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A race to the bottom

By James Clingman
NNPA Columnist

If you and your children were sitting at the dinner table, with no food and no prospects for getting any, what would you say to them and what would you do? Would you tell them they have no food because you cannot get a job? Would you tell them the reason they are hungry is that racism exists? Would you try to make them understand that their lack of food is the fault of some Asian, White, or Arab boogeyman who wants Black people to starve to death? What would you say?

Would you swallow your pride and ask a friend or relative or social agency for immediate help? Would you go out and get them some food by any means necessary? Rob? Steal? Borrow? Would you go to a church and ask for food? What would you do?

That scenario, as farfetched as it may seem, is something we should at least think about. As the so-called middle class swiftly disappears, and poor people having to deal with issues like this every day, it would be wise to have a plan just in case we find ourselves at the bottom of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs triangle.

At this point in our nation, despite what we are being told, the economy is not growing and not getting



Despite the election of our nation's first African American president, signs continue to spotlight African Americans are losing ground - quickly.

better, especially for Black people. It does not matter how "optimistic" Black folks are, as the Urban League Report states, we are in serious trouble in this land of plenty. You cannot pay your grocery bill with optimism; you cannot stay cool or warm with a fuzzy feeling; and you cannot tell your children to be optimistic and make their hunger pangs stop.

The realities of life require pragmatic responses, and our response to being economically weak, fragile, and unstable is ridiculously inappropriate.

When Blacks were in second place in this country, as it pertains to population, business ownership,

and attention from the politicians, we received a few concessions via a couple of laws that soon morphed into benefits not only for us but for virtually everyone else. We were the "minority du jour" for a few decades, but others have now passed us by.

Now, after being passed by Asians, Asian-Indians, and Hispanics when it comes to business ownership and profitability, we find ourselves in fourth place. Claud Anderson warned us many years ago: "If we didn't get anything when we were in second place, what do you think we will get in third place?" Now, we are even further behind, so

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COMMENTARY

Freedom Summer - 50 years later

By George E. Curry
NNPA Columnist

The 50th anniversary of Freedom Summer is being commemorated this week in Mississippi and it provides the perfect backdrop to reflect on the transformation of not only Mississippi, then the deadliest state in the nation, but the entire region.

As I have written before, there was a popular

joke about Mississippi making the rounds during the height of the Civil Rights Movement. Supposedly, a Chicago seminary student was awakened at 3 a.m. by a voice imploring him: "Go to Mississippi! Go to Mississippi!! Go to Mississippi!!! The seminary student said, "Lord, you said that you will be with

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Dionne



Earline Elizabeth Gadson



Kelsey Jones

In May 23,000 visited NorthDallasGazette.com - news added daily!

Dionne

Contemporary recording artist, songwriter and producer Dionne, will release her new CD entitled Helium on Saturday, June 28. Considered an adult contemporary album fused with sounds of R&B, soul and jazz by the talented songstress, Helium will give fans an insight into Dionne's growth as an artist and her musical journey through her signature melodic vibrations and uplifting lyrical content.

A native of Dallas, Texas, music is the essence of Dionne's being and has



been since she was a little girl, as she states, "I wake up every morning singing—whether I'm excited, furious, confused or whatever else

I might feel. There is

music in my head, coming out of me all of the time."

This notion also illustrates her upbringing being surrounded by music which eventually steered her in the direction to attend the Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts (also known as Arts Magnet), where former incomparable alums, singer Norah Jones and Erykah Badu attended.

She has applied everything she learned at Arts Magnet along with her professional musical experience, by honing her craft vocally and through songwriting, with her EP "Living In The Music" which

debuted #1 on Amazon's soul charts in 2010. The EP received consistent radio rotation on more than 20 radio and internet stations in both the U.S. and International markets.

This milestone is what has catapulted Dionne to create a new album that represents her journey as a singer by encompassing her signature "soulful feel." Helium, which in relevance means expanding the possibilities — is the focal point for creating this album.

As Dionne states, "That's what this project is doing for me personally and musically. It pushed me to extend myself. My first proj-

ect was an experiment of being 'unrealistic' and 'living in the music' that brought surprising dividends. With Helium, I'm maneuvering this musical hot air balloon to all the places I want to go, and also trusting it to guide in concert with the Universe."

Helium, showcases an array of songs including her lead single Swim Around (produced by Ty Macklin), a sultry track filled with chromatic strings that filters the navigation to the unveiling of the storyline sung eloquently by Dionne.

"I hope it inspires people to see their challenges and move through them," says

Dionne.

Fully is a spiritual innovative song that represents Dionne's evolution with connecting with the spiritual elements that surround her. Dionne reflects on this moment with writing the lyrics to this song by stating, played by Kevin Arthur captivates this retro feel.

"When I began writing, I thought about the euphoria love produces, and as I continued I felt like I could physically touch everything: grass, ants, mountain tops, and people everywhere."

The album will be avail-

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Earline Gadson

Earline Elizabeth Gadson, the mother of longtime leading Dallas journalist Cheryl Smith, passed away on June 10, 2014. She was at home surrounded by her family, following a courageous battle with a lengthy illness.

Cheryl Smith shared with the *North Dallas Gazette*, "Although she didn't have a guide to parenting, Earline had God, a desire and a huge support system in her family. She also had a belt, a brush, a shoe, or whatever was nearby. To me she was larger than life, always on



the go and living life just as she wanted."

Earline was a devoted member of the historic New Hope Baptist Church in Newark, NJ. Her career included working as a dental

hygienist and at Newark Airport for Delta and National Airlines. Her last job was with International Security Systems of New York and New Jersey.

She was a life member of the National Council of Negro Women and an active member of the NAACP, serving as vice president of the New Hope Baptist Church Branch in Newark, New Jersey.

Smith reflected on her mother's various civic and community projects, "She loved her work with the NAACP and National Council of Negro Women."

Left to cherish her mem-

ory and lessons are her children: Daryl Smith, Cheryl Smith and Tracy Smith Thomas (Jeffrey), Grandchildren: Andre (Emma), Alayna, Annya, Ayanna, Adarian, Adonte, Jeffrey, Joeline and J.R.; Great Grandchildren Aaliyah (father DeMarcus), Briana, Nina, Telly, O'Neal, Johnathan 2 and Laila; baby brother Eddie Gadson, sister-in-law Bobbie; life-long friends Savarie Atkins and Christine Thomas; special friends Rev. Harry Brown, Eleanor Glover and Virginia Magee; daughter-in-law Hafizah; and hundreds of other relatives, NCNW and

NAACP members, and friends.

Smith is grateful she had an opportunity to give back to her mother, who gave so much to so many.

"Shortly before her death, she said to me, 'I always knew you'd take care of me.' And I am glad I did."

Often told that there wasn't a camera she didn't like, Earline loved taking pictures.

She had a good reason: She was left only with mental images of her parents.

"All these years, I just have the memory of my parents because I don't have any pictures," she

once explained. "I really wish I had pictures of them and even though I can describe them perfectly — my mother's long beautiful hair and my father's pretty black skin and wavy hair - I would really love to see them."

"That's why I take so many pictures!"

Earline Elizabeth Gadson's legacy will live on with the scholarship fund established in her name and donations can be mailed to the Earline Elizabeth Gadson Memorial Scholarship Fund at 320 South R.L. Thornton Freeway, Suite 220, Dallas, TX 75203.

