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The Demus Family celebrates a nearly 200 year legacy

The Demus Family will host the 1st Mega Demus Family Reunion at the Embassy Suites on Northwest Highway, near Dallas Love Field this weekend. Our very own Religion Editor Sister Shirley Tarpley is a proud member of the Demus family and an heir of David N. Demus.

The family will spend a full day, July 12, 2014 in Mexia, Texas, approximately 92 Miles south of Dallas, a place where their ancestors were born and/or grew up.

They are excited to receive a welcome letter from Governor Rick Perry, the longest serving governor in United States history. Also, from the mayor of Mexia; as well as the mayor of Carrollton, Texas.

Activities will include a church service in the ballroom of the Embassy Suites on Sunday morning, July 13th at 11 a.m. and the public is invited to attend. Bishop Carl Morgan, an heir of Nicholas Demus is delivering the message. He is also the father of Michael Morgan, a member of the 2014 Super Bowl Champions the Seattle Seahawks.

According to family history, the last name was passed down through Deacon David N. Demus' heirs and that the unusual last name comes from John 3:1-8. (The New Birth)

"There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of



the Jews:

The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? . . ."

Sis. Tarpley shared, "We were taught to go to church, to be a servant for God, support our church, our pastor and our sisters and brothers in the Lord.

From the beginning of this lineage in Texas our family legacy is to

honor God, to worship Him, to praise His Holy name and to magnify His name above everything. He deserves all of the praise."

The history of Nicholas Demus

In Texas, which was a "Slave State" prior to 1865, when Black people in Texas heard the news, two years after it was declared that all slavery in the United States was abolished; that Boy Means was a slave on the Means farm; it was only after 1865 that Nicholas Demus name can be found recorded in the county records and recorded in the United States Census where he lived.

Sister Tarpley has a picture with

See DEMUS, Page 9



Heart of a Warrior offers fun day

-See Page 11



Missing the Point in college costs

-See Page 6



Deliver Us from Evil hits theaters soon

-See Page 10



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COMMENTARY

Democrats ain't loyal...

By George E. Curry
NNPA Columnist

Rev. Jamal Bryant of Baltimore was widely criticized recently for quoting a line from a popular Chris Brown's song: "Hoes Ain't Loyal."

Bryant could have avoided controversy – and been on point – if he had instead said, "Democrats ain't loyal."

They ain't, to borrow the vernacular.

Although people of

color comprised 45 percent of Democratic voters in 2012, less than 2 percent of the \$1.1 billion collected over a 4-year period by the three primary Democratic fundraising committees went to people of color – defined as U.S. residents who are African American, Latino, Asian American or Pacific Islander, or Native American – according to the "2014 Fannie Lou Hamer Report" by PowerPAC+, a

See GOP, Page 3

INSIDE...

People In The News	2
Op/Ed	3
Health	4
Community News	5
Education	6
Arts & Entertainment	10
Market Place	11
Church Directory	14-15
NDG Book Review	16

People In The News...

See Page 2



F. Todd Ryan



Marissa Alexander



Rita C. White

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

F. Todd Ryan

BOSTON (BlackNews.com) -- Richard Michel Abraham, founder of the REDI Foundation, introduced his 6-month one-on-one mentoring certification real estate development course three years ago. At his press conference this week, he announced he would now only be able to take on and teach and groom a limited number of more students on how to develop and put together development joint ventures with investors.

One of his top students, F. Todd Ryan is developing his land into \$4,000,000



mixed use development including apartments and a trendy, first floor restaurant.

Todd comments, "Success as a real estate developer is a rare gem and Mr. Abraham pushes you to

shine. As much work as you put in, he will tell you, equals the result that you will get out. And, he will definitely push you to go above and beyond what you consider to be your best. With an extensive background in Chemistry, Art and Mathematics from Temple University, I still did not feel fulfilled... until I enrolled into the REDI Foundation's Real Estate Development Certification Program. Imagine having someone that's like a friend of the family, a close friend of the family who wants to passionately and wholeheartedly see you succeed

as a real estate developer, fulfilling your visions. Imagine having a life coach that passionately wants to see you succeed."

He continues, "And the icing on the cake - to have someone teaching you principles that most people wouldn't even learn in a lifetime.

The REDI Foundation has helped me to cultivate my passion and gift as a successful real estate developer. Mr. Abraham genuinely, patiently and aggressively opens up and unleashes the gift that you already had inside of you but was just dormant, waiting to

be presented to the world. Not only has Mr. Abraham removed the enigmas out of the real estate developing puzzle but he has accelerated my drive to move forward with a restaurant and apartment complex development on a vacant lot that I've owned for the last 10 years I am now proceeding confidently with my development."

The course attracts entrepreneurial spirited people worldwide e.g. developers, builders, architects, engineers, construction and project managers, land and property owners, land planners, real estate attorneys,

doctors, owners of commercial real estate firms, business owners and entrepreneurial spirited applicants who possess a passion for real estate development and feel they have what it takes to become a real estate developer and put together development joint ventures for investors.

This 6-month program is more comprehensive than a two year Master's degree in Real Estate Development, and tuition is less than a university Master's degree since the REDI Foundation offers partial scholarships.

For more details, visit www.redii.org.

Marissa Alexander

Hundreds of regional and national activists will come together in Jacksonville, Florida from Friday, July 25 through Friday, Aug. 1 to support embattled domestic violence survivor Marissa Alexander, build awareness about domestic violence and reproductive justice, and strengthen opposition to mandatory minimum sentencing.

"STANDING OUR GROUND Against Reproductive Oppression, Gender Violence, and Mass Incarceration" is envisioned by organizers as a celebration,



an exercise of civil rights, and a call for human dignity.

The date marks the one year anniversary of the verdict exonerating George Zimmerman for the murder

of Trayvon Martin and connects to the Aug. 1 hearing where Alexander will argue for Stand Your Ground protection. Participants are linking the call to free Marissa Alexander with Florida-based movements for justice for Trayvon Martin, Jordan Davis and others.

The week will feature noted speakers, educational panels, workshops, cultural events, and community outreach. An opening ceremony will launch the activities on Friday, July 25. On Friday and Saturday, the national SisterSong Reproductive Justice Institute will

hold panels and training workshops. Saturday will also feature a Youth Assembly. Sunday is highlighted by a benefit concert for the Marissa Alexander Legal Defense Fund.

On Monday, there will be a march from the SisterSong conference to the Duval County Courthouse. Tuesday will feature a keynote discussion by University of Illinois Professor Beth Richie, author of *Arrested Justice: Black Women, Violence and America's Prison Nation*, followed by a panel of local and national feminists and leaders in the movement for

women's safety.

Wednesday will take on the issues of police brutality and wrongful imprisonment with a panel of speakers organizing on these issues. On Thursday, legal experts will conduct community training to inform people about their rights under the law.

The day will end with a candlelight vigil. Throughout the week, activists will also take part in a People's Investigation where they will bring their concerns and questions to organizations and institutions of power on the local, state and national level. Times and locations are being fi-

nalized.

On Friday, Aug. 1, participants will attend a hearing on whether Marissa Alexander can argue for immunity from prosecution under Florida's Stand Your Ground law.

In 2010, Alexander fired a warning shot to stop a life-threatening attack by her estranged husband, causing no injuries. She was found guilty of aggravated assault and served two years of a mandatory 20-year sentence before a Florida appeals court overturned the guilty verdict.

See ALEXANDER, Page 6

Rita C. White

The 2014 Lillian Parks Thomas Award was presented to Rita C. White of the Dallas, TX Chapter at the Continental Societies, Incorporated convened in Houston, TX for its 58th National Conclave recently. Every two years the organization bestows its highest honor upon a member who has demonstrated commitment to the Continental cause on the national, regional and local levels.

This Continental exemplifies the highest standards of character and leadership. Only one award is given from the entire membership of 46 chapters in the United



States, the District of Columbia and Bermuda.

Rita's success as a member of Continental Societies, Incorporated represents only one area of the multifaceted, influential arena in which she participates. As a full-fledged member of the Dallas community, she is considered

one of the "movers and shakers," being actively involved in political and civic organizations throughout the City of Dallas and its multiple communities.

Rita's dedication to the greater Dallas community has been recognized by many community organizations because of her involvement, not only as a member of the Dallas Chapter of Continental Societies, Incorporated, but a myriad of other charitable and governmental bodies lending services that fit the mission of Continental Societies, Incorporated.

Nominees must have significantly contributed to their chapter as well as to the national organization,

and be involved in the community.

