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Countering voter suppression moves

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

The Supreme Court recently blocked an appeals court ruling that would have restored seven days of voting in Ohio. In just three sentences, the court reduced voting access for tens of thousands of Ohioans, in yet another effort to suppress the vote. In North Carolina, the appeals court granted an injunction to restore same day registration and out of precinct voting. It didn't strike down early voting restrictions because of time constraints, but did acknowledge that reducing early voting is a way to suppress the vote. If the North Carolina case goes before the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court is likely to lift the injunction against North Carolina, again making voting more difficult.

When the Voting Rights Act was attacked, too many tuned out and turned off from the details, though leaders such as Barbara Arnwine of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law warned that we would begin to feel the effects of this legal setback with various forms of voter suppression. The Lawyers' Committee developed a



"map of shame" to show the many states that had curtailed ballot access. Either more ID has been required, the days and times of voting have been changed, the number of polling places has been reduced, or other barriers have been introduced to curtail voter access. Those who would suppress the vote in 2014 have put those who advocate ballot fairness on notice. This year marks the first step toward a suppressed or stolen 2016 presidential election.

The stakes are high, both now and in 2016. Presently, Democrats hold the Senate, and provide at least some help to President Obama on issues of political and economic fairness. It is very possible that Republicans will take the Senate; it is a

foregone conclusion if people don't vote this year. Republicans now hold the House of Representatives; their presence in the House is likely to increase without a strong vote on November 4 (and in the weeks before, with early voting).

President Obama's effectiveness has been weakened by the John Boehner Congress that has thwarted him at every turn. Although these last two years of the Obama presidency are lame duck years where little is likely to get done, the duck will be not lame, but paralyzed, if the Republicans hold both the House and the Senate. President Obama's only powers, then, will be the executive order and the veto. It

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Men advised to discuss prostate cancer

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COMMENTARY

Voters, it's time to go back to the basics now

By Danielle Ayers

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Freedom Summer, it's a good time to reflect on the historical impact of young people who were willing to risk their lives to register Black people to vote in Mississippi. As a result of their courage and their sacrifice many people, today not only in Mississippi but across the country, can now register and vote in any election.

This has caused me to think about two things: one, how Black people across the country registered and voted in historic numbers in 2008 and 2012; and two, how few Black people voted in the primary election this year in Dallas County. After reflecting on these two things, I came to the realization that it's time for us to go back to the basics.

We wrote the book on how to organize and move to go back to the basics.

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Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks



Tyra Hawthorne



Dr. Milton D. Moore

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

Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks

In announcing her retirement this week, Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks concludes nearly 25-years of high-profile leadership and valued service as a prominent civic leader and humanitarian. She emphasized that she will continue to be a goodwill ambassador and active advocate while cherishing many lifetime experiences with the National Urban League and its North Texas affiliate headquartered in Dallas.

"This has been a season for me, a good season, but it is challenging when you



lose the people who are your foundation, the loss of my mother followed by my husband," said Dr. Brooks. "The timing is absolute right now to step down but I take with me the biggest lesson learned, how to be a

true servant/leader. The Urban League is in my spirit and I am an Urban Leaguer."

Although her background has always been scientific, when given the opportunity to serve her community by former City Manager Richard Knight, she turned her sights toward the non-profit/public service sector.

In 1990, she became the first woman to head the Dallas Urban League in its 33-year history. Under her leadership, the League implemented the city's first Building Bridges of Understanding program and built the League's first permanent headquarters and state-

of-the-art technology center in the heart of Oak Cliff. She also provided leadership for the League's designation as a Community Action Program (CAP), which opened the doors for the agency to receive the State's Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) funding for Dallas County. Three community offices have opened under this grant in Irving, Garland and Pleasant Grove.

Additionally, the League also received the only five (5) year demonstration grant in Texas from the US Department of Health/Human Services designed to address out of school and ad-

judicated minority males, including ex-offenders. The success of the program established the League's Institute for Minority Success programs. This was the foundation for the League to receive one of 30 Department Of Labor Prison Re-entry grants in 2004. The League's program was among the top three (3) performers each year and was recognized by the White House for its success. The League continues to work with the City of Dallas and Dallas County to provide job training and employment opportunities for the formally incarcerated.

With a carefully re-

searched strategic plan to become more sustainable and self-sufficient; also to accelerate community outreach and command greater funding, the Urban League of Greater Dallas has re-organized its front office with the retirement of Dr. Brooks.

Stepping in as interim CEO is Gwendolyn Jones, a seasoned professional who has been with the Urban League in Dallas since 2010 and is a specialist in business development, fundraising, banking compliance, policy and procedures and all phases of real estate de-

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Tyra Hawthorne

San Diego, CA — The Heartbeat Music Academy, located in San Diego, California, was founded by entrepreneur and humanitarian, Tyra K. Hawthorne. Ms. Hawthorne, a native of Detroit, Michigan, created the academy out of memory of her childhood and remembrance of how music has helped her overcome childhood tragedies. The programs provided by the academy are designed to promote scholastic achievement and music education. Since the incorporation of



the academy, two of her students were provided the opportunity to attend summer music programs at both the Berklee College of Music and Jackson State University.

With a passion for giving back, Ms. Hawthorne selflessly served her country through the United States Marine Corp. During that time, she still made time to serve the youth by volunteering her time to kids in need. After being honorably discharged from the military, Tyra Hawthorne stepped out on faith and founded the Thunder Squad Drumline, a community based music program composed of young percussionists in the underserved community of San Diego. However, she did not stop there

and later realized that the need was greater for music programs in the underserved communities of San Diego County. In January 2014, she founded the Heartbeat Music Academy, a non-profit organization.

With programs to include, Music Education, Music Performance, Healing through Music, and Lyrical Expression and Music Production, Ms. Hawthorne's vision is that the Heartbeat Music Academy will become recognized as an organization to encourage youth to embrace

their talent as an integral part of their educational and social advancement.

In an interview with Founder and Conduit of She Who Builds, D.L. Carpenter, she provided the following response to the question, "what motivates you to build the life you imagined for yourself?"

"I am motivated by the youth that I have impacted over the years. To work hard for something that I do not have a passion for, makes me feel like I am going through the motions of living. With music I feel

free, and I feel like by giving youth their own creative outlet, it gives music the opportunity to set them free."

Hawthorne believes music education is a missing ingredient in today's society. The Academy was created from the belief that youth and underserved communities need creative outlets, such as music, to express themselves. Heartbeat Music Academy provides this outlet.

To find out more about the Heartbeat Music Academy and how you can get involved, visit www.heartbeatmusicacademy.org.

Dr. Milton D. Moore

Moore Unique Skin Care, a Houston based, African American owned company just received notice that Walmart has agreed to carry three of its products through the Walmart "Made in the USA" program. Made in the USA is part of an effort by Walmart to create more American jobs through its commitment to purchase an additional \$250 billion over a 10 year period from companies manufacturing in the U.S.

Three of the products approved to be carried in Walmart stores are Hydroglide Ascend Shave Gel, Razor Rash Relief Cream, & Clear Skin Acne Wash; they will be available in selected



Walmart shelves in late January 2015.

