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Wendy Davis: The best choice for Texas

By Nicole James Scott
Contributing Writer

On Nov. 4, 2014 Texans will cast their votes for the next governor of the state. With only one week remaining to decide the two leading candidates Wendy Davis and Greg Abbott are stomping the campaign trail to garner as much support as possible. The Texas Publishers Association join in that support with our endorsement of Wendy Davis whom we feel is not only the right choice for our state but the only candidate who if elected will use the full weight of the governor's office to fight for all Texans and roll back the assaults on our educational system, women's rights and voter's rights that we have endured the past 14 years under Gov. Rick Perry.

ON EDUCATION

In 2011 the 82nd Legislative Session under the leadership of the Republican Party cut funding for public education by \$5.4 billion. Something that had not been done in over 60 years and something that will not be done under the leadership of a Gov. Wendy Davis. Not only was Davis the only Senator to oppose those massive cuts but she has also continued to be one of the very few



lone voices fighting for the restoration of those cuts, unlike her opponent Abbott. She knows that it's not just good parenting, "family values" or strong communities that contribute to a child's success. Funding and policy has to be in place to back those efforts.

Davis knows that a one size fits all approach to our public education system is not effective. It hinders teachers' ability to teach, as do standardized tests. Most important, she values teachers, the ones standing in the trenches every day, on the front line trying to make a difference.

Davis recognizes you do not get the necessary results by cutting teachers' salaries and over crowding their classrooms.

ON HEALTH CARE

Texas Republicans continue to refuse federal funding to expand Medicaid, forfeiting billions of dollars in healthcare aid that is much needed. In fact Abbott has no shame in claiming one of his first agendas if elected is to end Affordable Healthcare (ObamaCare).

Meanwhile Texas leads the nation

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Amber Vinson comes home!

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Miles makes changes at Dade MS

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NDG hits All-Star Comedy Jam

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Win Tix to Ms. Lauryn Hill & HOB Gospel Brunch!!!
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COMMENTARY

Texas Publishers Association endorses statewide candidates

It is an irrefutable fact those who seek to disenfranchise and abrogate our liberties and attainments, our political victories and strides are well organized and steadfast. Bearing this in mind, it is our duty to be not only just as coordinated in our efforts but to also be proactive.

When candidates come campaigning for our votes we must be collectively ready to present them with a platform that best benefit our community. In the

words of Frederick Douglas power concedes nothing without demand. The Texas Publishers Association (TPA) has made it clear we will not be endorsing any candidate in the upcoming statewide elections that did not attend our candidate screening.

For the office of Lieutenant Governor TPA endorses Leticia Van De Putte. Unlike her Tea Party opponent Dan

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Cousia Towns



Constance Harper



Carlos Ponce

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

Cousia Towns

Cousia Towns is a woman on a mission – ending the tragedies associated with domestic violence and its many ripple effects. Ms. Towns is a successful entrepreneur with businesses in Dallas, Texas and Atlanta, Georgia. She is also the founder of Amore Transitional Group and the Cousia Towns End Domestic Violence Network.

Her business and philanthropic successes may very well be billed as the gems of her life. But, those gems were polished by the roughest of personal journeys that



included the murder of her mother, sexual abuse and a fragile foster system upbringing. Towns is a riveting speaker, a relentless crusader, and an inspiration to almost anyone who hears her story.

Ms. Towns, a child victim of domestic abuse and also a veteran of foster care, founded Amore Transitional Group, a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization, in 2009 to provide young women who were “emancipated” from the foster care system with a safe and stable environment while preparing them for transition to independence through educational, and guidance programs. The organization has expanded its outreach efforts from focusing solely on young women emerging from foster care to include all at-risk, in-crisis, disadvantaged, and underprivileged young women.

Learning that many children who came to Amore Transitional Group were victims of domestic violence, Ms. Towns founded The Cousia Towns End Domestic Violence Network in 2014. The organization is a network of professional and civic leaders who pool resources to support the eradication of domestic violence through education and awareness. And, no one is better qualified to lead such a tremendous effort.

Ms. Towns recently was the keynote speaker at a domestic violence conference in Balch Springs, Texas sponsored by Love and Grace Community Church.