Involvement is through demonstrated service to the children and families with special needs in the areas of Health, Education, Employment, Recreation plus Arts and Humanities. In addition, she must have served as an officer or committee chairperson at the local, regional and or national level.

Continental Societies, Incorporated is a service oriented organization of women whose mission is to create environments within our communities that empower children to have access to quality and appropriate opportunities to reach their optimal potential.

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The Supreme Court's religious freedom scam

By Lee A. Daniels
NNPA Columnist

Last week, the U.S. Supreme Court issued two decisions that the Court's conservative majority and the larger conservative movement pretended were about "religious freedom."

In the one case, involving the Hobby Lobby chain of craft stores and the Conestoga Wagon Specialties company, which makes wood cabinets, the majority ruled that a federal law guaranteeing "religious freedom" means family-owned corporations don't have to provide insurance coverage for contraception under the Affordable Care Act.

fordable Care Act.

That decision, which the Court issued on June 30, seemed to leave in place the law's provision governing nonprofit organizations in place. The law allowed nonprofit organizations to, if they wished, transfer the delivery of free contraception to others. However, in the second ruling, which the Court handed up on July 3 and specifically involved Illinois's Wheaton College, a conservative Christian institution, the court majority temporarily exempted it from having to comply at all with the contraception provisions of the law.

Critics of the decisions, which pro-

duced extremely sharp dissents from the court's three female justices, said they have stripped women workers of any guarantees that contraception coverage will automatically be part of their health insurance. That's because these rulings aren't about "religious liberty." They actually have an entirely different purpose: jerry-rigging a legal framework around the efforts of the white Christian right to impose its religious beliefs on other Americans. The Christian Right has been pursuing that goal, of course, for decades. But it's become clear in recent years that it

See SCAM, Page 11

LOYAL, continued from Page 1

national advocacy organization that helps elect progressives to office by building on the political power of the multiracial majority in America.

Actually, the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) figures are even smaller than reported because the study counted any firm that had a person of color as a principal owner, not the more commonly accepted definition requiring that they be the majority owner.

The research was compiled from Federal Election Commission reports filed by the three largest Democratic fundraising committees: the National Democratic Committee, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

"Even amidst the massive infusion of 'outside' money, the Democratic Party remains the largest source of funds for Democrats seeking office (other than the Presidency). Each cycle, the

Party takes in hundreds of millions of dollars and uses these funds to provide the national electoral infrastructure and support those of the states," the report stated.

It explained, "While most of the media attention falls on the mega-donors who make significant financial contributions to the Democratic Party, in the aggregate, small donors actually contribute more to the Party's finances than do the mega-donors. Indeed, donors who made contributions of less than \$200 provided a full third of the Party's financial resources over the past two cycles, having donated over \$371,345,529."

According to the report, "Well over half a billion dollars was spent on these consultants over the past two election cycles, an amount that represents approximately half of the funds

raised and disbursed by the Party."

But few of those dollars found their way to people of color.

Overall, of 285 firms receiving disbursements from the Democratic Party in the 2010 and 2012 election cycles, only 14 – or 4.9 percent – were MBE firms. Five of the MBEs were polling firms, three provided communications services and six provided political strategy services or IT.

Among the 14 firms, four of them received 87 percent of all dollars disbursed to MBEs. They were, in order, Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc., \$2,206,772.50 (25 percent of all MBE Research, dollars); SKD Knickerbocker, \$2,138,671 (24 percent); Brilliant Corners Research, Inc., \$1,908,369.26 (22 percent) and Thoughtworks (\$1,328,464.92).

Peter D. Hart, whose firm received the most MBE dollars, is a White male. Yet, highly-respected Black pollster Ronald L. Lester received only \$45,670.00 from the Democratic Party, according to the report. Brilliant Corners, headed by Cornel Belcher, an African American, was third among MBEs with \$1.9 million. Dewey Square Group, with Minyon Moore, African American, and Maria Cardona, a Latina, on its team received only \$81,054.73, or 0.9 percent of MBE dollars.

Among the study's recommendations:

- Conduct a disparity study to diagnose the problem;
- Set goals for diversifying contract awards;
- Make a plan to increase access and capacity and
- Measure progress and hold decision-makers accountable.

In 2014, the Democratic Party has no credible excuse for such poor performance. Even with an exaggerated

definition of what constitutes a Minority Business Enterprise, Democrats fall short.

"... Today's voter looks quite different from the model voter of even 50 years ago who was much more likely to be male, have a job with a union that afforded him time off to vote during the work day, and have access to an array of news sources that offered some semblance of balanced reporting on the candidates and their positions, among other things," the report stated. "Today, women, especially those not married, form a core part of the Democratic Party's base, as do Voters of Color. To put it bluntly, these voters are already the largest constituencies within our Party, and their influence will only increase over the coming decades."

Diversifying spending with Black vendors, Black media and African Americans who offer professional services does not detract from the Party's overall goal.

"... The ultimate goal of these efforts is to win," the report observed. "And winning among today's multiracial and ever evolving electorate requires cultural competence at its finest."

This report should be followed up with others, including an examination of spending by Republicans.

As the report noted, "It is deeply disappointing that we are even having this conversation in 2014... If People of Color are smart and talented enough that one of them can serve as leader of the free world, then they are certainly smart and talented enough to run political campaigns for Congress, Senate, and the White House."

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

How to use a stability ball safely

By Valecia Weeks
Special to the NNPA
The Houston Forward-Times

In some cases working out on the floor is not an option for certain Divas in certain circumstances; but never fear...the STABILITY ball is here. If you desire to change up your abdominal workout or even your push up workout, make the stability ball a part of your regular workout regimen. No matter the exercise, working on a stability ball consistently challenges your core and back muscles to strengthen and stabilize those particular muscle groups. In addition to improving your posture, flexibility, strength and balance, it's also takes a lot of



strain off your back, than abdominal exercises done on the floor. Lets take a look at how to optimize your exercise results. Here are a few safety tips to use when working your abdomen on a stability ball.

Sit on a stability ball with your feet shoulder-width apart on the floor.

Walk your feet slowly forward, allowing the ball to roll over your buttocks and up toward your back. Stop walking forward when your tailbone and lower back rest on the ball.

Pull your navel in as if you're trying to bring it closer to your spine. This will engage your core and

help stabilize your body.

Double-check that your knees are directly above your feet, that your chin is off your chest, and that your thighs are parallel to the floor.

Place your fingertips on the sides of your head behind your ears, pointing your elbows out the entire time. Avoid bringing your elbows together; flare them out the entire time so you feel a good stretch in your chest. This is your starting point.

Use your abdominals to slowly raise your upper

body off the ball. Imagine crunching your rib cage closer toward your pelvis.

Keep your head aligned with your spine the entire time. Avoid lowering your chin on your chest and pulling on your neck. Face forward during the range of motion, and exhale at the top of the crunch. Count to three during the ascent to ensure you're not moving too fast.

Lower your upper back slowly to the ball using the strength of your abdominals. Count to three during

the descent, and inhale when you're back to the starting point.

Complete eight to 12 crunches one the stability ball, and gradually work your way up to finishing two or three sets.

Use these stability ball tips along with other exercises for abs, helping to get rid of fat and tone the muscles of your stomach. However, if at any point, you feel the stability ball slipping, re-adjust the ball immediately to prevent possible injury.

Don't let food poisoning put a damper on your summer picnics and fun

With summer comes fun in the sun, swimming in the lake and picnics in the park. but while the kids are frolicking on the jungle gym, food-borne bacteria can be wreaking havoc with that special potato salad you made for the family gathering. dietitians at Parkland Health & Hospital System warn that as food heats up in sweltering summer temperatures, bacteria multiply rapidly.

To protect yourself, your family and friends from food-borne illnesses during the warm weather months, safe food handling when eating outdoors is critical.

"One of the most important things is to keep cold food cold," said Sharon Cox, a registered dietitian at Parkland. "Cold food should be stored at 40 degrees fahrenheit or below using ice or frozen gel packs to prevent bacteria growth. Try to limit the number of times you open the cooler. the more times you open it, the more heat can get inside and increase the temperature to a dangerous level."

In addition to keeping a lid on it, Cox recommends packing beverages in one cooler and perishable food in another. that way, as picnickers open and reopen the beverage cooler to replenish their drinks, perishable foods won't be exposed to warm outdoor air temperatures.

The key, according to the U.S. Food and

Drug Administration, is to never let your food remain in the "danger zone" between 40 degrees fahrenheit and 140 degrees fahrenheit for more than two hours, or one hour if the outdoor temperature is above 90 degrees.

But while most people know the dangers of consuming food left in the heat, there are times when the meal looks and smells fine. Cox said it's better to err on the side of caution than risk contracting food poisoning.

