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Irving ISD challenged to improve low rankings

Part I in a two-part series from NDG

By Jackie Hardy
NDG Contributing Writer

Bear Creek Community Church of Irving hosted a luncheon over the summer for concerned parents, school officials and community activists to hear keynote speaker Dr. Robert Sanborn, President and CEO of Children's At Risk non-profit organization and co-author of the Texas Public School Ranking Report, share strategies to improve the recent low ranking received by the District.

According to the 2014 Texas Public School Ranking Report, Irving ISD ranked 89 out of the 92 total school districts comprising the North Texas region and last among the 11 larger (student body of 30,000 or more) North Texas districts which included districts from Fort Worth ISD, Arlington ISD, Dallas ISD and Frisco ISD.

The Texas Education Agency, a government agency responsible for managing all of Texas public education, uses the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness; commonly known as STARR, to track a school's academic performance. STARR is a standardize test that annually assesses students' achieve-



Dr. Robert Sanborn addresses a luncheon crowd gathered to hear strategies for improving school district performance.

ments and knowledge learned per grade level.

Children At Risk, facilitator of the Texas Public School Report Ranking, compiled data from TEA based on STARR test scores from Spring of 2013. Qualifying indicators were established to form a comprehensive report and from those indicators the following school ranking methodologies were defined: Student Achievement Index, Campus Performance Index, and Growth

Index.

"It is very difficult to isolate a single cause of a low ranking, written comments Sanborn shared with *North Dallas Gazette* when asked what he believed were some of the greatest contributing factors to the District's low ranking.

Funding issues, diversity challenges, school leadership, teacher quality, and parental involvement all contribute greatly to academic

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Study shows hope for teens with depression

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Boxtrolls contends for Oscar

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Luke James to play House of Blues

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COMMENTARY

Talk is no substitute for action

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Columnist

Have you ever seen a photo of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. taking part of a panel discussion? It's likely he didn't have time if he were asked. It's also likely that in the 1950s and 1960s, he wasn't asked much. The period King conquered was a time of action. The actions Dr. King took got results and won huge victories.

Last year, we commem-

orated the 50th anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. This year, we are commemorating the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. And next year with mark the 50th anniversary of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. In all of the commemorating and celebrating, maybe it's time we ask ourselves: Has activism been replaced by retracing marches and yet another

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Orrin Hudson



Dr. Cary A. Israel



Max Morgan

In August 49,000 visited NorthDallasGazette.com - news added daily!

Orrin Hudson

GADSDEN, AL (BlackNews.com) — Orrin “Checkmate” Hudson, a national chess champion, motivational speaker, and the founder of Atlanta-based Be Someone, Inc., recently traveled to Gadsden, Alabama to host a week-long training program with local elementary and middle school students. The goal, according to Hudson, was to “make math, science and logic come alive” and to use the game of chess to teach kids the only way to fight is to use your head.

“Heads up, pants up,



grades up and never give up,” he taught them.

The unique training program, held at the Mary G. Hardin Center for Cultural Arts Center, began on Monday Sept. 8 and concluded with competition matches

on Friday Sept. 12. Student participants were motivated to propel themselves to reach personal goals, and they were challenged to aspire to personal and educational greatness.

Hudson comments, “Through the game of chess, I am helping these children to engineer an amazing future for themselves by teaching them pattern recognition. Once you learn pattern recognition, it allows you to predict results and you can position yourself to win. It can be applied in chess and in life!”

During his training, Hudson used a life size chess

board as well as individual chess boards for each student. As a former Alabama state trooper, he believes “prevention is better than detention” and uses his program as a proactive approach to teach kids. “Every move you make has a consequence just like in the game of chess. But life is more than a game,” he says. “You must make the right moves.”

The seventh of 13 children, Hudson grew up in public housing in Birmingham, Alabama, finding himself in and out of foster care. As a teenager, he was stealing tires and struggling in school until James Edge,

his high school English teacher, taught Hudson the game of chess. Chess helped improve Hudson’s focus, and helped him develop the analytical thinking skills needed to make the winning move. He went on to win the Birmingham City Chess Championship in 1999, and again in 2000, despite being the lowest-ranking player in the tournament on both occasions.

Hudson uses his story and his knowledge of chess to inspire young people all over the world. He trained thousands of students all over the country, and has even trained overseas in the Philippines and India.

“Think it out, don’t shoot it out. Peace over violence, and brains before bullets,” is just one of the catch phrases he uses to challenge students to make the right moves and choices that can position them for success in life.

As a former law enforcement officer, Orrin believes that prevention is better than detention, and the currency on the planet is KASH: K for Knowledge, A for Attitude, S for Skills and H for Habits. Once a kid has KASH, no one can take it away.

To learn more about Orrin’s program, visit www.besomeone.org.

Dr. Cary A. Israel

Collin College’s president, Dr. Cary A. Israel, announced he is stepping down after nearly 16 years of distinguished service as the community college district’s chief executive. He plans to stay through the first of the year, and then take time off with his family before pursuing any new challenges.

Dr. Israel is the second and longest-standing president in the history of the college. The announcement comes on the heels of a banner year for the college. In



the last year alone, Collin College celebrated two Academic All-USA students, a Jack Kent Cooke Scholar, a Carnegie Texas Professor of the Year, a \$2 million gift

for scholarships, a Minnie Stevens Piper Professorship, the Tech Titan Award and top honors as a finalist for the Presidential Award on the national Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

According to Dr. Israel, “I am heartened by the tremendous impact we continue to have on our community, state and nation. It has been a marvelous journey and a privilege to serve along side so many gifted people in this premier academic institution of higher education.”

During his presidency, the college has maintained

or lowered the tax rate for 15 consecutive years, and tuition is the lowest in the state of Texas. Annual enrollment under his leadership has grown to 52,000, and the college expanded campus facilities by nearly one million square feet. In addition, the college earned acclaim as a national Center of Excellence in Nursing Education, won \$20 million in federal grant funds for workforce development, secured more than \$11 million in grants from the National Science Foundation and became the only college or university in Texas with six Carnegie Professors of the

Year—more than Cornell, Northwestern, Vanderbilt, Johns Hopkins, Georgetown, Rice, Texas Christian University and The University of Texas at Austin.

Collin College’s Phi Theta Kappa student honor society chapter earned ranking as third in the world, and the college’s young adult council of the League for United Latin American Citizens was named the National Young Adult Council of the Year. Just a few of the new programs during his tenure include university pre-admission, the Collin Higher Education Center, the Center for Scholarly and

Civic Engagement, Weekend College, Student Leadership Academy, alternative teacher certification and a Health Sciences Academy with Plano Independent School District.