Towns spoke on domestic violence and the significant effects it has on communities – a topic she has lived. Whatever the topic, the dynamic feature of her presentations is her very intricate personal story that envelops her professional successes, her philanthropic endeavors, and her community service. Hers is a deeply engaging life story that not only captivates audiences, but also has engaged young women who enroll in Amore Transitional Group’s unique, “never-ending,” “pay-it-forward” community service programs.

Towns is a tireless crusader against domestic vio-

lence and the development of the community’s our at-risk young women. And, excerpt from her keynote speech may say it all. Ms. Towns spoke, “

Ezekiel 22:30 says: ‘I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one.’ Well...I stand before you today to tell you that I am that someone. Love and Grace Community Church is one. The Balch Springs community is one. Toni Rose is one. Karen Lewis is

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Constance Harper

The *North Dallas Gazette* and African American publishing community was saddened to lose a valued colleague this week with the death of Constance (Connie) Harper, the Associate Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of the *Call & Post* Newspaper last Friday.

Harper served the Cleveland community for many years and was scheduled to be inducted into the Press Club Hall of Fame on Nov. 7.

Harper was attending homecoming events at her alma mater Central State University in Xenia, Ohio



when she suffered a heart attack.

On behalf of the family her nephew Adam Trumbo released the following statement:

“It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I an-

nounce the death of my aunt, Constance (Connie) Harper, associate publisher and editor of the *Call & Post* newspapers. She passed away peacefully tonight surrounded by family and close friends.

“My mother Judge Sara J. Harper, I and the entire Harper-Trumbo family would like to thank the doctors, nurses and staff at Miami Valley Hospital for the care and concern that they showed my aunt and our family during this most difficult time.

“My family and I find ourselves humbled by the outpouring of love, support and prayers we have re-

ceived from the nation.

“My aunt’s greatest joy was sharing with others the success, concerns and struggles of Cleveland’s black community as associate publisher and editor of the *Call & Post* newspapers.”

Her work over the years was heralded by many including Ohio State Legislator Bill Patmon who shared, “For the greater community and for someone from our community to communicate about us that we are not all about handcuffs or doing something we had no business doing, and the good things, those stories often came from Connie Harper.”

Ohio Congresswoman

Marcia L. Fudge released a statement over the weekend stating, “Throughout her life, Constance D. Harper used her gifts as a journalist, newspaper executive and civic leader to benefit the community and improve the lives of the most vulnerable among us.

“Though we mourn the loss of Ms. Harper, we give thanks for her many contributions that have enriched so many people in Cleveland and throughout the State of Ohio.”

Call & Post’s Managing Editor, Kevin D. Heard proclaimed via the paper’s website, “The name Con-

stance D. Harper has become synonymous with journalism throughout Ohio and beyond. Journalism has been a large part of her life’s work for more than 60 years.” He lauded her contributions as a mentor to young journalists over the last six decades, and shared, “The many lives she touched as a community advocate and media representative are immeasurable.”

Harper was 81 years old and is survived by her sister, retired Ohio Judge Sara J. Harper, and their sister Gloria, nieces, nephews, cousins, other family members and friends.

Carlos Ponce

International Latin superstar Carlos Ponce has made his way into American prime-time TV with his role as “Felix” on the new hit ABC comedy series *Cristela* (Fridays, 8:30/7:30PM CT). The show centers on “Cristela” (comedienne Cristela Alonzo), who, in her sixth year in law school is finally on the brink of landing her first big (unpaid) internship at a prestigious law firm. The only problem is that her pursuit of success is more ambitious than her traditional Mexican-American family thinks is appropriate. She’s stuck straddling the old culture she’s trying to modernize at home with her work-



ing-class family - sister “Daniella,” long suffering brother-in-law “Felix” (Ponce), and their two kids as well as her stuck-in-tradition mother.

The show is a hilarious comedy about laughing your way down the path to the new American dream.

Ponce can next be seen on the big screen in

writer/director Paul Feig’s (Bridesmaids, “Freaks & Geeks”) feature film comedy *SPY* opposite Melissa McCarthy, Rose Byrne, Jason Statham, and Jude Law. The hilarious comedy features the misadventures of secret agent, Susan Cooper (McCarthy). The film is slated for a wide-release on Memorial Day weekend 2015.

Puerto Rican-born and Miami-raised Ponce has made a name for himself in the Latin market. At the age of 26, Ponce already had a Double Platinum Award for sales generated from his album *Carlos Ponce* and was starring in two huge primetime telenovelas “*Guadalupe*” and “*Sentimientos Ajenos*” - which he also sang the theme

songs for. Ponce has hosted the Latin American version of “*The Voice*” as well as the Puerto Rican version of “*Idol*” - receiving 75 percent of the total population viewership in the latter.