"If you aren't 100 percent sure how long food has been sitting out, especially foods made with mayonnaise or other ingredients that spoil quickly, don't eat it," Cox warns. "Why risk ruining a fun day with friends and family by eating food that is not safe?"

Still, if the draw of the potato salad or deviled egg is too much to resist, Cox said to look out for signs of food poisoning including nausea, vomiting or diarrhea, which can start just hours after eating contaminated food. most often, food poisoning is mild and resolves without treatment. but some cases are severe, requiring hospitalization.

For more information of food-borne illnesses, visit the U.S. Food and Drug Administration at www.fda.gov. to make an appointment with a Parkland provider, visit www.parklandhospital.com.

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Friends of the Plano Public Library book sale adds Sunday shopping hours

The 31st Annual Friends of the Plano Public Library Book Sale will be Friday to Sunday, Aug. 8 to Aug. 10, at the Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy. Almost 100,000 hardbacks, paperbacks, DVDs, CDs, and records will be available at prices ranging from 25¢ to \$2.

The sale will be open on Sunday this year to allow more prime shopping time. Hours are 6 to 10 p.m. on Friday for the public with one hour from 5 to 6 p.m. open only to Friends members. For all shoppers, Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday is 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. An extra incentive includes pricing on Sunday for all merchandise at \$10 a bag.

Friday night admission is free for Friends members, \$5 for individuals and \$10 for

families. Saturday and Sunday admission is free to all.

All proceeds from the book sale benefit Plano Public Library System.

The book sale and other fund-raising initiatives have allowed Friends to contribute more than \$1 million in the last decade to benefit the Plano community. Friends' contributions support a wide variety of library initiatives including eBooks, eMagazines, ESL classes, science kits, robotics workshops, and programs for children and families.

Cash, checks, Visa, MasterCard and Discover will be accepted at the book sale. For more information about the sale and how to get involved with the Friends, visit www.friendsofplanolibrary.org.

Galaxy Counseling Center offers the public a free day of counseling and family fun

Galaxy Counseling Center is offering a free day of counseling, learning, and family fun during its "Day at Galaxy" on Saturday Aug. 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 1025 S. Jupiter Road in Garland.

"This event is our show and tell, said Stephanie Ward Pierre, Development Director at Galaxy. "We are proud of the amazing work our counselors do and want to give the public a sampling."

The Day at Galaxy features guided tours, free therapy sessions, anger management group sessions, lectures and other activities.

"I think it is important to let the public know what we do and how much we can help them," said Jason Carter, Clinical Director of Galaxy.

Research has shown: 343,000 adults and 144,000 Dallas County residents under the age of 18 live with a mental illness severe

enough to cause significant impairment in daily functioning.

The percentage of youth suffering from mental disorders is higher than the most frequent major physical conditions in adolescence, including asthma or diabetes.

"We hope this day will help to do away with the stigma surrounding mental illness by showing how we work," Mrs. Pierre said. "We believe mental illness is nothing to be ashamed of."

This is a family friendly event. There will be snacks, face painting and a bounce house. If you would like to sign up for a counseling session, you must go to the website at www.galaxycounselingcenter.org.

For more information, or to sponsor this event, call 972 272-4429 X232 or e-mail sward@galaxycounseling.org.

ALEXANDER, continued from Page 2

State Prosecutor Angela Corey has chosen to re-prosecute Alexander, this time threatening a mandatory 60-year sentence if Alexander is found guilty in the new trial currently scheduled to begin Dec. 8.

Local and national leaders of the Free Marissa Now mobilization campaign are partnering with New Jim Crow Movement – Jacksonville, SisterSong, INCITE!, African American/Black Women's Cultural Alliance, Radical Women, Project South, Resist, Highlander Research Center, and

National Congress of Black Women to organize the week of events.

National supporters of Marissa Alexander in other cities will also take action during the week to build awareness about ending domestic violence and mass incarceration, and supporting all women's right to self-defense. Participants will take part through daily live-streaming of Jacksonville events and through Facebook and Twitter updates, and a Selfies for Self-Defense campaign.

D-FW Small Business Exposition

Sponsored by CCBCC
Saturday, July 26, 2014 @ 10am until 3pm
Collin College -Spring Creek Campus
2800 E. Spring Creek Blvd
Plano, Texas 75074

Theme: Your Business. Our Business. More Business.

DFW Small Business Exposition will feature:

- Business Empowerment Seminars
- Consumer Educational Seminars
- Business Opportunities
- Career Fair
- Vendor Shopping
- Health & Fitness Fair with FREE Health Screenings
- Door Prize Drawings
- Great Food!

The DFW Small Business Expo is a collaborative effort between Public and Private Sector organizations whose main goal is the empowerment of existing and prospective entrepreneurs through capacity building, business training and access to information.

OBJECTIVES

- To host a venue that will educate small businesses
- To host a venue that will educate potential business owners on the A to Z of business ownership
- To provide a forum for micro, small, potential and existing business owners to network and gather new information to improve their business processes
- To provide training and development opportunities for minority business owners.

EVENT FOCUS

The Expo has five main areas of focus:

- Business Empowerment
- Business Financing
- Social Networking
- Business Development & Marketing Services
- Skills Training & Development

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Date: Saturday, July 26, 2014

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Missing the point

By William Spriggs

Currently, the debate on American colleges and universities is dominated by the cost of tuition. This debate misses the point.

Let's look at two of America's leading schools—Harvard University, a private research university, and Williams College, a private undergraduate college. In 2010, Harvard's endowment income, investment income and gifts came to \$158,106 per student. For Williams, that figure was \$91,206. Net tuition (some students pay full tuition and others benefit from scholarships that lower the cost) at each school was \$19,834 at Harvard and \$19,994 at Williams. Harvard spends \$151,014 per student-of which \$79,380 goes to in-



Harvard University enjoys a remarkable advantage over other schools with income from endowments, grants and gifts that dwarf other colleges. (Photo: Chensiyuan / Wikimedia)

struction, \$48,256 goes to research and \$5,320 to fellowships. Williams spends \$79,536 per student-of which \$63,172 goes to instruction.

Let's compare that with a school dedicated to teach-

ing low-income students: Grambling State University in Louisiana. In 2010, Grambling's support from the state of Louisiana plus its income from investment and endowments came to \$4,809 per full-time stu-

dent. Net tuition was \$4,310 a year. Grambling spends \$20,460 per student-of which \$13,856 goes to instruction, \$83 to research and \$2,012 to fellowships.

I offer these stark contrasts to make several

points. First, tuition covers only a small portion of instruction at Harvard, Williams or Grambling. Supporting a university education takes a large amount of non-tuition revenue. But the stark differences in amounts of non-tuition revenue mean that if we want all students in America to have access to a quality education, we must either talk about increasing our public investment or accept we will be charging students to try to buy quality.

And this puts a different light on comparing a percentage increase in tuition at Grambling with a percentage increase at Harvard. Between 2008 and 2013, the state of Louisiana cut funding per full-time college student by 42 percent.

An \$80 per student cut to Grambling passed on to students in a tuition raise (to try to keep up with Harvard's resources to recruit faculty and provide classroom technology) would hike tuition by 1.8 percent; an \$80 increase at Harvard would be a 0.4 percent increase. Dollars don't guarantee quality, but the scale of difference between 5.7-to-1 and 4.55-to-1 on instructional budgets between Harvard, Williams and Grambling suggests an unbearable level of inequality.

Second, an important level of expenditures in research and fellowships support graduate education and research at Harvard and Grambling. America's universities are our engine of

See TUITION, Page 13

Peragine selected as principal of Irving ISD's Elliott Elementary School

Sheila Peragine, who has served as assistant principal for L.V. Stockard Middle School in Dallas ISD since 2012, has been named principal for Elliott Elementary School.

Peragine started her career in the Dallas Independent School District (DISD) in 2001 as a bilingual kindergarten teacher at George Peabody Elementary School, where she



served until 2010. From 2010 to 2012, Peragine worked as an assistant prin-

cipal at DISD's J.T. Brashhear Elementary School.

"I believe that each child is a unique individual who needs a secure, caring and stimulating atmosphere in which to grow and mature, intellectually, emotionally, physically and socially," says Peragine. "As an instructional leader my focus is on the desired result — student achievement. This can be achieved by having

clear goals, an action plan for implementation, a positive attitude and nonetheless never forgetting that it is our professional responsibility to ensure that our children are getting the best education."

"Ms. Peragine has clearly demonstrated from her performances as an elementary school and middle school administrators that she understands and proactively

supports teachers and staff in their work to help all students reach their fullest potential," says Irving ISD Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jose Parra.