Mac Hendricks, who chairs the district’s Board of Trustees, praised Dr. Israel’s accomplishments. “Cary Israel’s presidency has resulted in tremendous enrollment growth, academic excellence, sweeping transformation, historic campus expansion and record philanthropy as well as community involve-

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Max Morgan

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

“Hello Dallas-Fort Worth... let’s talk sports,” for over 20 years that is how Max Morgan started every sports segment he anchored for KDFW Fox 4. That phrase, his voice that you felt could belt out a great hymn at any moment, were his signature marks. Fans were saddened to learn he passed away Monday. In all the years of watching Morgan, he was always the same, win or lose he greeted fans with a smile and kept the fun in sports.

Morgan was a throwback to the days when sports anchors were not trying to make name for themselves



by being overly opinionated and he seem to genuinely enjoy his job. You got the sense he was a big kid living out his dream of watching sports. If he ever became jaded by being so close to the prima donna owners and athletes, the fans never knew it.

When Morgan came on the scene the Dallas Cow-

boys were enjoying much better days. He covered the team during two Super Bowl championships, gave the reports as the Dallas Stars won a Stanley Cup, when the Dallas Mavericks finally won a world championship and most recently as the Texas Rangers made two trips to the World Series.

According to KDFW’s website Morgan was admitted last week to a local hospital while battling congestive heart failure. He was in the hospital for his 59th birthday on Friday. According to published reports, Morgan’s wife Marla indicated he had struggled with a heart condition for a few years.

Originally from Arkansas, Morgan joined the station in November 1993 fol-

lowing stints on the radio and TV in his home state, followed by time in Baltimore, Maryland.

Craig, a fan on the station’s website summed up the feelings of many: “I feel certain that they play sports in Heaven and when I arrive that you will be there and fill me in on what I have missed. RIP Max from me and all the friends you have yet to meet.”

It says a lot about who Morgan was that the Texas Rangers honored him before the Tuesday night game with a moment of silence in his honor at Globe Life Park. Morgan was not a game day broadcaster for the team, this is the kind of honor sports franchises usually set aside for their internal broadcasters.

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NFL still dropping the ball

By George E. Curry
 NNPA Columnist

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell has finally emerged from his self-imposed witness protection program, held a press conference, and even attended a football game Sunday. Now that Goodell has come out of hiding, it is not clear that the NFL is any closer to getting it right, as he keeps putting it, than it was when it dropped the ball in handling Ray Rice’s indefinite suspension from the league.

Goodell’s long overdue news conference proved only that he had his talking points down and would repeat them at every opportunity.

“I’m not satisfied with the way we’ve handled it from the get-go. As I told you, and this statement indicates, I made a mistake...”

“We acknowledge the mistake, my mistake. And we said we’re going to do better moving forward...”

“I let myself down. I let everybody

else down. And for that I’m sorry as I mentioned earlier. That’s what we’re going to correct and that’s what we’re going to fix...”

Despite a well-scripted news conference, the NFL has not been able to contain some extremely damaging disclosures. ESPN “Outside the Lines” has produced an explosive exposé that undercuts Goodell’s credibility, the very thing he has desperately been trying to restore.

Publicly, Goodell has contended that no one in the NFL’s Park Avenue headquarters in New York has seen the devastating video of Ray Rice knocking his then-fiancée out with a powerful left hook, leaving her unconscious. Even if true, that does not mean Baltimore and NFL officials did not know what was on the video tape.

Here’s what ESPN had to say: “Ultimately, on April 1, the Revel, under subpoena, provided [Attorney Michael] Diamondstein with a copy, and he received the same copy from

prosecutors on April 5. By phone, Diamondstein told [team president Dick] Cass that the video was ‘f—ing horrible’ and that it was clear ‘Ray knocked her the f— out.’ The lawyer advised Cass that the video, if released, would amount to a public relations disaster for the Ravens and for his client.

“Cass listened carefully but never asked Diamondstein to provide the Ravens with a copy of the video — nor, for that matter, did anyone from the NFL ask Diamondstein for a copy, several sources say.”

Cass and owner Steve Bisciotti claimed they never knew the extent of Rice’s violence.

ESPN reported, “Bisciotti and Cass contend that, after the elevator doors closed that morning, they did not have a full picture of what happened until September. ‘It was our understanding based on Ray’s account that in the course of a physical altercation between the two of them he slapped

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panel discussion?

There is no escaping the endless hot air. There is a panel at every turn. At every annual convention. At every luncheon. Even sometimes at breakfast. Even worse, many African American events feature the same panel discussion. It is a repeat of the same problems and virtually the identical discussion the year before.

Wait, it gets worse. It’s typically the case that the discussion features no “call to action” or clear, detailed set of ideas that might lead to action. That these discussions often feature some of the best and the brightest “public intellectuals” of the era may not be something to celebrate. If the smartest among us spend more time talking than acting, that can’t be a good thing.

With the understanding that the centerpiece of the American Civil Rights Movement was based around action rather than panel discussions, we should view endless talk as a problem and perhaps even a barrier. No panel discussion ever ended police brutality. No panel discussion you will ever see or ever hear will end income inequality or put a young person through college. Clearly, the exchange of ideas is important. But when all discussed begins and ends with “the exchange” only, it may be time to re-think what creates real change.

In history, when we’ve seen change, we’ve often seen it after unrest. Unrest that scared those in power. We’ve

often seen change after civil disobedience. Perhaps African Americans saw the biggest change after America’s War Between the States. Currently, the centerpiece of “civil rights” activity appears to be talking.

What we just witnessed in Ferguson, Mo. provides a perfect example. Before so-called “Black leaders” arrived to tell everyone to relax — a notion so ridiculous it should have perhaps set off more unrest — protesters were receiving worldwide attention. If an event such as the shooting death in the middle of the street of an unarmed teenager doesn’t cause active protest, what will?

Michael Brown’s death occurred only a month after New York City Police Officer Daniel Pantaleo choked Eric Garner, 48, to death on the sidewalk for all to review on video. And what was it that Brown and Garner were doing to elicit a police confrontation? One was jaywalking and the other was selling cigarettes.

We don’t need another panel discussion to understand what brought those in power to the table on the issue. We don’t need another discussion from “public intellectuals” who spend more time talking rather than doing (and making plenty of money in the process) to know what kept attention on the situation in Ferguson.

The activities of five decades ago yielded big results — Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of

1965, among others. But few of those big results and political victories are being duplicated today. And the problems, for the African American community in particular, are getting larger.

Four days after Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on December 1, 1955, Blacks boycotted buses in Montgomery, Ala. The protest lasted 381 days. Every day was a day of action. Every day was strategy session. The effort required 13 months of patience and perseverance. The result: The U.S. Supreme Court ordered the city of Montgomery to integrate the bus system.

The Civil Rights Act became the most important legislation and policy change for African Americans since Reconstruction. The poll tax was finally ended in 11 southern states. None of this happened because of panel discussions and press conferences. Without applying constant pressure none of it would have ever happened. Without active pressure on power today, we will be left with nothing but talk.