Up to 60 percent of African American and 15 percent of white men suffer from pseudofolliculitis barbae ("PFB") a condition commonly known as "razor bumps." This condition causes the skin to be inflamed and infected be-

cause of shaving hairs, especially curly hair which grows back into the skin it can cause scarring and discoloration in the beard & neck area.

Dr. Milton D. Moore, a prominent Houston dermatologist and pharmacist, once suffered from razor bumps & burn, so he decided to find a solution. As a result he developed Moore Unique Razor Rash Relief. He also saw several needs with his Houston patients for skin and hair care that were not being addressed by the products on the market at the time. Using his professional knowledge of dermatology and pharmacy he created The Moore Unique Skin and Hair Care line, includ-

ing an effective treatment for razor bumps, Razor Rash Relief. In fact, several of the Moore Unique Products are so unique they have a U.S. patent. They are also manufactured and distributed out of Houston, Texas, USA.

"We are excited about the tremendous expansion of Moore Unique and we will continue to develop cutting-edge products using our concept of combining unique ingredients to give consumers the most effective solutions for hair and skin care issues," said Dr. Milton D. Moore. "Our goal is expand the line into other beauty and personal care items and distribute them to the masses on a global level," he added.

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Publisher's Office:
publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:
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Editorial Department:
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Ruth Ferguson

VP of Digital Marketing and Entertainment

Jessica Brewer

Published By

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Web Master

Todd Jones

Special Projects Manager

Edward Dewayne
“Preacher Boy” Gibson, Jr.
James C. Allen

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Jackie Hardy
Ivy N. McQuain
Terri Schlichenmeyer
Nicole Scott
Tamarind Phinisee
D'Andrea Willis

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Ivy N. McQuain
Ruth Ferguson
Nicole Scott

Community Marketing

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Production

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The Ebola case in Dallas

By Lee A. Daniels
NNPA Columnist

Amid heightened concern in the U.S. about the ferocious Ebola disease, two prominent Republican officeholders last week seized upon the proper concern over a Liberian national in Dallas testing positive for the virulent disease as a chance to show they think the GOP's political cesspool has no bottom.

Both Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky and Rep. Louie Gohmert of Texas, asserted that the president's sending 3,000 troops to West Africa to aid those nations' efforts to contain the spread of the virus there, was endangering America itself by exposing these troops to the virus, which they, in turn, would spread to other Americans once they got back to the states.

Paul voiced his concern “about 3,000 soldiers getting back on a ship. Where is the disease most transmittable? When you're in the close confines on a ship – we all know about cruises and how they get these diarrhea viruses that are transmitted very easily. Can you imagine if a whole ship of our soldiers catch Ebola? I think because of political correctness, we're not really making sound, rational, scientific decisions on this,” Paul told conservative talk show host Laura Ingraham.

Paul didn't specify what “political correctness” has to do with the vital global effort to prevent Ebola from spreading beyond its current “hot spots.” When the White House unveiled its plan last month to send the troops, it drew widespread agreement in Congress, including from the GOP's Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky and Ohio's John Boehner, the Speaker of the

House.

But then, it's also nonsensical that Paul would liken a military transport ship – undoubtedly operating under the strictest military discipline and specially outfitted for this tour of duty with the most sophisticated medical facilities and medicines – to a civilian cruise ship.

However, Obama-bashers Paul and Gohmert also got some interesting company. MSNBC talk show host Chris Matthews seemed to blame the president for not preventing the Liberian national who has been diagnosed with Ebola, Thomas Eric Duncan, from entering the country. Matthews contended “that the president said it would be unlikely if we had a case in this country. Unlikely to have even one case ... Well, it's not the unlikely. It has happened. It's here.”

This, too, is the attempt to score cheap political points. To say that Ebola is “here” because one individual has it out of 300-plus million people in America, or even just among the citizenry of Dallas is abominable. True, we won't know for another three weeks – the time for the Ebola infection in individuals to manifest itself – if the now-10 people in Dallas government officials think he might have exposed to the virus are infected. Nothing untoward in that regard has surfaced so far, and all those people are being monitored.

It's also worth noting what Matthews did not: that the Ebola virus actually was first brought “here” deliberately when the three American aid workers who had been working in West Africa to treat the ill themselves became infected and were repatriated to U.S. hospitals for treatment under the strictest conditions. All have recovered.

The success of their treatment and the lack of any evidence that the Ebola virus escaped those hospitals' special treatment facilities is evidence that the Ebola virus is not in the United States. That assessment was reaffirmed over the weekend when doctors determined that two individuals, isolated in hospitals in New York and Washington, D.C. because they had flu-like symptoms, did not have the virus. Federal officials said that while they've investigated more than 100 suspected Ebola cases in recent weeks, Duncan's remains the only confirmed case.

What the Duncan case has exposed, however, are certain gaps in the screen of containment governments have built to contain the disease. Of course, one must start closing the gaps in that screen where the task is the most crucial: in the countries of West Africa. Those nations must do a better job of screening all those who want to leave those countries. And airlines and the U.S. government must improve screening procedures for passengers coming to the U.S. In Texas, the still-unclear initial response of hospital officials to Duncan's emergency-room visit and the fact that local and state officials spent days scrambling to get a hazardous materials team to disinfect the apartment of Duncan's relatives is clearly a warning that government officials everywhere must heed.

Tightening these and other parts of the “screen” against Ebola in the U.S. and abroad will undoubtedly require more U.S. federal aid. The question for the Ebola-is-here and it's-all-Obama's-fault screamers, and all the rest of us, is are we willing to back up our talk with our money?

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

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is unlikely that the minimum wage will be adjusted upward, or that other economic fairness matters will be addressed if Congress is a Republican stronghold.

Lots of pro-democracy organizations are working to get out the vote for the 2014 elections, with local and state office as important as federal office. Secretaries of state, for example, are the chief elections officers for their state. As such, they have significant power around the mechanics of voting. They can decide to open more polling places, to have more (or fewer)

voting machines available, and to manage the details of voter registration. In Ohio, where a week of early voting has now been eliminated, Nina Turner, a charismatic African American state legislator with her efforts clearly focused on justice, is a candidate for Secretary of State. Her election would be an antidote to voter suppression efforts in Ohio, and an inspiration for those who cherish election fairness. Imagine how different voting conditions would be if in states like North Carolina, Florida, and other “stars” on the Map of Shame had pro-

gressive Secretaries of State.

Voter suppression is not new. We've seen grandfather clauses, poll taxes, and literacy tests as historical barriers to the vote. Now, we see a reduction in voter flexibility, with more ID requirements, fewer early voting days, and stricter rules about voter registration. Still, those who would suppress the vote can do so only if we allow it by failing to vote. There are too many important elections to be decided, like Nina Turner's in Ohio, for voters to stay home.

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

Men should discuss prostate cancer with healthcare providers

With more than 233,000 cases expected to be diagnosed in 2014 and more than 29,000 deaths, prostate cancer continues to be a major health concern for men.

Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in men, and that's why it's so important for men to speak to their healthcare providers about the disease and get the information necessary to make the best decisions possible for them, according to physicians at Parkland Health & Hospital System. And with September being National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, it's a great time to begin those discussions.