"She possesses remarkable passion, a great work ethic, and a love for children that will serve the students, staff, and community of Irving ISD extremely well. I look forward to her joining and leading the El-

liott Elementary School family."

Peragine holds a bachelor's degree in international business in Spanish from the University of Texas at Arlington.

In addition she holds a master's degree in education leadership from Texas Woman's University and attended the Teaching Trust Executive Education Program.

Remington College Dallas campus offers free back-to-school haircuts in August

Remington College "Cuts for Kids" program sends kids back to school looking and feeling their best - all at no cost

Remington College invites parents to bring their kids in for free back-to-school haircuts during its sixth annual Cuts for Kids event.

Throughout the month of August, Remington College cosmetology programs will provide free haircuts to kids 17 and under.

The event will be held on Friday, Aug. 1 and Saturday, Aug. 30. To schedule an appointment: Call The

Salon at Remington at 972-698-3890. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Available hours are Tuesday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Salon is located at 1640 Eastgate Dr. in Garland.

During Cuts for Kids, Remington College will also be collecting school supplies - pens, pencils, notebooks, etc. Anyone who brings in a donation can get a free haircut, manicure, or

pedicure for themselves. All school supplies collected will go to local schools.

Remington College student salons have provided more than 12,000 free haircuts through its Cuts for Kids promotion.

For more on the Remington College cosmetology program, visit remingtoncosmo.com or call 1-800-448-6405.

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'Turn Up!' at Dallas Love Field offers a free peek behind the scenes for families

This summer, Dallas-area students will have a chance to learn about the people and machines that keep airplanes up in the air and keep people safe on the ground when the Turn Up! event series makes a stop at Dallas Love Field Airport. The event is part of Dallas City of Learning—Mayor Mike Rawlings' and Big Thought's new citywide summer learning initiative—a program designed to help young people explore new ideas, pursue their interests while discovering news ones, and make connections between the things they learn in class with the possibilities of the world around them.

The Love Field Turn Up! event will take place on Saturday, July 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the Aviation Offices at 7710 Avia-



Kids will get hands-on aviation experience at the Love Field Turn Up! (courtesy Dallas Love Field)

tion Place as well as the Frontiers of Flight Museum located at 6911 Lemmon Avenue. The event is free and open to the public, and free parking will be available in

Parking Garage "B" with voucher. Families attending the Love Field Turn Up! will have the opportunity to participate in hands-on activities, watch demonstra-

tions, take guided tours and enjoy airline vendor exhibits and concessions. Bracelets issued at the Turn Up! will also grant participants free admission to the Frontiers of Flight Museum throughout the day.

Big Thought staff will be on site providing more information about Dallas City of Learning and signing kids up for the program. This initiative challenges students to earn digital badges to document their experiences and earn recognition for their accomplishments throughout the summer. Event participants will earn a badge in their digital "backpack" that will help them unlock additional learning experiences and special opportunities. Badges will also be a form of currency: over time, they will help young people gain ac-

cess to internships, jobs and college admission. Students can also register in advance at www.dallascityoflearning.org.

The Turn Up! at Dallas Love Field is a joint event of the Department of Aviation, Big Thought, the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs and the Frontiers of Flight Museum.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Art Activities
- Terminal Tours – Once every hour on the 15 minute interval
- K9 Unit Demonstrations – Every 30 minutes
- Dallas Fire and Rescue – 911 training and exhibition
- Department of Aviation Field Maintenance Equipment
- Tenants, Concessionaires and Fixed-Based Operators booths to visit.

Carrollton mural becoming a popular downtown focal point

CARROLLTON – When Mayor Matthew Marchant put out a request for artists via the Twitter-sphere, local painter Theresa Mangum had just put the finishing touches on her second major piece of public art.

Deciding she was ready for more, Mangum responded to the mayor's request for an artist to paint a mural in Downtown Carrollton. Cut to one month later, and the east side façade of the Calvert and Co. Architects office building on the Downtown Square has Mangum's artwork splashed across in bright flowers, a great big sun, and a new treasure for locals and visitors to admire.

Marchant said his vision for the mural was driven by his passion



for Downtown Carrollton. "It is already a great destination, but I am always looking for ways to improve. This mural is part of a concerted effort toward place-making in the area and bridging the gap between the historic part of Downtown and the newer buildings to the east."

For the 15'x82' Downtown Car-

rollton mural, the weather played a bit of a villain for Mangum and her painting partner Jes Spires. "It was extremely hot while I was painting that sun, and it was really windy, too." In addition, the decorative duo needed 10 days total to complete the mural due to rain causing a four-day interruption.

"We had a lot of people come

by though," Mangum, a University of Texas at Dallas Art and Performance graduate, said. "Even when I was still finishing up that far side of the wall, people were on the other side with their families taking pictures in front of it."

When asked about the theme of the painting, Mangum explained that she uses a lot of flowers in her artwork in general, but this time, wanted to incorporate Texas wildflowers one might see growing in the middle of a wide open area.

"The reaction to the mural has been great," Marchant said. "We hope to continue this theme in the area and add some amenities to Pioneer Park to make it more user-friendly and attractive. I appreciate Dick Calvert's willingness to

participate in this project."

"(When the mayor asked if they could paint), I said it depends on what the mural is, of course," said Calvert, the building's owner. "But they sent me a picture, I liked it, and I said sure."

Calvert said he thought the mural could help Downtown with more than just an aesthetic appeal, "especially when people can give directions like 'it's near the building with the flowers on it.'"

Calvert said he enjoyed playing witness to the artistic process in progress. "It was really nice to watch the flowers grow."

To get an upfront look at the mural, take a stroll to Downtown Carrollton near Pioneer Park—it's the building with all the flowers on it.

President Obama applauds Congress for bipartisan support in confirming San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro as HUD Secretary

Statement by the President on the Confirmation of Julián Castro as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

"I applaud the bipartisan majority of Senators who today confirmed Julián Castro as our next Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Julián is a proven leader, a champion for safe,

affordable housing and strong, sustainable neighborhoods. I know that together with the dedicated professionals at HUD,

"Julián will help build on the progress we've made battling back from the Great Recession — rebuilding our housing market, reducing homelessness among veterans, and

connecting neighborhoods with good schools and good jobs that help our citizens succeed.

"Julián has lived the American Dream in his own life, and I'm confident he will help Americans across our country seize their own piece of that dream for themselves and their children."



North Dallas Community Baptist celebrates 14th Anniversary of Pastor and Wife

Rev. Billy R. and Shelley Robinson join the North Dallas Community Baptist Church family in inviting the public to attend the anniversary celebration this weekend. Fourteen years ago the Pastor and Wife joined with other believers to launch the church.

This Sunday at the 11 a.m. service, Pastor Victor Paul of Greater First Baptist Church in Bartlesville, Okla. will deliver the message at the anniversary service.



Pastor Robinson was born and raised in Tallulah, Louisiana and is a graduate of Southern University in

Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He was called into the ministry in February of 1987 and was ordained February 10, 1995 under the leadership of the late Rev. Cecil Smith, Sr., at Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas.

North Dallas Community Baptist Church is located at 1718 Trinity Valley Drive in Carrollton. Please call 972-484-1185 or visit ndcbc.org for more information.

Those debt settlement programs are misleading

By Charlene Crowell
NNPA Columnist

You've probably heard the advertisements on urban radio urging consumers with at least \$10,000 in debt to call a number right away for a financial rescue. Promising to end debt troubles by getting creditors to somehow accept less money than what is owed can sound re-

ally appealing. In reality, however, consumers mired in debt may often find debt settlement programs to be costly, misleading, and far less helpful than the radio ad promises.

In the newest chapter in the research series titled *The State of Lending*, the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) finds that

See DEBT, Page 12

Three double-date ideas for dog lovers

Are you looking for an afternoon or evening out that's both fun and different? Try taking your best friend on a double date, says avid dog lover Kris Rotonda, CEO of www.YouMustLoveDogsDating.com.

"If you really want to get to know someone you're dating, then have them meet your cherished live-in companion, your dog – or, in my case, dogs," says Rotonda, who runs a dating site for singles who love dogs.

"Better yet, if your date has a dog, too, why not double date with your dogs?" says Rotonda's girlfriend, Denise Fernandez. "It's an effective, natural and unpretentious way of getting to know each other and the significant four-legged others in your life."

With so many potential romances starting online, that first face-to-face meeting can be even more nerve-racking, Fernandez points



Photo: Ricardo Baez Duarte / Flickr

out. Conversations have occurred; expectations have built.