Lauren Victoria Burke is freelance writer and creator of the blog *Crewof42.com*, which covers African American members of Congress. She Burke appears regularly on “NewsOneNow with Roland Martin” and on *WHUR FM, 900 AM WURD*. She worked previously at *USA Today* and *ABC News*. She can be reached through her website, *laurenvictoriaburke.com*, or Twitter at *Crewof42* or by e-mail at *LBurke007@gmail.com*.

Study shows depression lowers when teens feel they can change

AUSTIN, Texas — A low-cost, one-time intervention that educates teens about the changeable nature of personality traits may prevent depressive symptoms often seen during the transition to high school, according to new research from The University of Texas at Austin.

The findings, published online this month in Clinical Psychological Science, show that exposure to a brief message that people can change could reduce depression symptoms among teenagers during the first few weeks of high school.

Adolescence is a challenging transitional period marked by puberty and also changes in friendship networks and the status hierarchy, says David Yeager, assistant professor of psychology and lead author of the study. Research suggests that many lifelong cases of major depression emerge during this developmental period.



“When teens are excluded or bullied, it can be reasonable to wonder if they are ‘losers’ or ‘not likable,’” says Yeager. “We asked: Could teaching teens that people can change reduce those thoughts? And if so, could it even prevent overall symptoms of depression?”

To find out, Yeager and his graduate student co-author Adriana Sum Miu of Emory Univer-

sity conducted a longitudinal intervention study with about 600 ninth-graders across three high schools. At the beginning of the school year, students were randomly assigned to participate in the treatment intervention or a similar control activity, though they were not aware of the group assignment. Both activities took place during a normal class period and required only paper or a com-

puter. No one at the school knew the messages or reinforced them.

Students assigned to the treatment intervention read a passage describing how individuals’ personalities are subject to change. The passage emphasized that being bullied is not the result of a fixed, personal deficiency, nor are bullies essentially “bad” people. An article about brain plasticity and endorsements from older students accompanied the passage. After reading the materials, the students were asked to write their own narrative about how personalities can change, to be shared with future ninth-graders.

Students in the control group read a passage that focused on the malleability of a trait not related to personality: athletic ability.

A follow-up nine months later showed that rates of clinically significant depressive symptoms rose by roughly 39 percent among stu-

dents in the control group, in line with previous research on depression in adolescence.

Students who learned about the malleability of personality, on the other hand, showed no such increase in depressive symptoms, even if they were bullied. The data revealed that the intervention specifically affected depressive symptoms of negative mood, feelings of ineffectiveness and low self-esteem.

These findings are especially promising given the relatively small investment of time and effort required to carry out the intervention, Yeager says. Yet he notes that further research is needed to answer a number of questions about the long- and short-term results, such as potential negative side effects, how and where the messages should be administered, and which symptoms are most and least affected.

Silicon Valley must learn to embrace diversity

By Marc H. Morial
NNPA Columnist

“The industry that bills itself a meritocracy actually looks more like a mirrortocracy.”

— Mitch Kapor, co-chair of the Kapor Center for Social Impact

While the number of African American, Latino and women consumers of Internet and broadband

products and services is rising, their numbers at the major Silicon Valley companies continue to lag way behind. After years of resisting disclosure, tech giants such as Apple, Facebook, Yahoo and Google recently released their employment diversity numbers. As we’ve long suspected, they show a striking lack of inclusion.

According to published

figures, at Google, 3 percent of its staff are Hispanic and 2 percent are Black. Both Yahoo and Facebook reported that Hispanics and Blacks make up 4 percent and 2 percent of their workplaces, respectively. When Apple makes an announcement, as in its recent introduction of the iPhone 6, it usually wants the world to stand up and take notice. This was likely not the case

with the release of its diversity numbers last month, which showed the company is 55 percent White, 15 percent Asian, 11 percent Hispanic and 7 percent Black. In his statement upon release of the report, Apple CEO Tim Cook candidly admitted, “I’m not satisfied with the numbers on this page.” This acknowledgment is a first step, but the question for Cook and his

Silicon Valley counterparts is: What are you going to do about it?

For years, Silicon Valley has used the specious claim of being a “meritocracy” to explain the lack of diversity in its ranks. It has never been true that African Americans, Latinos or women are somehow less able to excel at high tech jobs. It is true that communities of color and women

continue to be underrepresented in the attainment of science and engineering degrees. The National Urban League is working to increase those numbers with efforts such as Project Ready STEM, which is supporting 10 Project Ready STEM sites across the nation. The sites are successfully operating STEM pro-

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2014



Author discussing recovery from child abuse during appearance at Irving church

Dominic Carter, the author of *No Mommas Boy* is scheduled to speak at Bear Creek Community Church in Irving this Sunday morning. A TV anchor in the New York area Carter has enjoyed a remarkable career, but internally he struggled with recovering from an abusive childhood at the hands of a mentally ill mother.

During the 11 a.m. worship experience Carter will share his inspiring story of rising from a childhood that included sexual and physical abuse to a meaningful career. Highlights of his career include attending social events at the White House and interviewing the late Nelson Mandela.

It is his desire to give a voice to others who have suffered in silence over the years. Carter wants others to

know they can rise above what has happened to them and enjoy happy careers. Books will be available for sale and autographing.

For more information about the book visit <http://www.nomommas-boy.com/>.



Bear Creek is located at 2700 Finley Rd, Irving, TX 75062. Bear Creek Community Church is pastored by Dennis Webb, Sr., a current member of the Irving City Council.

Irving offering Think Green, Be Green classes

Learn about environmental stewardship by attending these upcoming green events in Irving:

Green Consumer Day: Participate in a global celebration that highlights the impact of consumerism on the environment during the Green Consumer Day Sept. 28. The day is aimed at raising awareness about en-

vironmental sustainability. Consider buying items made from recycled materials, chose products that minimize waste, and use reusable shopping bags. Find more tips and information at cityofirving.org.

Butterfly Gardening: Did you know that Monarch butterflies journey south for about 2,000 miles, then

return to the north in the spring?

This workshop will provide a hands-on learning experience for families interested in setting up a butterfly habitat in their own backyard, 9 to 11:30 a.m. Oct. 11, Senter East Building, 228 Chamberlain St. Register at cityofirving.org/thinkgreen.

NDG Publisher featured in upcoming *Who's Who of Black Dallas*

The second edition of *Who's Who In Black Dallas* will be unveiled at a networking reception and program at the Hyatt Regency Dallas Hotel on Oct. 2 at 5:30 p.m. *Who's Who In Black Dallas* will celebrate the achievements of African Americans in the metropolitan Dallas area. More than 200 people will be featured in the publication including NDG's very own publisher, Thurman R. Jones.

Joining the celebration for the second edition will be Honorable US House of Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson.

Congresswoman Johnson has written the Foreword for the second edition succeeding long time Dallas attorney H. Ron White.

"I'm delighted to have been asked to write the fore-

word for the second edition of *Who's Who In Black Dallas*. I have spent my time in Congress working to represent the 30th District in Dallas and I'm always pleased to participate in an endeavor that celebrates the achievements of citizens," said Congresswoman Johnson.