"Men who are at average risk should start talking to their physician at age 50. Men at higher risk, including African-Americans, should do so at age 45 and men with a first degree relative with a diagnosis of prostate cancer should discuss testing at age 40," said Yair Lotan, MD, Medical Director of the Parkland



Urology Clinic and Chief of Urologic Oncology at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

According to the American Cancer Society, more than 2 million men in the United States who have been diagnosed with prostate cancer are still alive today. When detected at an early stage the five-year survival rate is close to 100 percent.

Age is the strongest factor for developing prostate cancer, with about two-thirds of the cases being diagnosed in men 65 and older. But family history, and even race, can also play a role. African-American men are disproportionately affected by the disease, having higher rates of prostate

cancer diagnosis and death than men of all other racial or ethnic groups in the U.S.

"Researchers still aren't sure why race may be a factor," Dr. Lotan said.

Symptoms of prostate cancer vary widely and most men have no symptoms. Those who do may experience difficulty in starting urination; weak or interrupted flow of urine; frequent urination, especially at night; pain or burn during urination; blood in the urine or semen; or pain in the back, hips or pelvis that doesn't go away.

Dr. Lotan noted that while discussing prostate cancer with your doctor is important, not all medical experts agree that the benefits of screening for prostate

cancer outweigh the risks.

"The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends against prostate-specific antigen (PSA)-based screening for men unless the individual being screened understands what is known about PSA screening and makes the personal decision that even a small possibility of benefit outweighs the known risks," Dr. Lotan said.

According to Dr. Lotan, the potential risk of PSA testing is that it can be falsely elevated, leading to unnecessary prostate biopsy and treatment of prostate cancers in some men who were destined to die of other causes, as well as mild to serious side effects from treatment of prostate cancer. Still, it's important for those in high risk categories to get tested and there has been some reduction in prostate cancer mortality since the introduction of prostate cancer screening.

Dr. Lotan advises all men of the importance of having an informed discussion with

their physician about their risk factors and recommended screenings for prostate cancer.

For more information on prostate cancer, please visit the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org/cancer/prostatecancer/de-

tailedguide/. Men needing to discuss prostate cancer with a physician can contact any of Parkland's Community Oriented Primary Care health centers, which can be located by visiting www.parklandhospital.com/phhs/locations.

Laughter really can be an excellent cure

Have yourself a good laugh when you feel stressed, particularly as you grow older, suggests the Association of Mature American Citizens. It's a well-known stress reducer and now investigators have found that it may minimize those senior moments.

A good chuckle appears to reduce levels of cortisol, the so-called "stress hormone," researchers at Loma Linda University in California have found.

They tested three groups of seniors and found that those in two groups who yucked it up while watching a

funny video had significantly reduced levels of cortisol when the film ended. They also scored higher in post-trial memory assessments than those in the third group who didn't watch the video

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2014



Celebrating the legacy of Comer Cottrell, Jr., a Dallas trailblazer

Pioneer entrepreneur, philanthropist and trailblazer Mr. Comer J. Cottrell, Jr., one of the country's most prolific African-American businessmen, died Friday, Oct. 3 at the age 82 at his Plano, Texas residence.

Starting with a modest investment of \$600 and broken typewriter, he built a multi-million dollar empire Pro-Line Hair Products and forever changed and revolutionized the hair care industry.

Pro-Line Hair Products would be the vehicle that would establish Mr. Cottrell's legacy but it also allowed him to expand his sharp business acumen across other categories and industries to create jobs and opportunities for African Americans and others that might not have existed.



Mr. Cottrell was also co-founder of the Black Business Association of Los Angeles and he often said, "I value the 'Golden rule' above all other principles. Do

unto others as you would have them do unto you". This was his guiding principle as he soared to even greater success.

He was the ultimate entrepreneur, and always recognizing a good investment, Mr. Cottrell became the first African American to become part owner of a major sports franchise the Texas Rangers baseball team, he was very instrumental in making that organization one of the most profitable in major league baseball.

A philanthropist at heart, in 1990 he purchased and restored the 131-acre, historical Black institution Bishop College for \$1.5 million and renamed it Paul Quinn College.

Mr. Cottrell was once quoted,

"I would ask myself why me? Why have I been given so much Lord? I believe God knew that I would give back as much as I had been given to those he put in my path".

Mr. Cottrell served on numerous boards including – the NAACP, National Urban League, YMCA, Dallas Family Hospital, Better Business Bureau, Compton College Foundation, the Texas Board Of Cosmetology, Paul Quinn College, Baylor University Foundation, and Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Cottrell's life and career has been celebrated and honored by presidents, mayors, governors, celebrities, sports figures and in-

ternational dignitaries. He has impacted generations of African Americans and his legacy is one that is timeless and will have impact for generations to come.

He's survived by his wife Felisha Starks Cottrell and their two sons; Bryce A. Cottrell and Lance A. Cottrell, his daughter Renee Cottrell-Brown, sons Comer Cottrell, III, Aaron Cottrell, nine grandchildren and one great grandchild.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Comer J. Cottrell Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund, Paul Quinn College at 3837 Simpson Stuart Rd, Dallas, Texas 75241 For additional information about the scholarship fund, please go to www.pqc.edu.

AT&T agrees to pay \$105 million to settle cramming complaints

AUSTIN – The State of Texas, 49 states and the District of Columbia today announced the resolution of a multistate investigation into wireless carrier AT&T Inc. for its role in cellphone "cramming" – the unlawful practice of placing unauthorized third-party charges on mobile phone accounts.

Cramming occurs when third-party content providers enroll and bill mobile phone customers for their services – such as ringtones and recurring text messages con-

taining trivia or horoscopes – without the customers' knowledge or consent.

Widely recognized as a national leader in efforts to end cramming, the Internet and Privacy team of the Texas Attorney General's Office served on the multistate coalition's Executive Committee to investigate allegations that AT&T's billing practices facilitated third-party content providers' mobile cramming.

Under the agreement negotiated by Texas and the Executive Com-

mittee, AT&T agreed to settle the states' claims for a total nationwide payment of \$105 million – including \$5 million to the Federal Communications Commission and \$20 million to the states. Texas will receive the highest share of the \$20 million payment – approximately \$1.17 million. One third of Texas's share will reimburse the State's legal fees, with the remaining two-thirds of the funds disbursed as civil penalties to the Texas Judicial Access Fund.

As part of this legal action, AT&T has changed their business practices and will no longer bill for third-party Premium Short Message Services – which led to the unlawful cramming – and will be isolating other third-party billing charges on customer bills. In addition to allowing customers to more clearly see the remaining third-party charges on their bills, AT&T is also implementing a new system to ensure they obtain the express consent of customers prior to a purchase, and will thus

provide an electronic receipt to customers upon purchase.

\$80 million global restitution fund

The national agreement also requires AT&T to make an \$80 million payment to the Federal Trade Commission to establish a nationwide restitution fund. The FTC will oversee administration of the fund to compensate current and former AT&T customers who were improperly billed for third-party content providers' products.

