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## Texas publishers:

# Kroger ignores the African American community

By Nicole Scott  
and Robyn H. Jimenez  
Texas Publishers Association

"Have you been invited?"

It's a simple question that the Black Press has asked its community for several years, with the underlying message, "Don't go where you haven't been invited."

Many publishers of Black newspapers have expressed that stores that do not carry African American products, advertise in African American-owned media, and refuse to carry African American newspapers and magazines for its customers, have sent a clear message that Blacks are not invited.

Maxine Session, founder and publisher of *The Texas Informer* newspaper, said she got the message loud and clear.

*The Informer* is an African American newspaper that has served Anderson, Angelina, Cherokee, Houston and Rusk Counties for 19 years.

During a routine delivery in August of 2013, Walter Session, *Informer* owner and co-publisher, arrived at Kroger grocery store to find that the newspaper shelf, that had stood for many years inside the store entry, had been removed. He



Publishers Walter and Maxine Session

immediately found the store manager Christine Tate and stated that the newspaper shelf had been removed, and he wanted to know where he can place the *Texas Informer*. She said that he could not leave it there, that it was not her decision, but that of the corporate office. However, the mainstream newspaper was still in the store.

After having delivered to Kroger for 10 years, Tate informed Walter that he could not continue to place his newspaper in the store, because

it was considered solicitation. She told him that it was not her decision, but that of corporate and if he wanted to continue to offer the publication to the store's customers he would have to contact the corporate headquarters in Cincinnati.

Walter contacted headquarters, but each time he called their corporate office, customer service took a message with the response that someone would give him a call. No one did. The issue became one of

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## New guidance for those involved in foster care

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COMMENTARY

## We need to be our brothers and sister's keeper

By Luke Charles Harris  
Special to the  
NNPA News Service

### PERSPECTIVE

I have been told I should be the first among many to celebrate President Barack Obama's My Brother's Keeper initiative. After all, I came from a "broken family." In fact, I am a Black man who was functionally fatherless twice over, and earlier in my life I wrapped my

vision of racial uplift around the ways that men like my fathers were damaged by a system that both feared and fetishized them.

My brother and I were abandoned in a welfare shelter by our mother, Gertrude, who had lost her own mother when she was a young girl. As a consequence of suffering that I can only imagine, she was institutionalized

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Kierston Goff



Dr. Jill Tokumoto



Dr. Umar Johnson

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## Kierston Goff

Kiersten Darlene Goff is a 2014 graduate from Texoma Christian School with a 4.16 GPA and 22 hours of college credit. She will attend Dallas Baptist University (DBU) in the fall with a Christian Leadership Scholarship from DBU.

DBU began as Decatur Baptist College in 1898 and had the distinction of being the first two-year institution of higher education in Texas. The Baptist General Convention of Texas had purchased land in 1897 from Northwest Texas Baptist



College. The school enjoyed a rich, full history in Decatur until 1965 when it moved to Dallas, at the invitation of the Dallas Baptist Association.

With her middle name,

Darlene, she is named after her late paternal grandmother and is proud to honor her grandmother's life by carrying her name.

Kiersten is a National Honor Society member (NHS), the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1921.

Kiersten was also a TABC Academic All State Team for Basketball. She is recognized by TAPPS for Academic All State Team in basketball and softball.

The Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) recognizes outstanding student athletes. TAPPS' criteria for making an All-State athletic team vary according to sport. TAPPS All-State Academic honors are given to junior and senior athletes with a GPA of 3.5 or better.

Kiersten is also a State Semi-Finalist Final Four in Basketball and Softball, 1st place in track district for

discus and 5th place in track regional for discus.

She was also Honorable Mention in basketball 9th, 2nd team all district in basketball, 10th, 1st team all district in basketball 11th & 12th, 2nd team all state in basketball 11th, 1st team all district in softball 10th, 11th & 12th, 2nd team all district in softball 9th and 2nd team all district in soccer 9th and 11th.

Kiersten has worked in a Mother's Day Out Program with children of all ages because she enjoys working with children.

The daughter of Carl Ray (a high school basketball star

at R. L. Turner High School in Carrollton) and Sharon Cahill Goff; they reside in Carrollton.

In school Kiersten was a member of the science team, Class President her sophomore and junior years, on the Student Council her freshman year; and played in the Texoma Area All Star game this year.

At DBU Kiersten will major in Sports Management with a Minor in Education; her hobbies are playing sports, watching movies, bowling; and to help with her college education she is currently seeking a summer job.

## Dr. Jill Tokumoto

Jill Tokumoto, Ph.D., who has served as principal at Irving ISD's Elliott Elementary School since 2007, has been selected to lead Good Elementary School as its new principal.

"Dr. Tokumoto is well regarded throughout Irving ISD," says Superintendent of Schools Jose L. Parra, Ed.D.

"She is known as an intelligent principal who has a strong achievement focus and establishes good relationships with students, parents and staff."

In addition to the seven



years as principal at Elliott Elementary School, Tokumoto was a campus leader in Everett, Wash.

There, she worked as principal of Cedar Wood Elementary School and as as-

sistant principal of Lowell Elementary and Madison Elementary.

Prior to that, she was an assistant principal at Adam Elementary School in Houston and taught in Lynnwood, Wash. Her professional experience also includes working as a medical technologist at Overlake Hospital Medical Center in Bellevue, Wash.

"These past seven years in Irving ISD have been incredible," says Tokumoto. "Everyone cares deeply about the students, and staff are committed to doing what is best to ensure student success."

Tokumoto says she has enjoyed her time at Elliott Elementary and "I know the staff will continue to do great things for children," she added. "They have strong systems in place and have built enduring relationships that will continue to contribute to student success."

Dr. Parra adds, "Dr. Tokumoto brings campus administrator experience in Washington state, Cypress Fairbanks ISD and Irving ISD to her role as principal of Good Elementary School.

These varied experiences give her an emotional matu-

rity that results in a calm, structured and caring learning environment for students and staff. I look forward to the stability, energy and commitment to student success that Dr. Tokumoto will bring the campus."

Tokumoto was introduced to the Good Elementary School faculty at a special meeting this afternoon.

She is replacing Principal Doug Sevier who has accepted a position in another school district. "I look forward to joining the staff at Good and I am excited to start the year," Tokumoto says.

Tokumoto holds a Bachelor of Science in microbiology from Washington State University, a master's degree in teaching from Whitworth College and her doctorate from Capella University.

The Irving ISD, established by the Texas Legislature in 1909, provides a comprehensive curriculum of educational services appropriate for over 34,000 students enrolled in pre-kindergarten through Grade 12, as well as a preparation course for the General Education Development examination.

## Dr. Umar Johnson

(BlackNews.com) -- Black boys were gifted with an all-new G.E.D. test for the 2014 school year, which will make it even more difficult for them to escape the trappings of low expectations, as the only alternative to a high school diploma, the G.E.D., has now been made just as difficult to obtain as the diploma itself.

Why a new G.E.D.? Politically-speaking, keeping Black boys from having a gambler's chance at a decent life in this country seems to have become a fetish of the American Social Order. As states scramble to find more dollars to incarcerate young Black males, a quiet but very pow-



erful sense of hopelessness is settling in amongst the Black boy population in America.

In quiet protest, many have dropped out of school and have taken to the street corners, not necessarily to participate in the underground economy, but to puff their life away and daydream amidst the purple

haze of marijuana. While educational racism and economic castration suck the life out of Black boys in America, the Black community sits distracted by American foreign policy initiatives, reality television shows, and professional sports. As neighborhood violence increasingly becomes a fact of life in Black communities, many are at a loss for what to do.