Ponce has also broken into American television market with roles on “*Beverly Hills 90210*,” “*7th Heaven*” (playing Jessica Biel’s husband), and “*Lipstick Jungle*.”

His feature film credits include: *Just My Luck*, *Chasing Papi*, *Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo*, *Couples Retreat*, *Free Birds*, and *Rio*.

Ponce spends his time between Miami with his four kids and Los Angeles and enjoys riding his Harley in his free time.

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in uninsured people with close to 1.5 million Texans unprotected and less likely to receive needed medical treatment.

This Republican method of cutting off your nose to spite your face because they still haven't gotten over the election of President Obama is hurting millions of Texans. Millions who are already paying into a federal program but not benefiting from it. Davis supports the Affordable Healthcare Act and will utilize those federal funds to insure Texans are receiving the care they need and that is including women who have been the target of a vicious assault by Republicans since 2011. Texas needs a governor who understands a woman's right to choose is a personal

decision and one that should not in-

volve government. Abbott claims he believes in smaller government but that's only when it benefits his cronies.

ON VOTING RIGHTS

Although poll taxes were ruled unconstitutional in 1964 Abbott along with his Republican comrades would like to take Texas back to the “good ole days” by implementing voter identification laws. The state law, enacted in 2011 and overturned by Judge Nelva Gonzales Ramos because of its strict mandates requires voters to show a state-issued driver's license, personal ID card or concealed handgun license, or a U.S. citizenship certificate, military ID card or passport. According to Judge Ramos more than half a million registered voters, mostly Black and/or

Hispanic would be impacted.

Recently, thanks to a Supreme Court decision, Texas will be able to use its voter identification law in this upcoming election.

Texas is in dire need of real leadership. We need someone with vision and the tenacity to fight for the disenfranchised. We need someone who understands that multinational, multi billion dollar companies who can afford to pay their CEOs 7 figure salaries should at the very least be required to pay their lowest paid workers an hourly wage of \$10. This is all the more reason why we need Davis at the helm. Republicans are bent on taking the state back to the 19th century and creating two distinctive classes, the overlords and the serfs.

There is only one candidate that offers solutions to our problems and gets it right on all of the issues. That candidate is Davis not Abbott.

PUBLISHERS, continued from Page 1

Patrick, Van De Putte is committed to ensuring all children regardless of their economic status or zip code in the state of Texas receive a quality education and the funding and resources are available to realize this. As Lieutenant Governor she pledges to:

- Restore funding for full day learning for Pre-K students as opposed to 3 hours a day
- Limit the class size for children grades K-4
- Invest the necessary funding in Texas' public schools, restoring the 2011 Legislature cuts
- Remove the standardized testing pay based on performance system allowing teachers to utilize their creativity and skills to teach
- Allow for more involvement of parents and community members in control of their neighborhood schools

Sen. Patrick's record has already proven he is not concerned with educating children in our public education school system. In 2011 he was among those who voted to cut \$5.4 billion in public education funds and even opposed the use of the state's Rainy Day Fund to offset cuts. In 2013 when he had the opportunity to restore the cuts not only did he vote against it but composed legislation to limit state appropriations and require any future state surplus funds to go toward property tax relief instead of education.

In addition he proposed exempting certain residences from property taxes, reducing public education revenue and filed “mandate relief” legislation making it easier to lay off employees, reduce teachers' salaries and higher

fewer teachers by increasing class sizes.

For the State Comptroller's Office TPA endorses Mike Collier who if elected will be the first CPA in history to hold the state's top accountant position. At the top of his agenda is to make property taxes fair for all homeowners. Since 1997 the property tax appraisal law has unfairly allowed for large companies to drive down the market value of their properties causing homeowners to foot the bill.

In 2013 SB 1342 was presented to correct this flaw however Collier's opponent Sen. Glen Hegar along with his powerful campaign contributing group of lawyers and tax consultants stalled the legislation killing it upon arrival to the Senate.

TPA endorses Steve Brown for Texas Railroad Commissioner who is the only African-American running for statewide office. Until now the Railroad Commissioner has always come from the ranks of the oil and gas industry, including Brown's opponent Ryan Sitton who boasts of his fifteen years of experience in the oil and gas and petrochemical industry. But what to him seems like a selling point is in fact to us concern for pause.