Duke TIP opens its annual talent searches in Texas — and 8,800 miles away

DURHAM, NC— Each year, a select group of students in the United States are identified as academically talented based on their exceptional standardized test scores in school and are invited to participate in a Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP) talent search.

This year, TIP's academic talent searches come with a global twist: even as gifted students in [Texas] are receiving their invitation letters, gifted students 8,800 miles away in India are receiving theirs. It's all part of TIP's efforts to go global in serving academically talented students. Active in India since 2008, Duke TIP will also expand into Asia next year as part of Duke University's new campus in Kunshan, China.

A key benefit of TIP talent searches is the opportunity for gifted students to take an

above-grade level test that more accurately measures their advanced academic abilities.

After taking an above-grade level test, all TIP talent search participants receive a results summary to help them interpret their scores, gain an understanding of where they stand in relation to their high ability peers, and determine what level of educational challenge is appropriate for them going forward.

The very highest scoring students may be invited to participate in TIP's prestigious Summer Studies or eStudies programs. In addition, talent search participants can take advantage of internationally recognized research and expert advice about using their academic abilities more effectively.

For more on Duke TIP talent searches, including whether or not your child qualifies to participate, please visit www.tip.duke.edu.

TSTC Receives \$2.738M TAACCCT Federal Grant

(WACO) – Texas State Technical College's Office of Sponsored Programs received notification that the Department of Labor has funded a four-year, \$2.738 million proposal for accelerated, competency-based workforce training at the Waco campus. The project, the Accelerated Career & Educational Pathway Program, or ACEPP, is part of the last year of funding through the DOL's Trade Adjustment Community College and Career Training Grant Program.

The grant funds rapid deployment of training connected to employment in Texas' growing manufacturing sector, providing trade-impacted workers, veterans, and the unemployed entry points to career paths in welding, industrial maintenance and CNC/machining. The proposal supports the attainment of industry-recognized certifications along with associate degrees and certificates and in-

cludes funds for a program director, training positions and administrative staff, and remedial training in math, reading and writing. Initial training is expected to begin in May 2015 in the Industrial Technology Center at TSTC in Waco.

For the manufacturing industry, this grant can't come soon enough. In May, U.S. News & World Report published an article titled "U.S. Manufacturers Say Skills Gap Could Compromise Competitiveness." A Bureau of Labor Statistics news release from September indicated that in June there were more than 300,000 unfilled jobs in manufacturing alone due to the skills gap — a lack of skilled workers to fill these positions.

An earlier study from the Manufacturing Institute found 80 percent of manufacturers reported difficulty in finding

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Students show college pride, learn about higher education

Future Aggies, Bears, Bucks, Longhorns, Raiders and more showed pride for their respective educational institutions during Garland ISD's College Day Sept. 16.

"This is a way for students, staff and administration to support higher education and show college school spirit," said Director of Guidance and Counseling Ruby Armstrong. "Many posted pictures wearing their favorite college T-shirts on school websites and Twitter accounts."

But the college-motivated fun did not stop when the last bell rang. More than 2,700 students, parents and staff attended an



after-school education fair at the Curtis Culwell Center.

"College Night 2014 was one of the best we have had," Arm-

strong said. "We had more than 140 colleges, trade schools and universities attend, as well as various military branches. In ad-

dition, we featured breakout sessions that covered everything from National Collegiate Athletic Association requirements to financial aid."

Students and parents received advice, goody bags and vital information at the event. And college-focused high schoolers were not the only students present. Plenty of their elementary school counterparts also navigated the sea of attendees.

Although College Day and Night is an annual one-day extravaganza, higher education is a year-round topic. For more information about college readiness, visit the district website.

Cedar Hill Chamber presenting the Cedar Hill ISD State of the Schools

The Cedar Hill Chamber of Commerce is hosting the Cedar Hill ISD State of Schools on Oct. 9 it will be hosted at Ninth Grade Center 1515 W. Beltline Rd. it kicks off at 6 p.m.

The event will begin with Meet & Greet at 6 p.m., followed by dinner 6:30 p.m. The evening will continue with the State of the CHISD Address at 6:45 p.m. with Q&A scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

The southern Dallas school district serves nearly 8,000 students.

Passport to the World will spotlight teaching abroad opportunities for local education students

Collin College invites the public to attend the start of the Passport to the World series discussion from noon – 1:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 15 in the Living Legends Conference Center Section AB at the Spring Creek Campus, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano.

Dr. Dixil Rodriguez, professor of English, will present a lecture, "Build the Bridge, Then Dare to Walk It: Collaborative Teaching Abroad," in which she will discuss her humanitarian work in Kenya and Rwanda. As a volunteer for non-governmental humanitarian

global organizations, Dr. Rodriguez will share how while traveling in the field, she was able to involve her Collin College students in virtual service learning.

Passport to the World is a free event series led by Collin College faculty who share their travel expe-

riences, focusing on different cultures, lifestyles, politics and ways of thinking throughout the world.

For more information about Passport to the World, please contact the Center for Scholarly and Civic Engagement atcsce@collin.edu or call 972.881.5927.

Cafetalks to debut at Collin College

Collin College Foundation and The Pride: Collin College's Official Association for Alumni and Friends, along with Centennial Medical Center, will present CAFÉtalks, a series of presentations to inspire and engage Collin College alumni, students and the community.

CAFÉtalks (Collin Alumni,

Friends and Experts) will be held on each of the college's main campuses throughout the 2014-2015 academic year.

Topics and speakers will vary, offering alumni, community members and students an opportunity to interact with each other and experts.

"These are not lectures so

much as they are Collin College's own version of TED talks," said Collin College Foundation Director Amy Evans.

Like TED talks, the sessions will be recorded and will be made available through the Collin College Foundation website. The series kicks off from 5 – 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 16 at

the Central Park Campus Conference Room located at 2200 West University Drive, McKinney.

Collin College professor and author Ceilidh Charleston-Jennings will share her unique experiences living and working with her trained search and rescue dog Puzzle—the subject of

her book Scent of the Missing. All sessions are free and open to the public.

For more information on CAFÉtalks or to join The Pride, visit www.collin.edu/foundation.

BROOKS, continued from Page 2

velopment.

Ms. Jones, formerly served as Vice President of VMK Management and also First Vice President, Compliance Manager/CRA of Countrywide Bank.

"Dr. Brooks has always demonstrated a keen intellect and professionalism," said Gwendolyn Jones, Urban League Interim President & CEO "She is a problem solver and was the perfect leader to take on the many challenges facing the Urban League. Moving forward, our vision will be to implement sustainable programs that improve access to housing, social services, educational training, investment, opportunity, and lifesaving serv-

ices now and for future generations.

The mission of the Urban League of Dallas and North Central Texas is to provide the critical skills and resources necessary to enable all citizens to secure economic self-reliance.

The agency builds bridges of opportunity through programs and services in the areas of employment, health, veteran services, housing, education, technology, and economic and community development. (Copies to be attached)

After nearly 25 years of extraordinary service to the Urban League, Dr. Brooks' historic accomplishments have moved the organization to new

heights," said Stephanie Couser, Chair of the League's Board of Trustees.