However, we know exactly what must be done. If we want to reverse the special education, ADHD, psychotropic drug, juvenile incarceration, and premature extermination wars against Black boys then we will have to build schools that are uniquely designed to teach Black boys, not only how to succeed in a rac-

ially-biased society, but also how to avoid the trappings of a racist criminal justice system.

Unfortunately, historically Black colleges have been under attack as well. Many state higher education systems are underfunding HBCUs in an attempt to force mergers will larger white universities who are not sympathetic to the needs of Black youth.

Other private HBCUs have struggled with financial difficulties and a lack of support from the larger African-American community. One such college is the historic St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Virginia. Founded by a contemporary of the legendary Booker T. Wash-

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# Letter to the Editor: Irving ISD needs Community to help with Children at Risk!

I was appalled, ashamed, embarrassed and challenged when I saw that the Irving ISD WAS RANKED LAST IN 2014 by Childrenat-

risk.org when that evaluated the 12 largest school districts in North Texas on dealing with children at risk. You can see the report on the above listed

website.

We as a community should rally together with the IISD to find the for-

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at a mental facility when she was just 13. At 16, she left the state, beginning a life long struggle with heroin and alcohol addiction. Ultimately, she bore at least seven children, and either formally or informally traded her beauty for the money and temporary security she could garner from the men willing to pay.

My brother and I were rescued by Eva, our great aunt, who raised us on welfare in Camden, N.J. while working side jobs as a domestic to keep food on the table. Charlie, her husband, lost his handle on life. After attempting to murder my brother and me and then commit suicide, he too was committed to an asylum. And, the clearest memory that I have of Luke – the man I knew as my “biological” father – was the summer day he took me at the age of 5 and my 4-year-old brother Larry to a bar, and forced us to drink straight Scotch for his amusement.

It's reasonable to assume that I would understand and actually encourage MBK's male focus. But my vision of racial justice changed the day I realized that notwithstanding my politics of racial solidarity, I failed to include, much less center, the very women who bore and nurtured me, the women who struggled against, and sometimes failed in the face of stifling conditions that threatened their very existence.

I am not saying that young Black boys and men deserve anything less than we are now getting. And, most certainly, my own biological dad and step-father might well have been better situated to raise me had they had opportunities that allowed them to pursue richer lives.

Certainly, it is worthwhile to be gender-specific in thinking about what kinds of interventions might have made their lives more productive in their own right, not to mention how they might have enhanced their ability to be good fathers to me and to Larry.

And although these efforts are largely situated in the long debate about anti-Black racism, it does make sense to broaden the frame to look at other communities of color as well. But, how can any of us in good faith

think that beginning and ending the quest for racial justice by bettering the lives of males even remotely justifies the deafening silence that obscures the lives of women like my two mothers – lives that were traumatized and devastated because they were poor, Black and female? These were the women who tried to care for me despite the barriers they faced – one sacrificed what little she had to provide a home for me, while the other lost a battle with the demons that ushered her to an early grave.

I want to think that had I been at Obama's press conference as a young man, I would have thanked Eva for her support throughout my life, and that I would have also been able to passionately call for public policies and private initiatives to support her as well as to remove the obstacles that confronted my absent mom, dad and stepfather. But as much as I'd like to think this, I know that as a young man growing up in a community that embraces the idea that Black men are worse off than Black women, it is nearly impossible to forward such a position.

Yet this incarnation of the Black male endangerment narrative does more than ignore women and girls. In a patriarchal society in which male problems typically receive far more attention than those of women, the narrative actually reinforces patterns of beliefs that endanger Black women and girls within their homes, schools, churches and within society at large. As a result, we know, but do we care that Black girls are much more likely to be suspended than all other girls and most boys as well? We know, but do we care, that Black women have lower average incomes and possess significantly less wealth than both Black men and White women? We know, but do we care, that Black women are disproportionately burdened with child care in situations of acute poverty?

Unfortunately, President Obama's My Brother's Keeper initiative, like the Million Man March in 1995, is really a rebranded struggle by and for Black male leadership, empowerment and responsibility that ignores the harm that results from this truncated

vision of racial justice.

To President Obama's credit, the initiative symbolizes a much-needed acknowledgment that racial disparity is still alive and growing in the U.S.

Moreover, it represents an utterly unprecedented collaboration between the public, private, and philanthropic sectors designed to help lift up boys and men of color out of poverty and to cut off the school to prison pipeline. But the underlying message here is rooted in the idea that if we help the boys and men, then the situation of girls and women will inevitably get better. With better husbands and sons everything will just “click.”

At its core, this vision is animated by patriarchal sensibilities – sensibilities that take as normative and unremarkable all of the ways that Black women are disadvantaged as women, while, at the same time, deeming all of the ways in which Black men are disadvantaged as men as uniquely problematic.

## So what must we do?

We must recognize that we have to be as concerned about the experiences of single Black women who raise their kids alone on sub-poverty wages as we are about the disproportionate number of Black men who are incarcerated; that we must care as much about Black women who are the victims of domestic violence as we do about Black boys caught up in the drug trade; and that when we focus on the ways in which Black men are disproportionately excluded from many of the traditional professions, it is incumbent upon us to point out that Black women are disproportionately located in low-income industries that pay substandard wages, offer few benefits, and little opportunity for advancement. In attending to the countless conditions that shape the lives of women in our communities, we will begin the process of reshaping the face of the endangered Black person so that it can embrace the experiences of both Black males and Black girls and women.

*Luke Charles Harris is co-founder of the African American Policy Forum and assistant professor of political science at Vassar College in New York. He was one of the chief organizers of a letter sent by more than 200 Black men to President Obama urging him to expand his Black male initiative to include Black girls and women.*



# Give Dad the gift of health for Father's Day

*More than half of men haven't seen a doctor in the past year*

Many fathers, husbands, sons, brothers, and boyfriends share a common ailment called "Doctor-itis" – avoidance of a trip to the doctor. Whether it's a "macho" thing as some research suggests, or simply fear or lack of time, the scary fact is that men don't take time out of their day to see a doctor.

In honor of Father's Day (June 15) and Men's Health Week (June 9-15), local doctors at AFC/Doctors Express centers in our area urge men to come in for a checkup. Urgent care centers are ideal for the man on the go – no appointments are necessary and later hours offer convenience. The time is right for a doctor's visit since survey information by the American Academy of Family Physicians and the Men's Health Network (MHN) reveals:

- 55 percent of U.S. men haven't seen their M.D. in the past year, and men make half as many doctor visits for prevention as women. (AAFP, National Institutes of Health)

- This is despite the fact that men have a higher death rate for fatal illnesses including cancer and heart disease. (MHN)

"While many men have the attitude that 'nothing's wrong,' or 'I'm fine,' there are several medical problems that don't present symptoms and can lead to trouble down the road if they aren't addressed," says Dr. D. Bruce Irwin, founder of American Family Care. "Most men are guilty of 'doctor avoidance,' and we're urging men to step up and take charge of their health, just as they do with other aspects of their lives."

## Men's Hidden Health Risks

Doctors and experts at the American Osteopathic Association recommend physicals to rule out common problems or identify health risks that often don't show obvious signs including:

- High Blood pressure
- Diabetes
- Elevated Cholesterol Levels

With so many reasons to live a healthier lifestyle, men still lead women in more areas of health risk, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and MHN.