As someone so intricately involved with the oil and gas industry it is foreseeable the Railroad Commission will be nothing more than an extension of the oil and gas lobby. As an outsider of the industry Brown represents a breath of fresh air, someone who can bring forth a new and unbiased commission that will put the needs of the citizens before the industry. He has al-

ready pledged to protect the interests of all Texans as well as the environment.

For Attorney General TPA endorses Sam Houston, a Houston based attorney that has been practicing civil law at the state and federal level for 26 years. When elected to Attorney General he has vowed to immediately overturn the AG ruling that currently prevents Texans from learning if hazardous chemicals are stored near them.

Up until June of this year Texans had the right to know if hazardous materials were being stored near them. But Republican Attorney General Greg Abbott ruled that to release such information jeopardized homeland-security laws.

Houston has shown himself to be a gentleman with integrity and an even-handed temperament unlike his contender Sen. Ken Paxton who has a swirl of ethical issues surrounding him including being fined by the State Securities Board. Paxton alleges to be in favor of transparency.

“My goal will be to have a transparent government and to follow the law”, Paxton claimed. However, his actions and previous record contradict him.

Dating back to 2006 Paxton has on more than one occasion neglected to disclose his involvement in or partnering with businesses as required. In one of the instances he claimed ignorance of the law, a reason in our eyes is no excuse. But rather Paxton's actions were deliberate or unintentional is not only reason for concern.

Someone who is aspiring to the position of the state's top attorney should at the very least be knowledgeable of the law.

Teens who dine with their families may be slimmer adults

(HealthDay News) -- For those teens who try to avoid spending time with their parents and siblings, new research suggests that sitting down for family meals might help them stay slim as adults.

Despite everyone's busy schedules, researchers found that just one or two gatherings around the kitchen table each week were well worth the effort.

"There are numerous distractions that could keep families from having family meals. However, this study shows that even trying to have a few family meals a week could be beneficial for guarding against overweight and obesity in adulthood," noted study author Jerica Berge, an assistant professor in the department of family and community medicine at the University of Minnesota Medical School, in Minneapolis.

Using data from a 10-year study involving more than 2,000 teenagers, the researchers examined variables that could affect young people's weight, such as diet and physical activity. The teens were asked how often they sat down for family meals. The researchers also recorded



each teen's body mass index -- a measurement that determines whether a person is a healthy weight for their height.

After a decade, 51 percent of the teens involved in the study were overweight and 22 percent were obese overall, the study published recently in the *Journal of Pediatrics* found.

The researchers noted that when the study began, 15 percent of the teens said they never ate family meals. Of those teens, 60 percent were overweight at the 10-year follow up and 29 percent were obese.

Meanwhile, among the teens that reported eating between one and five family meals per week, only 47 percent to 51 percent were overweight a decade later, and 19 percent to 22 percent were obese.

So, how do family meals help prevent weight gain? The protective effect is

likely due to a combination of factors, according to Berge. "Although we don't know exactly why having family meals is protective, family meals may provide a combination of activities such as opportunities for healthful eating, connection among family members, creating a supportive environment for emotion regulation and a sense of security that give children the ability to regulate their own eating behaviors in their day-to-day lives," she explained.

Research has shown that American children and teens sit down for an average of about two to four family meals per week, according to Berge. She noted this includes breakfast and lunch, as well as dinner.

Another study Berge conducted, which was published earlier this week in the journal *Pediatrics*, found that calm, positive family

meals might help a child avoid becoming overweight or obese.

One expert noted that her clients are really trying to carve out time for family meals.

"The '50s were the epitome of the family meal," explained Kristi King, a clinical dietitian at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. "As society became more fast-paced, we found ourselves drifting away from the family meal time. Now, in practice, I see families very much wanting to try and slow down and reinstitute the family meal on a regular basis."

For busy families, having just one family meal is a great place to start, Berge pointed out. "It may not

matter which day of the week it occurs or that it is the dinner meal. The important thing is to start making family meals a regular occurrence," she said.

Limiting distractions can also help, advised King.

"Just one meal can give families the opportunity to 'check-in,' but that is assuming technology takes a backseat during meal time," she said. "Kids learn by watching their parents. So parents should set the example they wish their children to follow. Try having the whole family disconnect for 30 minutes during meal time and actually having a conversation."