Kelsey Jones

Kelsey Jones is a 2014 graduate from Hebron High School in the Lewisville I.S.D. She graduates with a 3.8 GPA and has selected Dallas Baptist University (DBU) to continue her education. Communication will be her major with a minor in Christian Studies.

In High School Kelsey was on Student Council for four years and the Council's Electoral Committee.

Kelsey played basketball her freshman and senior years. She was also a member of the Kingdom Culture Club.

Kelsey is a proud member at Bethel Bible Fellowship (BBF) in Carrollton, Texas; Dr. Terrance Wood-



son is the Senior Pastor.

"Kelsey Jones is a model High School graduate," Wood-son says. "She has a passion to love, serve and tell others the Good News of Jesus Christ. She is a gifted communicator and expresses her love for God in our Praise Dance Ministry and the Spoken Word.

Kelsey is a bright star that God will use for his kingdom."

At BBF she is a member of the Youth Ministry, Praise Dance Ministry and is the Youth Representative for the Evangelist Committee.

Mark and Tammye Jones are her parents and she has an older brother, Leland, to help cheer her on.

When asked what made her faith in God so strong and trusting, Kelsey stated that with the temptations teenagers face in their young lives, many would believe that it is a chore to stay pure; definitely when pursuing a higher education and attending a University with plenty of distractions from every direction you

turn, but with faith in God, she knows that He will lead and guide her through college and her life.

College is said to be the best time of young adult lives, along with the opportunity to discover the real person they are, and above all, finally a time to appreciate being free from parents. However, with all that freedom there are consequences that could virtually ruin one's life, before it truly began.

"In selecting DBU, my wish was not to travel far away from what I am used to at home, nor do I want to attend a Secular college; but to have the opportunity to be surrounded by a larger selection of likeminded

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Blacks have not recovered from the Recovery

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

Judging from its June 18-19 meeting, the Federal Reserve is hedging its bets. It says the U.S. economy is on the mend, but more slowly than expected. They've reduced their estimate for economic growth and say that it will take a year or more to get to where we were six years ago.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has offered a starker forecast. Expected growth for the United States is about 3 percent, a level considered "normal" and "in recovery." They projected something right above 2 percent earlier this year. Now, they say the United States economy will grow at about 1.9 percent, below robust recovery, and that it will take until 2018

to get the labor market back on track.

Meanwhile, the stock market seems to signal a healthy recovery, and surveys of human resource professionals found that more employers are offering signing and retention bonuses to get the best employees and to keep them. Obviously, the nearly 10 million people who are unemployed aren't being offered any kind of bonuses. Most of them just want work. That's not to mention the 3.4 million people who have not worked in half a year or more. Bonus? Please.

The economic recovery is as bifurcated as our economic reality has always been. The Occupy folks estimated it in a way that galvanized energy and spoke some truth. Does the top 1 percent of our population get all the benefits of economic growth? Just

about. One of the most telling statistics deals with race and recovery. Aggregately, Whites and Asians Americans have fully recovered from economic shortfalls, African Americans have seen their wealth rebound by only 45 percent. They have lost 55 percent of wealth, bearing a disproportionate burden from this recovery.

When we parse the data by class, we learn that President Obama's focus on the middle class leaves the poor where they have always been – at the periphery of economic progress. Until the job markets open up at entry level, instead of providing opportunities for the middle class and higher, the recovery will not trickle down. Meanwhile, there are members of Congress who truly believe that the unemployed

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me always, even until the end of the earth. If I go to Mississippi, will you go with me?" The heavenly voice replied, "I'll go as far as Memphis."

Of course, if the Lord was reluctant to go to Mississippi, the chances of a Black surviving there were slim and none. I had just completed my junior year at Druid High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala. in the summer of 1964. Alabama had its own violent history when it came to race relations, but Mississippi was the one state we knew was worse. In fact, whenever a national ranking of any kind came out, we would always say, "Thank God for Mississippi."

Of course, we all awaited the beginning of Freedom Summer, a national mobilization of mostly college students who would descend upon Mississippi in 1964 to help civil rights activists, led by Bob Moses of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), assist Blacks in voter education and voting.

More than 1,000 students, about 90 percent of them White, participated. With so many northern Whites descending on the state, the nation would be watching. And Blacks like me, who grew up under America's version of apartheid, knew that virulent White racists in Mississippi would not go quietly into the dark. They would go into the dark – where they did their most tawdry work – but they wouldn't be quiet about it.

And sure enough, at the outset of Freedom Summer, three civil rights workers – James Chaney, Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman – were arrested in Nashoba County by Sheriff Cecil Price, a member of the

Ku Klux Klan. That night, they were released. Tipped off about their impending departure, Klansmen abducted the three and murdered them. Their bodies were discovered seven weeks later 15 feet below an earthen dam.

While looking for the three civil rights workers in rivers and swamps, other Black bodies were discovered. One was Herbert Oarsby, a 14-year-old boy who was wearing a Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) T-shirt. The bodies of Henry Hezekiah Dee and Eddie Moore, who had been expelled from Alcorn A&M College for civil rights activities, were also discovered. The remains of five more Black men were found, but never identified.

It wasn't until 1970 that anyone was imprisoned for the slayings of Chaney, Schwerner and Goodman, with six years being the longest time served.

In 1964, only 6.7 percent of Blacks were registered to vote, the lowest in the nation. Today, more than a third of Mississippi's voters are Black and the state has the largest number of Black elected officials in the nation.

But that progress came with a price, with people losing their jobs – and even their lives – simply because they wanted to exercise their constitutional right to vote. The casualties extended beyond the three civil rights workers.

According to the book, Freedom Summer by Doug McAdam, in the summer of 1964 alone:

At least four Blacks from Mississippi were murdered because of their civil rights activities;

• Four people were seriously wound-ed;

• 80 summer workers were beaten
• 1,062 people were arrested
• 37 churches were burned or bombed and

• The homes or businesses of 30 African Americans were bombed or burned.

Visiting college students weren't the only ones responsible for the success of that summer. When Berea College withdrew as a training site for students headed South, Western College for Women in Oxford, Ohio, now part of Miami University, stepped forward.

Attorneys volunteered from the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, the National Lawyers Guild and the ACLU. Medical professionals, participating as individuals as well as members of the Medical Committee for Human Rights, also joined the caravans headed to Mississippi.

The level of national support emboldened Black Mississippians, such as Fannie Lou Hamer, to challenge the seating of the all-White Mississippi delegation to the 1964 Democratic National Convention in Atlantic City.

As Attorney Thomas N. Todd likes to remind us, this was done before the existence of Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other social media.

It's good that civil rights vets are celebrating Freedom Summer this week. But the challenge today is to reignite that passion and sense of commitment. Many of the problems of 1964 are still prevalent today. We need another Freedom Summer, Winter, Fall and Spring.

George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of *Emerge* magazine, is editor-in-chief of the *National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service* (NNPA.).

Blood pressure kiosks are not a one size fits all answer

Convenience can come with tradeoffs. The next time you put your arm in the cuff at a kiosk that measures blood pressure, you could get an inaccurate reading unless the cuff is your size.

Correct cuff size is a critical factor in measuring blood pressure. Using a too-small cuff will result in an artificially high blood pressure reading; a too-large cuff may not work at all or result in an inaccurately low blood pressure reading. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is advising consumers that blood pressure cuffs on public kiosks don't fit everyone and might not be accurate for every user.

