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Allen marks \$2M for stadium fix

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Three unique food stops in Dallas

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Dogfight opens in Addison

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DISD parents, teachers and officials have mixed feelings about home-rule

By Tamarind Phinisee
NDG Contributing Writer

(Second in series examining the possible Home Rule plan for DISD)

There are mixed reviews on the push to change the Dallas Independent School District into a home rule school district.

Both parents and teachers are concerned that the home-rule initiative may not be in the best interests of students, teachers and parents within the Dallas Independent School District (DISD).

They say groups and individuals pushing for the change within DISD – such as grassroots political action committee known as Support Our Public Schools – have not been completely honest or transparent as to the real reason for wanting such a large scale change.

In their opinion, the reason for the interest in initiating home-rule within the DISD is the desire to control the school district's million-dollar budget and its expansive real estate holdings. Their concerns arise from a lack of specific information from supporters. Calls and emails to Support Our Public Schools, including attorney Jeronimo Valdez



Photo: Tamarind Phinisee

were not returned by press time.

Of course, home-rule supporters say DISD is plagued with problems that stem from top district officials. They say board trustees aren't doing their jobs and that better governance is needed and that home-rule is the only way to address these issues. Though both sides agree that there are some problems within the school district, they are at odds as to how the issues need to be addressed.

This story will focus on those who support or oppose home-rule. It is the second in a series that addresses the home-rule topic.

Opponents

Chrisdya Houston, a middle school teacher within the district, says her concern is that the quality

of education that students receive under a home-rule charter will decline. As executive board member of Alliance AFT, Houston has attended a number of home-rule meetings, including those held by the newly appointed 15-member home rule commission. Alliance AFT is the Dallas chapter of Chicago-based teacher's union American Federation of Teachers.

During these meetings, Houston says, there's been talk of saving the district money with a less-expensive curricula and less expensive textbooks. Bringing cheaper or less researched textbooks, she says, could impact student education at DISD.

Additionally, Houston says, it isn't clear whether educational re-

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COMMENTARY

The lynching of Eric Garner by the New York PD

By Walter Fields
NNPA Columnist

It was one of the most difficult scenes in Spike Lee's classic movie "Do the Right Thing," the brutal strangulation of peace-loving Radio Raheem by New York City police in a Brooklyn pizza shop.

That scene touched a raw nerve as it recalled the 1983 death of 25-year-old graffiti artist Michael Stewart, another choke-

hold victim of the New York City Police Department.

Now, we find ourselves enraged over the police killing of Eric Garner in Staten Island, which was captured on cell phone video as a police officer puts him in a choke hold, with the man pleading that he can't breathe. Garner was taken away unconscious and later pronounced dead. Another

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People In The News...

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Daneete Anthony Reed



DeDe McGuire



Omar Padilla

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

Danette Anthony Reed

Dallas, TX – Big things happen in Big D; but it was in Charlotte, NC, that Dallas businesswoman, Danette Anthony Reed, joined an international platform. Ms. Reed was installed as the International Treasurer during the biennial international convention of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated last week.

Among two other very qualified candidates, Ms. Reed emerged as the winner and will serve through 2016 under newly installed International President, Dorothy



Buckhanan Wilson of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Ms. Danette Anthony Reed is a 38-year member of the service-centered sorority and is a charter member of the Omicron Mu

Omega (OMΩ) chapter in Dallas.

“We congratulate our member, Danette Anthony Reed, as she joins several DFW sorority members who are serving on international committees,” states Ms. Cynthia Robinson-Hawkins, President of the Dallas chapter. “But we are exceptionally proud as she makes chapter history by being the first from OMΩ to serve on the International Directorate.” Mrs. Chelle Luper Wilson, a member of the Carrollton chapter, is the sorority’s South Central Regional Director and is the only other person from the

Metroplex currently serving on the 18-member Directorate.

Ms. Reed’s academic, professional and sorority credentials made it easy for all to agree with her campaign slogan, “Reed is Right.” She earned a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering at Northwestern University and holds an MBA, specializing in Finance, from SMU. She has been a corporate executive for PepsiCo, Frito Lay Division for over 31 years. She was the first African-American woman to be a plant director for Frito Lay, Inc. She spearheaded the

start up of a multi-million dollar bakery facility in South Dallas, creating 300 jobs in the southern sector. In April of this year she was recognized by Indra Nooyi, CEO for PepsiCo, with a 2014 Chairman’s award for outstanding leadership.

When she is not working, she is serving the community – not only as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. – but also as the Girl Scout Leader for Troop #1708. She is a charter member of the Greater Denton County Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. She volunteers at the Boys and Girls Club of North

Texas, with Bishop Lynch School’s Brigade team, and North Texas Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

In this international role, her goal is to safeguard the assets of the sorority, ensuring the financial viability of the organization. She will also complete and submit all budgets and financial performance reports. But, true to her serving nature, she will also provide training and support to chapter and regional leaders to help develop the next generation.

“This is the right time for me, and I’m ready,” Ms.

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DeDe McGuire

(Key II The City Multimedia) -- On the 24th of July at Alley Cats in Arlington, TX, K104FM and DeDe McGuire, host of "DeDe in the Morning" held their 1ST Annual "DeDe's Putt Putt Golf Tournament."

They raised \$6,000 to benefit "Women Called Moses" a nonprofit organization to help battered women and their children. Women Called Moses Founder, Debra Nixon-Bowles was truly excited about the support she has received from DeDe McGuire, K104FM and all of the companies and indi-

viduals who donated funds to this cause. Debra told the crowd, "Without your support, the doors to Women Called Moses would have closed." DeDe McGuire publicly thanked Eberstein & Witherite of 1800 Car Wreck who donated and played, in addition to D.A Craig Watkins and Assistant D.A Heath Harris. She also thanked sports legend Deion Sanders and all the K104FM listeners who donated as well.

DeDe McGuire and K104FM are using their platform to help educate the



community about the cause of domestic violence and bring awareness to what Women Called Moses is doing for victims. Did you know? According to the Department of Justice, 1 in 4 women will experience domestic violence. To better

comprehend this statistic and undiscriminating problem, and to learn how to help prevent it. Women Called Moses was created to be an underground railroad for victims of domestic violence. This non profit organization runs off of do-

nations to help prevent and end the cycle of violence against women. Women Called Moses accomplishes this through education and advocacy services provided to individuals, families, and community agencies throughout the United States of America.

Women Called Moses addresses the despair of hopelessness and fear that victims experience of all ages and backgrounds face who are in crisis situations. It is through this agency that victims find their voice that will help them to determine their future. If anyone wants to make a donation, please

visit them online at: www.womencalledmoses.org.

DeDe McGuire is a Nationally Syndicated Radio Personality who is one of the few women in the United States to have her own morning show in a major market city.

DeDe is a hustler! She works dual drives in the AM as the host of "DeDe in the Morning", which airs weekdays in Dallas, Texas on K104FM.

More information about DeDe McGuire can be found online at www.dedemcguire.com.

Omar Padilla

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Grand Prairie native Omar Padilla completes the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute’s highly competitive, award-winning Congressional Internship Program in Washington, D.C. this week.

Padilla, who studies at the University of Texas Arlington and is the Prudential Intern, was one of 45 interns chosen out of hundreds of applicants from across the country to spend eight weeks working in the nation’s capital, where he was placed in the Office of Financial Management of the Department of the Treasury.



By exposing young Latinos to the legislative process and strengthening their leadership skills, the program is ultimately promoting the presence of Latinos on Capitol Hill and in federal agencies.