"Even though folks get to know about each other's background, actually meeting for the first time can be kind of tough," Rotonda says. "Bringing your dog is a great way to break the tension."

At a loss for where to take a doggy double date? Rotonda offers three ideas with lots of potential for a

good time.

Look up the nearest dog beach or park: Dog parks and beaches are full of interesting sights and smells, particularly if you're a dog, and room for running and playing games. You and your date can toss Frisbees, take a leisurely stroll with your dogs, or just kick back for some entertaining dog-watching.

Dog-friendly bars and restaurants: More and more

establishments are realizing the value of setting a place at the table for dogs. For those who aren't yet dog lovers, a dog-friendly restaurant or bar is a familiar setting and neutral place.

When Rotonda and Fernandez first got to know each other, Rotonda was shocked that his would-be girlfriend, having no previ-

ous experience with dogs, wasn't a dog lover. Over time, however, Fernandez came to love Rotonda's four dogs, which helped strengthen the couple's bond.

Go shopping together. Pet stores are also dog-friendly zones; check out fun new products together, scope out the fish and birds available

for sale, you may even get a little paw mani-pedi together!

Kris Rotonda owns four dogs and created www.YouMustLoveDogsDating.com, a dog lovers' matchmaking website, after discovering that dating dog lovers prevented a lot of romantic disappointment.

TSTA: Education Commissioner wrong to allow charter expansion

The Texas State Teachers Association recently rebuked State Education Commissioner Michael Williams for overturning a veto by the State Board of Education and allowing a corporate charter company from Arizona to expand into Dallas and Irving.

"It was wrong for a political appointee like Commissioner Williams to overturn the decision of elected state officials and give Great Hearts Academies a license to cherry pick students and profits from Dallas County's public schools and Texas taxpay-

ers," said TSTA President Rita Haecker.

Numerous reports indicate that Great Hearts has a history of skipping over Hispanic, black and low-income students when it fills its classrooms. In fact, Anglo students make up a majority of students enrolled in Great Hearts classrooms in predominantly Hispanic Phoenix.

"An appointed commissioner should not force Texans to enrich a corporation insensitive to the needs of the majority of Texas school children," Haecker concluded.

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Heart of a Warrior hosting Fun Fit Day 2014 on Friday

Heart of a Warrior Charitable Foundation (HOAW) and Equinox, the high performance fitness and lifestyle leader, team up again to promote healthy living with Fun Fit Day 2014 on Friday, July 11 from 9 a.m. – Noon. Trainers from Equinox Preston Hollow and Highland Park will join students of the Young Warrior Summer Learning Program (YWSL) at the St. Philip's School and Community Center at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave in Dallas for a day of exercise and fun.

With activities ranging from basketball drills and obstacle courses, to team games including tug of war, students in grades K-7th will have fun while learning about healthy eating habits and the importance of daily exercise. Following small group training sessions with

Equinox's expert trainers, students will enjoy a healthy lunch provided by the Heloise-Munson Foundation.

"The Young Warrior Summer Learning

Program strives to provide our students with the tools they need to succeed in the classroom and in life," said Gail Warrior, founder and chairwoman, Heart of a Warrior Charitable Foundation. "Healthy living and understanding the importance of a balanced diet is paramount to the overall well-being of our students. We are pleased to be partnering with Equinox for a second year and look forward to the years to come."

Continuing its partnership with HOAW throughout the summer, Equinox is hosting a Backpack Drive May 17 through July 25. The Preston Hollow location is accepting new backpacks from members and non-members. Donors are asked to bring the backpacks to the Kids Club. As a thank you for the generous donation, donors will receive a complimentary day pass and Kids Club pass for each backpack donated. The backpacks will be presented by Equinox trainers to the YWSL students during the

See WARRIOR, Page 16

Enjoy National Grilling Month in July with Brava Steak and Lazy Salsa recipes



Serves 6

Ingredients:

- 6 garlic cloves, unpeeled
- 4 serrano or 2 jalapeño chiles
- ¼ cup fresh lime juice
- 2 tablespoons vegetable or olive oil, plus more for steaks
- 1 ½ teaspoons salt
- 6 ribeye or strip beef steaks, 1 inch thick and about 8 ounces each

Lazy Salsa:

- 1 jar (16 ounces) Jalapeño Cilantro

Salsa

- ½ cup Bohemia Beer
- Salt to taste

Instructions:

1. Roast garlic cloves and chiles in an ungreased skillet over medium heat, turning occasionally, until soft and blackened in spots, usually 5 to 10 minutes for chiles and 10 to 15 minutes for garlic. Cool, and then peel garlic.

2. Puree garlic, chiles, lime juice and 2 tablespoons oil in a blender or food processor. Season with salt. Pour into a shallow dish and add steaks. Let marinate steaks for 1 hour at room temperature or 2 hours in the refrigerator.

3. For the lazy salsa, heat the beer and salsa in a saucepan to a simmer. Cook gently to concentrate slightly, about 3 minutes. Cool and season with salt.

4. Prepare a charcoal grill or heat a gas to hot. Brush the steaks with oil. Grill the steaks about three or four minutes per side for medium rare. Serve with lazy salsa.

DEMUS, continued from Page 1

the last official document of the Emancipation Proclamation that is held by the State of Texas when it was loaned to the State Fair of Texas.

Research uncovered that in 1870 and after that Nicholas Demus owned property in Texas. In fact, his two sons, George N. Demus and David N. Demus owned more prop-

erty than their Dad in Texas.

George and David were the two Demus Deacons along with Deacon Rainey of the church that purchased land for a church and school for Black children. It still stands today.

It is Union Primitive Baptist Church. That's one of the historical landmarks that have been planned for a day visit, July 12, when the fam-

ily goes to Mexia, Texas during the First Demus Mega Family Reunion 2014.

Nicholas Demus had five sons (Fleetwood N. Demus, Chester N. Demus, George N. Demus, Lud N. Demus and David N. Demus (the "N" in the middle of their names, reportedly meant they were sons of Nicholas Demus) and one daughter, Lucy Demus Jackson, married to Rev. Mack Jackson,

the first pastor appointed by the Deacons (George N., David N. and the other Deacons at Union Primitive Baptist Church.

Nicholas Demus had all of his children by Bettye Demus (maiden name unknown). In those days when females married, they

ceased using their maiden name, that's why it is difficult to trace females in our history and most official records.

Texas Demus Ancestry

- Nicholas (1820, Virginia - 1880, Texas) & Bettie (1821, Alabama - 1872 in Texas) Demus
- Deacon David N. (1870 - 1959 in Texas) & Ida Rutherford (1871 - 1964 in Texas) Demus
- Lloyd David (1910, Mexia - 1970, Dallas) & Cedella Baker (1912, Mexia - 1984, Dallas) Demus
- Eloyd Della Demus Avery (1933 in Mexia - 2013 in Dallas)
- Billie Iveree Demus Daye (1935 in Mexia - 2013 in Dallas)
 - James David Demus (1935 in Mexia - 2013 in Dallas)
 - {James was bon 11 months after Billie; no mistake on the year 1935}
- Ida Mae Demus Eggins (October 31, 1938 in Forney, Texas)
 - Frank Demus (1940 - 1984 in Dallas)
- Shirley Jean Demus Tarpley (August 2, 1941 in Dallas, Texas)
- Rose Mary Demus Watson Fielding (April 11, 1945 in Dallas, Texas)
 - Harold Edward Demus (1947 - 2010 in Dallas)

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www.nabb.org



Guest Speaker: Pastor Victor Paul

Greater First Baptist Church

Bartlesville, Ok

"A Living Testimony of God's Goodness"

Deliver Us from Evil provides a rare blend in horror

By Dwight Brown
NNPA Film Critic

What do you get when you mix cop/thriller elements with a paranormal film? Dread, fear, anguish, action, suspense anxiety, curiosity, disbelief, demons, thrills... At first, you might think that this creepy crime movie is just another excuse for a *The Exorcist* rip-off—but it's better than that. Better.

Sgt. Ralph Sarchie works in the 46th Precinct in the South Bronx, a rough section of New York City where ordinary crime is overshadowed by inexplicable acts that are just not normal. He works with priests, even aiding them as they perform exorcisms on people who seem possessed by demons. Trying to solve those bizarre incidents wears on his soul. He becomes despondent.

Sound like the premise of a generic cop/thriller/horror movie? Yes it does. And it would be no more than that, except that phenomena is based on the horrifying circumstances that a real Sgt. Sarchie encountered on patrol. He catalogued his experiences with paranormal activities in his book "Beware the Night," which was co-written with Lisa Collier Cool. Apparently, Sarchie even became an assistant to an exorcist. His story is a tough sell to skeptics. Hard



to believe. Very hard to believe. But fascinating.

