfortunately, the Mayor has not demonstrated an interest in representing all citizens of Irving. Council

Members Cannaday and Webb have demonstrated not only willingness, but also a passion to be inclusive of all voices.

Webb has served on and led numerous community service boards over the years. His first term achievements include securing \$125,000 in renovations for Dorris Park in District 3. He also pushed for the city to consider the best interest of Irving taxpayers with a recommendation to pursue mediation of the Las Colinas Entertainment Center lawsuit. The ultimate settlement spared taxpayers years of waging a costly legal battle, while allowing the city to move forward with this key project. As a result this key initiative, which will add jobs and spur economic development, can continue to

move forward.

Cannaday championed the development of the Entertainment Venue, the Convention Center and 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 also served on several community-related organization boards. Her extensive experience building coalitions with local, state, and federal officials to address transportation and water issues is vital to continue Irving's growth.

The citizens of Irving have benefited from the progressive leadership and experience of Cannaday and Webb during their tenure on the Council.

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protecting workers from retaliation when they speak of unequal pay in the workplace (one of the ways employers can maintain unequal pay is to make discussing pay grounds for firing). The president, through the Secretary of Labor, is also requiring federal contractors to provide data on pay, race, and gender to ensure that employers are fairly paid. Furthermore, the Senate is considering the Paycheck Fairness Act, which may pass the Senate, but not the House of Representatives.

We know all about John and Ann, but what about Tamika? If women earn 77 percent of what men earn, what about African American women? Women surely have come a long way, but some are moving far more slowly than others. How many African American women are there in the Senate? Among Fortune 500 leaders? In other positions of power? What about pay? African American women earn about three quarters of what other women earn, meaning that if it takes Ann until April 11 to catch up with John, It will take Tamika until about June 1 – about another six weeks – to catch up. Tamika earns in 18 months what John earns in 12 months.

Even African American women with the highest levels of education experience these differences. White men with a postgraduate degree earn a median salary of \$1,666 a week African American women earn a median salary of \$1,000 during the same time period. For all the talk of pay equity and paycheck fairness, the status of African American women is largely ignored.

It wouldn't take much for the president, or some of those feminist groups who support paycheck fairness to throw in a line or two about African American women. Nor would it hurt African American organizations, especially those who serve Black women, to point out this injustice. Are African American women invisible? Don't we count? African American women raise the majority of our children, and shoulder many of the challenges in the African American community. Ignoring us in a conversation about unequal pay simply marginalizes our experiences and us.

The focus on "overall" data is yet another way of marginalizing not only African American women, but other people of color well. Reporting aggregate data gives some notion of economic progress. Reporting specific data about African American women and men makes it clear, for example, that African Americans experience depression-level unemployment rates.

I was delighted when President Obama signed the Lily Ledbetter Act, and I have been privileged to hear Ledbetter speak on more than one occasion. She is an amazing woman with a talent for "breaking it down." When she learned that men doing the same job she did earned more money, she cried "foul" but the law said it was "too late" for her to complain. In her inimitable way, she said that grocers did not charge her less money because she was female, nor did doctors, or anyone else. She said that higher-paid men didn't have to make uncomfortable choices about which child would get new shoes or clothes.

African American women can tell the same story as Lily Ledbetter. Indeed, the gaps African American women are likely to be more severe than the ones Lily Ledbetter faced. The pay gap for African Americans is larger and too many live in food deserts where the cost of food is higher even as the quality is lower.

Lily Ledbetter deserves the lime-light she earned because she brought this matter to the president's attention. There's a Black woman out there who can tell a similar or more compelling story. She, too, needs to be lifted up. We ought to know her name, see her name on a piece of legislation. Ledbetter is an ordinary shero, a working class woman who stood up for her rights. She reminds us that, in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "You don't have to be great to serve." We need a sister to remind us that we don't have to be elected, appointed, or anointed to make a difference.

When African American women are marginalized, so are our girls. They are left with the mistaken impression that we have not fought for our rights. We've been fighting and fighting, but somehow the story of a sister struggling is too unremarkable to be noted by the media.

Race and gender continue to shape the opportunities that African American women have, and race and gender continue to marginalize us Black women. When do African American women have equal visibility in the policy and imagery arena? When we demand it and when we stop applauding our own marginalization.

Julianne Malveaux is a Washington, D.C.-based economist and writer. She is President Emerita of Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, N.C.

Start early for good oral health habits

(Family Features) You may wonder whether it's important to take care of your child's first teeth, which will fall out in early childhood. However, healthy adult teeth start with healthy teeth during childhood. That's why starting infants off with good oral care can help protect their teeth for decades to come.

A baby's 20 primary teeth are already present in the jaw at birth. Baby teeth that begin coming through the gums around six months help set the stage for future smiles by keeping space in the jaw for adult teeth. The American Dental Association recommends that parents take children to a dentist no later than their first birthday and then at intervals recommended by their dentist.

To help ensure you are well prepared to provide your little one a lifetime of good dental health, the experts at Ameritas offer this information about the leading oral health concerns for youngsters:

Cavities. Early childhood caries (cavities) is the number one chronic disease affecting young



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

children. It is five times more common than asthma and seven times more common than hay fever. Tooth pain keeps many children home from school or dis-

tracts them from learning.

Consumption of sugary foods, soda, juice or energy drinks increases the risk for tooth decay and gum disease, so minimizing

these items is an important aspect of dental health. It's also important to always brush teeth twice daily for two minutes and floss once a day.

Another option to protect children's teeth is sealants, which act as barriers to cavity-prone areas. They are applied to the chewing surfaces of the molars after the teeth erupt and are completely above the gum. Both primary and permanent teeth can benefit from sealants.

Sports Injuries. Mouth guards can help protect children from a dental emergency. They should be worn whenever children participate in sports and recreational activities. Mouth guards cushion blows that can otherwise cause broken teeth, injuries to the lips and face, and even jaw fractures. Mouth guards are available at many retail stores or may be custom-made by a dentist.