Congresswoman Johnson is serving her 11th term representing the 30th Congressional District of Texas. The 30th District is entirely within Dallas County and it includes the cities of DeSoto, Lancaster, Wilmer, Hutchins, Cedar Hill, and Duncanville; with portions of the cities of Glenn Heights, Ferris, Ovilla, and South Grand Prairie. As a strong voice for inclusion, Congresswoman Johnson is the Founder and Co-

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

Young Women's Preparatory Network is hosting leadership retreat Sept. 25-26

To better align its mission with its name, the Foundation for the Education of Young Women (FEYW) is changing its name to Young Women's Preparatory Network. The announcement will be made official on Sept. 24, the evening before the organization hosts a leadership retreat for its key stakeholders with well-known educational speakers on Sept. 25-26.

Lynn McBee, CEO of Young Women's Prep, said, "As our net-

work of incredible young women's leadership schools has grown from the original school in Dallas to now include schools throughout Texas, the new name and website reflect the network we support. In 2014, four of our seven network schools had graduating seniors. All of them—146 young women—graduated and received more than \$15.8 million in scholarships, and 100% of them were accepted to a four-year college or university."

A decade ago, Young Women's Prep formed a partnership with the Dallas Independent School District and, in August 2004, the Irma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School opened. Since then, Young Women's Prep has opened Young Women's Leadership Schools in Austin, San Antonio, Lubbock, Fort Worth, Houston and Grand Prairie.

The focus of Young Women's Prep schools is a foundation of STEM (Science, Technology, En-

gineering, Math) curriculum with a focus on its core values: leadership, college readiness and wellness life skills. The network also engenders change in public education by using an innovative model that supports public-private partnerships.

"During the first annual Leadership Retreat, we are bringing together our school principals, college advisors, advisory council chairs and other key stakeholders for two days of inspiration, edu-

cation and bonding, and we will learn from and interact with some of the most innovative speakers in education," McBee added.

Speakers include the following:

- Megan Murphy, Executive Director, National Coalition of Girl's Schools
- Jenn Charlot, Director of Implementation, The Character Lab
- Woody Widrow, Executive Director, Raise Texas

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Collin College celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

Collin College invites students and the Collin County community to participate and celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month events during the month of October. All events are free and open to the public.

Events include:

- **Hispanic Heritage Month celebration**, 1 – 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 7, Spring Creek Campus Atrium (2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano)

- **Salsa/Merengue dancing lessons and competition**, Noon – 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 8, Spring Creek Campus Atrium (2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano)

- **Poster displays across campuses**, Monday, Oct. 6 – Friday, Oct. 10.

Hispanic Heritage Month at Collin College is sponsored by the Communications and Humanities Division. For more information, please contact Dulce de Castro at ddcastro@collin.edu or Frozina Goussak at fgoussak@collin.edu.

Duncanville native serving in the Navy on USS John S. McCain in Japan

YOKOSUKA, Japan – A 2009 Canterbury Episcopal School graduate and Duncanville, Texas native is serving aboard USS John S. McCain (DDG 56), living and working at a Navy base in Japan.

Ensign Ben Reed Carrington is a main propulsion officer serving aboard the ship operating out of Japan. Often called "the tip of the spear," Yokosuka is located approximately 35 miles south of Tokyo and accommodates our nation's furthest forward deployed naval forces.

An Arleigh Burke-class destroyer, John S. McCain is 505 feet long at just over one and a half football fields. The ship is 66 feet wide, weighs more than 9,200 tons, and



four gas turbine engines can push the ship through the ocean at more than 30 knots.

The ship is named in honor of two famous John McCains. Annapolis alumni, John Sidney McCain, Sr.,

and his son, John Sydney, Jr., both served in World War II and became the first father-son pair ever to achieve the rank of four-star admiral. They are the grandfather and father, respectively, of Senator John McCain, who himself served as a Navy pilot during Vietnam and achieved the rank of captain.

As a 23 year-old with numerous responsibilities, Carrington said he is learning about himself as a leader, Sailor and a person. "Being in the Navy is a very worthwhile experience," said Carrington. "You meet people from all walks of life which is a unique experience unrivaled in the civilian world."

See NAVY, Page 16

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DART Police Host National Night Out Event on Oct. 7

The Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) Police Department will hold their fourth annual National Night Out, Tuesday, October 7, from 6 to 8 p.m., at DART Police Headquarters, 2111 S. Corinth St., Dallas, TX, across from Illinois Station on the Blue Line.

The free family event offers safe fun with DART Police, Dallas Fire & Rescue, free blood pressure checks, discounted flu shots,

and various giveaways. Participants will be treated to activities for kids, face painting, haircuts, games and a chance to meet Digger the DART Police dog.

National Night Out is an opportunity for DART police to strengthen neighborhood and police-community partnerships, heighten crime prevention awareness and interact with residents in a positive, relaxed and informal way.

Collin College hosting 'From DNA to Beer: Harnessing Nature in Medicine and Industry'

Collin College will host the National Library of Medicine exhibit "From DNA to Beer: Harnessing Nature in Medicine and Industry" from Sept. 29 to Nov. 6 at the Central Park Campus Library, 2200 W. University Drive in McKinney.

The exhibit will be open to the public during all regular library hours.

Exploring some of the processes, potential and problems inherent in technologies that use microorganisms for health and commercial purposes, this exhibition illustrates the history of the dynamic relationship among microbes, medicine, technology and industry.

Relevant lectures will run concurrently with the exhibit and are all located in Central Park Campus LA115.

Beer Milestones in Manufacturing, presented by Professor of History Frank Mayhew, 1-2 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 30

History of Whiskey, presented by Professor of History Frank Mayhew, Noon - 1 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6

Antibiotics and Vaccines: From Humble Beginnings to Their Present Day Controversy, Presented by Professor of Biology Robert Brown, 1-2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8

For more information, email Lisa Huang at lhuang@collin.edu.

PREP, continued from Page 6

• Roy C. Lopez, Vice President, Community Development Banking DFW and East Texas Region, Capital One

• Bonita L. Baskin, Ph.D., Founder and Board Chair, Hill Country Science Mill

• Carolyn Nichol, Ph.D., Director, School Science & Technology Programs, Rice University

• Lisa Sanger Blinn, Associate Director, Institute of Biosciences & Bioengineering, Rice University

• Carrie Croley, Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health

• Dee Kerr, CEO of STEAMtrax

• Deborah Linscomb, Vice President, Curriculum and Professional Development, STEAMtrax

• Helen Holman, Owner and President, Helen Holman and Associates

• Diana P. Gomez, Coordinator of TWU & Terry Scholars, TWU

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Boxtrolls is a likely leading candidate for Oscar gold

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

The race for the Best Animated film for 2014 will certainly include The Boxtrolls. It comes from the creators of the popular "Coraline" and features the marvel of the 3D stop motion technology which adds a layer of richness to an already well-told story.