These desk-like kiosks for checking blood pressure are available in many public places—pharmacies, grocery and retail stores, gyms, airports, hair salons and even cafeterias. “They are easily accessible and easy to use. But it's misleading to think that the devices are



appropriate for everybody. They are not one-size-fits-all,” says Luke Herbertson, PhD, a biomedical engineer at FDA.

Cuff Size Matters

Blood pressure is an important indicator of cardiovascular health. High blood pressure (hypertension) is called a “silent killer” because it may not show any symptoms. It increases the risk of stroke, heart attack, heart failure, kidney failure and death. The higher the blood pressure, the greater the risk. Hypertension affects nearly one in three adults in the United States,

and in most patients, it is found only when they have their blood pressure checked.

In a clinic or a medical office, this is done by using blood pressure cuffs of various sizes to ensure the reading is accurate. For example, a toddler's blood pressure is checked by using an extra-small children's cuff, but a football lineman's arm may require an extra-large adult cuff.

Not so at kiosks. Most have just one fixed-size cuff that fits arms of only a certain size. The blood pressure reading is reliable only if the user's arm is within the range that has been validated for that cuff size.

Moreover, not all kiosks have the same size cuff. There is no such thing as a “standard” cuff to fit a “standard” arm.

Why does that matter? Correct cuff size is a critical factor when measuring blood pressure. If the cuff doesn't fit your arm properly, your reading won't be

accurate.

“Different kiosks have different cuff sizes that will fit different people—so it's important to know the circumference of your upper arm because not all devices are alike,” says Stephen Browning, a biomedical engineer at FDA. “Many people will be outside the arm size range for a particular kiosk, and the information from that kiosk won't be reliable for them.”

Other factors, including how someone uses a device, might cause an inaccurate reading. “The user might not have placed the cuff on his arm properly or might not be sitting properly. These things will affect accuracy,” Herbertson says.

That is why people should not overreact to any one reading from a kiosk.

“Hypertension isn't diagnosed solely based on one reading. Inaccurate blood pressure measurements can lead to the misdiagnosis of

hypertension or hypotension (low blood pressure), and people who need medical care might not seek it because they are misled by those inaccurate readings,” Browning says.

“Next time you see your doctor, get his or her opinion about whether blood pressure kiosks are right for you and if so, learn to use them properly—using the right size cuff so you can get accurate readings,” Herbertson advises.

Advice for Consumers

Consumers use kiosks for various reasons. They might have been advised by their doctor to monitor changes to their health. They may be concerned about hypertension. Or they may just be curious about their blood pressure.

Health care providers diagnose hypertension based on several blood pressure measurements over a period of time. Remember that one measurement—from a

kiosk or other device—doesn't a diagnosis make.

Like your heart rate, your blood pressure can change quickly. It might be higher during a stressful meeting, after a brisk walk or because you're sick. Those variations are normal.

That's why people with hypertension monitor their blood pressure frequently. And health care providers often depend on the patient's own readings to augment the reading in a doctor's office, so kiosks can be useful in many circumstances.

Although blood pressure kiosks have their limitations, they can provide valuable information when used properly and under the guidance of a health care provider.

This article appears on FDA's Consumer Updates page, which features the latest on all FDA-regulated products.

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much so that some of us are faced with having to decide how our children will eat.

Let me put it in graphic terms. According to the 2007 economic census, Black business receipts totaled \$136 billion; Asian businesses, \$506 billion; Asian-Indian, businesses \$152 billion.

The number of Black businesses that had employees was 106,566; Asian businesses, 397,426; Asian-Indian, 109,151. The number of employees in Black businesses was 909,552; Asian businesses, 2,807,771; Asian-Indians, 844,177.

Now compare the above statistical data to the following: There were 1,197,864 Black-owned businesses in 2007; 1,549,559 for Asians; and just 308,491 for Asian-Indians.

My point is grounded in this data, but also in the

economic plight of Black people compared to other groups. Being in fourth place, with a \$1.1 trillion annual aggregate income, is unconscionable and outrageously self-defeating.

So while you may not be confronted by such a drastic situation as the one noted in the beginning of this article, you are now facing drastic price increases for food, energy, and gasoline. These are day-to-day necessities. How will you deal with acquiring what you need?

One way is to find an additional revenue stream. There are ways to get more money, that is, if we are willing to make the requisite sacrifices.

It takes money to make money, you know. Another way is to grow some of your own food; if you have a little dirt somewhere, drop some seeds into it, and cut down on your food bill.

Bartering goods and services is also a great way to save money; form a bartering circle in your church, for instance.

Finally, start a business and support the businesses we already have. Circulating our dollars among our own businesses is a sure-fire way to be economically empowered; but you already know that, don't you? If not, just look at the groups in front of us and see what they are doing.

We are at the bottom now. When this nation's economy collapses it, will collapse on us.

Jim Clingman, founder of the Greater Cincinnati African American Chamber of Commerce, is the nation's most prolific writer on economic empowerment for Black people. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati and can be reached through his Web site, blackonomics.com.

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Celebrating Black History this 4th of July

The Librarian of Congress, James H. Billington, announced today the donation of a video archive of thousands of hours of interviews—The HistoryMakers—that captures African-American life, history and culture as well as the struggles and achievements of the black experience.

“The HistoryMakers archive provides invaluable first-person accounts of both well-known and unsung African-Americans, detailing their hopes, dreams and accomplishments—often in the face of adversity,” said Billington. “This culturally important collection is a rich and diverse resource for scholars, teachers, students and documentarians seeking a more complete record of our nation’s history and its people.”

“The HistoryMakers represents the single largest archival project of its kind since the Works Progress Administration’s initiative to document the experiences of former slaves in the 1930s,” said Julieanna Richardson, founder and executive director of The HistoryMakers. “This relationship with the Library of Congress represents a momentous occasion for our organization. With the Library of Congress serving as our permanent repository, we are assured of its



Photo Steve Jurvetson / Flickr

preservation and safekeeping for generations to come.”

The collection includes 9,000 hours of content that includes 14,000 analog tapes, 3,000 DVDs, 6,000 born-digital files, 70,000 paper documents and digital files and more than 30,000 digital photographs. The HistoryMakers has provided the Library with digital files of all of the analog tapes.

The collection comprises 2,600 videotaped interviews with African-Americans in 39 states, averaging three to six hours in length. The videos are grouped by 15 different subject areas ranging from science, politics and the military to sports, music and entertainment.

For example, the ScienceMakers category currently features 211 top black scientists—about six percent of the interviews—

in the fields of chemistry, engineering, physics, biology, electronics, anthropology, aerospace, mathematics and genetics, among other scientific professions. The percentages of interviews for the other categories break down as follows: ArtMakers (7 percent), BusinessMakers (12 percent), CivicMakers (13 percent), EducationMakers (17 percent), EntertainmentMakers (3 percent), LawMakers (6 percent), MediaMakers (10 percent), MedicalMakers (4 percent), MilitaryMakers (3 percent), MusicMakers (6 percent), PoliticalMakers (7 percent), ReligionMakers (3 percent), SportsMakers (2 percent) and StyleMakers (1 percent).

“The collection is one of the most well-documented and organized audiovisual

collections that the Library of Congress has every acquired,” said Mike Mashon, head of the Library’s Moving Image Section. “It is also one of the first born-digital collections accepted into our nation’s repository.”

Oral histories are continually being added to the growing archive. The oldest person interviewed was Louisiana Hines, who passed away in 2013 at 114. She was one of the iconic “Rosie the Riveter” workers during War World II. One of the youngest is a prima ballerina, Ayisha McMillan, who was 29 at the time of her interview. Some of the other lesser-known participants who have shared their life stories are:

- Arthur Burton, Sr.—one of the last surviving Pullman Porters who worked 20 days a month, averaging two hours of sleep a night at half the pay of factory workers.