Jaw and bite problems. Malocclusion, or bad bite, is a condition in which the teeth are crowded, crooked, out of alignment or the jaws don't meet prop-

erly. This may become particularly noticeable between ages six and 12, when a child's permanent teeth are developing.

If not treated early, a bad bite can make it difficult to keep teeth and gums clean where teeth are crooked or crowded, increasing the risk for cavities and gum disease. Bad bites can also affect proper jaw development, making protruding teeth at risk for chips and fractures. It can also affect eating and speaking, and make some teeth more likely to wear abnormally or faster than those that are properly aligned.

Teaching children good oral hygiene habits early is a simple way to create a lifetime of happy, healthy smiles. Remember, modeling your own good oral hygiene habits not only reinforces your advice, it improves your own dental health.

For more information on children's dental health visit the dental section at www.ameritasinsight.com, where you also can find out how recent health care reforms affect dental insurance.

'Ain't Misbehavin' opens April 18

The Jubilee Theatre is presenting the popular "Ain't Misbehavin'" April 18 and 20.

Ain't Misbehavin' is a finger-snapping, toe-tapping, Tony Award-winning musical revue - a tribute to the black entertainers of the early 1900's that centers on

the music of one of the most prolific musicians of the time, Thomas "Fats" Waller.

The Jubilee Theater is located at 506 Main Street in Fort Worth, with the curtain rising at 8 p.m. For more information call 817-338-4206 or visit jubileetheatre.org.

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Early Voting Locations:

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- Irving Fire Station #8
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Improving the odds for America's children

By Marian Wright Edelman
NNPA Columnist

"... We see repeated efforts in Congress in recent years to take resources away from poor and middle-class children and families, like food stamps and tax credits and education funding and access to affordable health care, and give even more to the wealthy and powerful. Bipartisanship has taken a severe beating in recent years, as has the willingness of Congress to enact or support policies driven by evidence-based research that help children and families and our country as a whole."

—Congressman George Miller, Foreword, Improving the Odds for America's Children

More than 40 years ago, the earliest planning for

what would become the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) took place at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. CDF began in 1973 in a Harvard University-owned clapboard house. Our beginning was bolstered by a two-volume publication of the Harvard Educational Review in 1973 and 1974 among whose top editors were CDF staff, many of them graduates of or students at Harvard's education and law schools. Another young staff attorney, Hillary Rodham, in her first job after law school, contributed an article on the "Rights of Children."

At the same time, CDF staff knocked on doors to look for children out of school in Massachusetts and all across America. A local group, Massachusetts Advocacy, had issued a report on Children Out of

School in Boston and we wondered whether this was a statewide or national problem. After knocking on many thousands of doors in census tracts across our country, CDF documented it was a national problem with at least 2 million children out of school, including 750,000 the census said

were between 7-13 years old but did not tell us who they were. We found many were children with disabilities. Other children were pushed out by discipline policies, language, and the inability to afford school fees.

Children Out of School in America became our first

report in 1974. We followed it up by organizing with parents at the local level and collaborating with national organizations concerned with children with mental, physical, and emotional disabilities and many others to help push Congress to enact 94-142 – now the Individuals with Disabilities Educa-

tion Act – which for the first time gave children with disabilities the right to a free, appropriate public education. CDF's first report led to publication of School Suspensions: Are They Helping Children describing many of the practices

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Progressives should campaign against the Supreme Court

By Bill Fletcher, Jr.
NNPA Columnist

When I first heard the news, my response was one of both outrage and a calm lack of surprise. I knew that there was a very real chance that the Supreme Court, in its *McCutcheon v Federal Election Commission* decision, would make it even more difficult to have limits on campaign spending.

I suppose that I did not want to believe it. Thus, when the decision was issued, I found myself both resigned and furious at the same time.

The U.S. Supreme Court's majority has made a mockery of right-wing allegations that it is liberals who have been engaged in so-called judicial activism.

The conservative majority of the Supreme Court has gone out of its way to ensure the political su-

premacy of what the Occupy Movement called the 1 percent – the plutocrats.

There have been discussions ever since the Supreme Court's notorious decision in the Citizens United case that there is need for a Constitutional amendment that addresses campaign finance.

We now have an even more urgent need for such an amendment in light of the court's further opening of the gates to super-money.

So, what do we do?

The first and most immediate step must be the formation of a very broad coalition to take initial steps towards securing such a Constitutional amendment.

This coalition needs to make the midterm 2014 elections about the super-rich and money in elections. In that sense, candidates need to be running against

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"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

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Rose Cannaday looks forward continuing Irving's momentum during third term on City Council

By Jackie Hardy
NDG Contributing Writer

In May, voters will go to the polls to determine the mayoral seat as well as seats for single-member districts 3 and 5, which are currently being held by incumbents Dennis Webb (Place 3) and Rose Cannaday (Place 5).

Cannaday is running against Oscar Ward who is a 75 year-old retiree. Place 5 residents will easily recognize Cannaday's name on the ballot, as she is no stranger to Irving politics. Cannaday is ending her second three-year term and is vying for a third and final term in this upcoming election.

In a phone interview, *North Dallas Gazette* spoke with Cannaday about why she is pursuing another three-year term as well as discussed her long political tenure within Irving.

"The reason I made the decision to run originally is my background, I knew the city was at a crossroad and I knew they were



getting ready to be looking at development and there were issues going on in trying to get the DART line completed to the airport and we had water and transportation issues," explains Cannaday.

Cannaday holds a Masters in Psychology, has a media background, and presently owns a mediation company called Cannaday and Associates Mediation Services. She feels her broad career and educational background has

been invaluable in fulfilling the duties of city council.

"My background is very diversified, while I was in sports casting; and I have also done real estate development. I thought I could bring those talents to the table and add to what the Council is trying to do," shares Cannaday.

Positioning Irving to becoming one of the premiere cities within the DFW metroplex is one of the many reasons the current Place 5 councilwoman is committed to continuing the work she began in her first term. Cannaday recognizes the advantages a city like Irving has especially as it relates to economic growth and transportation opportunities as well as commercial and residential development.