King also pointed out that meals at home are typically lower in calories and con-

tain more fruits and vegetables.

While the study found an association between family meals and a lowered risk of obesity in adulthood, it did not prove a cause-and-effect relationship.

SOURCES: Jerica Berge, Ph.D., M.P.H., assistant professor, department of family and community medicine, University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis; Kristi King, M.P.H., R.D., clinical dietitian, Texas Children's Hospital, and clinical instructor, pediatrics, section of gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston; Sept. 29, 2014, Journal of Pediatrics.

City of Dallas welcomes back nurse Amber Vinson

Amber Vinson is back in Dallas, arriving at Love Field Tuesday evening.

Dallas Love Field and the City of Dallas are respecting her family's request for privacy during this time and will not provide media availability.

"Amber Vinson's discharge from the hospital after being declared free of Ebola marks an important turning point in our ongoing fight against the virus," said Mayor Mike Rawlings.

"I join everyone in Dallas in welcoming Amber back to the community and thanking her for her dedica-

tion and brave devotion as a nurse. Amber is a true hero, and I hope she's able to return to a normal and happy

life as soon as possible."

For local updates on Ebola visit www.dallascitynewsroom.com.



Dr. Tommy L. Brown Appointed as New Pastor and Spiritual Leader at New Mount Zion Baptist Church, Dallas, TX

New Mount Zion Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, Inc. located in the Hamilton Park and Lake Highlands communities in North Dallas announces the election of a new Pastor, Dr. Tommy L. Brown. New Mount Zion, which was led by Dr. R.E. Price until his passing on July 14, 2012, welcomes Dr. Brown as its fifth pastor in the church's 68 years of existence.

Dr. Brown, a proud native son of Ennis, Texas, has an esteemed career of 26 years of pastoral experience and has served in several leadership capacities at the local and state levels. He currently serves as the General Secretary of the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America.

The membership of New Mount Zion invites the public to the official installation of Dr. Brown to be held on Sunday, November 9, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at 9550 Shepherd Road, Dallas, TX 75243. Details regarding the inaugural celebratory events are located at www.nmzb.org.



Dr. Tommy L. Brown

UT-Austin ranks No. 30 in the world

AUSTIN — Students, alumni and supporters of the Texas Longhorns have something new to celebrate that has nothing to do with athletics. *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked The University of Texas at Austin No. 30 in the world in its first-ever Global University Rankings, marking the fourth time this year a prestigious international group has placed UT Austin among the best international universities. The rankings are based on 10



indicators that measure universities' academic research performance and their global and regional reputation, according to the publication. Students are encouraged to

use the rankings to explore higher education options globally and compare key aspects of schools' research missions. "This ranking confirms what we see on our campus every day: outstanding faculty teaching world-class students. "We say, 'What starts here changes the world.' The world is noticing," said President Bill Powers, who will be stepping down as president next June after nine years leading the flagship univer-

sity. The ranking placed UT Austin No. 23 among U.S. universities and No. 10 among public universities in the U.S. The *U.S. News* Global Rankings are based on different criteria than the *U.S. News* Best College rankings, which listed UT Austin at No. 53, and annual Best Graduate School rankings, which rate individual disciplines. The global rankings focus specifically on schools' academic

research and reputation overall and not their separate undergraduate or graduate programs, according to *U.S. News*. And they rely heavily on metrics such as faculty publications, citations and highly cited papers, drawing on data from Thompson Reuters, the largest international organization that tracks research productivity. The overall rankings include 500 universities located in 49 different countries.

Superintendent: Changes made at Billy Earl Dade Middle School are to improve instruction

By Mike Miles
Dallas ISD Superintendent

I know first-hand the power of public education. I grew up facing a number of the same challenges our students do. The children of an African-American father who was frequently away and a Japanese mother with limited English, my seven siblings and I grew up facing the same struggles all families in poverty do. For me, school posed its own challenges and for the first six years of my life I had a speech problem. But school was also my sanctuary, a place where teachers worked closely with me to overcome my challenges. Those teachers set me on a course for success and their passion for changing lives through teaching continues to drive me to this day. As Superintendent of