- More men (31 percent) have five or more alcoholic drinks in a day, versus 14 percent of women.

- More men (21 percent) over age 18 smoke cigarettes, versus 18 percent of women.

- Of men under age 65, 18 percent don't have health insurance.

- More men are employed in dangerous occupations, such as construction workers, firefighters, police officers and miners.

- Experts believe healthy behaviors in men and boys are discouraged by "macho" society.

- More men are involved in suicides and car accidents, linked to depression and "risky" youthful behaviors.

"A routine checkup, paired with screenings and lifestyle changes, if necessary, can reduce the risk of chronic illness for men, as well as the chances of needing surgery later in life," Dr. Irwin says. "We want men

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## Dallas urges residents to take precautions against West Nile Virus

The City of Dallas is taking a proactive approach to protecting citizens against the West Nile Virus by continuing its "fight the bite" campaign in 2014 with radio announcements, billboards, social media, brochures and community meetings.

Ground spraying for mosquito control will be based on a positive West Nile Virus mosquito trap result from a public health laboratory or a consistently high mosquito trap count and will take place within five hours after the City is notified. Spray maps and news

releases will be sent to all news media and posted at [dallascitynewsroom.com](http://dallascitynewsroom.com).

Mosquito surveillance efforts occur year-round with off-season trapping conducted from November to April and increased surveillance that includes 90 mosquito traps from May to October.

The City will also continue to work closely with Dallas County and the State of Texas on prevention efforts. City staff will respond quickly to complaints of standing water and will post signs identifying swimming

See VIRUS, Page 12



Are you dealing with the symptoms of schizophrenia?

Researchers are currently conducting a clinical research study of an investigational add-on drug for people with schizophrenia. If you or someone close to you has schizophrenia, you may want to talk to your doctor about participation in this study.

To be eligible to participate in this study you must be:

- Male or female between 18-65 years of age
- Currently diagnosed with schizophrenia
- On a stable medication treatment regimen for ≥2 months
- Willing to follow a treatment plan including routinely scheduled study visits, laboratory tests and other study procedures

If you are eligible to participate in this study, all investigational medication, study related tests and study doctor's visits will be provided at no cost to you. Compensation may be provided to study patients for their time and travel.

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If you, a friend or family member has schizophrenia and would like more information about this study, please contact the study site above.

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# The continued shame of the Dallas County Republican Party's disdain toward black conservatives



## Curtis Report

by Barry Curtis

On the eve of the Texas State Republican Convention we conservatives are mystified at the continued biased being displayed by the Dallas County GOP toward a fellow black conservative. I speak of the courageous campaign of republican Pastor John Lawson, a staunch black conservative who is engaged in a tenacious battle for State Senate

Seat District 23 against Democratic pro abortionist Sen. Royce West.

The Dallas County Republican Party has not only ignored and shunned Pastor Lawson, who is the primary winner for the Republican Party, but they have gone to extreme positions to deny his victory. This is the third major article written about the biased positions of the Dallas county Republican Party against black conservatives and to this point according to the Lawson campaign, the Dallas county GOP has still not picked up the phone and called to offer support. This is odd

since Wade Emmett (Chair of the Dallas County Republican Party) and I spoke after the first controversial column I wrote hit the press three weeks ago. In that conversation, Wade assured me that we would open a dialogue and resolve any issues that may be there. There has been no communication from the county GOP to Mr. Lawson.

Wade, please enlighten me: does the Dallas County GOP not make out bound calls? Wade do you have issues with calling black conservatives or conservatives in general?

Wade Emmert is quoted

as saying, "all he has to do (Pastor John Lawson) is ask for help."

Well Pastor Lawson did you hear that all you have to do is say please? Perhaps say Mother may I? Pastor Lawson they want you as a black conservative to call and beg. Well isn't that the well-polished uppity republican establishment calling the conservative kettle black!

I ask you sir how long will this bullying go on? The longer the Dallas County Republican Party

purposely allows Pastor Lawson to languish all alone against his democratic opponent the less moral ground they can

stand on as a party. There is a tipping point when the discriminatory non value

See CURTIS, Page 11

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## HEALTH, continued from Page 4

to embrace a healthy lifestyle and visit the doctor to get the care they need and deserve."

### Men's Checkup Checklist

Viewing the doctor as an ally rather than an adversary can lead to a longer, healthier life for men. AFC/Doctors Express physicians recommend men follow a Checkup Checklist with a medical professional to address issues that impact men's health the most. According to the NIH that includes:

- Blood pressure: Normal blood pressure is 120/80. If your numbers are higher, your doctor may recommend lifestyle changes, medication or monitoring.

- Cholesterol: Men ages 34 and over should be checked every five years.

- Colon cancer: Men over age 50 should get regular screenings for colorectal cancer.

- Heart disease: According to the CDC, high blood pressure, high LDL cholesterol, and smoking are key risk factors for heart disease. About half of Americans (49 percent) have at least one of these three risk factors.

- Immunizations: Men should get a flu shot every year. Other vaccinations may

be needed if you have other medical conditions

- Osteoporosis: Men ages 50-70 who smoke, drink alcohol or are sedentary, should be screened for os-

teoporosis.

- Prostate cancer: Men over 50 should get a prostate cancer screening annually. Those with a history of prostate cancer and black men should start screening at 45.

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## Education Dept. releases new guidance to support children in foster care

This week the U.S. Department of Education is releasing resources to emphasize and support the needs of foster care students. In addition to new guidance, ED has launched a dedicated web page, Students in Foster Care, and issued a joint letter with the U.S. Department of Health Human Services to education authorities about increasing educational stability for children and youth in foster care.

The guidance released this week will make it easier for caseworkers, child welfare agencies and tribal organizations responsible for the placement and care of



children and youth in foster care to have direct access to their education records. The guidance provides states with information to implement the Uninterrupted Scholars Act (USA), an amendment to The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). It also details the amendment's impact on

the confidentiality provisions in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The guidance will help states improve educational and developmental outcomes for students in foster care by providing authorized agencies with access to the records they need to meet the early inter-

vention or educational needs of the students.

"This guidance is part of our efforts to raise awareness of the needs of this vulnerable student population. When a child is removed from their family and placed in out-of-home care the disruption is extraordinary. Many have to change schools once or sometimes several times," said U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. "This guidance will help lessen the impact of these disruptions and help provide students in foster care with educational stability, by making their school records accessible to those in charge of their care.

We also hope it will shine a light on the benefit of these students staying in their schools and within an education community that can support them through a difficult period."

The USA amends FERPA in the following two ways:

- First, it permits educational agencies and institutions to disclose students' education records to authorized child welfare agency

representatives and tribal organizations.

- Second, the USA also allows educational agencies and institutions to disclose students' education records to authorized child welfare agency representatives and tribal organizations following a judicial order, without requiring additional notice to the parent.

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## LETTER, continued from Page 3

mula to better serve our at risk children. One person asked if this was due to the poverty level of a large part of the school children in Irving. Duh? Money has everything to do with the delivery of services to children at risk in any school district not just in Irving.

My point is that we, the Irving community, and the IISD CAN AND MUST DO BETTER to serve our students/ children at risk. I ask everyone who reads these words to pray that God will use all of us to raise the money and whatever else the IISD

needs to better serve our at risk kids. Everyone knows that the vast majority of these at risk kids are Black and Brown.

The Black and Brown community of Irving needs to contribute money, time and any resources they have to help the IISD HELP THEIR OWN CHILDREN!