"We are extremely grateful for her dedication to the agency and the community. Plans are underway to host a tribute gala and appreciation dinner for Dr. Brooks in early 2015 which will mark her 25th year."

"As we look to the future, we have an exciting opportunity to positively impact our community," she said. "Through the new change in leadership, we will meet our challenges and continue to provide critical programs and meaningful services that enable our participants to become productive citizens where they lived and worked."

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-Susan believes formerly incarcerated persons need a helping hand

-Susan will form a new DA Re-Entry Program that works with all coming home

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POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY THE CAMPAIGN FOR SUSAN HAWK FOR DA

Elmo coming to Dallas for a fun-filled day at the local library

Elmo is coming to a library near favorite fans in Dallas at the North Oak Cliff Library on Oct. 17 to encourage fun, interactive learning, and literacy development for children five years old and below. Hosted by the Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation (IICF), this local event will feature Sesame Workshop's newest literacy program "Every Day is a Reading and Writing Day."

The event will feature interactive experiences for preschool and kindergarten-aged children directly from the "Every Day is a Reading and Writing Day" curriculum. Activities include areas for puppet making, writing letters and mailing them, reading aloud, and computer games. The event at the North Oak Cliff Library (located at 302 W 10th Street in Dallas) will take place across two ses-



sions — 9 a.m. to Noon and 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The community event is open to the general public, and parents/caregivers and children alike are welcome to attend and join in on the fun. More than 100 volunteers will be on-site to lead group activities, and capping off the fun at both sessions will be an appearance from Elmo himself!

The "Every Day is a Reading and Writing Day" program is Sesame Workshop's newest bilingual (English and Spanish), multimedia early literacy initia-

tive and is designed to motivate young children and families to make the most of everyday opportunities to talk, read and write together.

The program was made possible through a three-year \$750,000 grant from the IICF. More information and access to program materials can be found at www.sesamestreet.org/literacy.

The library event is part of the IICF's larger, national Week of Giving program. Taking place from October 11-18, Week of Giving en-

ergizes thousands of insurance industry volunteers to engage with local community nonprofits across the United States. For more

information on the Week of Giving, please visit this link: <http://www.weekofgiving.iicf.org/>.

For more information on

the event being held at North Oak Cliff Library on October 17, please reach out to Sarah Conway via sconway@iicf.com.

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Islamic Center of Irving

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www.irvingmasjid.org

October is Adopt-a-Dog Month at Irving animal shelter

Irving Animal Care Campus (IACC) continues to rock the outstanding events. Adopt-a-Dog Month lands in October. During those 31 days, all shelter dogs will be \$50.

On Oct. 18, IACC will join with Hope Fellowship Church and DFW Humane Society to host the Annual

Blessing of the Animals, a custom conducted in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi and his love for all creatures. Irving residents are invited to bring their leashed, well-behaved pets to the blessing to honor the bond between man and animal. Last year, more than 100 people attended and 17

animals were adopted.

A "If it's Fixed, It's Free" adoption special will be offered on Oct. 18. All spayed and neutered animals will have adoption fees waived.



GRANT, continued from Page 5

enough skilled workers.

The plan allows for quickly training 135 participants a year in jobs that, according to the Heart of Texas Workforce Solutions data, are expected to grow much faster than the aver-

age for all occupations.

These are also well-paying jobs with room for advancement and command average annual salaries ranging from \$39,110 to \$49,560, according to the BLS.

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www.planointernationalfestival.org

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Haggard Park
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Dallas Black Dance Theatre presents *Black on Black*

One of the highlights of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre Season is the intimate and daring Black on Black series. Up close and personal, Black on Black features original, cutting edge choreography that is created by the first and second company dancers of Dallas Black Dance Theatre. Scheduled on Friday, October 10 at 7:00pm in the studios at DBDT, the dancers will take you into their own creative space to allow you to experience dance from a whole new perspective.

This year's performance will feature the original work of Alex Langley, Kimara

Wood, and Christen Williams. Also appearing during the performance will be the return of last year's audience favorite – Monologues – by Sean Smith. However, Smith promises us new stories within his montage of satire in dance.

Joining DBDT for the evening is special guests Rhythmic Souls Tap Company. Under the artistic direction of Katelyn Harris, Rhythmic Souls strives to bring the spirit of tap dance back to the stage and continue the legacy of the American art

See DANCE, Page 11

Dallas Children's Theater offers third sensory-friendly performance

Dallas Children's Theater (DCT) is working to make theater accessible for children with developmental disabilities. *Rapunzel! Rapunzel! A Very Hairy Fairy Tale* on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 4:30 p.m. will be the third sensory-friendly offering by the theater since the program started. Over 600 guests

have attended these special shows.

After years of requests from families, DCT is now giving many children with sensory sensitivity the chance to enjoy live theater. RAPUNZEL! actors and production staff have worked with sensory-processing

See DCT, Page 13

Opening Night...



Above, Opening Night Oct 3rd, NDG Entertainment was with the wonderful actors of *The Brothers Size*, Adam Anderson (left) as Elegba, Seun Soyemi (center) as Oshoosi and Rico Romulus Parker (right) as Ogun. *The Brothers Size* continues through Oct 26 at Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Ft. Worth, \$22-\$26. 817-338-4411. More info is available at jubileetheatre.org. At right, NDG Entertainment catches S-Ankh Rasa, a gifted composer and musician who adds support, depth, and richness to the play *The Brothers Size*.





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Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit www.northdallasgazette.com to win tickets to the Cowboys of Color Rodeo on October 25, 2014.

Reggae royalty to take the stage at the Granada

A six-time Grammy winner, Emmy winner, humanitarian, singer, songwriter and producer, Ziggy Marley has released twelve albums to much critical acclaim. His early immersion in music came at age ten when he sat in on recording sessions with his father, Bob Marley. As front man to Ziggy Marley & the Melody Makers, the group released eight best-selling albums that garnered three Grammys, with such chart-topping hits as "Look Who's Dancing", "Tomorrow People", and "Tumbling Down".

Ziggy's first solo album, *Dragonfly* (RCA Records),



was released in 2003. His second solo release, *Love is My Religion* (Tuff Gong Worldwide), won a Grammy in 2006 for "Best Reggae Album". His third solo album, *Family Time*, scored him a 5th Grammy award for "Best Children's Album".

Ziggy's fans can enjoy the show on Granada Theater on Oct. 24.

Cowboys of Color National Finals Rodeo Oct. 25

The Cowboys of Color National Finals Rodeo kicks off at the Mesquite Arena on Oct. 25 at 7:30 p.m. Fans are invited to arrive when doors open at 6:30 p.m. to enjoy Texas BBQ, visit vendors, and enjoy music.

The largest multicultural rodeo in the country highlights the finest ethnic cowboys and cowgirls competing for cash prizes in traditional rodeo events: bull riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, and ladies barrel racing. Steer wrestling or bulldoggin', as it's called in rodeo circles, was invented

by a black man named William "Bill" Pickett of Taylor, Texas. That's just one of the historical facts attendees will hear about during the rodeo performance.

"Last year we rocked the house with the largest Cupid Shuffle in the dirt and this year Cupid will be here LIVE to lead his signature dance so be sure to wear your boots and join us in the arena for some 'Kickin' in the Dirt'!" said Rodeo Producer Cleo Hearn.