Dallas ISD, there are a number of responsibilities that come with the position, but there are two that I put at the very top of the list: ensuring student and staff safety and improving the quality of instruction for all students. Recently, as part of my normal review of instruction across the district, I made an unannounced visit to Billy Earl Dade Middle School. What I saw con-

cerned me greatly. The quality of instruction in too many classrooms was poor. I was also made aware that a recent fight at the school left one student badly injured. This is of major concern. I understand that schools cannot change overnight, but when both student safety and the quality of instruction are compromised, I have an obligation to adjust what is happening in order to ensure our students receive the best education possible. As a result of my visit, we decided to make several staff changes at Dade that went into effect Monday, October 13. The changes are designed to improve the effectiveness of classroom instruction as quickly as possible. A total of ten instructional coaches are now teaching at the school. In addition, five academic fa-

cilitators were placed at Dade and a central staff administrator has been assigned to provide systems and data support. I have outlined to the new staff that there needs to be a renewed sense of urgency in the instructional quality at Dade Middle School. While it would have been easier on everyone, including our staff, to wait until the end of the semester to make changes, our students simply don't have a day to waste. Dade will now have the majority of the school

year with the additional support and staff in place that we believe will benefit students greatly. Join us as we seek to provide the students of Dade Middle School with the quality education that they deserve.

TWU to host information session on Executive MBA Nov. 5 in Fort Worth

Texas Woman's University will host an information session showcasing its Executive MBA program on Wednesday, Nov. 5 in Fort Worth. TWU's Executive MBA program is designed for managers and professionals who want to improve their managerial and business skills, while enhancing their career options. Most classes are offered in a hybrid format, which includes some face-to-face class meetings on selected Saturdays with a significant amount of coursework completed online or independently before those meetings. Most students complete the program

in 15-24 months. The session will start at 6:30 p.m. in Suite 100 at the Tarrant County College Training Center, located at 13600 Heritage Parkway in Fort Worth. To register for this event, visit www.twu.edu/emba, call 940-898-3188 or email EMBA@twu.edu.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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1526	Wild Winnings Overall Odds are 1 in 4.38	\$2	12/31/14	6/29/15
1596	Triple Winning 777's Overall Odds are 1 in 4.45	\$2	12/31/14	6/29/15
1451	Bonus Word Crossword Overall Odds are 1 in 3.44	\$3	12/31/14	6/29/15
1534	Big Winning Numbers Overall Odds are 1 in 3.20	\$10	12/31/14	6/29/15

For detailed odds and game information, visit txlottery.org or call 1-800-371-LOTTO. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education. © 2014 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.

Don't sleep through the November elections

By Bill Fletcher, Jr.
NNPA Columnist

The November 4 election is only a moment away. Believe it or not, as of about two weeks ago, two thirds of the people in the U.S.A did not know that there is to be an election on November 4, 2014. As far as some segments of our society are concerned, that is just fine. They would rather that we remain asleep.

The political Right is mobilizing forcefully. They are trying to make this election about Obama. With Obama hovering around 40% in the polls, the right-wing expects to use this to their advantage, both discouraging Democ-

rats and mobilizing conservatives. The right-wing may be in for a surprise, but it is too tough to call.

This election is not about Obama. It really comes down to two things. First, YOUR right to vote, and, second, what sort of future you really want. For the right-wing the election is clearly about holding back the future and focusing on fear and anger. Unless you are interested in trying to turn the clock back to about 1950, you will need to be at the polls on November 4th.

Beginning after the 2008 elections, sections of the Republican Party went about moving legislation in various states to address allegations of voter fraud. The po-

tential for voter fraud is less than the potential of being hit by lightning.

Nevertheless, playing to racist fears on the parts of many whites (of African Americans and immigrants), the right-wing was able to invent a problem where none existed.

They convinced many people that there needed to be more stringent requirements to vote, steps that tend to disenfranchise people of color, youth and senior citizens. In the 2012 elections African Americans and Latinos revolted against this effort and turned out in force. But showing up in one election is not enough. The aim of the political Right is to beat us

down.

The future is also at stake. The political Right fears the demographic changes in this country. But they also fear real discussions about economic inequality, the environmental crisis, the rights of women, and, actually, the role of government.

Their most articulate spokespeople openly talk about shrinking government which will mean that many things that you and I take for granted will disappear, such as social security, food safety inspections, fair tax systems, and a reasonable discussion about what to do about climate change. The right-wing ends up reminding me of the child bully who seeks to in-

timidate others and will only stop when we stand up to them. At that moment we come to realize that they are nothing more than pathetic cowards.