Anthony Bond, Irving



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# The truth about pets and dating

(Phoenix)—PetSmart Charities and Match teamed up to reveal what pet-loving singles want when searching for a two-legged companion. With over 80 percent of Match singles identified as pet lovers, “The Truth about Pets and Dating” survey of 1,000 singles helps connect the dots between dating and pets to give singles a new “leash” on love.

Local pet loving singles attended “Dog Date Afternoon” at North Bark Dog Park on June 1. About 40 singles attended the mixer event to meet fellow pet lovers and enjoyed training sessions, performances by the Purina Pro Plan Performance Team and ice cream from local food truck, “What’s da Scoop?”

The results pinpoint when to introduce their pet to a potential date; how singles rely on their pet’s judgment of a date; and, whether or not “cat people” and “dog people” can truly make a love connection.

“As the leader in pet



adoptions in North America, we take pride in making the perfect match between adopted pets and their new pet parents,” said Todd Cramer, senior programs manager, PetSmart Charities. “This survey has confirmed that pets play a significant role in making (or

breaking) a relationship. The key is knowing how to successfully introduce your adopted pet into a budding relationship and to make your pet a priority in your dating life.”

Below are highlights from the “Truth about Pets and Dating” survey, includ-

ing:

- **Pet Adoption is Hot:** 59 percent of singles agree that finding out your date had adopted rather than bought their pet would make them seem more attractive.

- **Bark Off:** 66 percent of men and women would not date someone who didn’t like pets.

- **Paws Turn Heads:** 27 percent of women find photos of pets in an online dating profile a turn-on.

- **Puppy Bait:** Men are almost four times more likely to use their pet to attract a potential date than women (22 percent vs. 6 percent).

- **Vetting it Out:** 70 percent of singles think their dates’ reaction to their pet is important.

- **Animal Attraction:** 35 percent of single women have been more attracted to someone because of their pet.

- **Hot Dogs:** 72 percent of single women say that a dog is the “hottest pet a guy could own.”

- **Purse Pooches:** 28 per-

cent of single men would be turned off if a woman’s pet could fit in her handbag.

- **Dog Eat... Cat?** Dog owners are less open to having a relationship with a cat owner. Only 66 percent of dog owners would date “cat people” vs. 97 percent of cat owners who would date “dog people.”

- **Time to Meet the Pet:** 46 percent of singles would bring their pet to a walking trail on a first date.

“Dating can be a dog-eat-dog world, so one way to get a leg-up on the competition is to adopt a dog – especially if you’re a guy,” says Whitney Casey, Match relationship expert. “And like the movie, 66 percent of single pet-owners agree that their date Must Love Dogs (or cats) – whatever their pet may be, they’re more likely to find a compatible match if they share the same animal attraction.”

## FOSTER, continued from Page 6

ED is working with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to provide new resources to support educators and child welfare professionals in their work to improve the well-being of students in foster care. ED and HHS released a letter advising local educational and child welfare agencies to coordinate efforts to en-

sure the educational stability of students in foster care under the Fostering Connections Act.

ED also launched the Students in Foster Care webpage this week, which provides information on important laws, guidance and technical assistance materials.

The new guidance, letter and web

page are just three of ED’s continuing efforts to improve outcomes for children and youth in foster care.

The Department has also worked to raise awareness of the impact of the Uninterrupted Scholars Act on the IDEA.

The Obama administration believes that if we can improve the lives of the most vulnerable students, it will lead to better outcomes for all students.

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- Senior Pastor, Mount Zion Apostolic Baptist Church - 30 years
- Director, Office of Discipleship Management, National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.
- Founder and President, Southern Foundation for Biblical Studies (SFBBS) - Organization established to promote biblical and theological education to the people of God
- Senior Fellow, Department of Homeland Security and Defense, North Carolina Central University, Durham, North Carolina
- National Advisor for National Security, National Baptist Convention
- National Committee member, North Texas Alliance for National Security

**Previous Leadership**

- Regional Vice President, National Baptist Congress of Christian Education of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.
- President, Texas State Ministry Baptist Convention, Inc.
- Director of The Alameda Baptist College, San Rafael, Texas

**Accomplishments**

- Provided leadership for building a church that has thrived since its founding in 1900, and that has received national recognition for its role in the community.
- Organized and built a national media center, employing 3 editors and a printing plant.
- Provided the resources for shaping water wells and water systems.
- Helped build the Evangelical Bible Seminary in New York, New York.
- Authored the book, "The Lord is My Shepherd," published 2008.

**The Family Man**

- Dr. Vaughn is happily married to Brenda Cathryn Vaughn. They have 3 children: Matthew, Brandon, and Jordan, and 4 grandchildren.

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# KROGER, continued from Page 1

many long battles in the struggle to run a minority publication.

“When you have an African American newspaper you fight a lot of battles,” Maxine said.

But having to pick her battles, Session decided not to pursue the lost distribution drop and concentrate on moving forward.

During an interview, Tate denied the conversation with Walter and suggested that the person to talk to regarding the matter would be Brian Mixon, another store manager.

At first, Mixon claimed Kroger Corporate made the decision to stop carrying the African American newspaper. But he quickly retracted his statement and claimed the regional office in Houston would have made the decision. Rather than expound upon the decision, he suggested contacting the consumer affairs office in Dallas.

James Smith, a long-time reader of the *Texas Informer* newspaper, said he was very concerned when he saw the newspaper was no longer available at the store. He stated that the absence of the newspaper affects the local African American community as well as other ethnicities in the area that read the publication.

“Many other groups, Asians and what have you, not just Blacks read the paper,” he said.

Other publications, such as *The Power Pages News*, have reported receiving the same clear message from Kroger that they weren’t in-

vited. The publication has served Collin and its surrounding counties for almost 20 years.

Publisher and founder Hattie Kelly said that her newspaper has sought advertisement from Kroger for several years to no avail.

Black newspapers depend on advertising funds to provide jobs in the community – such as secretaries, reporters, graphic artists, etc., even summer internships for students.

Other Texas publishers have experienced the same response from Kroger, according to Mollie F. Belt, vice president of the Texas Publisher’s Association.

Belt is also the publisher and CEO of *The Dallas Examiner*. Her newspaper doesn’t receive any ads from the grocer either.

Karen Carter Richards, CEO and publisher of *Houston Forward Times*, said Kroger flat-out refuses to advertise with any Black newspaper in Houston.

“We don’t do any advertising in any African American newspapers,” Theresa Bordelon, Kroger’s regional hub manager told Judy Foston, *Houston Forward Times*’ publicist.

This is not expected to change any time soon. Even though Kroger’s is ranked 23rd on the list of Fortune 500 companies, it has no advertising budget allowed for its African American consumers.

In 2013, Kroger set aside \$198,058,196 for advertising. Mainstream television stations,

## The Kroger Company ADVERTISING

| CATEGORY                    | 2013          | 2012          | %GROWTH |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------|
| Television Spot             | \$86,868,459  | \$75,992,229  | 14.3%   |
| Newspapers                  | \$42,888,312  | \$42,853,068  | 0.1%    |
| Local Radio Summary         | \$39,401,595  | \$42,013,186  | -6.1%   |
| Outdoor                     | \$14,039,582  | \$12,186,852  | 15.2%   |
| U.S. Internet – Display     | \$6,649,711   | \$8,110,329   | -17.9%  |
| Magazines                   | \$4,643,761   | \$2,843,753   | 63.3%   |
| National Radio Spot         | \$1,536,202   | \$1,650,188   | -6.8%   |
| US Internet – Search        | \$1,032,616   | \$1,059,486   | -2.4%   |
| National Newspapers         | \$398,000     | \$701,744     | -43.2%  |
| Hispanic Newspapers         | \$218,426     | \$207,270     | 5.4%    |
| African American Newspapers | \$0           | \$0           | 0%      |
| Total Advertising Spent     | \$198,058,196 | \$192,067,928 | 3.1%    |

Source: The Kroger Company

newspapers and radio stations received the bulk of the advertising, which is common. It carved out a small portion for other minority media, but refused to include African American media.