“The CHCI Program has given me a higher sense of pride in my culture and em-

powered me to advocate on behalf of my community,” Padilla said. “As an intern at the U.S. Department of the Treasury I have gained a greater understanding of both the private and government sectors. CHCI has given us the knowledge, expertise, and professional network to become more competitive in the work force and in the world of public policy.”

“CHCI is creating the next generation of Latino leaders,” said Esther Aguilera, CHCI president & CEO. “We provide our summer interns with significant policy experience and mentorship opportunities, helping these outstanding students prepare for mean-

ingful job placements after graduation. It’s important for our nation’s public servants to reflect the population they serve, and CHCI is creating a pipeline of talented young Latinos who are ready to serve – and lead this country.”

CHCI’s Congressional Internship Program comprises four central elements:

- Diversity: Interns represent a diverse pool of backgrounds including 12 ethnicities, 40 academic institutions, and 35 majors. Moreover, 85 percent come from low-income households.

- Work experience: Intern duties include responding to constituent inquiries; draft-

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The high cost of injustice

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

What if we didn't incarcerate people who commit non-violent crimes? Or, if we sentenced them, what if their sentences were reasonable, instead of intolerable? What if a man who steals a \$159 jacket while high gets drug treatment and a sentence of, say, two years, instead of a sentence of life imprisonment without parole? How much would we save if legally mandated minimum sentences were modified and nonviolent drug offenses were more reasonably imposed?

Marc Mauer of the Sentencing Project says that eliminating more than 79,000 bed years, or the amount of time a prisoner uses a bed in prison, could save at least \$2.4 billion. That's enough to send nearly a million students to college if the \$25,000 covers the cost of attendance (which it does for most state schools and Historically

Black Colleges and Universities). It could put nearly half a million teachers in underserved K-12 schools. It could restore availability to libraries and parks. Instead, we spend it incarcerating people, particularly those who are locked up for relatively minor crimes.

The \$2.4 billion that the Sentencing Project has calculated may be a low estimate. According to the Justice Department more than \$80 billion is spent on incarceration annually. How much of this spending is unnecessary and could be easily converted to drug treatment and recovery? Why do we find it so easy to incarcerate people but so difficult to rehabilitate them, knowing that the recidivism rates are high?

Within five years of incarceration, more than three-quarters are rearrested. Most were arrested for property crimes, not for drug offenses, or violent offenses. Much of the prop-

erty crime could be alleviated if it was easier for ex-offenders to find employment, but after incarceration, many find the doors of employment slammed in their faces. Incarceration combined with education and societal embrace might reduce recidivism and the level of property crime.

President Obama and Attorney General Eric Holder are moving in the right direction. First, the president moved to reform drug sentencing laws, reducing the discrepancy between crack and powdered cocaine. This resulted in the Smarter Sentencing Act, which has yet to be scheduled for a vote in Congress and the Senate, despite bipartisan support for this legislation. Advocates of the bill, including the ACLU, the Sentencing Project, the NAACP and many others support the legislation and have encouraged people to reach out to their Congressional representatives to push for a

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day in America.

Let me be clear – Eric Garner was lynched. He was brutally assaulted and choked to death by a police officer who, supposedly trained, abused his authority with deadly precision. It is not enough to state that the officer used deadly force because when it comes to Black males and police, there is a violent regularity that has persisted for decades. The manner in which Black men and boys are set upon by law enforcement is consistent with their marginalization in society and the degree to which they are a criminalized class. There is no benefit of the doubt, no reasonableness, no dialogue – just force and upon the slightest protest on our part, violence and probable injury or death.

We need to be clear and unambiguous about Eric Garner's death in the larger context of the suppression of Black males. What is experienced by Black males on a daily basis is seldom the experience of White males, and cannot be fathomed by Whites in general. White mothers do not have to counsel their sons on their behavior should they encounter police or worry when their sons step out their door whether they will be a victim of police violence. Even in the most extreme situations when White males are the perpetrators of violent crime, police are in apprehend mode and not in pursuit with deadly intent.

Eric Garner was lynched.

He is the most recent case in a gigabyte file of such cases. I have yet to see the movie “Fruitvale Station” because I know how difficult it will be to see the reenactment of the killing of Oscar Grant. It cuts too close to home because I remember the killing of 15-year-old Phillip Pannell by a White Teaneck N.J. police officer in 1990.

The boy was shot in the back with his arms raised in surrender mode. The White police officer, Gary Spath, was acquitted by an all-White Bergen County jury. The acquittal came amidst a massive police march through the community in support of the officer. That's the other piece of this ongoing horror show; the closing of the ranks of the blue fraternity and the perpetual denial on the part of law enforcement that these episodes are not the end result of racist intent.

Eric Garner was a victim of racism.

The New York City Police Department is not alone in perpetuating crimes against Black males or operating in a way to violate the civil liberties of Black people. The NYPD just happens to be the largest police force in the country and has perfected the art of police abuse. Last week, the federal government announced the monitoring of the Newark, N.J. police force, which for years residents lodged complaints against. Now, it has come to

light that officers in New Jersey's largest city are even suspected of stealing personal property from residents they detain. In Chicago, the former city police commander, Jon Burge, presided over a department that regularly brutalized citizens and he himself was alleged to have engaged in violence. He was convicted in 2010 for lying about the torture of police suspects.

NYPD Chief Bill Bratton's order that all officers undergo training on the proper techniques to apprehend suspects is too little in light of the brutality of Garner's death. For starters, every officer on the scene should be dismissed. If officers sworn to uphold the law can witness a citizen being choked to death and not intervene, they are not capable of fulfilling their legal duty to protect and serve. The video clip clearly shows a man who was not confrontational, who was attempting to defuse the situation and was trying to communicate with the officers. He is taken down by the officers and then thrown to the ground as an officer puts him in a deadly choke hold. Garner can be heard on the video pleading “I can't breathe,” but his physical condition was of little concern to the officers who were intent on demonstrating that they were the dominant force.

Eric Garner was lynched.

Walter Fields is executive editor of NorthStarNews.com.

Tobacco use target of government surveys

By Valencia Mohammed
Special to the NNPA from
The Afro-American Newspaper

The US Census Bureau is currently collecting data about tobacco use as a voluntary supplement to its monthly July 2014 Current Population Survey. Scientifically selected households will be questioned about smoking habits regarding cigarettes, tobacco products other than cigarettes and electronic smoking devices.

The tobacco supplement conducted typically every three to four years provides data for people 15 years and older on current and former tobacco products use patterns; restrictions on smoking at home and in the workplace, smoking cessation advice obtained from a clinician; personal attitudes toward smoking; and emerging tobacco control topics.

"You don't have to be a demographer to know what is going on but I welcome the fact that the survey is being done and encourage D.C. residents to participate," said Philip Pannell, executive director of the Anacostia Coordinating Council in southeast Washington. "The Black community is saturated with cigarette advertisements to promote smoking unlike the non-Black areas of the District.

For years, I have talked about why more activists



have not stepped up to fight this menace."

According to the National Cancer Institute, tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable illness and death in the US. It causes varied cancers as well as chronic lung diseases such as emphysema and bronchitis, and heart disease.

Cigarette smoking causes an estimated 443,000 deaths each year, including approximately 49,000 deaths due to exposure to second-hand smoke.

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among both men and women in the United States, and 90 percent of lung cancer deaths among men and approximately 80 percent of lung cancer deaths among women is due to smoking.

In addition to lung cancer, smoking causes cancers of the throat, mouth, nasal cavity, esophagus, stomach, pancreas, kidney, bladder, and cervix, and acute myeloid leukemia.