Director/screenwriter Scott Derrickson (*The Exorcism of Emily Rose*) and his writing partner Paul Harris Boardman based their screenplay on Sarchie's book, whittling down a string of anecdotes into one suspenseful narrative that has cop story, family drama, investigative thriller and evil mysticism components. For the most part their unearthly concoction is compelling, dramatic, scary and violent.

Their craftsmanship will likely not win them any awards (even with all the window dressing, the film feels a bit derivative), but what's on view is not a regulation B-movie either. The direction, writing, production quality and acting make it more than that.

Sgt. Ralph Sarchie (Eric Bana, *Hulk*) and his patrol partner Butler (Joel McHale, *TV's Community* and *The Soup*), a sarcastic ex-

Army Ranger, cruise Bronx streets looking for trouble. Sarchie, with his inexplicable, clairvoyant and clairaudience sixth sense, sees and hears things. They investigate a domestic dispute and run across a crazed, tattooed Iraqi vet (Chris Coy) who has been beating his wife. A chase ensues.

They're called to the Bronx Zoo where a woman has thrown her young son into a lion's habitat. When they arrive, she is psychotic, super strong and prattles on incoherently. A mysterious man (Sean Harris) in a hoody appears in the lion's den, and then disappears. Sarchie and Butler discover that all the events are linked. Their investigation comes under the watchful eye of a Joe Mendoza (Edgar Ramirez), an atypical priest who has fallen on and off the wagon while wearing the cloth.

Scott Derrickson's pacing as a writer and director is near perfect in a film that

takes nearly two hours to tell its tale of unholy possessions. He measures out the violence, gore, drama, chase sequences and devil extractions quite well. Better than a lot of paranormal movies.

His efforts are helped by crystal clear cinematography (Scott Kevan, *Underworld: Awakening*), realistic costume design (Christopher Peterson, assistant on *The Wolf of Wall Street*), a tension-building score (Christopher Young, *Spider-Man 3*) and scary noises (the sounds of fingernails clawing rocks will give you the heebie-jeebies). You never question the visuals, the clothes or the sounds. You just get sucked into the fray.

Even if you didn't know that the footage was based on someone's actual experience—be it real or just real to them—the urgency in the

story comes through in large part due to the performances. Eric Bana has just the right mix of bravura, natural appeal and healthy skepticism. Says Sarchie, "You can't blame invisible fairies for the evil men do." Hard to believe that McHale, who acts like a smug jackass on *The Soup*, can play a believable cop. Sean Harris and Chris Coy as the vets who brought the devil home with them from Iraq are fluidly demonic. Olivia Mum as Sarchie's wife and Dorian Missick as a fellow police officer blend into their portrayals.

The man who brings real gravitas to the proceedings is Venezuelan actor Edgar Ramirez. Rent *Carlos* the Jackal on Netflix; it was a mini-series that was released in the U.S. as a 334-minute film called *Carlos*. His performance in that riv-

eting movie should have won him an Emmy, Golden Globe or Oscar for Best Actor.

He is one of the most talented actors in film today and he makes *Deliver Us From Evil* surprisingly impressive. He's intense. He jumps between English and Spanish effortlessly. As the hard-drinking, chain-smoking priest who has fallen from grace countless times, he makes Mendoza almost saintly: "I can't help you further unless you humble yourself before god."

This is a smart blend of cop drama, thriller and paranormal elements. It's a compelling and surprising mix that raises this genre movie into the realms of an imperfect but solid thriller. Fact or fiction. It's scary and grisly in all the right places.

Visit NNPA Film Critic Dwight Brown at DwightBrownInk.com.

The Phantom of the Opera at AT&T Performing Arts Center cast is announced

Cameron Mackintosh and Andrew Lloyd Webber's Really Useful Group announced the casting for their new production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA* currently on sale for the premiere Dallas engagement at the Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House in the Dallas Arts District.

With newly reinvented staging and stunning scenic design, this new version of *PHANTOM*, the most successful musical of all-time, will be performed by a cast and orchestra of 52, making this one of the largest productions on tour in North America.

Cooper Grodin, cast as "The Phantom" has recently been seen in Shakespeare in

the Park's *Into The Woods*, the Drama Desk-nominated Best Revival of *The Golden Land* and across the country in the National Tour of *Les Misérables*.

His debut original album "It's The Little Things" was released in 2012.

Julia Udine as 'Christine Daaé,' makes her touring debut with *PHANTOM*. Regionally, she starred as Maria in *West Side Story* and appeared on "Law and Order SVU."

Tickets prices start at \$30 and can be purchased online at www.attpac.org, by phone at 214-880-0202 or in person at the AT&T Performing Arts Center Information Center at 2353 Flora Street.



Four tricks for creating a winning corporate culture

If you're the CEO of a company, the realization that much of what you do can be copied by your competitors may be distressing, but veteran sales manager, consultant and business speaker Jack Daly says not so fast.

"Sure your competition copy what they can, but there are two things they can't: your people and your culture," says Daly, author of "Hyper Sales Growth," (www.jack-daly.net).

"I specialize in corporate coaching and sales, the latter of which really counts on the talent and sustained motivation of the sales

force. Even your best salesperson needs that extra shot from time to time, and the best way to ensure a driven team is to create a culture that fosters the results you want."

Some companies are outpacing their competition because of their culture, including Southwest Airlines, Zappos and the Virgin Group, says Daly, who offers these tips for growing a business culture that inspires loyalty, engagement and the high performance those qualities produce.

- Start new hires on a Friday – and with a big welcome. Many managers think new employees

should start on Monday – the day when their new co-workers are facing a long to-do list for the week. Consider starting them on Friday, when the office is a bit looser. Also – how about throwing the new hire a welcoming party? Many offices hold going away parties for departing employees, but it makes more sense to put this enthusiasm toward the person with whom you're making a commitment, rather than the person who's no longer working for you.

- Recognize accomplishments by putting it in writing – hand-writing. Typing emails and instant

messaging is clearly much more convenient, which is why an employee who deserves special attention will recognize the extra effort behind a hand-written note. A letter has that personal touch; the receiver knows that the manager or CEO has taken some time and effort to create a special communication just for him or her.

- Provide lunch – for free. "One of my clients started with just 10 employees, and each day one would bring in lunch for everyone," Daly says. "As the company grew to several hundred employees, the CEO found that free

lunches were so beneficial, the company now hires a caterer to maintain the boost in culture it provides." While many may cringe at the expense, employee appreciation outweighs the cost, Daly's client says, and it keeps people engaged within the office, rather than having employees leave for lunch.

- Flatten the privilege structure. It's not a good idea to create anything resembling a class system, including special parking for upper management. "I was the No.1 salesmen at one company,

See **CORPORATE**, Page 13

SCAM, continued from Page 3

was losing control on two of its most important issues: women's reproductive rights, and the rights of gays and lesbians, especially regarding same-sex marriage. So, now they've re-cast themselves as "victims" whose "freedom" to adhere to their religious beliefs is being violated. It's a scam the conservative political movement is pushing in brazen fashion—as exemplified by a strikingly apt word in the Hobby Lobby opinion written by Justice Samuel A. Alito.

That word is "fiction."

On page 18 of the majority opinion, Alito acknowledges that defining corporations as persons in legal terms is a "fiction," but asserts that "the purpose of this fiction is to provide protection for human beings ... When rights, whether constitutional or statutory, are extended to corporations, the purpose is to protect the rights of those people." A moment later, Alito defines "those people" in this way: "And protecting the free-exercise rights of closely-held corporations thus protects the religious liberty of the humans who own and control the companies."

As Washington Post columnist Dana Milbank pointedly noted two days before the Wheaton College

decision, that sentence does not contain any mention of the rights of these corporations' employees. In other words, in declaring that a family-owned corporation – which, after all, is an artificial entity created in accordance with governmental regulations – can, in effect, take on the religious coloration of "those who own and control" it, the court's conservative bloc was indulging in another of the "fictions" by which it's been trying to hold back the expansion of democracy for more than a decade.

That became even clearer once it issued the Wheaton College ruling.

Given that it is indeed a "fiction" to pretend the ruling was not a politically driven gift to the Christian right, here are some questions to think about:

How long will it be before some conservative Christian business owners require their female employees to wear dresses (no slacks, please) down to their ankles? And for all employees to genuflect before crosses set up at entrances to their businesses? And to join them in "prayer sessions" before and after the workday? And to attend only those houses of worship they "approve" of?