However, Blacks spend \$1 billion annually in supermarkets, with Kroger being their second choice.

“Are we really invited in their stores?” Belt asked. Or has the Black community become complacent?

“After so many years of being told ‘No,’ I’ve just stayed away. But now I feel it’s time to take ac-

tion as a group,” said Kelly, who is the president of TPA.

Forming a united front, the publishers of TPA – representing African American newspapers across Texas – hope to spread their message to their readers.

Fifty years ago, one would not expect businesses to invite them in through advertising or carrying products designed for the African American community. Blacks took what they could get because that’s the way things were. But the Black community no longer has to accept being left out. TPA suggested that the African American

community demand equality from their grocers.

Without fear of repercussions, Blacks can ask their managers for products that are designed to meet their needs; write to corporate offices and express their concerns about the lack of advertising geared toward their needs, and printed in the publications they read most; and insist that they carry African American publications in their stores.

Furthermore, TPA has suggested that African Americans do business with people who do business with Black businesses.

# Could new bill jeopardize black home ownership?

By Saeed Shabazz  
Special to the NNPA  
from *The Final Call*

A proposed bill could potentially impact two federal programs geared toward home ownership.

According to the *Reverse Mortgage Daily*, the new housing reform bill would scale down and eliminate the Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSEs) known as Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, the lending programs which helped boost the percentage of Black home ownership.

The new bill would end the affordable housing goals of both programs and would be replaced with a new agency the Federal Mortgage Insurance Corporation, a government re-insurer, Marc Morial, President and CEO of the

National Urban league explained to *The Final Call*.

The Housing Finance Reform and Taxpayer Act of 2013 (S-1217) or the Johnson-Crapo bill, as it is also known was voted out of the Senate Committee on Banking and Urban Affairs, May 15 by a bipartisan vote of 13 for 9 against.

Mr. Morial argued that people must stay focused on the new bill and pointed out that a glaring omission in it is the affordable housing component of the bill.

Proponents of the bill are seemingly at odds with Mr. Morial and the coalition of organizations fighting its passage, arguing the bill is in fact important for allowing families to purchase homes using mortgages that are not guaranteed by the government.

“Real reform is clearly necessary to stabilize the housing system and renew the faith in the American dream of home ownership for generations to come,” according to a statement released by one of the bill’s co-sponsors Sen. Bill Johnson (D-South Dakota).

Opponents disagree. It will make it much more difficult for low or moderate-income first-time home buyers to realize the ‘American Dream’ if they end Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, argued Arnold Nelson, a resident of Kansas City, Kansas. “We bought our first home in Denver, Colorado in 1986 because of Fannie Mae, which allowed us to get a mortgage at a lower rate,” Mr. Nelson told *The Final Call*.

Some observers note that what

Sen. Johnson really meant is that the bill intends to encourage the return of private investors to replace the function of the Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

“That’s definitely bad news, because the commercial lenders charge higher rates, and they sell your mortgage to the next highest bidder without your consent,” said Mr. Nelson.

“The biggest problem with Johnson-Crapo is that it would eliminate the GSEs’ affordable housing goals,” said New York attorney Matthew Russell Lee, publisher of *Inner City Press* and CEO of Fair Finance Watch, a Bronx-based housing mortgage and bank loan watchdog organization.

He added that because of the

close vote by the Banking Committee, the U.S. Senate Majority Leader, Harry Reid (D-Nevada) isn’t going to bring it to the floor [for a vote].

Like Mr. Morial, Mr. Lee said he is watching developments closely.

Mr. Morial reminds *The Final Call* that for Blacks building wealth through homeownership is very important. “Blacks are the only racial or ethnic group that continues to experience a home ownership decline in the economic recovery period [down 2.5 percent],” he stressed.

Mr. Morial repeated that what must be stressed is that any new bill “must help to ensure access to affordable mortgage credit for all credit-worthy borrowers.



# Sakurazak's novel heats up the screen in *Edge of Tomorrow*

By Dwight Brown  
NNPA Film Critic

Day after day. Over and over again. He can see his demise. But no one else can see theirs. Until...

In Hiroshi Sakurazak's 2004 military science-fiction novel *All You Need Is Kill*, Mimics (vicious, crustacean-looking aliens) invade Japan. Keiji Kiriya, the book's protagonist, is a young recruit who is suited up in gunnery armor called a "Jacket" and thrust out on to a battlefield to kill the evil extraterrestrials.

Keiji dies. He's reborn each morning to fight and die again. On his 158th trip into déjà vu combat, a mysterious female soldier named "Full Metal Bitch" gives



him a clue to his salvation.

For *Edge of Tomorrow*, the screen adaptation of Sakurazak's book, screenwriter Christopher McQuarrie, who is quite adept at writing brain-twisting scripts (*The Usual Suspects*), and co-writers

Jez and John-Henry Butterworth (Fair Game, CIA operative Valarie Plame's story) change the locale from Japan to a French beach (ala the Invasion of Normandy), some time in the future. Keiji becomes public relations ex-

pert Major William Cage (Tom Cruise), a paper-pushing pretty boy spin-doctor who has never seen a day of combat.

In London, he glibly mouths off to a commanding officer, Gen. Brigham (Brendan Gleeson) and quickly finds himself shanghaied

and shoved onto the front lines battling aliens who massacre the troops. Cage, a poser not a fighter, gets annihilated. But when he dies, the day starts again. He's stuck in a cycle of eternal warfare,

See **EDGE**, Page 11

## NDG Book Review: *Over Our Dead Bodies: Undertakers Lift the Lid*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The End.

It comes after the walking-into-the-sunset shot in old movies, usually in florid script. You see it in books for children, more than for adults. It's at the tail of short stories, tongue-in-cheek advertisements, sarcastic social media postings ... and life.

And then what? What happens to your mortal remains when that's all that remains? Take a peek at

"Over Our Dead Bodies" by Kenneth McKenzie and Todd Harra, and you'll get a general idea.

In your job, you basically know what to expect from day to day. Not so, if you're an undertaker. When you care for the dead and their families, anything can happen – and McKenzie and Harra prove that well.

But first – a little history.

Take the label "undertaker," for example. It initially had to do with the undertaking of proper burial

but some 130 years ago, the National Funeral Directors Association officially changed the title to "funeral director."

Back then, funeral directors and cabinet makers went hand-in-hand; someone had to make the coffins, so why not someone with wood-working skills? The business was then passed down through the family, with many an undertaker getting his (or her) start as a child, sweeping the parking lot, pulling

See **BOOK**, Page 16

## Little Elm Craft Brew and Que Festival will feature live music on June 14

LITTLE ELM – Enjoying a worldwide resurgence, the art of brewing craft beer in small batches and competing for public appreciation is coming to Little Elm during the inaugural Brew and Que Festival, Saturday, June 14 from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., says Festival and Special Events Coordinator Megan McGraw.