People who smoke are up to six times more likely to suffer a heart attack than nonsmokers, and the risk increases with the number of cigarettes smoked. Smoking also causes most cases of chronic lung disease.

In 2011, an estimated 19 percent of U.S. adults smoked cigarettes.

Nearly 16 percent of high school students smoke cigarettes.

The Center for Disease Control data showed the percentage of adults in the District who smoked cigarettes was 20.8 percent in 2011. Across all states and D.C., the prevalence of cigarette smoking among adults ranged from 11.8 to 29.0 percent with D.C. ranking 22nd among the states.

On July 7, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention launched hard-hitting ads for its 2014 "Tips From Former Smokers" campaign. The Tips national tobacco education

campaign, that began in 2012, returns this year with new ad participants living with the devastating effects of smoking-related diseases.

"These new ads are powerful. They highlight illnesses and suffering caused by smoking that people don't commonly associate with cigarette use," wrote CDC Director Tom Frieden. "Smokers have told us these ads help them quit by showing what it's like to live every day with disability and disfigurement from smoking."

The District also ranks fourth among 44 states with the percentage of youth in grades 9–12 who currently smoke cigarettes which was 12.5 percent, in 2011. To curb teen smoking, the local Department of Health (DOH) encourages teens to join the fight against tobacco use by participating in scheduled National Kick Butts Day activities and programs

"The smoking epidemic begins with youth," wrote Dr. Saul Levin, interim director DC Department of Health. "Kick-Butts Day is a great opportunity for teens to get the resources they need to make one of the most important decisions of their young lives: to quit smoking or to learn why it's important to never start," he added.

Healthy People 2020, a framework for action to re-

duce tobacco use to the point that it is no longer a public health problem for the nation, identified a number of effective strategies that will contribute to ending the tobacco use epidemic.

Based on more than 45 years of evidence, it is clear that the toll tobacco use takes on families and communities can be significantly reduced by fully funding tobacco control programs, increasing the price of tobacco products, enacting comprehensive smoke-free policies, controlling access to tobacco products, reducing tobacco advertising and promotion, implementing anti-tobacco media campaigns, and encouraging and assisting tobacco users to quit.

• The Healthy People 2020 Tobacco Use objectives are organized into three key areas:

• Tobacco Use Preva-

lence: Implementing policies to reduce tobacco use and initiation among youth and adults.

• Health System Changes: Adopting policies and strategies to increase access, affordability, and use of smoking cessation services and treatments.

• Social and Environmental Changes: Establishing policies to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke, increase the cost of tobacco, restrict tobacco advertising, and reduce illegal sales to minors.

One of DOH's most effective anti-smoking resources is the District's toll-free quit line service for District residents who make the decision to quit smoking for good. Residents interested in receiving additional information on the importance of not smoking or tips on how to quit can call 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

How people of color can improve their end-of-life healthcare

By Brandi Alexander

The day my father died from prostate cancer — Jan 11, 2011 — is the day I decided that no family should ever experience the same pain. That day everything changed for me. I had worked for seven years at an organization whose sole focus is end-of-life care, yet I had not had even one conversation with my father about his end-of-life wishes. It was truly a wake-up call, an eye-opening experience I hope I never have to repeat.

Imagine sitting in a hospital room with your unresponsive father, your five siblings on one side of the bed, and his new wife and her five children on the other side. People on both sides thought they were best equipped to speak on my father's behalf. The sad reality is that none of us — not one of the 12 people in that room — had a clue about what he wanted. He had no advance directive, had never had a serious conversation about his end-of-life wishes, not even with me, an end-

of-life care advocate.

Since that fateful day three-and-a-half years ago, I have learned that horrible situations at the end of life are far too common in this country, especially in the African-American community.

Unlike many of the other disparities that impact the African-American community, this is one we have more control over. It starts with having a conversation. Unfortunately too many

See HISTORY, Page 13

High Cholesterol? Elevated LDL or Low HDL Levels?

Covance is looking for participants for clinical research study 8292-969-A involving an investigational medication.

You might qualify if you are an adult 18+ that smokes less than 10 cigarettes per day that has:

- Elevated LDL levels or
- Low HDL levels or
- Taking medication for high cholesterol

Participants will receive all study-related exams at no cost and compensation up to \$7,000 for time and participation. 2 stays of 4 nights (8 total), 19 outpatient visits & 5 phone calls are required. Enrollment in this study is approximately 25 weeks, not including the screening visit.

Visit: TestWithTheBest.com
Call: 866-429-3700

COVANCE

Dallas Parks's launch online scavenger hunt 'Find It!'

Dallas Park and Recreation Department is showcasing its newly created website with a scavenger hunt to help residents and visitors get familiar with the new site. The online hunt, called Find It! @dallasparks.org continues through Thursday at www.dallasparks.org.

Find It! @dallasparks.org encourages citizens to become familiar with the new site, learn



more about Dallas parks and recreational programs and facilities, and get a chance to win

prizes.

Anyone can join the online search. To participate, hunters must correctly answer three park- and recreation-related questions posted each day on the website's home page. To view the questions, participants must visit www.dallasparks.org, create an account, then go to the scavenger hunt page. Answers are found within

the website's various categories. Complete contest rules are available at www.dallasparks.org.

Winners will be chosen from the correct entries each day and announced on Friday, August 1. Prizes are tickets or passes to the Dallas Arboretum, Dallas Zoo, Bahama Beach Waterpark and Southern Skates Roller Rink.

The new website is user-

friendly and easier for citizens to access information and contact each of the department's five divisions, according to park and recreation officials. The site allows for greater and enhanced communication with users and it features such functions as streaming video, interactive facilities maps, calendars, alerts and community engagement tools.

The three best fast food restaurants with a twist in Dallas

By Tamara Moore

In office buildings across the metroplex the question of the day is: What's for lunch? And if you are tired of the same old cheeseburger take a look and *NDG's* 3 Best Fast Food Restaurants with a twist.



Del Taco www.deltaco.com

Epic Cali Steak & Guac This is not your teenager's Taco Bell. The food here is fast and fresh. Each day the chefs shred the cheese and prepare the salsa on-site. And this may be a shock; the meat looks and tastes like MEAT!

We suggest you try the Cali Steak & Guac stacked with French fries. We know it sounds crazy, but trust us it is goodness outside the box. If you love fish tacos you must try the beer battered fish tacos with coleslaw that are available for 2 for \$3.50. For the per-

son watching their figure, Del Taco has turkey tacos that don't taste like diet food.

Also, the cheesecake bites are fried caramel cheesecake bites of sin. You will want to be good and order just two (\$2.10), but you should be a bad and get four. Remember when you share food it cuts the calories in half.

If you join the Del Taco Fan Club you will get a coupon for 2 free grilled chicken tacos instantly.

Pollo Tropical www.pollotropical.com

Pollo Tropical is Caribbean fast food. The chain

opened its first restaurant in Texas in Addison in March of this year. The menu is filled with healthy and fresh. The chicken is free from hormones and trans-fat. Pollo Tropical

You will love the signature grilled chicken and slow roasted mojo pork. If you like Chipotle type food then you must create your own TropiChops. Other things you must try are the Yuca, fried sweet plantains,

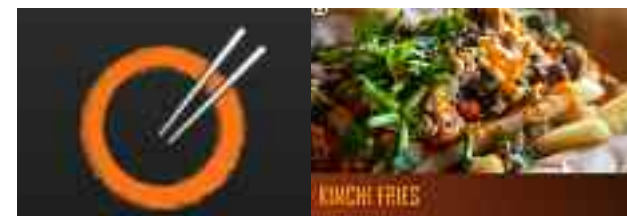


and cheese empanadas. To satisfy your sweet-tooth you must order the guava cheesecake.