And how long will it be before some white business

owners claim—as in the Jim Crow days—that their "religious beliefs" require that they not serve or employ Black Americans? Or, will they try that on Muslim Americans first? Or gays and lesbians? Or Hispanic Americans? Or Jewish Americans?

If those possibilities sound far-fetched to you,

you've forgotten that for most of American history, the "white" version of Christianity was part and parcel of the many crackpot justifications for the exclusion and oppression of women and Americans of color.

And you've forgotten that the Court's conservative majority crafted nu-

merous "fictions" in its 2010 Citizens United decision to enable corporations to make unrestricted political contributions, and again in the 2013 decisions that significantly narrowed affirmative action and voting rights protections.

Those facts underscore that there's little in the Christian right's efforts to

limit the freedom of others that the Supreme Court's "5 political operatives" (as a headline in The Huffington Post so accurately put it) will consider "far-fetched."

Lee A. Daniels is a long-time journalist based in New York City. His latest book is Last Chance: The Political Threat to Black America.

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

Iglesia Santa Marie de Guadalupe
2601 S. MacArthur

The Chateau on Wildbriar Lake
1515 Hard Rock Rd

Bombay Sizzlers
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Irving Salvation Army
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Antioch Christian Church
2043 W. Walnut Hill Ln

Lee Park Recreation Center
300 Pamela Drive

Lively Pointe Youth Center
909 N. O'Connor Rd

Mustang Park Recreation Center
2223 Kinwest Pkwy

Northwest Park Recreation Center
2800 Cheyenne St.

Senter Park Recreation Center
907 S. Senter Rd

Austin Recreation Center
825 E. Union Bower Rd.

Houston Recreation Center
3033 Country Club Rd.

Cimarron Park Recreation Center
201 Red River Trail

Georgia Farrow Recreation Center
530 Davis Street

Heritage Senior Center
200 Jefferson Street

iRealy Office Building
320 Decker Drive

Irving Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
135 S. Jefferson

Irving City Hall
825 W. Irving Blvd

Irving Public Library
801 W. Irving Blvd

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3537 E. Gilbert Road

Emmanuel Baptist Missionary Church
511 Gilbert Road

Ben Washington Baptist Church
3901 Frisco Ave

Shepherd Church
615 W. Davis

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

Bible Way Baptist Church
4215 N. Greenvview Dr.

Strictly Business
4159 W. Northgate

Washateria
3712 Cheyenne Street

New Life Ministries
3706 Cheyenne Street

Elisha Mane Attractions
3704 Cheyenne Street

Bear Creek Community Church
2700 Finley Rd.

Evergreen Baptist Church
3329 W. Country Club Drive

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

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

VW Barbershop
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Northlake College
2000 College Blvd Bldg. A

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2041 West Walnut Hill

Kasbah Grill
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2117 Story Rd.

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New Look Barbershop
3317 Finley Rd.

Irving Arts Center
3333 N. MacArthur #200

DEBT, continued from Page 8

debt settlement is a risky strategy that can leave consumers more financially vulnerable and still laden with debt years after they enroll in such programs.

Regardless of how well consumers follow the instructions of their debt settlement firm, they may ultimately be unsuccessful because many creditors simply refuse to deal with debt settlement companies.

According to the report, "Debt settlement companies do not tell consumers whether creditors will work with their firms at the time of enrollment. However, even if debt-settlement companies were required to disclose whether a particular creditor routinely works with their firm, this provides no real guarantee. In many cases, the party who owns a debt changes over time, since a debt may be sold successively to multiple parties."

Available data suggests that at least two-thirds of debts must be settled in order to achieve a net positive outcome from debt settlement. Even more debts must be settled for the consumer to achieve real savings if they end up being liable for taxes on the debt reduction.

In the end, many consumers never realize that kind of experience. Rather,

they end up worse off financially. According to the American Fair Credit Council, an industry trade association, consumers must typically be enrolled in debt settlement plan for three to four years in order to complete the program. During this time, debt balances grow an average 20 percent while consumers wait for settlements to be reached. Additionally, their credit scores are negatively affected, financial instability increased, and the likelihood of creditor lawsuits loom near.

According to Leslie Parrish, co-author of the report and deputy research director at CRL, "When a consumer stops making payments on a debt, not only is she/he vulnerable to fees and an increased interest rate, the reporting of this delinquency to credit bureaus can impact credit scores for years."

In general, the higher a consumer's credit score is, the lower the cost of credit they will incur. Conversely, the lower one's credit score, the higher the cost of credit and interest will be. Whether applying for a credit card, auto loan or a mortgage, bad credit histories make future credit and borrowing more expensive.

In 2010, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) issued regulation that

barred debt settlement companies from charging fees until they reached settlements with the client's creditors. While this regulation has stopped some of the most egregious industry practices, CRL's report finds that significant financial risks remain for debt settlement clients.

Today, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau shares regulatory oversight of debt settlement with the FTC. Thus far, CFPB has taken multiple enforcement actions against several debt-settlement companies and one payment processor.

CRL also sees a role for states to establish meaningful limits of debt settlement fees. One recommendation is to limit the fees that can be charged and to calculate such fees on the basis of the amount of savings achieved for the consumer.

State and federal regulators could also require better screening of prospective customers to lower the risk of a bad outcome. Factors such as the amount of debt to be enrolled, creditors and the consumer's financial circumstances would be taken into account. Additional recommendations can be found in the report located at: <http://rspnsb.li/1x5IPOe>.

Ellen Harnick, co-author of the report and senior policy counsel at CRL, said, "What's clear is that more action is necessary to protect consumers."

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TUITION, continued from Page 6

innovation and technological growth. Whether it is Hewlett-Packard, Microsoft or Apple, our economy is powered by research coming from our colleges. It is what makes them a major services "exporter," vital to our national trade balance. (When foreign students attend American universities, their tuition is counted as exporting educational services.) So investment in our universities is vital to generating patents and addressing our current account deficit.

In 1975, state and local governments contributed 60.3 percent of all expenditures on higher education. By 2010, that figure had fallen to 34.1 percent. We have been forcing public universities to compete with each

other, and with private colleges, for non-tuition revenue. It is a race that was not level and is not level. To reduce costs, public four-year colleges have cut instructional costs per student since 2008, and they have been reducing research per student since 2004.

Some argue that shifting the cost burden to students and their parents with increasing student debt loads is workable, because the returns on a college degree remain high.

While the wages of recent college graduates, adjusting for inflation, have fallen 7.7 percent since 2000, those with a high school diploma have seen wages fall 10.8 percent. So while the real earning capacity of college graduates is falling, they would be even

worse off if they didn't go to college.

And while a bigger share of their earnings may go to pay college debts, they may still be better off-so long as the increase in debt isn't bigger than their 73 percent wage advantage. I'll excuse you if you think that's an odd way of looking at things.

But is that the way to address funding our national need for sustaining our universities' global competitiveness, and keeping up vital research or providing equal opportunity?

The question is bigger than "is college debt sustainable as costs for individuals" because the benefits are bigger-having new patents, more exports and citizens smart enough to understand global warming debates.

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CORPORATE, continued from Page 11

but I always preferred to park with the others," Daly says. "I'd come in at 5 a.m. and noticed that those with reserved parking arrived significantly later than those who parked in unreserved spots."

Parking should be on a first-come, first-serve basis. Upper management

shouldn't feel too entitled or privileged above other employees.

Jack Daly, (www.jackdaly.net), author of "Hyper Sales Growth," is an expert in sales and sales management, inspiring audiences to take action in customer loyalty and personal motivation through explosive keynote and

general session presentations.

He draws upon more than 20 years of business experience, with several successful stints as the CEO of fast-growing companies. Daly has a bachelor's degree in accounting and an MBA. He was a captain in U.S. Army and is an accomplished author, with audio and DVD programs.



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You're invited to join us in our Sunday Fellowship Services as we worship and praise God for all of His blessings.

July 16
Join us in our Wednesday Morning Bible Class at 10:30 a.m. and/or our Evening Bible Class at 7 p.m.

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

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July 13, 9:45 a.m.
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Dr. Terrance Woodson,
Senior Pastor
1944 E. Hebron Parkway
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972-492-4300
www.bethelbiblefellowship.org

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

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Pastor Minnie
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line@theship3c.org

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July 16
You're invited to our Wednesday 12 p.m. Noon Day Live Prayer and Bible Study and/or our Wednesday Night Live Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word at Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall 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

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July 13, 7:35 a.m.
Join us this Sunday for our praise and worship services and receive a blessing from God.