Club Seats are \$60 and include food

and beverage in the VIP 8-Second Club; Regular Box Seats are \$35; and Grandstand Reserve Seats are \$20 and \$14. Tickets can be purchased between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Rodeo Arena Box Office located at 1818 Rodeo Dr. in Mesquite. Tickets are also available at mesquiterodeo.com or 972-285-8777.

Visit www.northdallasgazette.com for a chance to win free tickets to the Cowboys of Color Rodeo and many other local events.

Gone Girl is a good flick but the ending disappoints

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

Last week's number one flick was the much anticipated *Gone Girl* starring Ben Affleck and Rosemund Pike. Based on the very popular book by Gillian Flynn, who also wrote the screenplay, the movie is

filled with plot twists and solid performances. If only the ending were more satisfying.

One the morning of his anniversary Nick (Affleck) receives a call that his cat outside and when he returns

to the house, he finds what looks like a home robbery gone bad. Plus his wife Amy is missing. From there Nick finds himself going from people looking at him with sympathy to being suspect number one. To discuss

more would give away too much.

The ending....well can't discuss the ending. Let's just say you find yourself looking at the screen in disbelief. Even so, *Gone Girl* is still worth the journey.

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NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit www.northdallasgazette.com to win tickets to Dallas Theater Center's *Driving Miss Daisy* performances Oct 17-23, 2014.

Macy's Minority & Women-Owned Business Development Program accepting applications

After four successful courses, The Workshop at Macy's, the retailer's innovative "business of fashion" program begins accepting applications today for the 5th Anniversary class of entrepreneurs, who are poised for bigger retail success. In the Spring of 2011, Macy's created this one-of-a-kind business of retail development program with the aim of mentoring and fostering growth within up-and-coming minority and women-owned businesses. This industry-first initiative has resulted in a number of new vendor relationships with Macy's and has created a pipeline of enterprises that the company can tap for future product opportunities.

"We are very excited to kick-off the application process for the next Workshop class," said Shawn Outler, Macy's group vice-president of Leased Businesses, Vendor Collaboration and Multicultural Business Development. "This program was created to develop minority and women-owned businesses that make great products, but needed additional real-world



knowledge and expertise to successfully manage and maintain a thriving business with a large-scale nationwide retailer such as Macy's. Going into our fifth year, we are truly encouraged by the results so far with a number of graduates of the program now providing goods as Macy's vendors and a host more in the pipeline for future opportunities. This program helps reinforce Macy's long-standing commitment to vendor diversity and to providing customers with unique goods and services that meet their lifestyles. We can't wait to see what

the new applicants have to offer."

The Workshop at Macy's is a four and a half-day intensive training course developed by a consortium of experts from Macy's Learning & Development, Macy's Multicultural Merchandising and Vendor Development, Babson College, the nation's leading business school for entrepreneurship, and with select

Macy's merchants and vendors. The specially designed business development curriculum is aimed at minority and women-owned retail businesses that make department store products and are poised to grow beyond self-distribution or low volume retailing. The goal of this annual program is to help create a pipeline of viable enterprises that will grow to become successful partners within Macy's own vendor community often bringing unique goods and trend perspectives to stores across the country.

The Workshop at Macy's allows selected participants to collaborate with fellow aspiring vendors, gain access to industry experts and solicit one-on-one business coaching. The course work includes classes on merchandising and assortment planning, marketing, EDI, financial management, and access to capital.

Free Financial Fitness boot camp offered for Dallas families

Financial stress plays a more influential role in the lives of all American families these days, and the consequences of bad decisions can linger for years.

Capital One Bank has developed a free workshop to help Dallas-area families get out of debt and build a sustainable financial foundation.

The "2014 Mastering Your Finances Boot Camp" workshop is aimed to help people in local communities who are in financially unstable positions and are committed to getting out of debt.

Capital One Bank, along with its partners, presents this seven-month course free of charge, with the guarantee

that at completion of the program, participants who follow the plan will see their credit scores rise, total debts decline and savings balances increase.

Capital One Bank and its partners also offer participants the opportunity to begin a matched savings account. This is optional, but helps participants establish an emergency savings account.

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson and Roy Lopez, Vice President of Community Development at Capital One Bank are expected to be in attendance. The event is scheduled for Oct. 11, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at Concord Church at 6808 Pastor Bailey Dr. in Dallas.

LAUGH, continued from Page 4

and, apparently, were not amused.

Dr. Lee Burk, who co-authored the study, explained that "humor reduces detrimental stress hormones like cortisol that decrease memory hippocampal neurons, lowers your blood pressure,

and increases blood flow and your mood state. The act of laughter - or simply enjoying some humor - increases the release of endorphins and dopamine in the brain, which provides a sense of pleasure and reward."

DANCE, continued from Page 9

form. With cross-genre repertoire that infuses rhythm tap dance with body percussion, sand dancing, contemporary movement, flamenco, swing dance, and anything else that might lend itself to their rhythmic persuasion, Rhythmic Souls is considered on the cutting edge.

The performance will take place at 2700 Flora Street in the studios at Dallas Black Dance Theatre. The performance is for mature audiences aged 21 and over. Tickets can be purchased online at attpac.org or by calling the AT&T Performing Arts Center Box office at 214.880.0202.

Hey Irving, Pick Us Up!

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

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9940 Valley Ranch Pkwy W.

Irving Salvation Army
1140 E. Irving Blvd

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2043 W. Walnut Hill Ln

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VW Barbershop
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Antioch Christian Church
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Kasbah Grill
2851 Esters Rd

Fresh Food Store
4020 W. Northgate Drive

Lee's Catfish
1911 Esters Road

Danal's Mexican Restaurant
508 N. O'Connor Rd

Fred's Pit Barbecue
808 E. Irving Blvd

Gary's Barbershop
2117 Story Rd.

African Village Restaurant
3000 N. Beltline Rd

New Look Barbershop
3317 Finley Rd.

Irving Arts Center
3333 N. MacArthur #200

Black men showing gains on the job market

By Freddie Allen
NNPA Senior Washington
Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) – The unemployment rate for Blacks fell from 11.4 percent to 11 percent and the labor force participation increased from 61 percent in August to 61.7 percent in September, largely because of short-term gains made by Black men, according to the latest jobs report from the Labor Department.

Even though the unemployment rate for Black men over 20 years old increased from 10.8 percent to 11 percent last month, the share of Black men that

were employed or looking for work (labor force participation rate) also increased from 67.3 percent in August to 68.5 percent in September. The only worker group that saw its labor force participation rate increase last month was Black men. Economists often say that people return to the workforce, as they grow more optimistic about their job prospects.

Although the unemployment rate for White men over 20 years old fell from 4.8 in August to 4.4 percent in September, the labor force rate for that worker group also ticked down from 72.2 percent in August

to 71.9 percent last month.

The jobless rate for Black women over 20 years old plummeted a full percentage point from 10.6 percent in August to 9.6 percent in September. The unemployment rate for White women remained flat at 4.8 percent. There were slightly less Black and White women employed or looking for work in September than the previous month.