So, there you have it. We can sit home and pretend that the November 4th elections don't mean anything, or we can get to the polls and make it clear that we have no interest in giving up on the future or giving up on our right to make a statement. The choice really is ours.

Bill Fletcher, Jr. is the host of The Global African on Telesur-English. He is a racial justice, labor and global justice writer and activist. Follow him on Facebook and at www.billfletcherjr.com.

Don't overlook the fruity flavors of Halloween

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

Yes we all enjoy chocolate at every opportunity, but a different option to serve your favorite Trick or Treater this Halloween is Welch's Fruit Snacks. In fact this year they are offering Halloween-themed box and pouch have custom Halloween-themed graphics with fun shapes which include a bat, witch, ghost, haunted castle, and pumpkin, and are perfect for trick-or-treating, lunchbox treats or office parties. The tasty better-for-you treats



are a great alternative to the overflowing chocolate and candy options. I could not wait until Halloween to enjoy the handful of sample packages I received, they provide a tasty flavor boost when the mid-afternoon lull hits.

Another choice is to pass

out individual packages of the Fruit Gushers, Fruit Roll-ups or Fruit by the Foot. I enjoyed all three samples they provided by favorite was the Fruit Roll-ups which really sparkled with it's fruity flavor. Younger fans will likely get more of a kick out of the Gushers brand because it does offer an explosion of flavor.

Trick or Treaters will enjoy either the Welch's Fruit Snacks or the Fruit Roll-ups from General Mills in their candy bucket Friday night — or in their lunch bag next week!

Urban League to host Fun Walk/Run

Lace up your sneakers and sign up now for the Urban League of Greater Dallas 5K/8K Fun Walk/Run which will be held on Saturday, Nov. 15, 2013 at Kiest Park, 3080 S. Hampton Road in Dallas.

This year's event is not just about running or walking but building a healthier community one step at a time by starting a healthy lifestyle. This event will also help the Urban League of Greater Dallas continue to create opportunities through its pro-



grams and services for individuals and families throughout Dallas County.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and Closing and Award Ceremony is 11:30 a.m. To register or for more information call (214) 915-4696 or email schandler@ul-gdnctx.com

TOWNS, continued from Page 2

one. We are all ones that will step in against domestic violence.

"We will stand by and for the victims of domestic violence. We will help all victims take off the masks, and we will prepare the new lands for those who have been en-

gulfed in domestic violence. United we step in against domestic violence. We will all stand in the gap. And, working in unity, we will close the gap."

Cousia Towns is doing exactly that — closing that gap.

Hangin' at the CoC Rodeo...



DJ XL, Latrice Hamilton and Tory Johnson during action at the Cowboys of Color rodeo.

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NDG Book Review: *M is for Monster* good for older kids

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The nights are getting longer.

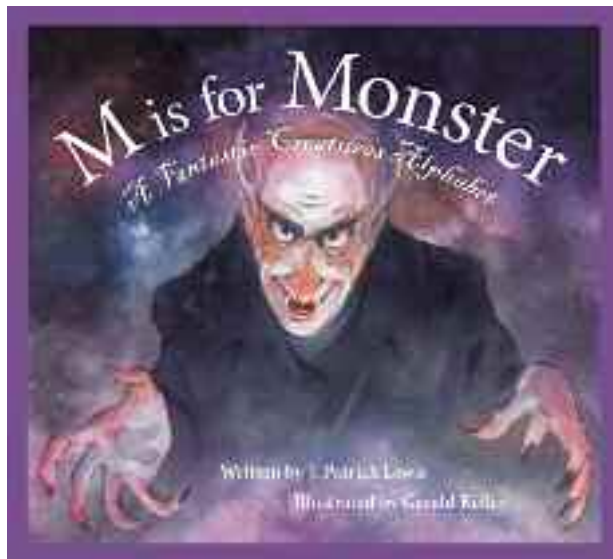
Dark falls much earlier these days; there are more shadows and more things hiding in corners, beneath, and behind. More beasts to scare you.

More creatures to catch you.

You can probably name a few of them but do you know what, exactly, lurks where you're not expecting it? Read "M is for Monster" by J. Patrick Lewis, illustrated by Gerald Kelley and find out... if you dare!

A is at the top of the alphabet, so maybe it's right that we start at the top of the world where A is for Amarok. It's a fierce wolf-like creature that's almost as big as a man and that hides in the forest. The Inuit fear the Amarok – and you should, too.