If you sign up for the Pollo Rewards Program you will receive a buy one get one free 1/4 chicken with two sides.

BB Bop Seoul Kitchen www.bbbop.com

bbbopTired of combination fried rice and sesame chicken? Then run; don't walk to BB Bop Seoul



Kitchen for a little Korean fast food. If you ask the staff for suggestions I'm sure they will tell you to start with the Old School Bop bowl but my favorite are the Kimchi fries and the Bop-Choes. We at *NDG* have a hard time deciding

what to order every time. Do we order the Kimchi Fries; yummiest of French fries topped with ginger pork, kimchi, cilantro, and spicy sauce or Bop-Choes; Asian nachos made with wonton chips? Decisions, decisions, decisions!

Reps. Veasey and Sessions attending Irving Chamber Congressional Roundtable

Three members of the Texas Congressional Delegation have confirmed their participation in the Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce's inaugural 2014 Congressional Roundtable.

The roundtable will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Aug. 18 at the Omni Mandalay Hotel – Las Colinas, 221 E. Las Colinas Blvd. in Irving.

Texas Association of



Congressman Marc Veasey

Business CEO Bill Hammond will moderate the panel, which includes Con-

gressman Kenny Marchant (24th District); Congressman Marc Veasey (33rd District); and Congressman Pete Sessions (32nd District).

"2014 is a critical year for the Texas business community. From transportation and infrastructure issues to tax reform and trade policy, health care, and immigration reform, the decisions

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LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will be closing soon:

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1557	Super Weekly Grand Overall Odds are 1 in 3.97	\$10	8/14/14	2/10/15
1514	Red Hot and Wild 7's Overall Odds are 1 in 3.84	\$5	8/23/14	2/19/15
1521	Lucky 7's Overall Odds are 1 in 4.42	\$1	10/1/14	3/30/15
1586	Lucky Symbols Overall Odds are 1 in 4.52	\$1	10/1/14	3/30/15
1576	5X The Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 4.52	\$1	10/1/14	3/30/15
1524	Loteria™ Overall Odds are 1 in 3.98	\$3	10/1/14	3/30/15
1507	Twisted Bingo Overall Odds are 1 in 3.54	\$3	10/1/14	3/30/15
1556	Bonus Weekly Grand Overall Odds are 1 in 3.96	\$5	10/1/14	3/30/15
1577	21 Overall Odds are 1 in 3.52	\$5	10/1/14	3/30/15

For detailed odds and game information, visit tlottery.org or call 1-800-37-LOTTO. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education. © 2014 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.

TEXAS
LOTTERY

Allen ISD approves \$2 million for repairs of Eagle Stadium

The Allen ISD Board of Trustees approved two resolutions Monday for the repair of Allen ISD stadium. The \$60 million stadium is closed due to structural damage. This move provides Superintendent Lance Hindt with the ability to spend up to \$2 mil-

lion for repairs if PBK Architects and Pogue Construction cannot.

Superintendent Hindt reportedly referred to the authorization as a "security blanket" so repairs can begin immediately. He suggested that in the long run Pogue Construction will

likely be financial responsible for repair costs. The vote on Monday will allow repairs to get underway within the month.

The two companies potentially held liable for the damage, may be at the top of the list to handle the repairs.



The ins and outs of 529 College Savings Plans

By Jason Alderman

For many people, their biggest expenses in life are funding retirement, buying a home and paying for their children's college education – or a portion of it, anyway. Setting aside money for these and other financial goals is difficult, especially when you're trying to save for them all simultaneously and from a young age.

One of the more popular college savings vehicles is the 529 College Savings Plan. Every state and Washington, D.C. offers at least one 529 plan option, although most offer several. Key features include:

You make contributions using after-tax dollars; their investment earnings grow tax-free.

Withdrawals aren't taxed if they're used to pay for qualified higher-education expenses (e.g., tuition, room and board, fees, books, supplies and equipment).

If you withdraw the money for non-qualified expenses, you'll have to pay income tax and a 10 percent penalty tax on the earnings portion of the withdrawal – plus possible state penalties, de-



pending on where you live.

Many states that have a state income tax give accountholders a full or partial tax deduction for contributions made to their own state's plan. Three states (Indiana, Utah and Vermont) also offer tax credits for contributions.

Contributions to other state's plans generally are not tax-deductible in your home state; however, five states do offer tax breaks for investing in any state's plan (Arizona, Kansas, Maine, Missouri and Pennsylvania).

Each state's plan offers differ-

ent investment options, both in investment style (age-based, risk-based, principal protection, managed or indexed funds, etc.) and in actual investment performance.

You can choose anyone as beneficiary – your child, other relative or friend.

If the original beneficiary decides not to attend college or gets a scholarship, you can reallocate the account to another of his or her family members at any time.

You can rollover funds to a different 529 plan or change investment strategies once a year. If you

want to do more than one rollover within a 12-month period, you'll need to change the beneficiary in order to avoid taxes and penalties. (You can always change it back later.)

Contributions up to \$14,000 a year, per recipient, are exempt from gift taxes (\$28,000 for married couples).

You can also make a lump-sum contribution of up to \$70,000 (\$140,000/married couples) per beneficiary and then average the contribution over a five-year period without triggering the gift tax – provided you make no other gifts to that beneficiary for the next five years.

These plans are treated as an asset of the account owner (vs. the student) when calculating the expected family contribution toward college costs, so they have a comparatively low impact on financial aid eligibility.

Most financial experts recommend looking first at your own state's plan to see what tax advantages, if any, are offered to residents. They may be significant enough to offset lower fees or bet-

ter fund performance in other states' plans.

Carefully examine the fee structure. Common fees include those for opening an account, annual maintenance, administration costs, and most importantly, sales commissions if you're buying from a brokerage – which could be up to 5.75 percent of your contribution. Buying directly from the plan eliminates sales fees but puts the onus on you to research the best option for your needs.

And finally, examine the investment performance of the funds, both when you enroll and periodically thereafter. Morningstar (www.morningstar.com), College Savings Plans Network (www.collegesavings.org) and FinAid (www.finaid.org) all have helpful comparison tools.

Bottom line: The sooner you can start saving for college, the less your kids will have to rely on expensive loans.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: www.twitter.com/Practical-Money.

PADILLA, continued from Page 2

ing correspondence and memos; monitoring hearings; conducting research, data entry and analysis; and assisting with general office operations.

• Leadership development: Interns attend weekly sessions and meet with distinguished leaders from a range of professional backgrounds, engage in substantive policy discussions and participate in professional development training.

• Community service: Interns are also required to engage in a CHCI community service project. This year CHCI interns volunteered at

several organizations including: So Others Might Eat (S.O.M.E.), Voto Latino, Martha's Table, ALIVE Food Banks, AFL-CIO, Suits for Change, and the Smithsonian Folklife Festival.

The selection process is competitive; CHCI receives at least 15 applications for every one available summer internship opportunity and five applications for every one available spring or fall internship opportunity.

Interns demonstrate high academic achievement, evidence of leadership skills and potential for

leadership growth, a demonstrated commitment to public service-oriented activities and superior analytical and communication skills.

Applications are reviewed by a selection committee comprising alumni, board of directors and staff.

Individuals who qualify for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival are eligible to participate in CHCI's internship and fellowship programs.

CHCI interns receive round-trip transportation to Washington, housing and a stipend. The nonprofit also has 12-week Congressional internships in the spring and fall.