The Boxtrolls leave in the shadows and tunnels beneath the streets of Cheesebridge. If Holland prized tulips above all else back in the day, the residents of Cheesebridge feel as strongly about cheese. Sounds too far-fetched, but when you look at the rising interest in bitcoins it is a reminder things have value when a group of people decide it is to be treasured. Unfortunately in real life, as in this tale, sometimes we don't put the same value on people, or in this case other living creatures surrounding us.

Eggs (Isaac Hempstead Wright) is a little boy who believes he is a boxtroll because

he was raised by the kind creatures. However, thanks to a fearmongers (does that sound like something from our headlines) the boxtrolls are so feared there is a blanket permission to kill them. A challenged handled with glee by Archibald Snatcher (Academy Award winner Ben Kingsley).

However, thanks to the curiosity of the delightfully spunky, but a bit bratty Winnie (Elle Fanning) things do not go according to plan.

Now, I am not a fan of the 3D part of the flick, but love the artwork and stop animation. At times I was distracted by it, but the story is really done. Is it a familiar tale, yes, but with enough nuances and layers to refresh the story.

The Boxtrolls opens on Friday and as a family film rated PG, it stands a good chance to win the box office battle this weekend. Yes, even against a new Denzel Washington flick The Equalizer. You can never rule out parents looking for entertainment with the kids.



JONES, continued from Page 5

Chair of the Diversity and Innovation Caucus and of the House Historical Black Colleges and Universities Caucus. She had the honor to serve as Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus during the 107th Congress. She is the ranking member of the House Science Committee and is the highest ranking Texan on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Johnson is also a member of the Congressional Task Force on seniors.

"We are excited to be doing the second edition of Who's Who In Black Dallas and are equally excited to have Congresswoman Johnson penning the foreword for this edition," says Carter Womack, Chief Operating Officer of Who's Who Publishing.

"Her impact on the African-American community goes hand in hand with the commitment and vision of Who's Who Publishing."

The second edition Associate Publisher is Ken Carter, President and Chief Executive Officer of Focus Communications, a 34 year old public relations, marketing and public affairs company. The company is responsible for the public relations, sales and content of the second edition. Focus has been a long time cornerstone in the communications industry.

"We wanted to recognize 'People of Influence' who have done some extraordinary things," Carter said.

NDG Contest Winners...



Ann Ellis (at left) won tickets to the State Fair while Shawnte McKinney (at right) was our State Fair Classic winner and will see Grambling vs. Prairie View this Saturday at the Cotton Bowl. The North Dallas Gazette is still running promotions with tickets to the State Fair, Rapunzel and the Dallas Bach Society. Don't forget to check in regularly at www.northdallasgazette.com for your chance to win tickets to great shows and entertainment in the Dallas area.

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RANKINGS, continued from Page 1

achievement, and in turn the success of a district," adds Sanborn.

Newly hired Irving ISD Superintendent, Dr. Jose L. Parra feels reducing distractions that do not promote student achievement is one hurdle the District faces on the road to improvement.

"Eliminating distractions that keep us from focusing on student success and where we're going," he feels is one of their main hurdles the District must overcome.

According to Lesley Weaver, Irving ISD Director of Communication, many of the Irving ISD Trustees were unable to attend the luncheon due to learning about the meeting well-after they had registered to attend the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) conference, a conference held twice a year where board members attend to get their required annual school board training.

"Our board members had been registered for that conference for at least a month at that point (from when they received the invitation), so I just think we didn't have much notice," advises Weaver when asked the reason there were no school board representation at the June luncheon.

Sanborn gave a presentation on educational reform strategies according to Maurice Walker, Parental Involvement Coordinator and one of the few District employees

in attendance.

"He (Sanborn) talked about in terms of reformed strategies that we always want to have the most effective teachers that we can get those with a passion—particularly a passion to work with the kinds of youngsters that we have in our school district...he also talked about having a strong collaborative leadership within our administration particularly within our central administration..." shared Walker.

PIC was a position created six years ago to satisfy the "No Child Left Behind" legislation, according to Walker; whereas public schools who receive federal funding are required to have a component to address parental involvement.

Walker is one of three PICs within the District where he serves the Nimitz High School cluster and its feeder schools.

"Our primary function is to help bridge the gap between the student, parent and school—primarily what we try to do, is to make sure we can educate the parents as well as we can through parent classes, parent academies, and something we call parent universities..."

Without question, we have put more of an emphasis on the all important role that parents play in educating their children. In fact, {we are} selling the idea that the parent

is the first and most important teacher that a child will ever have," adds Walker.

Walker also feels more parent involvement is needed to help advocate for change especially in the area of more early childhood development programs as he strongly agrees with Sanborn regarding the need for high-quality pre-K four day programs. According to Walker, currently the District has three to four half a day pre-school programs.

"These are the kind of issues where the community and the parents are going to have to step up. Quite frankly, our community has been relatively dorsal in terms of total involvement that we need to have. Parents who have little babies right now; they are the ones who need to be petitioning for all day pre-school programs," advises Walker.

"Education reform strategies such as expanded learning opportunities and high quality early education programs, as well as intensive parent advocacy are key to turning a district around.

Over 70 percent of Irving ISD students are enrolled in 'D' or 'F' schools (according to the report). This means that over 70 percent of Irving ISD parents should be vocal advocates for improving their child's schools," commented Sanborn.

Pick up next week's issue of the North Dallas Gazette for the conclusion of this exclusive report.

ISRAEL,

continued from Page 2

ment," said Hendricks. "Tenure like his is unheard of in higher education, and he will leave a remarkable legacy at Collin College."

Locally, Dr. Israel has been honored as the 2010 Plano Citizen of the Year and received the Leadership Award from the Collin County Business Alliance last year. He received the American Association of Community College Trustees' CEO of the Year Award for the Northeast Region in 1996 and the Western Region in 2007. Dr. Israel received the Phi Theta Kappa Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction and the Keeping America Working Award, and the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations named him the national Pacesetter of the Year.

Details on a national search for the next president will be revealed as trustees finalize the transition plan. "Dr. Israel's size 16 cowboy boots will be very difficult to fill, but we will ensure an orderly and thoughtful leadership transition," said Hendricks.

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Jubilee Theatre rolls out *The Brothers Size* this month

Jubilee Theatre is bringing to the stage the story, *The Brothers Size* which is set in the Louisiana bayou. The show will run from Sept. 26 to Oct. 26 in the legendary Fort Worth theatre.

The *Brothers Size* is a play spotlighting the tale of two brothers: big brother Ogun Size who is just a

wall of tough love. Meanwhile his younger brother Oshoosi still struggles to find his footing in the world complicated by his mysterious past. What begins as a ritual, evolves into a tough yet tender drama about the bonds of brotherhood. Poetry and myths are spun into

See **BROTHERS**, Page 12

Old School Review will feature music that has stood the test of the time

Singers, musicians and entertainers will showcase their love of music and the talent of various artists music lovers have cherished throughout the years. The music primarily featured is the 70s and 80s. Special Guests Jesse Thomas, Tillie M. Harris and Ron Thomas

(formerly the "Road Manager" for the legendary Mr. Johnnie Taylor) are scheduled to perform.