According to the austintx.gov website, Transient Orient Development (TOD) initiatives is an intentional mixing of land use and transit through the creation of compact, walkable, mixed-use communities within walking dis-

tance of a transit stop or station. As the Chair of the Board for the Texas High Speed Rail and Transportation Corporation (THSRTC), Cannaday confirms there continues to be a natural progression in Irving to implement those transportation initiatives defined under TOD specifically, she asserts there will be a DART line from Irving to the airport by this September.

Other economic improvement projects she has been actively involved with is the Irving Entertainment Center (IEC), new Convention Center and Hotel developments and the redevelopment of Highway 183 and other major thoroughfares that run through Irving. If re-elected, these are a few of the many projects Councilwoman Cannaday will continue to work to keeping the momentum going as she believes all of these projects will help to set the face of Irving for the future.

Under her current term, Cannaday has taken some heat for her support of the Irving Entertain-

ment Center as it was a hot button issue in the 2011 elections and played a factor in the mayoral race between current Mayor Beth Van Duyne and former Mayor Herbert Gears.

Per a *Dallas Morning News* article published last May, an Irving watchdog group unsuccessfully tried to petition for an election to remove Cannaday from her seat based on allegations that she had been disrespectful to residents and a poor steward of public money.

"It was all the misperception of how bad it was, that it was money missing, it was never any money missing. It was a clean deal," comments Cannaday shared with respect to the controversies surrounding the IEC and the partnership the City had with the now former developer, Las Colinas Group.

According to Cannaday the City is growing and with that growth comes challenges to meet the needs of the people.

See CANNADAY, Page 12



**The Board of Trustees of the
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The Legacy Continues...



Passing the Torch

Community Report Luncheon

HONOREES




Dr. Myron Watkins Mr. Frank Arredondo

**Friday, April 25, 2014,
11:45 a.m.**

**Hilton Anatole Hotel
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Registration 11:15 a.m.

For More Information call 214.915.4632

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CAMPAIGN, continued from Page 6

the Supreme Court.

Progressive candidates need to make the McCutcheon decision their battle-cry and use it to demonstrate the extent to which the 1 percent is moving at breakneck pace to derail any pretense of democracy.

And they must commit to fighting for a Constitutional amendment to remove corruption from the electoral process.

The McCutcheon decision must be understood in tandem with the voter suppression efforts that we have been

witnessing over the past eight years.

These are steps that are being taken to hold back the future, that is, to deflate the power of the growing majority in the U.S.A. that is seeking broad and significant social and economic changes.

To the extent to which people of color, youth, seniors, veterans, and others are blocked from voting and to the extent to which the faucets are opened for the super-rich to contribute inordinate amounts of money to the candidates that they now own, elec-

tions lose any meaning other than being a veneer over a very clever dictatorship of wealth.

The time has come to refocus the November elections on what is really at stake: the greed and avarice that now feels completely comfortable showing its face in public.

Bill Fletcher, Jr. is a racial justice, labor and global justice writer and activist. He is a Senior Scholar with the Institute for Policy Studies and the author of "They're Bankrupting Us" – And Twenty Other Myths about Unions. Follow him on Facebook and at www.billfletcherjr.com.

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 Gears).
- 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 2011 Finley Rd. Irving Texas. Served as the neo-ordained 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 USD Golden Apple Award for support of USD youth.
- One of several organizers and former President of the Grand Prairie Firefighters Association.
- Served on the Trustees 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 USD Stadium during High School football games instead of private contractor, saving the USD 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 Matcom Holridge 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.

DONATE

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

For Campaign Sign call 972-849-9421 or email at webbdebbie7@gmail.com

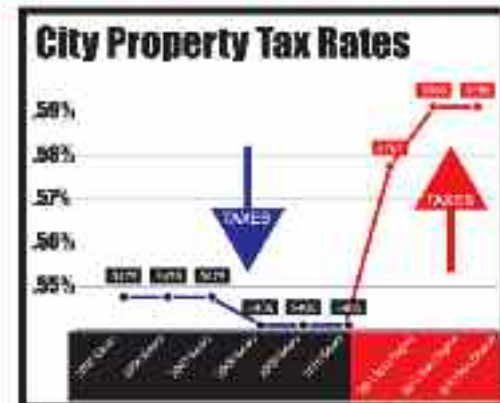
*Pol. adv. Paid for by Debbie Webb Campaign, Monica Tidwell Treasurer

- Born November 10, 1958; Jefferson Texas. Age 55
- Married for 31 years to Lydia Webb.
- Blessed with three children (Darius Jr., Robert, Myka) and 5 grand children (Raymond, Damarion, Derryl, Ryleen and Daise).
- Graduated from North 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.

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

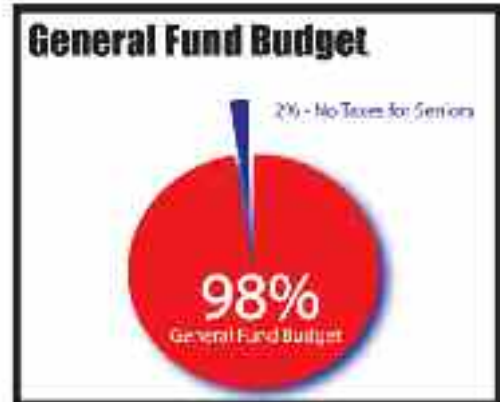
Leadership and Teamwork

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.



Warrant roundup leads to arrest of 33 family violence offenders

FORT WORTH – The Office of the Attorney General's Fugitive Apprehension Unit coordinated a law enforcement operation with local, state and federal law enforcement authorities that led to the arrest of 33 fugitives with outstanding felony and misdemeanor family violence arrest warrants. Attorney General Abbott made the following statement about the warrant sweep:

"This joint operation reflects a concerted crackdown on domestic violence offenders by state and local law enforcement agencies. During this operation, the Attorney General's Office successfully partnered with local officials in Tarrant County and the Texas Department of Public Safety to locate and arrest 33 individuals with outstanding warrants for family violence offenses. We are grateful to state, federal and local law enforcement agencies – including the Fort Worth and Arlington police departments, the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office and the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office – for partnering with the Attorney General's Office on this very significant joint operation."