The national unemployment rate hit a six-year low last month, falling from 6.1 percent in August to 5.9 percent in September and more than 200,000 jobs were added to the economy.

As some economists cheered September's jobs

numbers, in a blog post on the Economic Policy Institute's website, Elise Gould, a senior economist and director of health and policy research at EPI, pointed out that the national labor force participation rate was 62.7 percent, the lowest participation rate recorded since February 1978.

"And, the biggest drop in labor force participation was among prime-age workers, 25-54 years old," said Gould.

In a separate blog post, Gould said that public sector employment gained 12,000 jobs, most of it coming in local government education (6,700). Any increases in K-12 education

jobs greatly benefits White women who hold the lion's share of teaching positions at that level.

The economy added

236,000 jobs in September and revisions to Labor Department numbers in July and August accounted for an additional 69,000 jobs.

BASICS, continued from Page 1

bilize large numbers of people to go out and vote. However, over the last few years we have not applied these strategies and tactics consistently in every election. We have begun to rely on less conventional methods to get people to the polls. Instead of talking to our neighbors, we send out group text messages.

We have to go back and start knocking on doors of our neighbors and holding house meetings where we talk about the issues that affect us in our community. We have to create common bonds amongst people that live in our neighborhood so we feel comfort-

able inviting others into our homes. We must also pick up the telephone and talk to our friends about who the candidates are who are running for office and what they have done that qualifies them to serve in public office.

Often times we are depending on social media to get people out to the polls. We may send out a Facebook message or post something on Twitter or Instagram and think that will be enough to get people to go and vote. While using technology is helpful and a group text message serves a purpose when it comes to reminding our

friends to go out and vote, it should not be the only means to get out this information.

This election is too important for anybody we love or care about to stay home. The future of our county and the future of our state is at stake in this election. Through Freedom Sunday, we need all hands on deck. Freedom Sunday is Sunday, October 26, 2014. Whether you are an active member of your church, community organization, or your neighborhood block captain, we need you to take this information back to your group and so we can ensure a large turnout for November.

Can we count on you? We will find out in November!

**Dallas
Independent
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NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

Prospective vendors or their representatives may obtain an electronic PDF format of various Procurement Proposal documents on-line from the Dallas ISD website homepage at [http://www.dallasisd.org/at the "Vendor Opportunities" link](http://www.dallasisd.org/at the 'Vendor Opportunities' link).

MWBE POLICY ENDORSEMENT

Dallas ISD is committed to the ideals of equal opportunity in all its business endeavors.

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Pinterest and Facebook partner to offer mentoring program for women in computer science

Companies across the industry are working hard to close the gender gap in Computer Science, both in educational pipelines and in the current workforce—but we're just getting started. The fact remains that while the number of open jobs in CS is expected

to explode to 1.4 million in 2020, the U.S. Census Bureau found that women's representation in tech occupations has actually been on the decline since the 1990s. Tech is looking for new ways to get women interested in CS and to stay in technical roles as

they advance through their careers.

Today, Box, Facebook, and Pinterest are announcing that we have come together to create WEST (Women Entering and Staying in Tech), a one-on-one mentorship program to help more

See MENTOR, Page 16

DCT, continued from Page 9

experts to develop this special performance featuring a fun retelling of the traditional fairy tale in the vein of Shrek.

The sensory-friendly performance of *Rapunzel!* will be at the Rosewood Center for Family Arts. Guests of all ages are encouraged to come starting one hour early on a come-and-go basis to enjoy fun, pre-show activities. The ticket price for this and most future sensory-friendly performances will be \$10 per person. While somewhat higher than the ticket price for DCT's two introductory

performances, this price is still significantly less than the normal ticket price. DCT hopes that after two shows, families of children with different sensory needs understand the value of the theater experience and will make the transition to a price that enables the program to be more sustainable for the long term now that the national grant that subsidized the program is ending. However, if this price is troublesome, guests may contact DCT to request a scholarship.

DCT is pleased to be able to offer these specially-

adapted plays for the enjoyment of those with sensory needs. General production adaptations include leaving the house lights up a few levels higher than for a standard performance and reducing the sound level. We also offer a "Quiet Room" for children who need a break. DCT wants to especially thank all of the sponsors and supporters who have helped make these shows possible for 2014 and 2015.

Recently, DCT held a fundraiser to support three more sensory-friendly shows in 2015. Thanks to the success of those efforts, DCT is proud to announce its upcoming sensory-

friendly shows for 2015. Families can look forward to the following three shows next year: *Skippyjon Jones* (February 21 at 4:30 p.m.), *Balloonacy* (April 25 at 1:30 p.m.) and *The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley* (June 27 at 1:30 p.m.). DCT wishes to thank the attendees to this year's Dream Ball, the Michael Young Family Foundation and the Communities Foundation of North Texas for making these three shows possible in 2015.

For tickets or more information about DCT's special sensory productions, visit www.dct.org/sensory or call the box office at 214-740-0051.



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October 12, 7:35 a.m.
Join us Sunday for our
praise and worship services;
and receive a blessing from
God.

October 31, 6 to 9 p.m.
You're welcomed to our
Fall Festival for food, fund
and friendship. Please bring
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or cranberry sauce for en-
trance.

Brother Ramon Hodridge,
Minister of Education
1026 Avenue F
Plano, TX 75074
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October 12, 10 a.m.
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Sunday for our praise and
worship services; and re-
ceive a blessing from God.

October 15, 7 p.m.
Join us in Wednesday's
Prayer and Bible Study
Class with Associate Pastor
Brenda Patterson will com-
plete the series on "Di-
vorce" and will start the se-
ries of "Spiritual Warfare."

October 25, 7 a.m.
You're invited to a "Com-
munity Fun Day!" Activi-
ties include a neighborhood
garage sale, a 2.5K walk,
food, games and fun for all
ages. Register for the 2.5K
Community Fun Walk for
\$20 and get a complimen-
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October 26, 10 a.m.
You are invited to our 25th
Church Anniversary Super
Silver Birthday Party.
Speaker is Pastor Bobby
Dale Hamilton with the

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Sugar Land, Texas. Pro-
ceeds will benefit the 2014
Thanksgiving/Christmas
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Dr. Terrance Woodson,
Senior Pastor
1944 E. Hebron Parkway
Carrollton, TX 75007
972-492-4300
www.bethelbiblefellow-
ship.org

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Service as we worship,
honor and praise God for
His blessings to us.

Dr. Terrence Autry,
Senior Pastor
George Bush Fwy at
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0567 or they may be sub-
mitted via email to: prayer-
line@theship3c.org

October 12
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 15
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.

October 31, 6 p.m.
Join us for our Praise Festi-
val of Fun for fellowship
and food.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr.,
Ed.D.
Senior Pastor
1550 Edelweiss Drive
In Allen for Sunday
Morning Worship.
Admin. Building Address

Is 200 W. Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956
www.theship3c.org

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BAPTIST CHURCH**

October 12, 7:35 a.m.
Join us this Sunday for our
praise and worship services;
and receive a blessing from
God.