July 16, 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 North Greenview
Drive
Irving, TX 75062
972-257-3766
www.biblewayirving.org

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July 13
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Pastor Sam Fenceroy
Senior Pastor
300 Chisholm Place
Plano, TX 75075
972-633-5511

**NORTH DALLAS
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BAPTIST CHURCH**

July 20 11 a.m.
You're invited to join us and bring a friend as we honor Pastor Billy & Mrs. Shelley Robinson and celebrate our 14th Church Anniversary. Guest speaker is Pastor Victor Paul, Greater First Baptist Church, Bartlesville, OK.

Pastor Billy R. Robinson
1718 Trinity Valley
Carrollton, TX 75006
972-484-1185
www.ndcbc.org

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July 13, 8 a.m.
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July 16, 7 p.m.
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Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
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Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org

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July 14, 7 p.m.
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July 13, 10 a.m.
You're invited to 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 and stay for our Morning Worship Services.

Dr. Gregory E. Voss,
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Sunday Morning Worship
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'The plans of tomorrow'



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"You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." **James 4:14.**

The story is told of a group of believers who meets every week for fellowship, study, and prayer. It is said that one man attended the group for several years. The man was well liked and in good health. One Thursday he showed up as usual.

The next morning the group received a call that said that the man had died, "He died in his easy chair last night!" The group had no knowledge of the man's problems and there was no indication that he was about to go to be with the Lord. Naturally, it came as a shock to the group.

Whenever things like this happen close to home, it brings us face to face with our own mortality. As it did to me when my dear friend, Mr. Raymond (Ray) Beasley who passed on June 23, 2014, it came as a surprise to me when I received the

call.

This brings to mind when a friend said that he was challenged by someone to do an experiment. He was challenged to live his life for one year as if it were the last year he would live.

He responded to the challenge and did as proposed. It changed his life forever. He began to focus on different priorities and people when he viewed life in these terms. This man's challenge should give us a perspective on viewing tomorrow.

It is often said, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city for vacation or spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why do we say that when we don't even know what will happen tomorrow?

What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." **James 4:13-15.**

Life is fragile. Consider where you are investing your time and energies. Someone once said they had never heard anyone on his deathbed say that he wished he had made more money in his lifetime or he wished he had made a certain deal. Usually it is

something like, "I wish I had spent more time with my kids." Ask God to give you His priorities for your life.

"I know, O Lord, that a man's life is not his own; it is not for man to direct his steps." **Jeremiah 10:23.**

In our society we hear a lot about planning. Every January people hear believers establishing their plans for the year. Corporations establish plans that cover anywhere from one to five years.

Individuals establish personal life plans. There is only one problem that can be wrong with planning

done by well-meaning believers. If God is not the originator and director of the plan, then that plan is doomed for failure.

Often, Christians set out to plan something that seems good in their minds. The merits of what is being planned can look great, and it can even be a worthy endeavor. However, that is not the point.

When Jesus said He came only to do the will of the Father, He could not consider doing anything that was not what the Father wanted, no matter how good or righteous it might appear to be.

"In his heart a man plans

his course, but the Lord determines his steps."

Proverbs 16:9. God must give us the vision for what He calls us to do. After we have the vision, we must ask Him if He wants us to take action on that vision and what the action steps entail.

The Lord wants to direct each step of the planning process. David learned this lesson when he went to battle against his enemy, the Philistines. One day he inquired of God as to whether he was to go up against the Philistines, and the Lord said, "Yes, but only when you hear the marching in the balsam trees."

It is a mistake to reason and analyze in order to come to a decision on a matter. The Lord already knows the answer. It is our responsibility to seek Him to find out His mind on the matter. Our planning must be established in Him.

Only when we remain so connected to the source can we be assured of putting God's plan into place. Also, getting that plan confirmed through others will assure that we are not following the deceit of our own heart.

When you begin to plan next time, ask God for His wisdom for establishing the vision and action steps. You will be surprised how well He can plan.

"I have called upon You, for You will hear me, O God; Incline Your ear to me, and hear my speech. Show Your marvelous lovingkindness by Your right hand, O You who save those who trust in You, from those who rise up against them. Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings, From the wicked who oppress me, From my deadly enemies who surround me." **Psalms 17:6-9.**



Tom Hill, EDS/HP Fellow Emeritus and Dallas inventor Ray de Beasley, who passed away on June 23.

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Radio Program @ 7:30 am on
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NDG Book Review: *Recognition* by O.H. Bennett

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

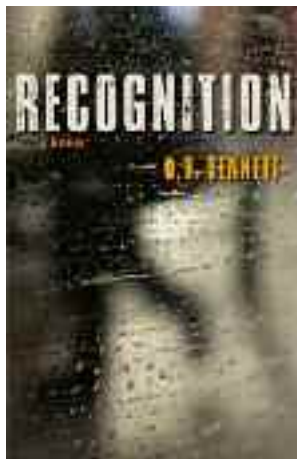
What you wouldn't give to spend one more day.

Your loved one has been gone – what? Weeks? Years? It seems like forever, and missing him doesn't get much easier. You wish for one of her hugs. What you wouldn't give to have one more day with her.

And what would you do? In the new novel, "Recognition" by O.H. Bennett, a young mother panics because the man she sees can't possibly be the man she knew.

Franklin would have gone to Brenda's house by now.

That was one of the thoughts swirling in Dana's head as she rushed home from an exceptionally long day of teaching. Nine-year-old Franklin knew he should go to the neighbor's house when his mother was running this late. What he didn't know was that Dana worried about bills, the house, her job, and a hundred other things. Mostly, she thought about her husband, Reynolds, who'd been accidentally swept



away in a rain-swollen river just months before Franklin was born.

For that, there was simply no closure.

If only they hadn't argued. If only she hadn't been so self-conscious of their mixed-race marriage. If only.

If only she hadn't slept with her colleague, Steve.

And that was the hundred-and-first thing on Dana's mind as she prepared to turn onto the street where she lived – and she saw him. Reynolds! Her husband, but when she stopped, turned around, and tried to find him, he was gone.

Enlisting the help of an

alcoholic streetwalker, Dana did everything she could to locate her beloved, the man she thought was dead, but he was elusive. Maybe he didn't want to be found – but why? She couldn't talk to his mother about it; Maureen was very ill. Dana couldn't talk to Reynolds' sister; she never liked Dana much at all. Surely, she couldn't tell Franklin what was going on...

Until the night Dana realized that she was being stalked. She needed to keep her son safe from someone – maybe Reynolds? It wasn't his nature to play games – was it?

And was that filthy, scruffy, homeless man truly Reynolds... or was Dana's still-grieving mind playing tricks?

It's going to take you less than 210 pages to learn the answer. Two hundred squirmy, uncomfortable pages and you'll enjoy every one of them because "Recognition" is just that kind of book.

Tight-tight-tight is the story that author O.H. Bennett offers us, with no

chance to catch a breath or to figure out if his character, Dana, is remembering or reliving; Bennett tosses the story back and forth, then and now, so quietly that we're never sure.

That catch-you-off-guard

is an awesome hook that adds to the surrealism of this tale as Dana's confusion becomes our confusion and everything oozes into a dream-like focus, then careers to an absolutely golden ending.

My biggest advice is to be patient with this book. It's a little odd at the very beginning, but you'll warm to it quick. Ultimately, "Recognition" will be a novel you'll want to spend one more day with.

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Sister Tarpley Thinks You Should
Share Your
Milestone Events

WARRIOR, continued from Page 9

August 1 graduation ceremony.

With former Dallas Cowboy Herschel Walker as the keynote speaker, the graduation ceremony at University of Dallas will give students and their families the opportunity to celebrate the educational successes of the summer program. YWSL's STEM-based curriculum, which has been named "High Quality Summer Programming" by the Dallas Afterschool Network, places a heavy focus on math, science, engineering and technology, with a secondary objective concerning nutrition, leadership and civic engagement, and social-emotional learning.

YWSL strives to provide a safe environment of learning for students in under-represented communities



A look back at last year's Fun Fit Day (Photography by Kevin Gaddis, Jr.)

and help close the gap that a break from school leaves.

During the summer, 300 students in grades K-7th meet Monday through Friday at the four YWSL Dallas locations:

- Choices Leadership Academy, a Multicultural College Preparatory Middle School serving North Dallas area youth
- Hamilton Park Community Youth in Northeast Dallas in partnership with

Hamilton Park United Methodist Church and City of Dallas Park and Recreation

• Juanita J. Craft Recreation Center at the Baylor Diabetes Health and Wellness Institute, serving youth in and around the Frazier Courts community in East Dallas

• Saint Philip's School and Community Center assisting South Dallas area youth

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

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