- Amazon Brooks—voted in her first election in 1920, the first year that women were granted the right to vote.

- Ann Cooper—President-elect Barack Obama noted that her life exemplified the struggle and hope of the American-American experience in the 20th and 21st centuries.

- Junius Gaten—delivered ice on his horse to

black activist Ida B. Wells and former black Congressman John Roy Lynch; survived the violent Chicago Race Riot of 1919; and knew Al Capone, Marcus Garvey and Carter G. Woodson.

- Judge William H. Murphy, Sr.—the third black student ever enrolled at the University of Maryland Law School.

- Judge William Sylvester White—one of the first commissioned black officers in the Navy in 1944.

- Alonzo Pettie—the oldest living black cowboy.

The collection boasts a long list of notables. They include President Barack Obama when he was an Illinois state senator, General Colin Powell, child advocate Marion Wright Edelman, baseball legend Ernie Banks, entertainer/activist Harry Belafonte, poet and writer Maya Angelou, historian Lerone Bennett, Massachusetts Senator Edward Brooke, movie producer Reuben Cannon, historian John Hope Franklin, publisher Earl Graves, singer Isaac Hayes, Attorney General Eric Holder, musician B.B. King, poet Nikki Giovanni and actors Diahann Carroll, Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee. Interview highlights include:

Angela Davis on living in a white household in a black community:

“I was living with a white family in Bedford Stuy, so I was living in a black com-

munity with a white family, going to school every day in Greenwich Village. ... I think I learned then how to live simultaneously in many different worlds without feeling out of place.”

John H. Johnson on attending DuSable High School in Chicago:

“Nat ‘King’ Cole was at the school at that time and Redd Foxx was at the school. Dorothy Donegan was there. And they all went on to become very well-known. And as a matter of fact, Nat King Cole didn’t know he could sing in those days.”

Barack Obama on his earliest memories:

“Lot of my memories have to do with sort of connecting up the struggle for African-American freedom with the struggle for freedom in Africa, and then with my father. I think all those things became connected in my mind, and I suspect had something to do with my interest then in public service and politics and civil-rights law subsequently.”

Maya Angelou on her childhood:

“I knew that pineapples came from some exotic place like California or Africa or Paris, France. I knew they weren’t from anywhere around Stems. And I would keep that aroma on my hands as long as possible. ... I would hold

See HISTORY, Page 13

JONES, continued from Page 2

young believers,” Jones said.

“Generally, I minister to my fellow peers in everyday conversation, a majority of them are tuned in to every word that passes my mouth, but of course there are those that once they hear me speak about God, they completely shut me out.

“When those same friends that tuned me out, see my motivational tweets on Twitter, it grabs their attention. I am also a part of the phenomenal group, ‘Unashamed Impact,’ which is a global movement of young adults

and teens uniting to spread the gospel through street evangelizing, but mostly through social media.

“Unashamed Impact has provided a way for this technology generation to be exposed to the gospel, while scrolling on the internet. In the next five years I envision becoming an Unashamed Impact Representative for the city of Dallas full time.

“I have not, unfortunately, been a believer in Christ my entire life. When my family moved to the Dallas Metroplex area, BBF be-

came my church home. Still, I never felt that I had a true relationship with God until I attended a BBF Summer Church camp, Covenant High in Christ. My connection with God reached new levels and Christianity became clear to me like never before.

“I let go of my ego and said, ‘Lord I need you, I cannot do this alone.’ Tears of joy began to fall, I was holding on to too many circumstances that occurred in my life that I wouldn’t let go; I had to forgive, because I would never feel true peace, and joy until I did.

“God is real. I could not

continue to live my life the way it was. I had to focus only on God. Life is short; I came to the conclusion I had to get right with God.

“Despite the negativity in this world, my mission is to be a positive light to each person that I encounter. DBU produces prestigious religious disciples into mainstream from Pastors and Ministers; I strive to follow in their footsteps.

“We each receive different gifts from God; I believe that the Lord has led me to find mine: which is the gift of communication, by speaking life and the truth to those around me.”

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Omicron Mu Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha celebrates 30 years of service to DFW community

In June 1984, The Reflex by Duran Duran was the number one song on the pop charts. And while most of Generation X were dancing their hearts out, 5 ladies in Oak Cliff were having a very important meeting. Unlike the song suggests, their meeting was not an unconscious response to some arbitrary stimulus. It was a clarion call for greater service to all mankind.

Mrs. Evelyn Hamilton, Ms. Beverly Long, Ms. Beverly Russell, Ms. Jacqueline Macklin and Ms. Yvonne Moss had been meeting since the preceding October to discuss the service opportunities they wanted to provide. They discussed meeting the needs of



their community. They discussed how the international platforms of their beloved sorority would support their civic aims.

They knew they were headed in the right direction; and they convinced 39 other sorority members to join them in completing the steps to charter the Omicron

Mu Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, in Dallas. 30 years later, the chapter has grown from the initial 43 charter members to comprising nearly 300 active, engaged, service-oriented women.

The current members come from all points –

Glenn Heights, Desoto, Dallas, Arlington, Mansfield, Lewisville, Plano, McKinney, Flower Mound, Forney, Sunnyvale, and many cities between – to serve greater Dallas and their local communities.

The Omicron Mu Omega (chapter was organized largely for the purposes of re-

claiming and retaining inactive members in the metroplex. The charter members implemented progressive programs to attract and re-engage inactive members, including the annual Reactivation Round-up to remind inactive members of the ideals to which they committed themselves when

they were initiated.

Members were called to action with the formation of the Cachet Youth Group, Omicron Mu Omega's signature mentoring group.

This group began with five high school girls and today boasts a membership of over 50 girls in DFW. Chapter members support these girls with access to and engagement in cultural, social and academic enrichment activities.

Also in 1984, the AKA-lades were formed. This is the official choral group of the chapter; and they have been featured locally and regionally to lead great songs and chants of the

See AKA, Page 13

Introducing the do-it-yourself diva

Home Depot, Others Take Lead in Providing DIY Classes for Women

By F. Sia Ahmadu and
Shantella Y. Sherman
Special to the NNPA
from The Washington Informer



As the heads of many American households, women are increasingly forced to reckon with not only the odd handyman job like mowing lawns or replacing sealants, but also more demanding household repairs including plumbing and electrical work. In fact, what was once considered the man's terrain within the home has become a space where women actively flex their muscle.

According to a recent survey by the Home Improvement Research Institute, the number of home improvement products purchased by women have increased over the years. Women account for more than \$70 billion worth of purchases in the home improvement industry, up from just over \$55 billion in 1995. This rising trend is due to women owning their own homes and tackling their own home repair projects. Industry research shows that single women are purchasing new homes at twice the rate of single men, and within the first year of home ownership, women spend almost \$9,000 on home improvement projects. Contributing to the growing trend of women purchasing tools are home improvement shows and hardware stores.

Websites like See Jane Drill and Be Jane implore women to step up and do the handiwork, rather than wait on a male family member or pay for services they can do themselves. Be Jane coaxes: "Ladies, you

don't have to be a Jack to be a Jack of all trades. You can Be Jane. And once you tackle home improvement, then life improvement and even world improvement are just around the corner." And while Be Jane and See Jane Drill provide both instruction and support through social networking tools, services and user generated content, a vast array of blogs for female fixers exist to tackle almost any building or repair job.