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Special needs children and families invited to local Hawaiian Falls for Champions Day

IRVING – Hawaiian Falls and Tom Thumb have joined forces for Champions Day on Saturday, August 9 at all five North Texas Hawaiian Falls waterparks, benefiting Easter Seals, MDA, and Special Olympics. Special needs children and their families will have exclusive use of the parks from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. The parks will open to the public 10:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. but the Champions and their families can stay as long as they want at no additional charge.

“Champions Day is one of our favorite events,” said David Busch, President of Hawaiian Falls Waterparks. “To see the joy on the children’s faces and the special bond with their

families is priceless. We are proud to host them every year.”

The “Champions” (special needs guests) get in free. Family members can purchase discounted tickets for \$5 each at the gate (regular admission is \$26.99) with a Champions Day coupon available to download at <http://hfalls.com/championsday>.

“Our mission is to bring families closer together and we want to bless our special needs families with an opportunity to create memories,” said Busch.

“By partnering with Tom Thumb, we can reach even more special needs families throughout the month.

Tom Thumb will be selling dis-

counted day pass tickets from Aug 1-31.

Everyone pays kids prices (\$19.99) and \$1 from every ticket sold through Tom Thumb will benefit Easter Seals, MDA, and Special Olympics.”

Champions Day will be 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Saturday, August 9 at all five North Texas Hawaiian Falls waterparks: Garland, The Colony, Mansfield, Roanoke and White Settlement. In addition, Hawaiian Falls will donate funds raised on August 9 through Neighbors 2 Neighbors, an onsite coin collection program, to the three charities.

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



IRVING, continued from Page 4

made by Congress this year will have a big impact on the future of Texas,” said Bill Hammond, CEO of the Texas Association of Business.

“I look forward to moderating a

discussion with leaders from the Texas Congressional Delegation and members of the North Texas business community to share their views and solutions for creating jobs and moving our country forward.”

ward.”

During the event, key members of Congress will discuss federal legislation and issues that will impact the North Texas business community in 2014.

“The 2014 Congressional Roundtable provides the regional business community the opportunity

to interact with congressional leaders and have an open discussion on federal policy that affects our community,” said Jason Simon, Director of Legislative Advocacy and Media at the Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce.

ber of Commerce.

Individual tickets are \$75 for Chamber members and \$100 for non-members.

For more information, and to purchase tickets or sponsorships, visit irvingchamber.com/congressionalroundtable.

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WW1 propaganda images on display at Frontiers of Flight Museum

The Frontiers of Flight Museum will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I with a dynamic collection of rare vintage poster art including recruiting, propaganda and home front morale images from World Wars I and II. They include the poster that created the iconic image of “Uncle Sam.” The collection has been accumulated over several decades by one of Dallas’ toughest trial lawyers, Rogge Dunn, and can be enjoyed by the public August 14, 2014, through January 31, 2015.

The exhibit enables viewers to experience the atmosphere and attitudes of the war generations and gives viewers a feel for the war-time sacrifices made by America’s “Greatest Generation.” The display includes more than three dozen works of graphic and rare art from France, Germany, England, Russia and the



United States, which highlight significant aspects of world history. Featured works include:

the most famous U.S. poster of all-time: James Montgomery Flagg’s image of Uncle Sam pointing and proclaiming “I Want You” the most famous French WWI poster capitalizing on the “On les Aura!” (“We shall get them”) phrase

coined by French General Petain during the bloody battle of Verdun an impressive stone lithograph of a WWI German pilot posing like the famous German ace, the Red Baron an original pamphlet given to American troops just prior to them boarding transports for the D-Day Invasion

The images are provocative and even disturbing, as they show the horrors of war in an effort to encourage citizens to enlist, work hard and avoid waste to protect the homeland. Despite their age, many are timeless, including Joseph Pennell’s 1918 poster promoting war bonds, which shows New York City on fire, an eerie prediction of the 9/11 attacks.

Dunn’s collection has been displayed in the Hall of State during the State Fair of Texas and was showcased to excellent reviews at the museum in 2007. It’s back by popular

demand with several unseen, rare works.

“This unique exhibit is significant for both its historical and educational value,” says Cheryl Sutterfield-Jones, Chief Executive Officer, Frontiers of Flight Museum. “Several of the posters have an aviation theme, and all of them sought to influence public opinion and support their nation’s war effort.”

“Before radio, television and the internet, posters were a main form of mass communication,” said Dunn. “Their beauty and thoughtfulness is rarely seen in today’s fast-paced world.

“As an attorney, I am intrigued by their power to persuade, and I incorporate many of their visual and persuasive techniques in my jury trials,” said Dunn, who began collecting graphic art

while studying at the London School of Economics in 1977. He was impressed by the powerfully stark visuals in a London subway poster warning riders about untended packages in the midst of Irish Republican Army bombings. As a future attorney, he appreciated the simple, yet compelling presentation. Dunn is a na-

See FLIGHT, Page 9

Four websites that can help you save money now

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

They keep telling us the economy is getting better — some of us are still not quite feeling it. So to help stretch your dollars (and pennies because they do add up) here are four websites which can help you save money.



GasBuddy

This is an app that will save you money TODAY. You will be surprised how going just a few blocks up the street can save you 5 cents or more for no apparent reason. I also enjoy comparing the prices closer to my job versus my home. I once saved .13 per gallon by getting the gas at Kroger in Irving instead of any locations in Garland. No idea why, but I sold on the free GasBuddy app that day for sure.

Freecycle

This is a worldwide community of folks who don’t want the hassle of a garage sale, Craigslist, etc. they just have usable stuff and are willing to give it away.

The Dallas Fort Worth area is very active with several of the cities having their own forums. I have used this in the past and picked up a nice side table I still love, free pet food which lasted for months and other odds and ends. Once you sign up you have to be quick because it is usually a first come first serve way of doing things.

Free Printable

Looking for calendar to fill track family appointments, pages for your kiddo to color so you have 5 minutes of silence, or coupons to save money with — then it looks like Free Printable is the right spot.

GoodRX

This website says they can help you find a better price for your prescription — with or without insurance. Also, includes coupon info — who knew prescriptions came with coupons? According to the website they can compare prices with nearly every pharmacy in the U.S.

So those are four sites which can save you a bit of change today. SHARE with us your favorite money saving websites. I know there are tons of coupon sites, but so many to choose from no idea which is better. How do you save money for vacations?

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The Links, Inc. announces date and honorary chairs for annual Black Tie Boxing XXII 2014

On Saturday, Aug. 16 at the Fairmont Hotel, Dallas, the Mid-Cities (TX) Chapter of The Links, Inc. will host its 22nd Annual fund-raiser "A Knock-Out Affair": Black-Tie Boxing Event.

The Honorary Chairpersons for "Round XXII" are Ms. Lueretha Slack and Mr. Mark D. Cooks. Ms. Slack is VP-Texas, North Texas CRA Manager. She is responsible for overseeing the North Texas CRA department. Ms. Slack manages the charitable contribution budget; establishes and manages relationships with community-based agencies, non-profit, governmental and faith-based organizations. Mark D. Cooks is a senior vice president and community banking district manager for Wells Fargo Bank in Dallas, Texas. He is responsible for managing business units with multiple store locations that provide retail and business products. Mr. Cooks has over three decades of financial service experience.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Mid-Cities (TX) Chapter's Scholarship Fund and other community service projects, most notably those focused on Science, Technology, Math and Engineering for underserved youth.