First Responders Share Stories about West Explosion in New Book by Baylor Professor

WACO – It's not always easy to get first responders and emergency workers to talk candidly about "the job," particularly something as devastating as the deadly fertilizer plant explosion in the City of West one year ago this week.

In the new book, *The Last Alarm: First Responders' Stories of the West Explosion*, author Amber Adamson, lecturer in Baylor's department of journalism, public relations and new media in Baylor's College of Arts and Sciences, chronicles the first-person accounts of more than 40 first responders and tells the story of the explosion that ripped a hole in the town and killed 12 firefighters and emergency workers.

The explosion caught the attention of the world and brought President Barack Obama to Baylor University for a memorial to

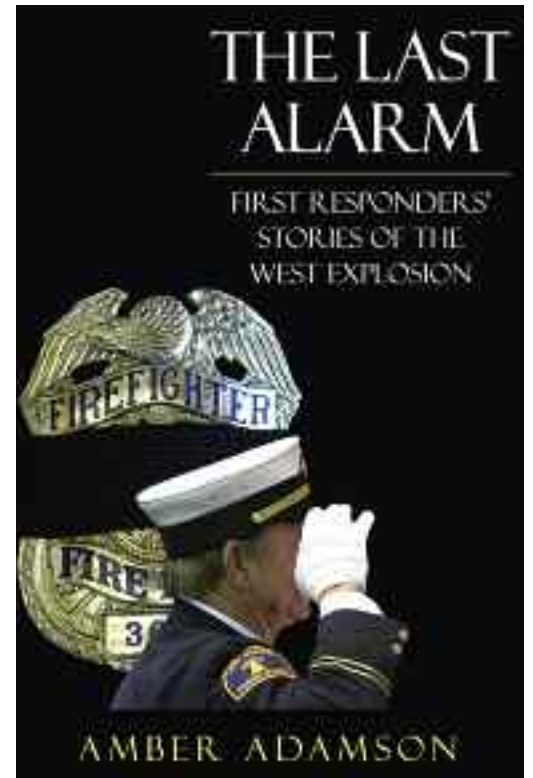
honor those who died. The book is scheduled for release the first week in May.

"Everyone I talked to was so humble, so gracious, so not impressed with themselves," Adamson said of the first responders interviewed for the book. "They don't think that anything they do is extraordinary, but everything they all did was extraordinary."

Adamson, whose husband is a firefighter in Waco and whose brother is a firefighter in Red Oak, said no one turned down her request for an interview. She said she believed her family relationships and experience with first responders opened doors that wouldn't have been opened to most writers or reporters.

"As the wife of a firefighter and the sister to a firefighter, it's given

See WEST, Page 13



SENIORS, continued from Page 1

emption from all taxing authorities. It is optional in that each taxing authority – the county, the city, the school districts, the community college districts, the hospital, etc. – has the right to grant or deny approval. Each of these taxing authorities sets their own tax rates, which they send to the tax assessor's office. The tax assessor's office then calculates the property taxes owed. For more information, visit the Dallas County Appraisal District's (DCAD) website www.dallascad.org.

Those aged 65 and older can also seek approval for two additional forms of relief in addition to the residence homestead exemption. These are:

- The Age 65 and Older Homestead Exemption; and
- The Tax Deferral for 65 or Older or Disabled Homeowner. Both exemptions help reduce property tax costs. While those who are disabled can also receive similar exemptions, this story focuses on those aged 65 and older.

Breaking down the numbers

At the Dallas County level – the jurisdiction under which the city of Irving falls – homeowners could receive a 20 percent reduction in the value of their property.

If granted, an individual with a home valued at \$100,000 would then pay taxes on \$80,000. If this homeowner is age 65 or older, he or she could also qualify for an additional reduction on the value of the property at the county level of \$69,000. If granted, county taxes for this individual would then be owed on the property's remaining taxable value of \$11,000. Those 65 or older could also apply for further exemption through tax deferral on this remaining taxable value. If granted, they would not pay taxes for as long they owned their home or until they passed away.

Under the tax deferral exemption, however, taxes and interest on the property would continue to accrue and would need to be paid if the homeowner passed away or from funds from the sale of the property if the homeowner moved.

Based on data provided by DCAD, city of Irving spokeswoman Susan Rose says there are more than 8,700 individuals in Irving – both 65 or older OR disabled – who would qualify for the tax deferral exemption.

"If all residents 65 and older are granted a property tax deferral, that would total a \$5.2 million decrease to the City of Irving general

fund budget each fiscal year," Rose says. "In addition, under the law, those electing this option will be charged an interest rate of 8 percent per year on all deferred taxes. Upon sale of the house, all deferred taxes and interest will be due."

This decrease in budget, Rose says, would either have a corresponding reduction of \$5.2 million in services to Irving residents or a 3 cent increase in the tax rate which equates to five percent of the total tax rate.

"Both of these options are available under state law. City Council would respond appropriately to any necessary budget adjustments," Rose said.

Naturally, taxing authorities will be resistant to the idea of widespread awareness of the exemption options available to taxpayers. But Gears says the \$5 million in revenue the city currently receives from seniors reflects less than three percent of the total budget. With a focus on eliminating budgetary waste and re-evaluating priorities, Gears says, the city likely could replace the funds without such strong measures being necessary.

The Tax Deferral option was created in an effort to save the homes of seniors unable to afford the property taxes on their home in their golden years. After a life-

time of contributions to the country and their community, Gears says, seniors are often on a limited/fixed income, making the annual tax bill a considerable challenge.

Participation in the tax relief available to seniors is strictly voluntary, and many may be surprised that seniors might opt not to take advantage of the Tax Deferral for whatever reason – be it pride, a lack of knowledge about their property tax exemption options or sheer concern about leaving a debt for heirs to pay.