The show is at the Irving Arts Center-Dupree Theater, located at 3333 N MacArthur Blvd. in Irving. The cost is \$20 Advance and \$25 at the door.

Luke James set to perform at Dallas' House of Blues on Oct. 5

Luke James is a singer/songwriter who embodies the honesty and fresh, organic soulfulness that's been in relatively short supply of late in contemporary music.

Now that sounds like a pretty tall order for a newcomer to fulfill. However, the New Orleans native is very much up to the task.

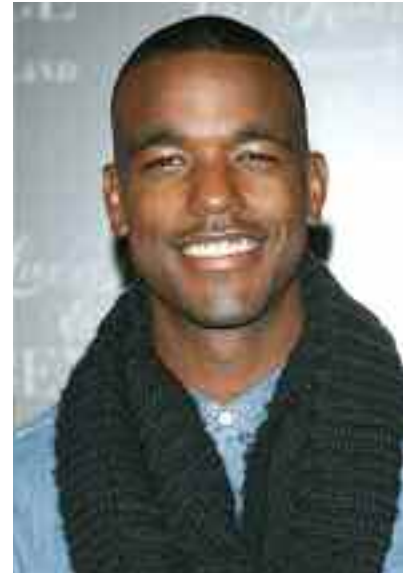
In fact, you've no doubt heard his work: he co-wrote Chris Brown's "Crawl" and has penned songs for Justin Bieber ("That Should Be Me") and Britney Spears ("Kill The Lights"), among others. And his growing fan base includes none other than Beyoncé, who selected James to

appear in her "Run the World" video.

James' real-deal approach to music and the craft of singing are the main attractions on his upcoming "Made to Love." Both mark the singer/songwriter's debut on Mercury/Island Def Jam via New Age Rock Star Records (NARS).

"This isn't a fad for me," declares James. "I'm willing to go wherever with this because music is everything to me. This is my world and how I see it. My music speaks for me in a way that's relatable and truthful."

Luke James will be performing at House of Blues Dallas on Oct 5 at 9 p.m.



Stay tuned to the North Dallas Gazette online to win tickets to the area's best entertainment. NDG is currently giving away tickets to Rapunzel, the Dallas Bach Society and the Texas State Fair.

www.northdallasgazette.com

the BROTHERS SIZE

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Black auto buyers get a raw deal

By Charlene Crowell
NNPA Columnist

With new car prices meeting or surpassing many consumers' incomes, the vast majority of people finance their car purchases. On an annual basis, according to the Center for Responsible Lending, more than 79 percent of auto loans occur through third-party indirect lenders that partner with dealerships.

After most automobile purchases, many consumers wonder whether the deal they signed was a fair one. Black consumers too often get a raw deal rather than a fair one because Black borrowers and other consumers of color pay more for their auto loans than do similarly-situated White borrowers.

Last Thursday, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) took its traveling field hearings to Indianapolis, the Hoosier heartland's capital. At the forum, Richard Cordray, CFPB Director, announced the Bureau's proposed expansion of its supervision of auto finance to now include larger and non-bank entities. CFPB could then better ensure full and fair legal compliance among 38 auto finance companies that together originate nearly 90 percent of all non-bank auto loans and leases. In early 2014, American consumers had more than 87 million auto loans valued at nearly \$900 billion, according to CFPB.

"Non-bank auto finance companies extend hundreds of billions of dollars in credit to American consumers, yet they have

See DEAL, Page 13

NFL, continued from Page 3

Janay with an open hand, and that she hit her head against the elevator rail or wall as she fell to the ground,' the Ravens said in a statement Friday afternoon. But sources both affiliated and unaffiliated with the team tell 'Outside the Lines' a different story: The Ravens' head of security, Sanders, heard a detailed description of the inside-elevator scene within hours and shared it with Ravens officials in Baltimore."

Quoting multiple unnamed sources close to Rice, ESPN said the star running back had provided full details of the incident – including knocking his future wife unconscious – to both Goodell and team officials.

In fact, ESPN said, "With his wife sitting by his side in a conference room, Rice told Goodell that he hit her and knocked her out, according to four sources."

At the urging of the Ravens, Goodell suspended Rice for only two games. Later, under mounting pressure from women's groups, the Ravens kicked Rice off the team and Goodell suspended him indefinitely from the NFL.

"Bisciotti and the team released a letter to Ravens season-ticket holders contending that the team had not seen the video until the

morning of Sept. 8, when TMZ released it to the public, and that they found it 'violent and horrifying' and had voted unanimously to release Rice," ESPN reported.

"...Minutes later, Rice's phone buzzed. He could scarcely believe what he was looking at – back-to-back text messages from Bisciotti. Rice read them aloud so everyone in the room could hear them:

Hey Ray, just want to let you know, we loved you as a player, it was great having you here. Hopefully all these things are going to die down. I wish the best for you and Janay.

When you're done with football, I'd like you to know you have a job waiting for you with the Ravens helping young guys getting acclimated to the league.

ESPN continued, "Rice was flabbergasted. One minute Bisciotti and the Ravens were essentially calling him a liar, the next Bisciotti was quietly offering him a job.

"... Rice told friends he believed Bisciotti was suggesting that, as long as he kept quiet and stuck to the story that he had misled team officials and Goodell about what had happened in the elevator, the Ravens would take care of him down the road. He felt incredibly insulted."

George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of Emerge magazine, is editor-in-chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service (NNPA.) He is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach. Curry can be reached through his Web site, www.georgecurry.com. You can also follow him at www.twitter.com/currygeorge and [George E. Curry Fan Page](http://www.facebook.com/GeorgeE.Curry) on Facebook.



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SILICON, continued from Page 4

grams for nearly 300 middle or high school students, with the goals of ensuring that urban students have the necessary supports and opportunities available to them to succeed in STEM-related class work and exposing students to STEM-related careers.

But as Freda Kapur Klein, co-chair of the Kapur Center for Social Impact, explains, "The reality is that most of the barriers are structural...our sector is permeated by biases, both

subtle and not so subtle."

Her co-chair and husband, Mitch Kapur, the designer of Lotus 1-2-3, adds, "Even as companies scramble to find workers in the most competitive hiring market in recent memory, most are continuing to bring aboard people who look like they do."

It is not enough to lament the numbers; Silicon Valley must be more intentional about increasing diversity. The industry would do well

to follow the example of some of the large telecom companies, which have taken proactive measures in recent years to increase diversity within their organizations.

For example, AT&T's Workforce Inclusion website states, "We know that diverse, talented and dedicated individuals are critical to our success, so we look for people from various backgrounds and give them opportunities to grow...we serve our customers better when we build diversity into all we do."