In its 22nd successful year, the Mid-Cities (TX) Chapter of The Links, Inc. event continues to capture the interest of the Metroplex community, civic and business leaders. Last year's 21st Anniversary event drew over 850 supporters and we are now on track to meet or exceed that number of guests for the August 16.

General Chairpersons of the event are Erika Salter and Cherry Elder. Chapter President, Marnese Elder, acknowledges the community and corporate supporters of this event in saying, "This event marks twenty-two years of community support and corporate partnership for the unique services and programs offered to children



and their families by the Mid-Cities (TX) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. Through generous donations and loyal patronage of this event and our Chapter, The Links, Incorporated continuously provides valuable resources, scholarships and educational programs for those who need our aid in the Arlington, Grand Prairie and Irving communities. We extend our gratitude and humble acknowledgement to our patrons and supporters for making this event a success."

The Links, Inc. is an international organization, founded more than 60 years ago, by women of African descent, to make a positive impact on their communities. Through the years, The Links, Inc. has raised millions of dollars for worthy causes including education, health care, arts and youth programs.

The formal affair will begin at 6 p.m. and will feature musical entertainment, a live auction, dancing, live professional boxing and dinner. The attire for the event is black-tie. Tickets for the fund-raiser are \$125 per person. For more information about the event and online tickets sales please visit <http://www.midcitieslinks.org/fundraiser>.

FLIGHT, continued from Page 8

tive Dallasite and fifth generation Texan who handles business and employment litigation with the law firm of Clouse Dunn LLP.

Dunn's collection of graphic art combines his love of history, rhetoric and the art of persuasion. His collection includes more than 250 works from 20+ countries dating from 1883 to the present. Many of his posters are in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art in New York,

the Smithsonian Institution, and London's Victoria and Albert Museum.

The Frontiers of Flight Museum is located at 6911 Lemmon Avenue (at University) in Dallas, at the southeast corner of Dallas Love Field Airport. Over 30 aircraft and space vehicles are on display, including the Command Module from the Apollo 7 space mission, the only flight simulator ever built for the SR-

71 "Blackbird" spy plane, the only moon rock in North Texas, and thousands of rare aviation artifacts, photos and memorabilia. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Regular admission rates are \$8 for adults; \$6 for seniors (65+); \$5 for children/youth ages 3 through 17; and free for children under age 3. For more information, call (214) 350-1651 or visit www.flight-museum.com.

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Aretha Franklin Not Allowed to Sit Inside Johnny Rockets

By Tamara Moore

It's now official: customer service has died. According to the Associated Press, the Queen of Soul Ms. Aretha Franklin had to check a server at Johnny Rockets.

According to the article, Aretha went to the burger joint near Niagara Falls after a concert and ordered a hamburger to go.

Then she changed her mind, got out of the car, and took her meal inside to eat.

The server told her that because she ordered the meal to-go that she couldn't sit down to eat inside. A spokesman for the Queen told the Associated Press that the server even went so far as to raise his voice.

WHAT?



First, did this server not recognize ARETHA FRANKLIN? Secondly, isn't the customer always right?

Aretha released a statement saying that the server was "very rude, unprofessional and nasty." The franchise owner has offered an apology and stated that the employee been spoken to and received clarification on the takeout policies.

My question is why were they not fired? Really, can you rude to Aretha Franklin and keep your job?

Dogfight playing at the Addison Watertower Theater

By Tamara Moore

Dogfight is based on Nancy Savoca's 1991 film *Dogfight* was an imperfect but heartrending romance by achingly tender performances from Lili Taylor and River Phoenix.

The musical is takes place 1963 in San Francisco Bay area during 1963. The first act introduces the audience to Boland (Kyle Ignezi), Birdlace (Zak Reynolds) and Bernstein (Matt Ransdell, Jr.) — the Marine buddies who call themselves the Three Bees as they plan a dogfight on the evening before they ship out to Okinawa.

A dogfight is a cruel misogynistic contest in which Marines pitch-in \$50 to rent a bar for the night. The money left over becomes to prize money for the Marine who brings the ugliest date to the bar. Rose Fenny



(Juliette Talley) becomes Eddie's dating victim.

Rose discovers why Eddie asked her out when the street smart prostitute Marcy (Beth Albright, terrific) delivers the ugly truth in the bar's bathroom after her date, Boland (Kyle Ignezi), tries to cheat her out of her agreed cut of the prize money.

Rose Fenny's emotional rollercoaster is portrayed with a captivating delicacy. Juliette Talley is just simply brilliant. The way Talley plays the character you completely believe that she would be willing to forgive

such a horrible insult and go on a second date with Eddie. She shines as the perfect imperfect leading lady.

The show is at its best when Eddie and Rose are in the spotlight. The characters that Reynolds and Talley created express genuine vulnerability and emotion with subtle details.

Playing off Michael Sullivan's static art-deco landscape, choreographer John De Los Santos keeps the actors constantly moving as Mark Mullino's offstage orchestra plays.

Dogfight continues through August 17th at the Water-Tower Theatre, 15650 Addison Rd., Addison TX. Tickets are \$22-\$40 www.watertowrtheatre.org Running time: 2 hours, 16 minutes. Performance review on Monday, July 28, 2014.

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DISD, continued from Page 1

sources now available through the district would decline in an effort to save the money. Already, teachers have to spend money out of their own pockets to purchase materials needed for students. Having to dig deeper into their own pockets could increase the financial burden on teachers. In addition to this, she admits, teachers are worried about job stability.

"We want to see something that is not anti-public education and anti-educator. And we want something that is supportive of students' needs," says Houston, a 16-year teaching veteran.

Houston agrees that some changes need to be made in the district for the betterment of students' education. But she says these changes can be made without a complete overhaul of the system.

"We have a lot of students who are academically very successful. Even though the district is not perfect and there are some improvements that need to take place, some of the top schools in the nation are located within DISD," she says.

Houston says there needs to be more transparency by home rule constituents and a forum for allowing parents and teachers to voice their concerns and be heard. Wiseman says she was bothered by the fact that individuals who had signed a petition in support for home rule came forward and admitted that they had been misled as to what it really was.

Suzette Wiseman, a parent leader with the Texas Organizing Project and a parent with two elementary school children in DISD, agrees. She opposes home-rule, in part because of the lack of transparency and no clear definition of the changes home-rule supporters want and she feels that there is a rush to get something approved. She says she's attended a lot of the meetings but has never been given a clear answer as to

what home-rule supporters want. Wiseman refers to the current home-rule issue as a "great divorce" battle, with the children and teachers caught in the middle.

"I feel that it will be detrimental for children and teachers. Instead of focusing on home rule, the main focus should be on restructuring the district (within the current framework) and on teaching our children to learn," Wiseman says.

An additional concern, she says, is that under a home-rule charter, teachers may not be required to be state certified. If home-rule supporters push through a charter that she feels isn't fair to everyone, she plans to pull her kids out of DISD.

Lakashia Wallace agrees, stating that the things that parents and students have come to expect from public education may no longer be available.

"Whatever we had in the past will cease to exist. We don't know if there'll be afterschool or extracurricular activities or anything else. My son has learned to play football and is academically sound. Right now he has the opportunity to earn and/or receive a full football scholarship," says the mother of two. "As a charter district, that may not happen and I don't have \$100,000 saved for my child to go to college."

Wallace also feels that teachers' pensions could become a target of unscrupulous individuals.

In discussing the topic, Alliance AFT president Rena Honea, says six people initiated the home-rule conversation.

"In my opinion, I think the whole thing started with board trustee Mike Morath. He's the one that researched the law, has been talking to legislators and was having a conversation with others and they decided to run with it," Honea says.