"There is an enormous demand for home improvement information out there for the beginner, because no one is supplying it," said Karen DeVenaro, co-founder of See Jane Drill. "Even a task that sounds simple enough, like using a pressure washer to clean a deck, can be a nightmare for the beginner. Yes, there is information available on how to use the pressure washer, but how do you set it up? How do you start the thing? Nobody tells you the basics, such as how to hook up the hoses. That's the problem in a nutshell. Home improvement resources generally make the assumption that

See PARK, Page 12

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REACHING UP TO GOD AND OUT TO THE COMMUNITY
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Shreveport - A gateway to the heart of Northern Louisiana

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

If someone mentions Shreveport, Louisiana and your only thought is casinos, then you really don't know the opportunities this jewel offers. Certainly casinos are a vital part of the city's enticing reasons to visit, but it is just the beginning. Shreveport itself is actually a great gateway to the treasures of Northern Louisiana.

Margaritaville Resort Casino is a great example of modern, comfortable casino hotels the city offers. As you might expect the decor was colorful to fit the lively vibe we associate with Jimmy Buffet's hit from years gone by. However it is in no way gaudy like casinos of old. Love the layout when you enter the sun bathed lobby, you are just steps from elevators. The first restaurant



Conrad Albrizio, a faculty member at Louisiana State University, painted this beautiful fresco at the entrance of the Louisiana State Exhibit Building.



and the casino floor were incredibly close by too. The hotel is smoke free, except for designated outdoor locations. And yes, the

hotel is actually in Bossier City, but they are friendly neighbors (margaritaville-bossiercity.com).

State Exhibit Building

Museum is an absolute must see. The building was completed back when government actually worked to help the struggling citizens. Completed as a part of the 1939 New Deal projects which hired artists and skilled workers, the lovely building stands as a testimony to their talents. The art greets guests with on the mural on the outside wall by Conrad Albrizio. The mural reflects the diverse heritage of the state.

The 22 intricate dioramas provide a frozen in time look at daily life through these miniature handcrafted creations. The project was led by Director E.J. Whetzel and diorama artist Henry B. Wright. They feature everyone from the shoppers at the country store to the workers gathering crops and working in oil fields to represent the vital industries in

the state during Depression and Post-Depression eras.

A diorama is commonly described as a small model of a real-life scene rich in details in front of a realistic background.

One of the favorite scenes include finely detailed cows in their place waiting for milking as workers start their day. Through the clever placement of mirrors at a glance it appears larger with more animals.

The State Exhibit Building Museum features far more, but you will have a hard time pulling children and parents away from the dioramas. For more information visit flsem.mmcchosting.com.

This is the first in a series of three spotlights from the The HEART of North Louisiana Tour hosted by the Explore Northern Louisiana.

DIVA,

continued from Page 8

you already know something, but the beginner, the gal or guy that doesn't know the difference between a miter saw and a table saw? Where can they go?" Well, no place until See Jane Drill came along.

See Jane Drill provides all the help that many beginner DIY-ers are looking for, and until recently have not been able to find. Another feature of their company is that they will create videos upon request.

"We often get requests from our viewers on how to do tasks for which the information available is limited," points out Leah Bolden, master crafts-woman and co-founder of See Jane Drill. "We have and will continue to create videos upon request that will then be available to anyone who wants to use them, and for free! How many other websites offer that?"

Join us for an important discussion and your questions about

"The 2014 Texas Public Schools Rankings Report" from Children at Risk*

with

Robert Sanborn, Ed.D.

President and CEO of Children at Risk and co-author of the report

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special thanks to the Bear Creek Community Church and

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Please RSVP for lunch count and seating accommodation

*ChildrenatRisk is a non-profit organization that describes as its mission to improve the quality of life for children through research and public policy analysis and education, collaboration and advocacy. The 2014 Report is the 9th annual ranking of schools across the state of Texas. These reports are intended to serve as guides for parents, educators and the community regarding performance of local schools, and to stimulate dialogue on the quality of Texas public education. The organization is based in Houston. Its website is Childrenatrisk.org.



Kevin Costner's Draft Day VOD and Blue-ray/DVD release date is Aug. 19

SANTA MONICA, CA – Leading up to the 2014 NFL Kickoff, Lionsgate will release sports drama, *Draft Day*, on Digital HD beginning Aug. 19, on Video On Demand and Pay-Per-View Aug. 29 and on Blu-ray/DVD Combo Pack (plus DVD and Digital HD) and DVD (plus Digital) on Sept. 2. Starring sports movie icon and Academy Award winner Kevin Costner, the film was made in partnership with the NFL, allowing unprecedented access to the actual 2013 NFL Draft, an event drawing higher ratings than the playoffs for baseball, basketball and hockey.

Featuring an all-star cast including Jennifer Garner (Dallas Buyers Club), Sean Combs (Monster's Ball), Terry Crews (The Expendables franchise), and Houston Texans running back

Arian Foster (feature film debut).

It's NFL Draft Day. A day that can change the lives of athletes and the fortunes of football teams forever. After pulling off a blockbuster trade, General Manager Sonny Weaver Jr. (Costner) controls the #1 pick. Up against fan pressure, an ambitious owner and a hard-nosed coach, Sonny faces the biggest decision of his life. Should he go with the consensus #1 pick or trust his instincts and risk losing it all?

The *Draft Day* Blu-ray/DVD Combo Pack bonus materials include an exclusive 58-minute "making of" featurette titled "On The Clock: The Making of *Draft Day*," and "Welcome to Prime-time," an inside look behind-the-scenes of the NFL Draft.



Les Misérables pay what you can performance this Friday

DALLAS – Dallas Theater Center will fill the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre stage with the glorious music of the most popular musical of all time in a thrilling new production of Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg's *Les Misérables*.

Audiences will be swept away by the epic sounds of *Les Misérables*, directed by Liesl Tommy, which opens in previews on June 27 with a Pay-What-You-Can performance and runs through August 17 at the Wyly Theatre. Tickets to *Les Misérables* are on sale now at www.DallasTheaterCenter.org and by phone at (214) 880-0202.

"We are thrilled that Dallas Theater Center is bringing the moving story and passion-filled music of *Les Misérables* to the stage in the first production by a professional theater company in North Texas," said DTC Artistic Director Kevin Moriarty. "Immensely talented director Liesl Tommy will make use of the Wyly Theatre's unparalleled flexibility to create a deeply immersive experience that is unlike any other production of *Les Misérables*."

The epic classic *Les Misérables* follows ex-convict Jean Valjean in his attempt to live a better life, while persecuted Javert, an unflinching officer of the law. *Les Misérables* is a powerful affirmation of the human spirit and



will thrill audiences with beautiful melodies and an impassioned story of hope, redemption and forgiveness.

Critically acclaimed actor Nehal Joshi, who starred as Captain Walker in DTC's 2009 production of *The Who's Tommy*, returns to the DTC stage as Jean Valjean; Justin Keyes, who audiences will remember from *Give It Up!*, returns as Marius; and making their DTC debuts are Allison Blackwell as Fantine; Edward Watts as Javert; John Campione as Enjolras; Dorcas Leung as Cosette; Elizabeth Judd as Eponine; and Christia Mantzke as Madame Thenardier.