Verizon has also made great strides in both employee and supplier diversity. According to Verizon Chairman and CEO, Lowell McAdam "A diverse workplace is one of Verizon's biggest strengths as a global

innovation leader. Our employees' unique backgrounds and perspectives are key to our success in delivering technology solutions that create value for our customers, shareholders and society."

Silicon Valley companies must not only make similar statements, they must make similar commitments.

Marc H. Morial, former mayor of New Orleans, is president and CEO of the National Urban League.

BROTHERS, continued from Page 10

this hot-blooded, music-filled contemporary drama from one of the country's most exciting new voices.

Recently Tarrant County Commissioner Roy C. Brooks shared, "Nelson Mandela once stated, 'It is said that no one truly knows a nation until one has been inside its jails. A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but its lowest ones.'" Since 2005, I have proudly led efforts to address concerns regarding successful re-entry and the re-integration of inmates returning to Tarrant County. It is our responsibility as a community to afford them every chance to maximize and increase their opportunities for successful integration into society to become productive citizens. It is our duty to extend to them a second chance. Jubilee Theatre's production of *The Brothers Size* tells the story of a young's man difficulty re-acclimating to so-

ciety after being incarcerated. It is a story of hope and healing, it a story which will truly challenge us to ask ourselves - are we our brother's keeper?"

Ticket goers can purchase tickets for only \$18 at the Preview Performances are Sept. 26 - Oct. 2.

Opening night is Friday, Oct. 3 and performances continue through Sunday, Oct. 26. Evening performances begin at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Matinee performances are at 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Ticket prices (after preview performances) range from \$22 - \$26 and may be purchased online at jubileetheatre.org, in person at the theater Box Office, located at 506 Main Street in Fort Worth or by calling 817-338-4411. Box Office hours of operation are Tuesday - Friday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. and one hour before each performance.



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DEAL, continued from Page 11

never been supervised at the federal level," said Cordray. "We took action after we uncovered auto lending discrimination at banks we supervise."

For the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL), the field hearing was also a chance to underscore key research findings and again raise specific consumer concerns.

Chris Kukla, CRL's senior counsel for government affairs told the gathering, "The recent rise in auto lending, particularly in the subprime space, has attracted significant and ongoing attention in the media. Many of these [news] articles have focused on abuses that occur. Unfortunately, most of these abuses are not new – they have existed for some time."

CFPB, the cornerstone of the Dodd-Frank Financial Reform Act, is empowered to monitor and enforce consumer laws. In auto lending, CFPB shares its jurisdiction with other regulators.

Further, just as HUD oversees the Fair Housing Act, communities of color are legally protected from discriminatory practices through the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA). ECOA makes it illegal for a creditor to discriminate in any aspect

of a credit transactions including race, color, religion, national origin, gender, marital status or age.

Even with these laws and other designed to eliminate discriminatory practices, racial discrimination still occurs. Research from as early as 2006 found that discriminatory auto lending pricing was evident. A series of class-action lawsuits challenged how Blacks and Latinos disproportionately received interest rate markups more frequently and to a greater degree than their similarly-situated White counterparts. In fact, Black and Latinos received higher rates even though they were reportedly more likely than Whites to negotiate their loan.

Earlier this year, CRL research analyzed dealer interest rate mark-ups, sometimes called "dealer reserves" or "dealer participation", the practice of car dealers adding extra interest to the car loan a finance company approves.

For example, a bank may approve a consumer for a loan with a 5 percent interest rate; but the dealer offers the consumer a loan at 7 percent and pockets the difference. Lenders bidding to buy the auto loan contract allow the dealers to increase the inter-

est rate for extra dealer compensation. This widespread practice raises interest rates above those charged by financial institutions. And it disproportionately harms communities of color.

For consumers, these mark-ups can range as high as 5 percent in additional interest costs. Misleading sales information and unnecessary add-on products each contributed to higher financing costs, again particularly for consumers of color.

Worst of all, consumers at the heart of these financial transactions are often unaware of the relationship or allowances between third-party lenders and dealers.

Kukla's comments also noted that in auto lending, very few or weak consumer protections exist at either the federal or state levels.

"The current market requires safeguards to ensure that the market is robust and sustainable," said Kukla. "Abusive lending practices have no place in our credit markets."

To learn more about CRL's auto lending findings, visit the web at www.responsiblelending.org.

Charlene Crowell is a communications manager with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

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September 28, 7:35 a.m.
Join us Sunday for our
praise and worship services;
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Come to a “Between Jobs
Support Group” meeting at
the Christian Works for
Children, 6320 LBJ Free-
way, Dallas, TX 75240.
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ter.

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day for Open House praise
and worship services, fea-
turing Children's Theatre
and Praise Team.

October 1, 7 p.m.
Join us in Wednesday's
Prayer and Bible Study
Class with Associate Pastor

Brenda Patterson teaching
this week on the subject of
Divorce.

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

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September 28
Join us in our Morning
Service as we worship,
honor and praise God for
His blessings to us.

Dr. Terrence Autry,
Senior Pastor
George Bush Fwy at
Jupiter Road on the
Garland/Richardson Border
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mitted via email to: prayer-
line@theship3c.org

September 28
Join us this Sunday for our
praise and worship services

at 9:30 a.m. at 1550 Edel-
weiss Drive in Allen and
bring someone with you;
you will be blessed.

October 1
You're invited to our
Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day
Live Prayer and Bible
Study and/or our Wednes-
day Night Live Prayer and
Bible Study at 7 p.m. to
learn more about God's
Word at Joycie Turner Fel-
lowship 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
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Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956
www.theship3c.org

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COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH**

September 28, 7:35 a.m.
Join us this Sunday for our
praise and worship services;
and receive a blessing from
God.

October 1, 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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OF PLANO (MOCOP)**

September 28, 7:35 a.m.
Join us in Sunday School at
8:30 a.m.; stay for our Sun-
day prayer at 9:30 a.m. and
our Worship Service at 10
a.m.

October 23-24, 7 p.m.
You're invited to worship
with us as we welcome Dr.
Darrell L. Foster,
Founder/President of the
Overcomers Network in At-
lanta, Georgia. Theme,
“Let God be True: Shining
Love and Light on LGBT
Matters,” John 8:32 and Ro-
mans 12:2.

Pastor Sam Fenceroy
Senior Pastor
300 Chisholm Place
Plano, TX 75075
972-633-5511
www.mocop.org

**RHEMA LIFE
CHURCH
IN PLANO**

September 28, 10 a.m.
You're invited to our praise
and worship services; and
receive a blessing from
God.

Rev. James W. Thomas,
Pastor/Founder
3801 K Avenue
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September 26
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God (Matt. 13:45-46) on
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tember 27th at 9 a.m.

September 28, 10 a.m.
Join us this Sunday for our
praise and worship services
as we glorify God; He will
bless you.

October 1, 7 p.m.
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Wednesday's Bible Study to
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Word.

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

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Seeker can register on line
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clicking on "Employers" or
"Job Seekers".