Honea says her belief is that the push for home-rule is really political and financial in nature.

"It's a total disruption and

distraction from what's going on in our district to try what most people feel is a power grab to get at the \$1.4 billion budget," she says. "It also has to do with real estate."

As a charter school district, Honea explains, all DISD properties would no longer fall under federal domain, thus allowing unused or empty properties to be sold.

Supporters

But DISD board trustee Mike Morath says the true issue is governance. The district, he says, faces many challenges because of its high population of low-income students. Furthermore, he says, he feels that elected DISD officials need more incentives to work in the best interest of students. As the district is currently structured, Morath says board trustees often work to fulfill interests of a smaller voting pool. This problem stems from the fact that trustees are voted for in the Spring, he says, instead of

during the November elections when voter turnout is greater and voter demographics are more diverse. Those voting for trustees under the current May voting structure, he says, are generally older and have an average age of 68 years old. The end result, he says, is that most of the decisions being made for the district may not necessarily reflect the needs of current needs of parents or administrators.

"And they're generally focused on the here and now and on reducing costs," Morath says. "Also I don't believe we have a system of governance that's focused on improving outcomes for kids."

Morath argues that state law does not allow DISD to move trustee elections to the November ballot. There's no recall for ineffective board trustees and there needs to be one. Also, Morath says trustees spend about 80 percent of their time arguing over contracts awarded, with staff and with each other. Nothing is

conducive to boosting student outcomes, he says. And there is no formal incentive for board trustees to work at this as a goal.

Therefore Morath says the goal is to use the home-rule structure to change when board trustees are elected – something he says can't be done otherwise. Such a move, he says, will introduce November voters who come from all walks of life, whether young or old, rich or poor and breathe new life into the elected board trustees.

"One idea is that we could have a provision in the charter that said that every four years we should take a look back at the last few years and focus on whether or not student outcome improved within a trustee's particular district," Morath says. "If not, these individuals should be up for re-election."

He admits, though, that pushing for voter approval for home-rule in the upcoming November election, may not happen. Most of it

has to do with timing and the steps necessary to properly inform voters about what could change or stay the same.

As someone looking from the outside in, Kevin Chavous, says both sides needs to be objective and concrete about their goals whether these include access to every child regardless of social and economic status. Chavous is an attorney, author and national education reform leader.

"Home-rule supporters need to find a way to get the best teachers into the worst schools," he says.

The lack of community engagement early on by home-rule supporters could crush the home-rule initiative before it's ever replaced. Hence, Chavous says, home-rule proponents should focus on developing a partnership or relationship with parents, teachers and others.

"They need to be engaged in a campaign for change," says Chavous.

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135 S. Jefferson

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Irving Public Library
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Emmanuel Baptist Missionary Church
511 Gilbert Road

Ben Washington Baptist Church
3901 Frisco Ave

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

Bible Way Baptist Church
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Strictly Business
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Washateria
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New Life Ministries
3706 Cheyenne Street

Elisha Mane Attractions
3704 Cheyenne Street

Bear Creek Community Church
2700 Finley Rd.

Evergreen Baptist Church
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Po' Boys Restaurant
4070 N. Beltline Rd. Ste. 100

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

VW Barbershop
4070 N. Beltline Rd. Ste. 143

Northlake College
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Antioch Christian Church
2041 West Walnut Hill

Kasbah Grill
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Fresh Food Store
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Lee's Catfish
1911 Esters Road

Danal's Mexican Restaurant
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Fred's Pit Barbecue
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Gary's Barbershop
2117 Story Rd.

African Village Restaurant
3000 N. Beltline Rd

New Look Barbershop
3317 Finley Rd.

Irving Arts Center
3333 N. MacArthur #200

COST, continued from Page 3

vote on this legislation.

The Smarter Sentencing Act, when approved, will make modifications in sentencing requirements. Now, the US Sentencing Commission has ruled that those with drug sentences and be applied retroactively. This will affect as many as 46,000 prisoners.

It's not enough, but it's a reasonable first step. If release were combined with education and access to employment, recidivism rates would certainly decrease.

The United States represents just 5 percent of the world population, but incarcerates more than a quarter of the world's incarcerated. Nearly half of those incarcerated in federal prisons are African American. Is there a bias here? African Americans are as likely as Whites to commit nonviolent drug related crimes, but African Americans are far more likely to be incarcerated.

The difference – the money that provides access to great legal services; maybe the attraction of a

plea bargain, guilty or not, because of the prospect of an unfair sentence; maybe bias on the part of arresting officers.

Whatever the cause, it seems unfathomable that African Americans and Whites commit the same crimes, but African Americans are arrested six times as frequently as Whites.

If you read a November 2013 A Living Death: Life without Parole for Nonviolent Offenses from the ACLU, you won't know whether to scream or cry.

More than 3,200 people have life sentences without parole for such minor offenses such as shoplifting, trying to cash a stolen check, and threatening a police officer while handcuffed.

Some are sentenced because of sentencing guidelines, which mean judges have no choice in their sentencing. What makes sense about giving a shoplifter more time than a murderer?

As many as 65 percent of those who have been sentenced to life without parole

are African American. According to the ACLU, "many were struggling with mental illness, drug dependency, or financial desper-

ation." Only in an injustice system can this be considered "just."

There has been some progress in making sentenc-

ing fairer. Yet much more must be done until we can claim the "justice" that our Constitution promises.

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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Study: African-American home ownership resting on rocky ground

HOUSTON – While historical barriers that excluded Black America from the homeowner market for decades have crumbled, there are signs that emerging types of racial inequality are making homeownership an increasingly risky investment for African-American home seekers. A new study from sociologists at Rice University and Cornell University found that African-Americans are 45 percent more likely than whites to switch from owning their homes to renting them.

The study, "Emerging Forms of Racial Inequality in Homeownership Exit, 1968-2009," examines racial inequality in transitions out of homeownership over the last four decades. The authors used longitudinal household data from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics for the period 1968 to 2009, with a study sample of 6,994 non-Hispanic whites and 3,158 black homeowners.

The research revealed that despite modest gains in attaining homeownership over time, the racial gap in the likelihood of changing from ownership to renting began to widen in the 1990s. During the next two decades, African-American homebuyers were consistently over 45 percent more likely than whites to transition out of homeownership. The authors claim that their findings point to a historical shift in racial stratification in American housing markets, from a system of overt market exclusion to, more recently, one of market exploitation.

"The 1968 passage of the Fair Housing Act outlawed housing market discrimination based on race," said Gregory Sharp, a postdoctoral fellow in Rice's Department of Sociology and

the study's lead author. "African-American homeowners who purchased their homes in the late 1960s or 1970s were no more or less likely to become renters than were white owners. However, emerging racial disparities over the next three decades resulted in black owners who bought their homes in the 2000s being 50 percent more likely to lose their homeowner status than similar white owners."

Sharp noted that these inequalities in homeownership exit held even after adjusting for an extensive set of life-cycle traits, socioeconomic characteristics, characteristics of housing units and debt loads, as well as events that prompt giving up homeownership, such as going through a divorce or

losing a job.

Sharp said the deregulation of the mortgage markets in the 1980s – when Congress removed interest rate caps on first-lien home mortgages and permitted banks to offer loans with variable interest rate schedules – and subsequent emergence of the subprime market are likely reasons blacks were at an elevated risk of losing their homeowner status. In 2000, African-Americans were more than twice as likely as whites with similar incomes to sign subprime loans; among lower-income blacks, more than half of home refinance loans were subprime.