The first key goal of Gears' effort is to make seniors aware of the options available to them. Once they have the key information, they can discuss with their financial advisers and family before making a decision.

The ultimate goal

If elected mayor, Gears says he will do more than increase awareness about these existing measures. The ultimate goal, Gears says, is to completely eliminate property taxes for seniors aged 65 and older at the city level.

"The state law allows for the elimination of property taxes for the city only," Gears says. "But I would prefer that all property taxes (from all taxing authorities) be eliminated."

Prior to throwing his hat in the

ring for the mayor's seat, Gears says he had already been working to get the issue legally on a ballot before voters. But, he says, opposition from the Mayor's office and city officials has made the process challenging.

Regarding the ballot issue, city of Irving spokeswoman Meribeth Sloan, says the city's position is that a 100 percent tax exemption for seniors is not legally permitted.

"Mr. Gears attempted to get the Court of Appeals to order the City to hold an election on his proposition, but the Court of Appeals sided with the city and denied Mr. Gears' request," Sloan says.

Gears contends the ruling by the Court of Appeals simply gives the city until November to address the issue instead of forcing it to do so right now.

Calls and emails to the Mayor's office were not answered.

While he vows to fight to give voters an opportunity to voice their opinion on the issue whether he wins or loses, Gears says it'll be a lot easier to work on this goal from within.

"The seeds of change are best planted in a new conversation. So, that's why we've started public conversation about how to make life better for senior residents," Gears says.

Imaginations run wild at Cottonwood Art Festival

RICHARDSON – Imagine throwing mud on a pottery wheel, creating a work of art, or painting a gift just in time for Mother's Day. For children and their families attending the spring edition of Richardson's Cottonwood Art Festival, held May 3-4, ArtStop is the place to let the imaginations of mini-Monets run wild.

Held in Richardson's scenic Cottonwood Park, ArtStop creates a hands-on world of art with life-size paintbrushes and dozens of activities irresistible to any child.

Budding artists can decorate a



Cottonwood Crazy Cool Cap, throw a pot on a pottery wheel guided by ArtStop's own master potters, or dip their hands in a rainbow of wax. Other ArtStop activities for young children include Chalk Board Easels, Chisel Away (chip and sculpt on large blocks of plaster) and Magnetic Masterpieces (create a picture by adding

objects to large magnetic boards).

"At ArtStop, it's exciting to see kids have fun while getting their hands dirty in clay, paint or glue, it's seeing them create their own masterpiece and the smiles on their faces when they finish their painting," said Serri Ayers, director of Cottonwood Art Festival. "Between the cool, creative activ-

ities at ArtStop, shopping for fabulous works of art, or listening to some great music, there is something special about Cottonwood Art Festival, that everyone will enjoy."

ArtStop activity stations include:

Crazy Cool Caps: Let the kids show off their pint-sized personalities by creating their own colorful, over-the-top hat! There are plenty of ribbons, glitter, feathers, pompoms, and foam shapes for all to use.

Throwin' Mud: It's OK for the

kids to play in the mud at this activity station guided by ArtStop's own master potters as they learn to throw a pot or form a vase on an electric potter's wheel.

Canvas Classics: Where kids will paint a masterpiece on a canvas propped on an easel guided by an art instructor.

Fancy Fingers: Kids can dip their hands into a rainbow of colored wax to make a lasting, colorful impression of their hand. Fun for any age!

Petite Pottery: Just in time for

See ART, Page 13

Our Productions to present original rock opera 'Project Youth' at MCL Grand

Our Productions Theatre Company will debut "Project Youth – A Musical of Hope and Survival" with six performances April 30-May 4 at Medical Center of Lewisville Grand Theater, in the heart of historic Old Town Lewisville and the Main & Mill Entertainment District.

Show times in the Black

Box Theater are 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, with matinee shows at 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Tickets are \$25 per person, with discounts for seniors, students, children and groups of 10 or more.

Advance tickets can be purchased online at ourproductionstheatreco.org or by

calling 972.724.2147.

"Project Youth" is a contemporary rock musical written and directed by Stephanie Riggs.

The story is set in the year 2110 and revolves around a group of children pre-planned by their parents to save the world from certain ecological demise. The

kids and teens must figure out their top-secret mission to play their part in saving the planet before it is too late.

For details about upcoming events, or rental information for the facility, please visit www.MCLGrand.com or call 972.219.8446.

PAYNE, continued from Page 2

cacy. "PR professionals engage complex audiences, convert them to long-time, loyal brand ambassadors and impact the industry in significant ways. We give

voice to worthy causes, we grow companies, and help them avoid or navigate crisis," said Payne. "When played from a place of passion and purpose, PR in this

new world will not only take social media, branding and marketing to the next level, but will also elevate the people and products that are changing the world. NBPRS is a network of

image makers and game-changers committed to levels of excellence and innovation that help the brands they represent maintain their competitive advantage."

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Five tips to prepare for your annual review

For some professionals, it's that time of year again: annual review season. While some may think of it as a chore, others choose to view the performance review as an important event worthy of significant thought and preparation. Guess which approach is better for your career?

- Here are five tips for making the most of your annual review:
 - Highlight your most notable accomplishments.** Don't assume that your boss has kept track of all your achievements. Compile a list of key contributions you've made in the past year and bring them with you to the meeting.
 - Quantify your contributions.** Don't just cite your successes; link them to the positive effects they've had on your company. Did you identify a new solution that saved your employer money? Did you increase your output despite taking on the duties of a colleague out on leave? Reflect upon your biggest accomplishments and document them in detail.
 - Be optimistic yet realistic.** Your hope is that your hard work will lead to a bonus and salary increase. It might. But don't focus solely on your compensation. If a salary boost isn't in the cards, remember that flexible work options or changes in responsibilities can boost your job satisfaction too.
 - Explore training options.** This is an opportunity to pinpoint potential career growth. Consider asking if your employer will pay for some training opportunities. Have ready a list of conferences or classes that will help you build the skills you need to advance your career.
 - Don't fear feedback.** Rare is the employee who receives a perfect review. Be prepared to hear about areas in which you can improve.