"The festival is a first for North Texas," she said. "We've designed it to capture the essence of the all-American afternoon at the lake – brews, barbeque, live music and fun. What's not to love?"

Set for Little Elm Park on the shores of Lake Lewisville, 701 West Eldorado Parkway, the festival will also include a family-friendly environment, allowing fun for all ages.



"We will have over 30 brewers present their best beers," she added.

"They'll come from all over the North Texas region, showcasing their premium draughts. We'll also be able to sample national and international brews, represented by larger local distributors."

In addition, wine and non-alcoholic beverages will be available.

Also invited are a number of traditional and exotic barbeque ven-

dors, offering sampling portions at affordable prices. The variety of barbeque styles will include various Asian-inspired dishes along with the more traditional Texas-based barbeque offerings.

"If you're going to have a brew and barbeque event, you've got to have live music," stated McGraw. Attendees can enjoy live music by "Rodney Parker and 50 Peso Reward," "The O's," and "Green Light Pistol."

Entry to the Little Elm Craft Brew and Que is free. However, the beer, wine, drinks and barbeque will be sold at a festival discount.

Alcohol can only be consumed on the premises and adequate photo identification proving appropriate drinking age will be required to purchase beer or wine.

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**EDGE,** continued from Page 10

until he meets Special Forces warrior Rita Vrataski (Emily Blunt) who sends him a lifeline, "Find me when you wake up."

The very ambitious script is very smartly directed by Doug Liman, who knows how to wring the last drop of sweat and fear out of action films (The Bourne Identity) and is pretty sly when it comes to making tempestuous male/female thrillers (Mr. & Mrs. Smith).

With the help of editor James Herbert (Sherlock Holmes), Oscar-winning cinematographer Dion Beebe (Memoirs of a Geisha) and set decorator Elli Griff (Gladiator) what you see, ad nauseum, is an incessant, fast-paced and graphic nightmare, filled with loud predatory demons (the sound and visual effects are more realistic than those in the recent Godzilla). This is a near-perfect setting for a candy-ass anti-hero who has to man-up.

Back in 1981 when Tom Cruise played Cadet Captain David Shawn in Taps, he stole the movie from Timothy Hutton and Sean Penn with a steely swagger. Thirty odd years later, after Top Gun, A Few Good Men, Mission: Impossible ... he's still on top of his game. He can shine in

any movie—even one with a dour, tough-to-watch Groundhog's Day scenario that may not appeal to everyone. His performance is riveting.

And, though they never make love and only steal a kiss in an awkward moment, the unrequited sexual tension between Cruise and Emily Blunt is as tangible as their suicide missions. Gleeson and other cast members like Bill Paxton (Titanic) support the main performances, but their contributions are grossly overshadowed.

What will stick with you as you ponder what you've just witnessed, is this stinging feeling that you were trapped in a barrage of psychological terror. You were brutalized against your will. You know what is coming, but you're completely helpless as the devil holds his finger on the reset button of your life and smiles while you squirm.

Credit a smart script, smarter direction, excellent production elements and an unflappable leading man for taking you to hell and back—over and over again.

Visit NNPA Film Critic Dwight Brown at [DwightBrownInk.com](http://DwightBrownInk.com).

**CURTIS,** continued from Page 5

they show Pastor Lawson becomes perilously close to racial discrimination.

Morally how long can the Dallas county establishment elements of the GOP deny the republican challenger who won the primary any support? Dr. Martin Luther King taught us that the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice. This is a clear injustice. In addition this is a clear embarrassment for the Dallas county GOP, at least the establishment elements of it who show a clear disdain for not only black conservatives but conservatives in general.

Wade Emmert when you address the state delegates to the GOP convention in Fort Worth this week, to whom will you be talking to? Will you be addressing all the candidates gathered, All but the conservative candidates, all but the black

conservative candidates? Be careful Dallas county establishment GOP your audience is getting smaller and smaller.

I wonder if my press credentials will be approved to attend the state republican convention.

Barry Curtis can be reached at [www.TheCurtis-report.com](http://www.TheCurtis-report.com).

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# Hey Irving, Pick Us Up!

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

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**Iglesia Santa Marie de Guadalupe**  
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**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**  
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 530 Davis Street

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 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



**JOHNSON**, continued from Page 2

ington, the great James Solomon Russell, St. Paul's would be the perfect location for a residential school for Black boys.

Located in a rural section of southern Virginia, not far from the North Carolina border, St. Paul's campus is reclusive enough and sizeable enough to be the perfect psycho-academic training camp for the current generation of Black boys.

Psychologist and kinsman to Frederick Douglass, Dr. Umar Johnson, is attempting to purchase the St. Paul's College to be transformed into the Frederick Douglass and Marcus Garvey RBG International Leadership Academy for Black Boys. This academy will be based on a global business model that prepares Black boys for self-employment and entrepreneurship, not merely acceptance into col-

lege.

The banking establishment and the higher education systems of America are in collaboration to put more African-Americans into financial debt in the name of a collegiate education. This is a collegiate education that is increasingly becoming useless in the face of an economy that is becoming more global, while it does nearly nothing to ensure that enough jobs remain in the United States for college-educated young adults.

The FDMG Academy will teach our children to be masters of Agricultural/Agromonomical Science, Economic/Financial Science, Political/Military Science, Nutritional/Dietary Science, Family/Community Science, and African-Centered Spiritual/Cosmological Science. In addition to these six core sciences, and the three

"R's," our boys will be taught to master at least two building trades (i.e., electrical, cosmetology, plumbing, auto, carpentry, HVAC, computer network/design, masonry, etc).

Why the trades? A man's bread and butter are only guaranteed when he can work for them. During the 1970s America's public school system began working in concert with the racist building trade unions to systematically see to the removal of the trade building programs from predominately Black high schools, which created a blue-collar skills gap in Black communities, particularly in the inner-cities, which was then quickly monopolized by white labor.

With Black parents brainwashing their children into thinking that their is no hope without college, we have seen generation after generation of Black youth

turn their backs on the building trades only to end up graduating Magna Cum Laude with a doctoral degree that has no marketability in the competitive job pool.

Our residential academy will provide our boys with the discipline, structure and masculine energy needed from strong caring Black men. A heaven on earth, a home away from home, is what we have in store for our boys.

A powerhouse academy where they love coming to school and never have to worry about being misdiagnosed and thrown into special education for "invisible" disabilities like ADHD and Emotional Disturbances (ED). This would be the first residential academy in U.S. history for boys based upon the principles of traditional African culture.

Resumes are now being

accepted at FDMGResumes@gmail.com.

Dr. Umar Johnson is a Doctor of Clinical Psychology, Certified School Psychologist & Certified School Principal. Dr. Johnson can be reached at

[www.DrUmarJohnson.com](http://www.DrUmarJohnson.com) or 215-989-9858. He welcomes correspondence from parents with issues protecting and educating their children from special education abuse and ADHD exploitation.

**VIRUS**, continued from Page 4

pools and other large water sources that have been treated to prevent mosquito breeding.

Increased vigilance will help eliminate potential breeding sites, since mosquitoes can grow from egg to adult in as little as seven days. Breeding sites for mosquitoes include stagnant swimming pools, stagnant ponds, pet water dish, birdbaths, potted plants, tires, empty containers, toys

and clogged gutters and drains.