The cast includes Brierley Resident Acting Company members Daniel Duque-Estrada; Hassan El-Amin as the Bishop; Alex Organ; Christie Vela; and Steven Michael Walters as Thenardier. Additional members of the cast are Kyle Anderson; Felecia Benton; Jonathan Bragg; Christopher Deaton; Lillian De Leon; Traci Lee; Laura Lites; Morgan Mason; Brandon Nase and Seth Womack. Mark Han-

cock and Spencer Sloan appear as Gavroche; Jemma Kosane and Lama Salinas as Little Cosette; and Abby Chapman and Libby Roy as Young Eponine.

"The thought of tackling a beast like *Les Misérables* can be intimidating, but I was thrilled when Kevin asked me to direct it.

Coming from South Africa during the struggle, revolution has always been a part of my conversation, as have freedom and justice," said Tommy. "*Les Misérables* provides an opportunity to explore what those things mean in an epic, contemporary and hyper-theatrical way. Coming up with a conceptual attack is the first step.

Assembling the appropriate creative team and cast to realize the idea is something entirely different. After a rigorous audition process in both Dallas and NYC, I feel so lucky to have such a wonderfully gifted group of artists to breathe life into this beautiful musical with me."

Hawaiian Falls accepting applications for special blessing program

Hawaiian Falls wants to hear about a family or individual who needs a special blessing this summer. Nominate humble heroes who always put others' needs before their own. Maybe it's a coach or teacher or someone who has had a rough time lately and just needs their spirits lifted.

Hawaiian Falls will choose 25 winners from each of its seven parks – 175 families total – to receive a complimentary Family 4-Pack, including



admission, food and all day drinks, to be used any time during the 2014 summer season.

To enter a nomination,

See BLESSING, Page 12

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Car Review: the new 2015 Volkswagen Golf

By Frank S. Washington
NNPA Columnist

SAN FRANCISCO — Ready. Set. Golf.

That is the new advertising tag line for the most important car in Volkswagen's lineup. We came to the City By The Bay to test drive the 2015 Volkswagen Golf.

This car has been around for 40 years, it has sold more than 30 million, it was called the Rabbit for more than a dozen years and it replaced the original Volkswagen Beetle, a true automotive icon.

In a phrase, Volkswagen cannot afford, figuratively and rhetorically, a misfire on the 7th generation of the Golf. The early verdict is the German automaker has done a good job of covering all the bases in the realm of compact cars with the new Golf.

The design was evolutionary. In other words, the 2015 Volkswagen Golf was easily identifiable as a



Golf. But the car was longer, wider and lower than the model it replaced. It even had more storage space but less weight. The lines were crisper and there was an angularity that was uniform. The line of the fuel door opening matched the upward sweep of the line of rear door opening.

The grille was narrower, the hood was more sloped, the headlight cluster was sharper, and overall the lines were crisper, sharper, more contemporary. The

new Golf was also more slippery with a drag coefficient that was reduced to 0.29 from 0.32 and that improved fuel efficiency.

We've always felt that Volkswagen didn't get enough credit for the execution of its interiors. Fit and finish was great in the new Golf, interior space had been increased; there was plenty of room for a pair of men on the test drive.

The center stack in the new Golf was tilted toward the driver, the driver's seat was moved back

creating more leg room and the white backlit controls gave the car an upscale feel which was Volkswagen's goal.

Volkswagen said the interior trim featured soft-touch plastic, chrome, aluminum and piano-black finishes; that was plastic, too. But it all worked well and none of it looked or felt cheap in any of the models we test drove.

The new Golf comes in two door or four door models; it can be equipped with either a turbocharged gasoline engine or a turbocharged diesel. Either powerplant can be mated to a six-speed manual or automatic six-speed transmission.

Then there is the GTI. Every engine offered in the Golf lineup had or will have more horsepower, more torque and consume less fuel. First we test drove the new GTI. It had a 2.0-liter four-cylinder turbocharged engine that made 210 horsepower and 258

pound-feet of torque at an awfully low 1500 rpm. In the performance model, the engine makes 220 horsepower.

The suspension had been stiffened, the dual clutch transmission shifted gears rapidly, body roll was minimized and the car stuck to the narrow twisting two lane roads of East Bay Hills and Tilden Park above Oakland without a tire screech.

The car was quiet and mannerly as we went through the residential neighborhoods of Albany and Berkley that were filled with American Craftsman homes. Once we got to the lunch stop, we switched to a regular Golf.

Powered by a 1.8-liter four-cylinder turbocharged engine that made 170 horsepower and 200 pound-feet of torque, we noticed that car didn't feel as tight as the GTI and there was more body roll as we were going through the hills

See GOLF, Page 12

RECOVERY, continued from Page 3

are jobless because they want to be. These are folks who apparently refuse to read the data about the search for work.

What does economic recovery look like? It looks like vibrancy. It looks like people joyfully working. It looks like people who spend, if not freely, certainly less cautiously. They don't have to run an algorithm in their brain before they decide that their child can have an ice cream cone. It means being able to put a few pennies aside for college possibilities. It means having a moment to exhale.

For all the talk of Wall Street exuberance and economic recovery, there are millions who are still waiting to exhale. While we mostly focus on the officially unemployed, the equally pressing concern is about those who are underemployed, working part time when they want to work full time. All of these folks are in the job search mix, and they are too often the people we ignore.

In many ways this is also

a "race matters" narrative. Economic recovery looks great for some, good for others, and absolutely dismal for those at the bottom. The unofficial unemployment rate among African Americans remains at someplace near 25 percent. The Bureau of Labor Statistics won't measure that, because then they will have to report the economic failure inherent in this so-called economic recovery.

The Federal Reserve and the IMF are reporting economic projections that trickle down. They say the economic recovery will not happen as quickly as they once projected, and that they have a "wait and see" attitude. The Fed is moving closer to raising interest rates, and are withdrawing from their bond buying program that fostered economic stability.

Their "wait and see" really means pulling back, which may help the overall economy. When will those on the bottom, the least, the last, and the left out, experience recovery? Until those

who make public policy are prepared to deal with persistent economic bifurca-

tion, economic recovery looks good for some, dismal as ever for others.

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

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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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Gary's Barbershop
2117 Story Rd.

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3000 N. Beltline Rd

New Look Barbershop
3317 Finley Rd.

Irving Arts Center
3333 N. MacArthur #200

GOLF, continued from Page 11

of the North Bay area. That's one of the downsides of test driving the more muscular version of a car first.

Still, the regular Golf performed well. This was a compact car meant to be driven every day, it had plenty of cargo space, up to 52 cu. ft. with the back seats folded, and it could fit four people nicely.

You could imagine the car dirty, inside and out, from mundane usage and the owner coming to think of the Golf as a family member. Which is the feeling shared we think by most owners of late model Golfs.

About the only complaint we had was that Volkswagen again has

opted not to put a USB jack in the Golf and that probably will hold true of the rest of VW's lineup as it switches to the new electronic architecture. However, at least this time round, the in-house iPhone connection is for the latest generation.

We got the chance to take the e-Golf for a short spin. This electric powered e-Golf will go on sale in the fourth quarter of 2014. A 700 lb. lithium-ion battery powered the electric motor.

The 199 pound-feet of torque was immediate in this car. Beyond the relative silence, there was only a slight whine of the electric motor, the car had all the driving characteristics of an internal combustion driven

Golf. The e-Golf will have a range of 70 to 90 miles and it will have a standard fast charging capability of 80 percent within 30 minutes. And to lessen what Volkswagen called range anxiety, the e-Golf comes with a roadside assistance plan.