CHILDREN, continued from Page 6

we are still combating today with school discipline policies that suspend children for a wide range of nonviolent offenses include truancy and subjective offenses like disruptive behavior.

After 40 years we are now blessed with a new indispensable evidence-based book from Harvard Education Press—Improving the Odds for America's Children: Future Directions in Policy and Practice. Kathleen McCartney, President of Smith College and former Dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, was the driving force behind this volume that she co-edited with Hirokazu Yoshikawa and Laurie B. Forcier.

Each chapter suggests a prominent pathway for moving forward to level the playing field and improve the odds for children. The volume starts with prenatal and infant health and development, emphasizing parent and caregiver support in a child's earliest years,

moves through the school years and adolescence, and addresses the special needs of the most vulnerable youth involved with the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

Common threads essential to sound policy and practice emerge quickly, including the impact of poverty and inequality on children's well-being. Unifying refrains include the need to bring multiple supports together to seek change for children and families; the need for more intensive supports for children and parents with special health and mental health needs; recognition of the harm done to children by withholding help to children and adults who are not citizens nor legally present in the U.S.; and the call to pay attention to the well-being of parents and caregivers and all those who care for children. The book reinforces the importance of never giving up on a child.

This second decade of the twenty-first century is a crucial one for the children's movement and the nation's future, as poverty and child poverty have resurged in a prolonged recession and jobless "recovery" and with wealth and income inequality at near record levels and achievement gaps among children who are poor and of color unacceptably wide.

Our children are in trouble and our nation is in trouble, and we must reset our moral and economic compasses. CDF has been sounding the siren with urgency and persistence over four decades and will not stop until it is heard.

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.childrens-defense.org.

Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce
5201 N. O'Connor Blvd., Ste. 100

Iglesia Santa Marie de Guadalupe
2601 S. MacArthur

The Chateau on Wildbriar Lake
1515 Hard Rock Rd

Bombay Sizzlers
397 East Las Colinas Blvd, Ste. 180

Le Peep
4835 N. O'Connor Blvd.

Mattito's Tex Mex
1001 MacArthur Park Drive

Taqueria El Tacazo
1150 W. Pioneer Drive

Capistrano's Café & Catering
4650 W. Airport Frwy

Empress of China
2648 N. Beltline Rd.

The Spirit Grille
4030 N. MacArthur Blvd #112

El Rancho Restaurant
1210 E. Irving Blvd

504 Salon
3414 W. Rochelle

Irving YMCA
220 W. Irving Blvd

Mitchell's Barbershop
4020 N. Beltline Rd

Roy's Pawn Shop
635 E. Irving Blvd

Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church "The Green"
3329 Country Club West

Irving Islamic Center Valley Ranch - Valley Ranch Masjid
9940 Valley Ranch Pkwy W.

Irving Salvation Army
1140 E. Irving Blvd

Antioch Christian Church
2043 W. Walnut Hill Ln

Lee Park Recreation Center
300 Pamela Drive

Lively Pointe Youth Center
909 N. O'Connor Rd

Mustang Park Recreation Center
2223 Kinwest Pkwy

Northwest Park Recreation Center
2800 Cheyenne St.

Senter Park Recreation Center
907 S. Senter Rd

Austin Recreation Center
825 E. Union Bower Rd.

Houston Recreation Center
3033 Country Club Rd.

Cimarron Park Recreation Center
201 Red River Trail

Georgia Farrow Recreation Center
530 Davis Street

Heritage Senior Center
200 Jefferson Street

iRealy Office Building
320 Decker Drive

Irving Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
135 S. Jefferson

Irving City Hall
825 W. Irving Blvd

Irving Public Library
801 W. Irving Blvd

Shady Grove CME Church
3537 E. Gilbert Road

Emmanuel Baptist Missionary Church
511 Gilbert Road

Ben Washington Baptist Church
3901 Frisco Ave

Shepherd Church
615 W. Davis

West Irving C.O.G.I.C.
4011 Conflans Road

Bible Way Baptist Church
4215 N. Greenview Dr.

Strictly Business
4159 W. Northgate

Washateria
3712 Cheyenne Street
New Life Ministries
3706 Cheyenne Street

Elisha Mane Attractions
3704 Cheyenne Street

Bear Creek Community Church
2700 Finley Rd.

Evergreen Baptist Church
3329 W. Country Club Drive

Po' Boys Restaurant
4070 N. Beltline Rd. Ste. 100

Girl Friends Africa
4070 N. Beltline Rd. Ste. 134

VW Barbership
4070 N. Beltline Rd. Ste. 143

Northlake College
2000 College Blvd Bldg. A

Antioch Christian Church
2041 West Walnut Hill

Kasbah Grill
2851 Esters Rd

Fresh Food Store
4020 W. Northgate Drive

Lee's Catfish
1911 Esters Road

Danal's Mexican Restaurant
508 N. O'Connor Rd

Fred's Pit Barbecue
808 E. Irving Blvd

Gary's Barbershop
2117 Story Rd.

African Village Restaurant
3000 N. Beltline Rd

New Look Barbershop
3317 Finley Rd.

Irving Arts Center
3333 N. MacArthur #200

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.

For the 411 in the community, go to www.northdallasgazette.com

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CANNADAY, continued from Page 7

She advised, "the Council put a focus on building more permanent homes north of the City (Riverside and Valley Ranch area) because they felt it was an overbuilt of apartments."

The home building initiative, per Cannaday has manifested to around 1,500 new homes and a total of 3,000 homes built within the last few years along with a plan to bring future residential developments to the Heritage District in the effort to attract new people to the historic downtown area.

Cannaday believes economic growth is positive for the City as it equates to lower taxes and greater job opportunities for Irving residents, but with that growth she feels it comes with the need for balance in ensuring the City is providing the citizens what she defines as their basic services: public safety, fire and police, water/sewer and schools.

"Right now we are getting up against the line where we are going to have to start thinking about buying more fire trucks, powering more policemen and fire because now you have added more people in your city."