"African-American homeowners' heightened subprime rates were not only due to their relatively weaker socioeconomic po-

sition, but also because lenders specifically targeted minority neighborhoods," Sharp said.

Sharp and his coauthor hope the research will prompt further analysis of additional factors that potentially contribute to racial disparities in homeownership exit, such as household wealth and residential location.

The study will appear in the August edition of Social Problems and was coauthored by Matthew Hall, a demographer and assistant professor of public policy at Cornell University. A National Institutes of Health grant from Pennsylvania State University's Population Research Institute Center funded the research, which is available online at <http://bit.ly/1rDgkmL>.



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prayer does change people,
things and situations.

See CHURCHES, Page 15

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Effective leadership



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"And when the Israelites saw the great power the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in Him and in Moses His servant." **Exodus 14:31**

What makes an effective Christian leader today? Is it charisma? Is it ability? Is it communication and/or oratory skills?

God's view of an effective leader has nothing to do with these qualities. They may be a part of an effective leader. However, the core attribute of a Christian leader is his integrity with God and his obedience to follow Him.

When this happens, God manifests His power in and through that leader. Moses was effective because he was willing to obey the commands God gave him.

When Moses did this, God manifested His presence in him. The result was that people followed. They followed because they saw

God working in and through the man. They saw that this man was worthy of following because God's anointing was on him.

When people see the Lord's power manifested in your life, they will have a healthy fear of the Lord. They will look at you and they will probably say, "This person has something I don't have that is worthy of more investigation."

Your challenge is to seek the Lord with a whole heart, resulting in God's power being manifested in the daily activities of your life. When this happens, you can expect others to be drawn to what they see in you.

The problem with many Christians today is that non-Christians see nothing different about the way they live to motivate the unsaved to desire their faith.

What makes you different from your neighbor? Is your experience with God noticeably different from that of the man next door? If you're not experiencing regular encounters with God, it's time to ask why not.

We don't live day-to-day for the next spiritual experience, but we should see by-products of a life centered in God.

Therefore, we should have faithfulness in our

calling to God. "He went out to meet Asa and said to him, 'Listen to me, Asa and all Judah and Benjamin.

The Lord is with you when you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you, but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you." **2 Chronicles 15:2**

Asa was the king of Judah from 912-872 B.C. He reigned for 41 years and was known as a good king who served the Lord with great zeal. He reformed many things.

He broke down idol worship to foreign gods; he put away male prostitutes and even removed his own mother from being queen because she worshiped an idol.

The Scriptures say that as

long as he sought the Lord,
the Lord prospered his
reign.

However, Asa was not totally faithful in his calling. There came a time in his life when he made a decision to no longer trust in the God of Israel.

He lost his confidence in God as his deliverer. The prophet Hanani came to Asa to inform him that God's blessing was no longer on his life because of an ungodly alliance he had made.

Were not the Cushites and Libyans a mighty army with great numbers of chariots and horsemen? Yet when you relied on the Lord, He delivered them into your hand.

For the eyes of the Lord
range throughout the earth
to strengthen those whose

hearts are fully committed to Him. You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war. **2 Chronicles 16:8-9.**

There are no guarantees that if we began well we will finish well. The life of Asa tells us this. It is only through God's grace that we can be faithful to our calling.

Each of us is capable of falling away from God. Pray that God will keep you faithful to the purposes He has for your life. He strengthens those whose hearts are fully committed to Him.

Thank God for a new day. Thank Him for always being there to listen. God has blessed you to be who you are and everything you have is a result of what God has allowed in your life.

The enemy would love to ruin your work for God. Ask God for wisdom and insight in your decision-making and it's good to re-

member that you represent
Jesus Christ before the
world.

God is always there for you. Recognize the gifts He gives you and the doors He opens each and every day for you. Use those spiritual gifts to minister to the world and draw people to God.

CHURCHES,

continued from Page 14

August 3, 11 a.m.

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Some members of Booker T. Washington's Class of 1962 getting together for an enjoyable lunch at Red Lobster on Cockrell Hill. (L to R): Jo Ann Gardner, Sherry Thompson Gambrell, Kimberly Gardner, Jo Ann's daughter and Angelia Cartwright, Roger Cartwright's daughter.

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NDG Book Review: *Risking Everything* is an eye-opener

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You stand on the shoulders of giants.

You've probably heard that all your life and it's true: a lot of people have come before you to smooth your path. You benefit from their work, efforts, and their struggles – but you probably don't think about it much.

Or maybe you don't know about it. But read the new book "Risking Everything," edited by Michael Edmonds, and you'll learn.

Not long ago, when a volunteer expressed surprise at what he discovered about the Civil Rights Movement, historian Michael Edmonds realized that the young man only knew "a children's book understanding... a sanitized version..." of the movement.

It's an understanding that many Americans have. This book seeks to remedy that in a small, but monumental, way.

Fifty-four years ago, 42 percent of Mississippi's citizens were Black, yet 90 percent of eligible African Americans could not vote. The prevailing attitude in Mississippi then was single-minded: "white-only."

In the winter of 1963-64,



after "much discussion," the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) decided to move forward with plans for voter registration in the state. They initially called it the Mississippi Summer Project but it later became known as Freedom Summer. Volunteers included about a thousand college students, most of them white Northerners; clergy, lawyers, and medical personnel.

When opponents heard what was coming to Mississippi, they "swung into action." Laws were passed to make most forms of protest illegal. Local and state police "beefed up their arsenals; Jackson even bought a tank," says Edmonds. Black citizens who participated in the program endured harassment and

threats; racist groups held "sessions" on how to murder and dispose bodies without leaving evidence. And still, volunteers persevered by holding voter registration classes, by starting and running Freedom Schools and establishing libraries, and by continuing to hold meetings to spur "enthusiasm for the program in the Negro community."

But just nine weeks after it started, the Mississippi Summer Project ended. Organizers, says Edmonds, were "exhausted, disappointed, and angry" because they felt that little had been done and white supremacy was "as deeply entrenched as ever." What they didn't know, however, was that they "had actually accomplished more than... leaders could appreciate at the time." They had "awakened sleeping giants."

When I first started "Risking Everything," I wasn't sure what to expect. The cover gives almost nothing away; in fact, it's a little bland.

Not so, with what's inside.

Through eyewitness reports and information from more than 40 documents, editor Michael Edmonds

brings readers an in-the-trenches look at Freedom Summer in a way you'll never get from any class. Included are letters to home from Freedom workers, training manuals, essays, testimonies, transcripts,

photographs, and curriculums; as Edmonds himself says, "No punches are pulled."

And that's what makes this an excellent book: it's both a paean to those who did their jobs that summer,

and as education to anyone who's too young to remember what happened fifty years ago. And if that's you – in either case – then you'll like this book. For you, "Risking Everything" is a giant eye-opener.

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REED, continued from Page 2

Reed stated when she announced her candidacy in February. She has said and maintains that she will lead with integrity and transparency. Her record over the last three decades indicates she will do just that.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is America's first Greek-letter organization founded in 1908 for African-American college women. Headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, it is one of the world's leading service organizations. The Sorority's over 260,000 mem-

bers have made a commitment "to serve all mankind" through its 958 chapters in the United States, the Caribbean, Canada, Germany, Korea, Japan and on the continent of Africa. Ms. Dorothy Buckhanan Wilson is the 29th International President and will serve from 2014-2018. Her administration's theme is "Launching New Dimensions of Service." For more information on Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and its programs, log on to www.aka1908.com.



AKA members organize gifts for youngsters during a recent Back-to-School drive. AKA participates in many service projects throughout the year.