Prices start at \$18,815 for the Volkswagen Golf, \$22,815 for the Volkswagen Golf TDI (diesel) and \$25,215 for the Volkswagen Golf GTI.

Frank S. Washington is editor of AboutThatCar.com.

BLESSING, continued from Page 10

visit <http://tinyurl.com/2014hfBless> All nominations must be received by midnight Monday, June 30, 2014 to qualify. Sorry, only new nominations will be accepted.

Nominated families from previous years are not eligible to win. Winners will be notified by phone or email no later than July 15, 2014 and names will be posted in an email broadcast and on the website at hfalls.com

Celebrating more than a decade of bringing families closer together, Hawaiian Falls operates water parks

in Garland, The Colony, Mansfield, Roanoke, Waco, Pflugerville and White Settlement.

More info at hfalls.com or facebook.com/hfalls.

DIONNE, continued from Page 2

able on Amazon, iTunes and CDBaby.com.

Dionne will perform songs from the album at her Album Release Concert debut in Dallas, Saturday, June 28, held at the Bishop Arts Center – 215 South Tyler St. in Dallas.

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 day of show.

For more information about the new album, EPK, and tour dates, please visit: www.dionnemusic.com.

To hear the preview for Dionne's new single "Swim Around," please visit: <https://soundcloud.com/dionne-music-world/swim-around-preview>.

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AKA, continued from Page 8

sorority, lifting the AKA Spirit at meetings and gatherings.

Still today, all work and no play is not the AKA way! It's not surprising to see members of together at local plays, dance productions and musical concerts; and members have been known to "Wobble" on occasion. The fun nature and fresh approach to membership retention has allowed the chapter to reclaim over 50 inactive members in the last year.

In order to subsidize many of the funds needed to provide effective community service, the chapter began the Image Award Luncheon in 1986.

This annual event would become the chapter's major fundraiser, recognizing outstanding citizens who have made significant contributions to the community. Dr. Wright Lassiter, Jr. and Ms. Kathryn Gilliam were the first recipients of the prestigious Image Award.

Other honorees are Rev. Zan Holmes, Dale Long, Dr. Mamie McKnight, Sen. Royce West, Cheryl Smith, Curtistene McCowan, Lloyd Ward, District Attorney Craig Watkins, and Dr. Frederick Haynes, III among others.

In addition to the award, audiences have been in-

spired and entertained by some of the nation's preeminent speakers and artists including Clarice Tinsley, Marjorie Vincent (former Miss America), Dr. Tanea Stewart (actress), George Curry (of *Emerge Magazine*), Dr. Alvin Poussant (*The Cosby Show* consultant), Rev. Clifton Davis (actor), Tavis Smiley, Starr Jones (attorney and political analyst), Stedman Graham, Hill Harper (actor and author), and Grammy-winning artists, Boyz II Men. The proceeds from the luncheon are used to award college scholarships to students and to fund community service projects.

In its 30-year history the chapter, through its non-profit arm the Legacy of Service Foundation (formerly the Omicron Mu Omega Foundation), has awarded over \$315,000 in scholarships to more than 300 deserving students.

In just the last five years, the foundation has contributed over \$20,000 and hundreds of community service hours to nearly 20 community organizations that address key issues.

Omicron Mu Omega celebrates the community and its own members that make a difference in the community as well. Several chapter members have earned the

Image Award including Ann Williams, Attorney Demetris Sampson, Emma Rodgers, and Cynthia Robinson. Additionally within the chapter, members are celebrated for various personal and professional accomplishments.

Special service emphasis has always been placed on senior citizens. Charter member Bessie Shaw shares, "We never want our senior community to feel forgotten; so our chapter made special efforts since the beginning to always visit nursing homes, have worship service with them, play games and arts and crafts and just spend time listening to them. Sometimes, we are the only visitors they'll have."

This emphasis continues today with the annual Senior Prom, hosted by the Cachet Youth Group where senior citizens are feted with a formal dance, including the crowning of a King and Queen. In May the chapter collaborated with the Senior Source of Dallas to coordinate five DFW nursing home visits where residents experienced "AKA Love" from over 80 chapter members.

Singing, arts and crafts, food and fellowship were enjoyed by all. Ms. Cynthia Robinson-Hawkins, President of the Omicron Mu Omega Chapter, states, "For

many reasons, seniors are placed in homes; but assisted living does not mean diminished living. We want the older adults in our community to know that AKA cares for them and we enjoy visiting with them. I think we gain as much from the experience as we give to the seniors."

They are committed to Building Sisterhood, Developing Leaders and Continuing Timeless Service.

Started with a strong foundation in 1984, the vision of five has been shared and manifested through the work of nearly 300. And the entire community has benefited from these efforts.

Omicron Mu Omega chapter has made great strides over the last 30 years, and they look forward to more collaboration, support and service to the DFW community. As one member simply expressed, "We help each other for we know there's no other like our sisterhood, our chapter and our great city!"

HISTORY, continued from Page 6

that aroma of pineapples because it was so far away."

Isaac Hayes on his family's poverty:

"I had a girlfriend that was two grades ahead of me, and I was so poor I couldn't take her to the prom ... so she broke up with me and somebody else took her to the prom. I didn't have to face embarrassment, 'I can't afford to take you.'"

A Harvard-educated lawyer and TV producer, Richardson launched The HistoryMakers, a nonprofit research and educational institution, in July 1999 with the goal of creating an

archival collection of 5,000 video oral histories. She and her production team have traveled to more than 380 U.S. cities and towns, Norway and Mexico recording America's missing stories.

In addition to its oral-history online archive, The HistoryMakers has produced educational programs, public events and the annual celebrity interview series—"An Evening With..."—broadcast nationally on the Public Broadcasting System. Developed in collaboration with Carnegie Mellon University, The HistoryMakers Digital Archive (thehistory-

makers.com) has users in 51 countries across the globe from Afghanistan to Norway, Nigeria and China.

The HistoryMakers collection is housed in the Library's Packard Campus for Audio Visual Conservation, a state-of-the-art facility located in Culpeper, Va. Home to nearly 7 million collection items, the Packard Campus is where the nation's library acquires, preserves and provides access to the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of films, television programs, radio broadcasts and sound recordings (www.loc.gov/-avconservation/).



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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 below for more details.

June 29, 9:30 a.m.
You're invited to join us in our 5th Sunday Fellowships Services as we worship and praise God for all of His blessings. A meal and activities will follow worship services.

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

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June 29, 9:45 a.m.
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July 2, 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 29, 8:45 or 11 a.m.
Join us in our Morning Service as we worship, honor and praise God for His blessings to us.

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

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**June 29,
Super Sunday**
Every 5th Sunday join us for Friends and Family Day for fellowship and fun at

9:30 a.m. at 1550 Edelweiss Drive in Allen for Sunday Morning Worship. Our Men's Choir will perform and there will be a VIP style brunch lunch for all guests.

July 2, 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 29, 7:35 a.m.
Join us this 5th Sunday for our praise and worship services and receive a blessing from God.

July 2, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday Bible Study to learn more about God's word and how it can lead and guide you.

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

RHEMA LIFE CHURCH IN PLANO

June 28, 9 a.m.
You're invited to a Brotherhood Fellowship Breakfast at the Doubletree Hotel, 1981 N. Central Expressway, Richardson, TX 75080. Guest Evangelist is Dr. Denny D. Davis, St. John Church, Grandprairie, TX and with Deacon Reginald Carter, Brentwood Church, Houston, TX. 2014 Theme is "Bridging the Gap." "One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts." Psalm 145:4.