Economic growth, public safety and keeping taxes low are three important issues Cannaday is campaigning for in this next election. She is also passionate about continuing the ground-work for more water source supply opportunities to maintain low cost of water service for residents. Currently,

Irving gets most of its water from Lake Chapman to Lewisville Lake where it's treated by the city of Dallas. Irving owns water rights to the water in Lake Chapman, which was previously known as Cooper Reservoir according to the city's website.

Implementing state of the art local libraries across Irving is definitely an accomplishment Cannaday is proud to be a part of.

"I started a few years ago the building of the new library system. I went out to California to study their libraries because they were technologically advanced and I came back and we started doing it better," she adds.

According to Cannaday they are building a third new library right now and ultimately will have four stand alone libraries that will all be technologically advanced. She advised Irving is the first in Texas to build these state of the art libraries and people from around the state are starting to take notice and wanting to follow their lead.

She also discussed the Miracle Park created in Irving for children with physical disabilities as another proud achievements throughout her tenure.

"That's been the most heartwarming and greatest thing we did. People bring their children from all around who have disabilities because it provides a place for them to play," states Cannaday.

In her personal life, Cannaday has been happily married to Watauga Police Chief Lowell Cannaday for almost 24 years. She has six children resulting from a blended family and 20 grandchildren as she recently welcomed a new grandchild to the family.

"I am very blessed, and married to my best friend," adds Cannaday.

She loves playing golf and working out as she shared with NDG that she suffered a transient ischemic attack (i.e., mini stroke) last month causing her to really appreciate having a physical outlet such as exercise as a way to relieve stress.

Caregiver has been the other important role she has been fulfilling as her husband recently had back surgery. Her days have been centered on taking care of him while campaigning and handling her city council responsibilities.

Cannaday shared her heart to serve extends beyond her family, but she advised she has a heart for people and explained how she has been involved with politics since the age of 15.

"I like helping people and Irving is a city I love and I want it to be right," concludes Cannaday.

For more information about Rose Cannaday's campaign issues visit her website at <http://www.rosecannaday.com/> and for more information about the Irving upcoming election visit <http://cityofirving.org/city-secretary/election-eleccion.asp>.

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"Suddath embraces 'a promote from within culture' and we are proud to have several long-term employees who began their careers here as seasonal staff, including Jose Marrero,"

said David Cox, president.

Marrero has been with Suddath for 10 years, starting as a college intern while attending the University of North Florida.

Marrero worked his way from intern to supervisor of import/export services and

once again has been promoted. He will be relocating to New Jersey to begin his new position as operations manager later this spring.

The Suddath Companies has more than 2,000 employees nationwide and operates in 22 locations

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Suddath is also the largest agent of UniGroup, Inc. (United Van Lines and

Mayflower Transit).

To apply for available summer positions please visit <http://suddathrelocation.com/about-us/careers/seasonal-staffing.aspx>.

WEST, continued from Page 7

me a chance to see what the brotherhood is all about," she said of researching and writing the book. "I tried to have as much of an understanding as possible -- why first responders do what they do; why, when there's a fire, they run toward it."

In all, more than 140 departments or agencies from within and around Texas responded to West in the minutes, hours and days following the explosion.

Adamson said she did her best to represent men and women from every level of

response -- from those in the community who rushed to the flames to the members of the honor guard who stood by the bodies of the fallen and supported the families around the clock until their loved ones were laid to rest.

In addition to a comprehensive list of responding agencies, the book features transcripts of 911 calls, biographies of those who died, photos that have never been published and, of course, the stories, many of which, Adamson said, have

never been told publicly.

The book was designed by Baylor graduate Stephanie MacVeigh, BA '99, and features photos from photographers for the Baylor Lariat, the University's student-produced newspaper.

The book was edited and published by Sharon Bracken, senior lecturer in journalism, public relations and new media.

Bracken, a lifelong resident of Waco, said the book can spark an emotional response. She said she cried when she read the manuscript, particularly when

reading the story of one woman, a first responder, who still felt guilt because she was talking to several of the victims just minutes before they rushed to the fire.

"We never know on any day if we're going to get up and our lives are going to change," Bracken said. "When you read the book, it really hits home."

Many of Adamson's face-to-face interviews were recorded digitally and are being transcribed and collected by Baylor's Institute for Oral History. The transcripts and recordings will be added to The Texas Collection at Baylor.

ART, continued from Page 10

Mother's or Father's day, kids can paint their own hand-thrown vase - the perfect vessel for some hand-picked flowers.

Rollin' and Recyclin': The "Green Team" is back with more ideas and ways

kids and families can recycle or be creative with the stuff we use to throw in the trash. This free "Art from the Park" activity will let kids repurpose slices of tree limbs into necklace charms they can decorate and wear.



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**April 20,
9:30 a.m.**

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

April 23,

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

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Workshop at Christian
Works for Children, 6320
LBJ Freeway, Dallas,
75240. Call 972-960-9981
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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 23, 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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ship.org

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**April 20,
8 a.m.**

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for all of His blessings.

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honor and praise God for
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food, and access to medi-

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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 20,

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 23, 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
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In Allen for Sunday
Morning Worship.
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www.theship3c.org

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**April 20,
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our Worship Services as we
praise and honor God. Sun-
day School starts at 9:45
a.m. After each service
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available to meet with you
for prayer or questions.

April 23, 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
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Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org

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**April 20,
7:30 and 11:30 a.m.**

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

**April 21,
7 p.m.**

Come to Monday School as
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praise His Holy name.

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New Methodist Richardson Medical Center welcomes first baby

At 9:17 a.m. on Wednesday, April 16, Methodist Richardson Medical Center welcomed its first birth. Camille Diann Eiland was born weighing 8 pounds, 7 ounces and measured 20.5 inches in length.

Carol Norton, MD, an independently practicing OB/GYN on the medical staff at Methodist Richardson Medical Center, delivered the baby.

Parents Blake and Jennifer Eiland and older brother Ian, 20 months, reside in Murphy, Texas.