October 15, 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)**

October 12, 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

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**October 10, 3:30 p.m.
Tomorrow Night!**

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toral Appreciation Worship
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tist Church in Fort Worth,
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Rev. James W. Thomas,
Pastor/Founder
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Join us this Sunday for our
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as we glorify God; He will
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October 15, 7 p.m.
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learn more about God's
Word.

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

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OF CHRIST CHURCH**

**October 12, 7:30 and
11:30 a.m.**
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to our praise and worship
services as we honor and
magnify God's Holy name;
and receive a blessing from
God.

October 13, 7 p.m.
Join us in Monday School
as we learn what God has to
say to us.

Pastor Rickie Rush
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Sunday Morning Worship
Same Location
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Allen, TX 75013
9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Live
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7:00 p.m.
Lady Beth Stafford

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Take a moment to ask for His guidance



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

Note: There seems to be too many angry people in this world and over little or nothing. This week, I am talking about a great weapon in a crisis situation.

Golden Silence -- "Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah." **Psalm 4:4 (KJV).**

When you have a disagreement with someone, don't be quick to rush toward a quick fix, to thrash things out then and there, and arrive at a solution—your solution; which will probably be the wrong solution; and most likely will not be the solution that God would want.

When you are angry, God says, "Don't sin." Please do not argue, but be quiet, and search your heart to understand your own feelings and motives.

When you are faced with

seemingly insurmountable obstacles and conflicts, silence is golden. It gives God a chance to work in your heart. Silence will provide space for anger, bitterness and hard feelings to subside and mellow.

Most important, it allows you a chance to seek God's wisdom and listen to God's advice. After a period of uncritical silence, meditation and prayer, you should be ready to move toward a conflict resolution.

And often, after a time of reframing from hurtful words and then acting on God's words, you will find that the walls of anger and bitterness will come down. Ask God to help you when tempers flare and arguments seem inevitable.

Seek God to help bring conflicts to Him and ask for His wisdom to resolve them. If you take time and be silent, it will allow you to hear God's guidance in times of conflict.

God can speak to you in many ways. At times, you can hear God's voice in something that you will read, in an idea that pops into your mind, or in the words of those around you. Ask God to help you do

what you can to bring the conflict to a peaceful solution.

As all of us journey through daily life, we can become disoriented and lose our balance if we focus on the swirling concerns of the day, then we are too quick to judge and too

quick to become angry. But when we lift our eyes and focus on Christ, we can regain the stability and balance that God offers.

Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness:



Mrs. Denise Lewis, preparing for Bethel Bible Fellowship's 25th Church Anniversary, October 26th, as she and her husband adjust to three children in college, prayers are welcomed.

Psalm 95:6-8 (KJV).

Helpful Insights & Inspiration: It has been said, "You never saw a fish on the wall with its mouth shut." "Forgiveness is the sweetest revenge." "You can't base your life on other people's expectations."

"Money will buy a pretty good dog, but it won't buy the wag of his tail." "Shared joy is double joy, and shared sorrow is half-sorrow."

"An open mind collects more riches than an open purse." "Hate is like acid. It can damage the vessel in which it is stored as well as destroy the object on which it is poured." — Ann Landers.

"You have the capacity to choose what you think about. If you choose to think about past hurts, you will continue to feel bad. While it's true you can't

change the effect that past influences had on you once, you can change the effect they have on you now." -- Gary McKay, Ph.D.

"The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook." — William James.

"One of the most lasting pleasures you can experience is the feeling that comes over you when you genuinely forgive an enemy—whether he knows about it or not." — A. Batista.

"The only people you should ever want to get 'even' with are those who have helped you." — John Honeyfeld.

"An apology is the superglue of life. It can repair just about anything. — Lynn Johnston.

"Pride is tasteless, colorless and size-less. Ye it is the hardest thing to swallow." — August B. Black.

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Evening Worship	3:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Class	7:00 pm

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NDG Book Review: *Best to Laugh: A Novel*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You could just cry. Nothing's going right. You're frustrated, out of patience, options, and energy. The camel's back is broken. You're about done.

Yeah, you'd sit down and cry, except it won't help anything. Besides, you know it could be worse so maybe, as in the new novel by Lorna Landvik, it's just "Best to Laugh."

Candy Pekkala was mortified.

Not long after her father died, she pulled a half-hearted, stupid stunt and now she needed a fresh start, far away from Minnesota and embarrassment. As it turned out, her cousin needed someone to sublet a Hollywood apartment. The timing was perfect – and so were the accommodations.

Just off the Sunset Strip, near the Hollywood Walk of Fame, Peyton Hall was a rental complex filled with people Candy quickly got to know. There was Maeve, a rather plain-looking female bodybuilder whose mother was a beautiful soap star; Ed, part-time teacher and full-time serial dater; Madame Pepper, a Romanian fortune teller who seemed to know all the Star's secrets; and Francis Flover, a dapper former nightclub owner who loved sharing his memories of Old Hollywood.

Yes, Peyton Hall was the right place to be in the late 1970s, and its residents



were the right people to meet – especially for a girl trying out a dream that began almost when she was born: Candy's mother, a Korean War bride, was a funny woman who passed her sense of humor on to her daughter. Jong Oh died when Candy was small, but memories of her mom's favorite advice ("Best to laugh!") gave Candy strength to pursue her goal of being a stand-up comic.

Still, it wasn't easy. She wrote and re-wrote her jokes, accepted advice and practiced, quit, then returned to L.A.'s smallest stages. She alternately bombed and then killed on-stage with the support of her

temp-job co-workers, her long-distance grandma, and the new friends she was beginning to think of as family.

It was a time for Candy that was increasingly sweet – until something happened at Peyton Hall that was no laughing matter...

Even though I'm a fan from way back, I have to admit that this new kind-sorta-semi-biographical novel by author Lorna Landvik initially didn't impress me much. There's a lot going on at the beginning of "Best to Laugh," and too many characters thrown in a mix. To say that I was lost is an understatement.

Happily, even though the plot extended and even more characters showed up, it all started to make sense after a(short)while, becoming the kind of book Landvik readers love. We get the wonderfully nice Midwest-

ern girl we crave in these kinds of books, a host of quirky folks who are also fun to know, a dream in the making, and an ending that might find you reaching for tissues.

"Best," indeed.

I've no doubt that you'll want to mention this to your book club when you're done reading it. You'll want to pass it to friends because they like books like this, too, and "Best to Laugh" is best to read.

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MENTOR, continued from Page 13

women enter and flourish in these increasingly important technical roles. By bringing experienced women from top technology companies across the industry together, we hope to build and maintain a new kind of mentorship program informed by the kind of work women are doing day-to-day and the most exciting opportunities becoming available in tech.

Mentees for the 2015 pilot of the WEST program will be early to mid-career women in the Bay Area, from those beginning their careers as interns to mid-career women

looking to further their growth or take the next step. The pilot will focus on women in engineering, operations, product, design, and web development roles.

Women in technical roles from Box, Facebook, and Pinterest will serve as one-on-one mentors to this class of women and meet with mentees individually and as a group, in-person and online, over the course of a year.

If you'd like to get involved and be notified when applications for the 2015, please visit www.westmentors.org.