June 29, 10 a.m.
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 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. for any assistance as needed.

June 29, 8 a.m.
Join us this 5th Sunday for Morning Worship Services as we worship God for His blessings.

July 2, 7 p.m.
You're invited to Wednesday Bible Study to learn

more about God's Word.

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
920 E. 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
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June 26 & 27, 7 p.m.
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**June 29,
7:30 and 11:30 a.m.**
You're invited to join us as we worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name.

June 30, 7 p.m.
Join us in Monday School as we learn what God has to say to us.

Pastor Rickie Rush
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June 29, 10 a.m.
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It ain't cool to be a fool



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

Text: Proverbs 12:15; Reading Proverbs 1:8-19

Synopsis: Scripture portrays fools as those who have rejected God and his ways and are unable or unwilling to appreciate the wisdom of knowing and obeying him.

Graduates, our God wants us to be wise, not fools or evil. There are three types of people you will meet in the world:

1) A Fool is a silly or stupid person; a person who lacks judgment or sense. He jests and jokes; wastes time, is sexually promiscuous, squanders his resources, is irresponsible and unproductive, but he unrealistically think he has it all together.

A Fool thinks he is always right, but a wise man listens to good advice. **Proverbs 12:15** says, "The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice." **Proverbs 14:12** says, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

Proverbs 28:26, "He who trusts in himself is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom is kept safe." **1 Timothy 6:4,** "he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions"

2 Timothy 2:23, "Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels." **Titus 3:9,** "But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless."

Proverbs 14:7, "Stay away from a foolish man, for you will not find knowledge on his lips." A fool speaks unwisely, he despises instruction and discipline.

2) An Evil Man is bad and wicked. He is harmful and desires to injure and hurt you. He is characterized by anger. He is sinful, depraved, corrupt, destructive and unrighteous. He causes disaster, misery, suffering and sorrow.

An evil man seeks to use you and destroy you. **Proverbs 6:12-19,** "A

scoundrel and villain, who goes about with a corrupt mouth, who winks with his eye, signals with his feet and motions with his fingers, who plots evil with deceit in his heart—he always stirs up dissension.

Therefore disaster will overtake him in an instant; he will suddenly be destroyed—without remedy.

3) A wise man is discerning and has good judgment. He can see what is right and wrong. He is sensible, well informed, and knowledgeable. He is able to take what he knows and applies it to life. Know this, we have a little of all three in us.

A Wise Man Wisdom is the ability to make sound

judgments on what we know, especially as it relates to life and conduct.

Psalm 1:1-3 says, "Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers."

Proverbs 1:8-9, says, "Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They will be a

garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck."

--By Dr. Terrance Woodson, Senior Pastor, Bethel Bible Fellowship, Carrollton, Texas.

It has been said that there is a constant war going on between our flesh and the Spirit; as Christians, the Spirit seeks to move us under the authority of God's domain in order for us to fulfill all that we were created for.

Every individual was designed to be under some form of authority. Jesus modeled this in His own life. He lived under the authority of His heavenly Father. He made no independent decisions.

Jesus, unlike us, was sinless and always remained under His Father's authority. He acknowledged that the prince of this world has a hold on many, but did not have a hold on Him.

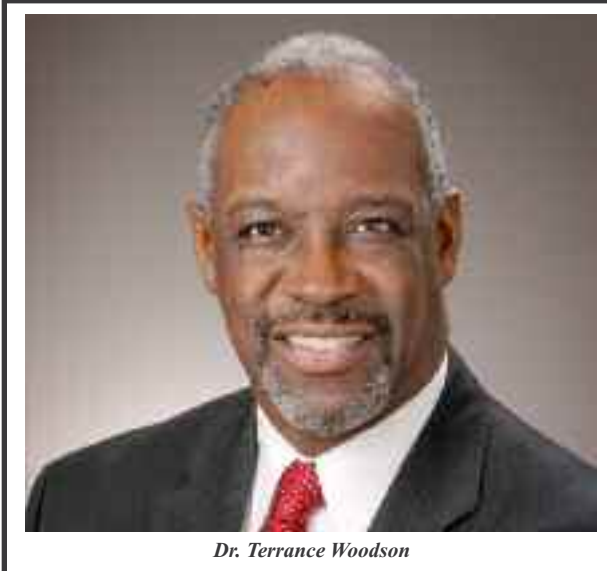
The prince of this world does have his hold on many in our world, even among our brothers and sisters. The one thing most of us want the most is the freedom to make our own decisions.

It goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden when the decision was made to exercise a personal right: freedom to decide, freedom of choice, freedom from hindrances, freedom from pain.

However, Jesus chose to live under the authority of the Father's desire for His life. He was the ultimate model of a man under authority.

Each day we must determine if we'll willingly choose to be under the authority of the Father and the direction of the Holy Spirit. It is a choice each graduate and each person must make. It is a choice that actually

See TARPLEY, Page 16



Dr. Terrance Woodson

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NDG Book Review: 77 Things You Absolutely Have to Do Before You Finish College

By Terry Schlichenmeyer

Thirteen long years.

Twenty-six semesters, four proms, countless teachers, and you've graduated high school but you're still not done with school. Much as you wish you were, it'll be awhile before you get your hands on your next diploma. U-bound, that's you.

But don't be too eager. The secondary education years are time to prepare and explore and, says Hailey Bondy, there are still "77 Things You Absolutely Have to Do Before You Finish College."

So, in a few months, it'll be campus life for you: freedom, friends, parties, and lots of big decisions. It's exciting but it can also be overwhelming, even if you're an upperclassman. Your survival and sanity may depend on this book.

First, before you even pack the car to go to college, de-clutter your life. Toss "junk," keep what's important, and know what's worth schlepping to your new dorm or apartment.

Speaking of apartments, now's the time to learn how to get one. You'll also want to know how to make it a home and, while you're at it, Bondy says to learn to cook one decent meal there. Why not try something you've never eaten before? Or this: learn that it's okay – even desirable – to go to a



real restaurant (not a chain!) and dine alone.

College is also a good place to hone your conversational skills. Have a real convo with a professor (but don't brownnose). Talk with an "elder local" and listen to what life was like 60 or 80 years ago. Volunteer to give tours in your new hometown and be ready (and knowledgeable enough) to answer questions.

Get politically active by attending a council meeting or volunteering for a political campaign. Go to the library, just because. Learn a new language. Understand

that naps are not just for toddlers. Learn survival and self-defense skills. Ask someone on an old-fashioned date, but know how to be safe and how to end arguments and relationships. Learn how to make a killer resume and be financially savvy.

Finally, "forgive your own mistakes" and "break one of your own rules." Life is too short to cling to either one.

Looking to make next year the best ever? Are you a little freaked out that you might miss an opportunity somewhere?

With "77 Things You Absolutely Have to Do Before You Finish College," you can gather ideas now so you don't have to worry this fall.

There's no doubt that some of the ideas that author Hailey Bondy presents are things you're already doing. Who, for instance, hasn't spent some time doing volunteer work? You probably have, but Bondy takes it a step further and she also challenges her

readers to get a little uncomfortable.

The nice thing about this book is that, even if you're not quite college-bound yet,

you can still get a head start on some of the activities here. For any student age 16 and up, in fact, these "77 Things You Absolutely

Have to Do Before You Finish College" are what you should get your hands on.

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TARPLEY,

continued from Page 15
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