The new Methodist Richardson Medical Cen-



Blake (left) and Jennifer Eiland welcomed daughter, Camille Diann, at 9:17 a.m. on Wednesday, April 16. Eiland is the first baby born at the new Methodist Richardson Medical Center.

ter opened its doors to patients at 7 a.m., Monday, April 14. The new 125-bed, four-story Methodist Richardson Medical Cen-

ter offers enhanced health care services to residents in Richardson, Garland, Murphy, Plano, Sachse, Wylie, and surrounding areas.

Young Sung throws his hat in Carrollton City Council race

By Nicole Scott
NDG Contributing Writer

America is often referred to as a melting pot because of its widespread diversity of cultures and ethnicities, however we don't always see that diversity represented in politics, especially as it relates to Asian Americans. Boston and Philadelphia are but two of the few cities listed outside of California that have elected council members of Korean descent. On May 10, Young Sung hopes to make history, becoming a member of this elite group.

Sung, a court interpreter and mediator is running for Place 2 on Carrollton's City Council. If he is victorious, he will become the city's first Korean-American elected to public office. But that is not his main objective for running. Sung says his motivation for seeking public office is to make an impact on the community and he has a host of ideas on how to accomplish this. A few of his ideas include addressing the landfills in the city, and reducing taxes. However, his primary goal is bringing international business to the city.

A husband and father of two, Sung has been an active member of Carrollton's community since 1979, excluding his college years. He migrated to the U.S. from South Korea with his parents when he was 11-years old. The proud son of a war veteran and hard worker, Sung knows firsthand what it means to persevere.

"My parents worked two and three jobs, so I and my brother and sisters could have a better life." A better life is what Sung says he has achieved.

"I am living the American Dream," something Sung says he wants for all of Carrollton's residents, especially those who are most disenfranchised. As the offspring of parents who were born under Japanese occupation and part of a marginalized community Sung

personally identifies with those who are voiceless.

The city of Carrollton is home to around 18,000 Koreans and the number is steadily growing. One trip down Old Denton Road and a visit to the renowned Super H Mart clearly reveals how Sung's candidacy advantageously places him at the perfect intersection of diversity and economic prosperity.

And the timing could not be better thanks to the U.S. Korea Free Trade Agreement, which many organizations throughout the state have been taking advantage of. In 2012, Texas businesses exported more than \$5 billion in goods to Korea and equally imported as many goods from the Asian country.

Sung has aspirations of bringing much of that rev-

See **SUNG**, Page 13



Sister Tarpley takes a pause with Young Sung, candidate for Carrollton City Council.

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NDG Book Review: *Vintage* makes you feel warm, inside and out

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The sweater is like an old friend.

Once upon a time, it was your mother's favorite garment. Back then, it was sophisticated and elegant, with beads and bangles that must've made her feel terribly chic.

Today, it's a little beat-up. It's missing beads, is worn on one elbow, and it's as far from haute couture as you can get, but you really don't care. Wearing it makes you feel warm, inside and out and, as you'll see in *Vintage* by Susan Gloss, new friends can give you that same feeling.

Ever since Violet Turner got divorced, left her small Northern Wisconsin hometown, and moved to Madison, life was almost exactly what she'd envisioned.

Hourglass Vintage, the clothing boutique Violet owned, fulfilled her dream of a career in fashion, which was something she wanted practically her whole life. She loved her business and her customers - but as for the dream of raising a family, well, at thirty-eight and divorced, Violet figured that dream was dead.

April Morgan would never wear the 1950s-era wedding dress she got from Hourglass Vintage. For one thing, at five months' pregnant, she'd never fit into it.

It wasn't supposed to be that way. She and Charlie were in love, but his parents didn't approve of an eighteen-year-old whose mother had been mentally ill. They wanted their only son to marry a society girl, and they'd withheld funds for Charlie's medical school until he came to his senses. That kind of stress wasn't good when you were just starting out, and an unplanned baby didn't help. Charlie couldn't take the pressure, and now April was alone.

Amithi Singh's daughter didn't want her mother's colorful saris - Jayana didn't want anything to do with tradition - so Amithi brought the clothes to Hourglass Vintage. She wasn't sure why she'd kept the saris in the first place but it was time to get rid of them, just like she'd get rid of her cheating husband.

Forty years ago, when her arranged marriage was new, Amithi put aside

her hopes and followed her husband to America. So much had happened since then. Could she again change her life as easily as she changed her wardrobe?

You know that "ahhhhhh" feeling you get when you come home and slip into your favorite around-the-house clothes? Yep, that's the kind of comfort you get when you slip into "Vintage."

Starting each chapter with a clothing description to set the tone, author Susan Gloss tells a story of friendship, dream-keeping, and great outfits. It's a cute tale with likeable-enough characters and it's light on the drama - but here's where I think the appeal of this novel lies: it's as familiar as an old sweater, in a good way. Reading it is like wrapping yourself in coziness - and isn't that why you love novels like this?

I think if you're tired of heavy drama, screaming plots, and unbelievable characters, this book is the perfect antidote. Grab your sweater, grab a chair and grab *Vintage*. You might find that it's just your style.



SUNG, continued from Page 15

enue to the city of Carrollton. Recruiting international business to the city is one of his major platform goals.

Sung received his BA in Management from Maryville College in Tennessee. He received his MBA from Letourneau University in Longview, TX.

He is a member of the Korean Chamber of Commerce and a member and deacon at the Korean

United Central Methodist Church.

The Korean Chamber of Commerce has endorsed him, as well as, the Korean Society of Dallas.

Sung is one of six candidates competing for the city council seat.

Early voting begins Monday, April 28 and ends on Friday, May 2.



Young Sung meets with prospective voters during recent campaign activities in Carrollton.

IRVING,

continued from Page 15

cil. The *North Dallas Gazette* believes if re-elected both will continue to help the city of Irving move forward with an inclusive vision for everyone in the community. This is why we fully support and endorse these candidates for re-election.

For more information on Rose Cannaday, visit her website (www.rosecannaday.com). Dennis Webb can be reached for more information at webbdennis7@gmail.com.

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