Citizens have an important role to play in protecting themselves and their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes. The best way to "fight the bite" and avoid exposure to the West Nile virus is by employing the 4 Ds':

- Defend yourself by using insect repellents – Follow label instructions
- Dress in long sleeves and pants, loose and light colored clothing when

outside

• Dusk and dawn, stay indoors to avoid mosquitoes when they are most active

• Drain standing water and install or repair window screens

To report standing water or mosquito problems call 3-1-1.

For more information visit [dallascitynewsroom.com](http://dallascitynewsroom.com) and click on the West Nile Virus tab at the top of the page.

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## TWC warns against false employment scams

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) wants Texas job seekers to be aware that unscrupulous people posing as potential employers may try to take their money in exchange for non-existent jobs, even sometimes posing as representatives of established businesses.

Some scammers post from legitimate job-matching websites, such as TWC's WorkInTexas.com, or have used Workforce Solutions offices to meet with the job seekers. In all cases the job seeker received promises of employment and a request for some type of up-front payment.

Reported incidents include checks sent for the victim to cash. The false employer explains that the so-called "new employee" may keep a portion of the money deposited as a signing bonus and then asks the victim to send the rest of the money to a specific address. The check later bounces

and the job seeker is out all the money.

Another reported scam includes false employers conducting interviews through instant messaging or on the phone resulting in a job offer and then asking the job seeker to purchase a prepaid card and transfer the funds to the false employer for training, a background check, uniforms or equipment needed to begin work.

Job seekers should never provide personally identifiable information to an employer prior to a face-to-face meeting. Job seekers also should never cash checks from anyone claiming to be an employer, or purchase any equipment, licenses, certifications, starter kits, or software packages prior to validating the employer.

TWC encourages individuals to check their bank or other online accounts for unusual activity if they sus-

pect they are victims of a similar scam. To report suspicious activity, please call TWC's Fraud and Program Abuse Hotline at 800-252-3642.



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Hobby Lobby is a leader in the Arts & Crafts industry with 530 stores and growing located in 46 states. Candidates must have previous retail store management experience in one of the following:

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**Positions:** Field Engineer I (Rodman)

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**Must Be 21 Years of Age to Apply**

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This person will perform duties in relation to the layout of construction stakes for the purpose of heavy civil construction. This position will entail exposure to the environment and heights, as well as mental and physical challenges. Will be exposed to loud noises of the construction site, as well as work safely around heavy moving equipment. This person will be called upon to drive stakes, set lines and grades with assistance from the field party, and learn to operate surveying equipment used in this craft. Will also be expected to use all manners of hand tools. Will be expected to be versatile to assist craft crews with their duties when called upon to do so, and will aid the crews in expediting any operation they can. Requires a high school diploma.

**Ed Bell Construction Company** is seeking an experienced rodman/learning instrumentman for projects in the D/FW area. Heavy highway and robotic total station experience a plus. Applicants must be able to pass pre-employment drug screen and physical. To schedule an interview, please fax resumes to 214-352-3201 Attn: Engineering Mgr.; or call 469-951-0350.

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## Church Happenings

### AVENUE F CHURCH OF CHRIST IN PLANO

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

**June 8, 9:30 a.m.**  
You're invited to join us in Morning Services as we worship and praise God for all of His goodness.

**June 11**  
Join us for Wednesday Morning Bible Class at 10:30 a.m.; and come back for Evening Bible Classes at 7 p.m.

**June 26, 8 a.m.**  
You're invited to our Annual Ladies Program with Dr. Kristen Guillory as our key note speaker this year. To Whom Much is Given, Much is Required, is our theme. Registration will start at 8 a.m. A continental breakfast and lunch will be served. Visit our website for more details.

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

### BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

**June 8, 9:45 a.m.**  
You're invited to worship with us as we praise and worship God for all of His blessings. Our mission is to

empower individuals to live like Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

**June 11, 7 p.m.**  
Join us for Bible Study Night as we learn what God has to say in His word.

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

### CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN RICHARDSON

**June 8, 8:45 or 11 a.m.**  
Join us in our Morning Service as we honor and praise God for His blessings to us.

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

### FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "The Ship"

**Monday – Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
TheShip3C's Prayer Lines for those that are in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567 or they may be submitted via email to: prayerline@theship3c.org

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

**What's on Your Mind?**  
Don't copy the behavior, attitude and action of the world. Let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Romans 12: 2a. Join us for one or both of our Worship Services as we praise God for the victories in our lives.

**June 8, 9:30 a.m.**  
You're welcome to join us as we honor and praise God for all His blessings at 1550 Edelweiss Drive in Allen in our Sunday Morning Worship.

**June 11, 7 p.m.**  
You're invited to our Wednesday Night Live Bible Study to learn more about God's Word at our 200 W. Belmont Drive location.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed.D.  
Senior Pastor  
1550 Edelweiss Drive  
In Allen for Sunday Morning Worship.  
Admin. Building Address  
Is 200 W. Belmont Drive  
Allen, TX 75013  
972-359-9956  
www.theship3c.org

### BIBLE WAY COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

**June 16-20, 6:30 p.m.**  
Don't miss the boat! It's all hands on deck as we Gangway to Galilee, at Bible Way's 2014 Vacation Bible School! Set sail for a fun filled, seaside adventure, as we learn that it's not what we do and not what we say-but it's God's Amazing Grace! Classes for ages 3 through Adult. On-Line Registration.

Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Pastor  
4215 N. Greenview Drive  
Irving, TX 75062  
972-257-3766  
www.biblewayirving.org

### RHEMA LIFE CHURCH IN PLANO

**June 8, 10 a.m.**  
You are invited and welcome to join us for our Praise and Worship Service. Come and bring someone with you.

Rev. James W. Thomas, Pastor/Founder  
3801 K Avenue  
Plano, TX 75074  
469-467-7575

### SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

**June, Every Sunday**  
Our Nurse's station (Room #137) will be open every Sunday from 9:30am-10am for any assistance as needed.

**June 8, 8 a.m.**  
Join us Sunday Morning Worship Services as we

worship God for His blessings..

**June 11, 7 p.m.**  
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word.

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

### THE INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH

**June 8, 7:30 and 11:30 a.m.**  
You're invited to join us as we worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name.

**June 9, 7 p.m.**  
Come to Monday School as we study the Word of God. We will worship Him and praise His Holy name.

**June 23-27, 7 p.m.**  
Tithing our time to God; you are welcome and encourage to come.

Pastor Rickie Rush  
7701 S Westmoreland Road  
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www.lbocchurch.org

### WORD OF LIFE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

**Mondays - Fridays Early Prayer, 5 a.m.**  
Join us in prayer early in the morning at 5 a.m. on Monday – Friday at 1-661-673-8600, Code # 142219 and please put your phone on mute. God will meet you and prayer does change people, things and situations.

**June 8, 10 a.m.**  
Join us in Sunday School with Elder/Superintendent Greg Mason; adult class teacher, Sis. Vicki Mason; and children class teacher and Director of our children's choir, Evangelist Elizabeth McAfee.

Dr. Gregory E. Voss, Senior Pastor  
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# 'May I have your order please?'



**Sister Tarpley**

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

Once I attended a high school graduation at The Inspiring Body of Christ Church (IBOC) where Dr. Rickie G. Rush is the Senior Pastor; he also gave the Commencement Address that year.

Looking at the students and the happiness on their faces, anyone could guess that it was very special to them. I can imagine that in spite of the hardships, tragedies and tears that came into their lives the students had made it through their high school graduation.

This was one major landmark in their lives; their future plans may include graduating from college or a Trade School.