**September 28, 7:30 and
11:30 a.m.**
You're invited this Sunday
to our praise and worship
services as we honor and
magnify God's Holy name;
and receive a blessing from
God.

September 29, 7 p.m.
Join us in Monday School
as we learn what God has to
say to us.

Pastor Rickie Rush
7701 S Westmoreland Road
Dallas, TX 75237
972-372-4262
www.Ibocchurch.org

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Always a good one for the start of school



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

As a retired school-teacher, and, with a new school year in session, I received this one year and am often asked to reprint it. This week I am printing this for current teachers to get a really BIG laugh. They will surely relate to this.

I was listening to world news on Sept. 17, 2003 and heard about Dick Grasso, the Chairman and CEO of the New York Stock Exchange resigning his position.

The reason for his resignation is that his retirement package of \$140 Million dollars (give or take a few million) caused a tidal wave in the business world. At a time when our country is in an economic slump and everybody is being asked to tighten their belts.

School districts all over the country are cutting back on school curriculums, classes, teachers, school supplies, etc. and here we have one man that I believe

is not doing half as much as teachers are, asked for and is getting that type of money.

Some teachers somewhere taught Dick Grasso, because teachers teach people in all professions and in the present time, teachers are not given the respect that they deserve.

As people of this world, we really need to look at our value system. THE INTERVIEW. -- After being interviewed by the school administration, the eager teaching prospect said: "Now let me see if I've got this right.

You want me to go into that classroom with all those kids and fill their every waking moment with a love for learning? And I'm supposed to instill a sense of pride in their ethnicity, modify their disruptive behavior, observe them for signs of abuse and even censor their T-shirt messages and dress habits?

You want me to wage a war on drugs and sexually transmitted diseases, check their backpacks for weapons of mass destruction and raise their self-esteem?

You want me to teach them patriotism, good citi-

zenship, sportsmanship, fair play, how to register to vote, how to balance a check-book, and how to apply for a job?

I am to check their heads for lice, maintain a safe environment, recognize signs of antisocial behavior, offer advice, write letters of recommendation for student employment and scholarships, encourage respect for the cultural diversity of others, and oh, make sure that I give the girls in my class fifty percent of my attention?

My contract requires me to work on my own time

after school, evenings and weekends grading papers. Also, I must spend my summer vacation at my own expense working toward advance certification and a Masters' degree?

And, on my own time you want me to attend committee and faculty meetings, PTSA meetings and participate in staff development training?

I am to be a paragon of virtue, larger than life, such that my very presence will awe my students into being obedient and respectful of authority?

And, I am to pledge allegiance to family values and the current administration? You want me to incorporate technology into the learning experience, monitor web sites and relate personally with each student?

That includes deciding who might be potentially dangerous and/or liable to commit a crime in school?

I am to make sure all students pass the mandatory state exams, even those who don't come to school regularly or complete any of their assignments and without any help from their parent or guardian?

Plus, I am to make sure that all of the students with handicaps get an equal education regardless of the extent of their mental or physical handicap?

And, I am to communicate regularly with the parent or guardian by letter, telephone, newsletter and report card?

All of this I am to do with just a piece of chalk or a marking pen, a computer, a few books, a bulletin board, a big smile, AND on a starting salary that qualifies my family for food stamps?

You want me to do all of this and yet you expect me ... NOT TO PRAY?"

(Author Unknown)



Mrs. Elizabeth Mottley, 1st Grade Teacher at Universal Academy in Coppell, Texas, she eagerly prepared her classroom and is looking forward to a very success school year for her students.

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NDG Book Review: *The Fashion Book* puts clothing in context

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

There's never been a seat for you on the bandwagon.

When everybody was wearing skinny jeans, you put on your crinoline. When they were all into Daisy Dukes, you loved daisy print. You don't own leggings, jeggings, or fat boots, up-to-the-minute skirts or scarves. No, you've got a style all your own, which is why you need "The Fashion Book."

At least four times a year (sometimes more), designers come out with new haute couture and magazines howl about must-haves. We're supposed to change the content of our closet every few months, then – but why?

To understand, you need to know the history of fashion.

You might think that women in long-ago times could just wear the same old robe every day, right? No, all-the-rage Ancients took fashion seriously. Minoan women some 5,000 years ago used corsets. Greek girls demanded that their peplos were personalized and Roman women exercised in bikinis.

Medieval men had it much better than their female counterparts: men donned lightweight tights, while women were stuck wearing four mandatory layers of clothing. If they looked pregnant, that was even better: the Black Plague killed a lot of peo-



ple, and babies were "prized."

During the Renaissance, fashion started to stink. Seriously stink, because hygiene wasn't important to our 15th and 16th century ancestors. Furs were de rigueur because they were thought to re-route fleas and lice. Hair was rarely washed, baths were infrequent. Plus, with then-trendy skirts wider than most doorways, trying to reach the potty wasn't pretty.

You might think them crazy, but women in the late 1700s wore clothing that made their butts look big, on purpose. Fashionistas on and off through the 1800s did that, too, and they sometimes changed clothes several times a day. But while

butts were big then, shoes sported dozens of teensy buttons to fasten, which took time and probably made lots of women late. In the early 1800s, by the way, men wore corsets, too.

By the early 1900s, women were happy to turn to Hollywood for a new look. Sumptuous gowns caused undies to go smaller, push-up bras were invented, heels went higher, and glamour was golden. Practicality ruled the 1930s; Rosie the Riveter needed work clothes in the '40s; and in the 1950s, teenagers like you stepped into the fashion scene...

As a basic history of what we wore, "The Fashion Book" is exactly perfect.

There's just enough information in this book to get

future clothing designers started on ideas, with bios on famous fashionistas and interviews with experts and students in various roles in the industry. Readers learn intriguing bits and pieces about ye olde clothing via

illustrations and light-hearted sidebars that are easy to read, then we're taken even further with ideas for using old-fashioned fashions in new ways that won't bust a girl's budget.

There's no reason in the world that a grown-up can't enjoy this book, but it's really meant for young adults. If that's you and you're looking for new ways of stylin', "The Fashion Book" will suit you well.

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NAVY, continued from Page 6

He also said he is proud of the work he is doing as part of the McCain's 300-member crew, living thousands of miles from home, and protecting America on the world's oceans. "Life on the McCain is very busy," said Carrington. "There's always something to do and keep your eyes on."

Assigned to the Navy's Seventh Fleet and Destroyer Squadron 15, McCain sailors are continuously on watch throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region and remain amongst our nation's first responders. After just returning from a four month patrol, McCain is already preparing for her next underway

period.

Approximately 40 officers and 260 enlisted men make up the ship's company. Their jobs are highly specialized and keep each part of the 2 billion dollar destroyer running smoothly — this includes everything from washing dishes and preparing meals to maintaining engines and handling weaponry.

"The Navy is a full time job from day one," said Carrington. "There are plenty of hills and valleys, but it's a worthwhile adventure."