There will be other milestones they will face, but they can take great comfort in knowing that God was with them every step of the way and He will continue to

be with them.

It was a very unique graduation from start to finish, instead of the normal "pomp and circumstances" graduation ceremony, these seniors marched in and out of the auditorium as they were singing, "Thank God We Made It."

It was such an inspiring message that I will share it with you again and pray that not only graduates this year but other young people will be encouraged by what God has in store for them. God is always in control of everything that happens.

## MAY I HAVE YOUR ORDER PLEASE?

By Dr. Rickie G. Rush

There are times in life that in order to be successful, things must happen outside the box. By completing this milestone in their lives, the 2014 Graduating Classes all over the world are already thinking outside the box. Because up to this point in their lives, there were many world events as well as the regular problems of growing up that they had to face.

Long before they were

born or shortly after they were born, someone said a prayer (a prayer is simply talking to someone you can't see or prove that they are there, but you believe, you have faith that what you said was heard.)

The result of that prayer is what is happening all over the country with our graduates at this time. Think of these graduates' lives as going through a drive-through fast food

restaurant.

The prayer of the parent or guardian was him/her driving up to a menu board and placing an order with God about that child. By faith, God assured the parent or guardian that this order was possible, yes, you can have it, He probably said.

The order caused an appetite in the graduate and he/she was asked to drive to the next window to pick up

the order.

There are an assortment of things that happens between when the order is placed and when it is picked up. What happens between the order and the pick-up is what tests your trust and faith in God.

In between you will experience some tragedies, you may have a serious illness, the death of a mother, father, a sister or brother, a grandmother or grandfather, a favorite aunt, uncle or friend.

There may be a divorce in the family, sexual, physical or even mental abuse between the order and the pickup to discourage the graduate. There are times that you will look back because you are miserable and tired of things that seem to happen only to you.

But when you look back, God will give you valor and

you will say to yourself, that at least I'm further up the road than when I started. I might not be as far along as I want to be at this time in my life, but thank God I'm farther up the road than I thought; it's not a good choice to turn back now.

You can say that to yourself because once the order was placed, God placed someone behind the scene that is responsible for helping to get your order ready for pickup. Someone to give you encouraging words, someone to smile at you, to give you a pat on the back, to teach you, to pray for you, etc. You can't see that person but you know that someone is helping to fill the order for your pickup.

Before you get to the pickup window (your status in life) there's a price that

See TARPEY, Page 16



Mr. Carl Ray and Ms. Sharon Cahill Goff with Kiersten Goff on high school graduation 2014. Kiersten graduated with a 4.16 GPA

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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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Isiah Joshua, Jr.  
Pastor



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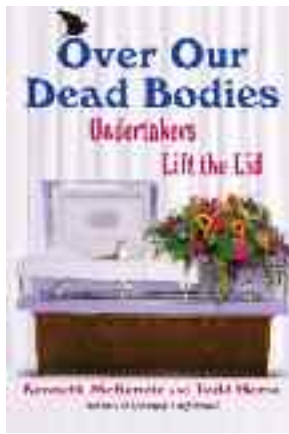
## BOOK, continued from Page 10

weeds, or helping out inside.

But getting back to the main point: “no day is the same” for a funeral director. You can’t ever prepare yourself for a “Goat” to appear on someone’s last wishes. You can’t fail to be impressed at the timing of a husband and wife who die within hours of one another. You can’t remain unfazed by any coincidence, really, and you’ll never get over the death of your own mother, no matter how

many mothers you’ve buried.

Still, funerals aren’t “doom and gloom and death and dying and tears and crying every day, all day.” Funny things happen – like a hearse caught in a snowstorm and a funeral rescued by a beat-up pickup. Like a jazz funeral that ended with a second chorus. Like superstitions, accidental love-matches, funeral crashers, and life stories that start with a piece of furniture and go full circle.



And speaking of life, the authors say, enjoy yours to the fullest “because you too will one day be pushing daisies.”

No pun intended, but my first impression of “Over Our Dead Bodies” was that it was a little stiff.

There’s quite a bit off-topic in the first few pages here – extraneous info that felt like a commercial – and because of that, it seems to take awhile for authors

Kenneth McKenzie and Todd Harra to get to the body of their book. Once they do, however, we’re treated to the kinds of tales we’d normally beg to hear when we’d meet an undertaker at a cocktail party, as well as personal stories and a rambling (and quite fasci-

nating) social history of death and funerals.

But fear not: this isn’t macabre stuff; it’s funny and poignant and, as you dig in, it’s very, very addicting. Once you’ve started “Over our Dead Bodies,” in fact, you’ll like it to The End.

## TARPLEY, continued from Page 15

you, the graduate, must pay, there are the tragedies and misfortunes in your life that you must overcome and there are the other grades in school that you have to pass prior to your senior year. That’s why it is important that you surround yourself with people that will help you get to your order.

Some prayers were special orders and they won’t get picked up as soon as others. Some graduates had to watch from the side as others passed them by before they could get to the pickup window. There may be adoptions, learning disabilities, neglect and other storms in your life along the way.

When you finally get to the pickup window for a particular milestone in your life, you may ask yourself, “How do I know this is God?” You will know it is God because no one else will know of your pain, your headache, your tears and your goals because you didn’t tell anyone else about the order that was placed long ago.

You are very unique to God. When He made you, He put something in you that you will need for the storms in your life. He made you with your storms in mind.

Some of you had a rough start but you have made it to this landmark in your life,

don’t quit, don’t get out of the pickup line, you have somewhere to go, some-

thing to do, something to accomplish in your life. Remember it’s not how you start out, but how you finish in life that’s important.

*Cheryl Smith's*

# Don't Believe the Hype

*Celebrity Bowl-a-thon*

**Saturday, June 28, 2014**

**USA Bowl**  
10920 Composite Drive, Dallas

**6:00 p - VIP Reception**  
**8:00 p - Bowling begins**  
**214-941-0110**

Gina Smith & Associates

**(214) 749-0040**

Downtown Dallas  
Location  
Payment Plans Available

## Criminal Defense Wills & Estates Personal Injury

## Ed Bell Construction Company

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

**Date:** May 23, 2014 until filled  
**Taking applications for CDL Truck Drivers (water truck, dump truck, tandem, fuel trucks)**  
**Positions Available:** multiple openings  
**Pay Rate:** Negotiable  
**Class “A or B” CDL License Required With Clean Driving Record.**  
**Fuel Truck Driver must have tanker endorsement**  
**3 Years Experience Required**  
**Must pass a Criminal Background check**  
**DOT Physical and NIDA Drug Screen Required**  
**Must Be 21 Years of Age to Apply**

**Job Description:**  
Drives truck equipped with auxiliary mixer to deliver concrete mix to job sites. Drives truck under loading hopper to receive sand, gravel, cement, and water and starts mixer. Drives truck to location for unloading. Moves levers on truck to release concrete down chute into wheelbarrow or other conveying container or directly into the area to be poured with concrete. Cleans truck after delivery to prevent concrete from hardening in mixer and on truck using watering hose and hammer. May spray surfaces of truck with protective compound to prevent adhering of concrete. Will assemble and disassemble concrete chutes on every load. Cleans mixer trucks by brushing on acid. Removes concrete inside the mixer drum using a chipping hammer. Helps assemble and disassemble portable concrete batching plant. If assigned truck is being repaired and no other truck is available, may be asked to work as a traffic flagger.

**Must apply in PERSON, Monday – Friday from 8am to 11am  
@ 10605 Harry Hines Blvd.**