"Almost every culture



has its own favorite dragon," says J. Patrick Lewis, so that's what D stands for: dragons. Most of them breathe fire and they make excellent guards for your castle. Some are tamed, but there's no word on housebreaking issues.

If you live in a big city, you might be familiar with Gargoyles, which is the G word here. Originally meant to help keep buildings safe

from rainwater, there's an interesting (and frightening) myth that goes along with them. No wonder the stone beasts are so scary!

Is it a bird? Is it a snake? It's both, because Q is for Quetzalcoatl, a creature that appears to be many parts, including a bit of human. He's huge and he's terrifying, but he's not such a bad guy underneath: the Aztecs thought he invented books

and calendars and that he brought corn, so they worshipped him.

U is for unicorn, a creature that's hardly a monster. Legend has it that the shy, gentle horse-with-a-horn can cleanse water and heal

injuries, and it's attracted by purity and innocence. In truth, however, the creatures have never been seen – although several kinds of animals could really fool you.

And then we end at the

end with Z for zombies. Yes, the Undead are shocking – maybe because they're portrayed as a sign of the end of the world!

Looking for a great book

See **MONSTER**, Page 13

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Go College! Dallas hosting free screening at Angelika Oct. 30

As high school students continue their academic year and consider college, First Generation Films and Wells Fargo are bringing the “Go College!” national education initiative to Dallas with screenings of a one-hour version of the award-winning documentary, *First Generation*, at Adamson High School, Moises E. Molina High School, DeSoto High School, South Grand Prairie High School, Grand Prairie High School, and RL Turner High School. Go College! Dallas will reach and inspire more than 2,000 students and host a free community screening at the Angelika Film Center on Oct. 30.

Filmed over the course of three years, the First Generation documentary is narrated by two-time Golden Globe Award nominee Blair Underwood and explores the challenges of college access faced by first generation and low in-



come students due to their families' unfamiliarity with college applications, scholarships and the federal aid process. The documentary profiles the journey of four students attempting to break the cycle of poverty and bring hope to their communities as they pursue their college dreams.

“Our goal in making the film was to help high school students

learn from their peers about the college admissions process,” said co-director Jaye Fenderson, a former senior admissions officer at Columbia University and the author of *Seventeen's Guide To Getting Into College*. “But it evolved to become so much more than that – an emotional experience and message that resonated with underserved communities.”

Go College! Dallas is the eighth major stop on a 10-city tour that will bring together for the community screening events First Generation filmmakers Jaye and Adam Fenderson, and cast member, Cecilia Lopez, who will join local educators, student lending experts, and civic and community leaders for an interactive panel discussion on how students can make attending college a reality. Those interested in attending the community screenings may RSVP at www.firstgenerationfilm.com/gocollegedates.

“A college education can change not just a life, but the prospects of an entire community,” said John Rasmussen, Wells Fargo's Minnesota-based head of Education Financial Services. “By working with First Generation Films to create the Go College! initiative, we hope to plant seeds of hope in America's first genera-

tion students and make the prospects of achieving higher education a reality.”

Go College! visited Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Oakland and Washington D.C. in the spring, reaching an audience of 10,000 and more than 1,000,000 people across social media channels who used the #GoCollege and #WFCollegeTour hashtags. This fall, the initiative is visiting Atlanta, Miami, Houston, and Twin Cities, in addition to Dallas.

“By bringing the film directly to students and speaking with their parents, we want to remove any perceived and actual barriers to college access,” said co-director Adam Fenderson. In 2011, First Generation won Best Documentary at the Idyllwild International Festival of Cinema and was selected as a Special Jury Award winner at the Napa Valley Film Festival in 2012.

Townview Magnet volunteers receive state awards

The State Board of Education named 10 Texas businesses as the 2014 Employers for Education Excellence (EEE). HNTB, a nationally recognized engineering, architectural and planning firm received the Gold Award, thanks to the employees who donated many hours to Yvonne A. Ewell Townview Magnet Center's School-2-

Business (S2B) program. During the 2013-2014 school year, the volunteers donated more than 750 hours to the program.

“I would like to congratulate, and thank, these businesses on being named Employers for Education Excellence,” said Barbara Cargill, chair of the Texas Board of Education. “Each is to be commended for the valuable

support and many resources they and their employees provide to our Texas public schools.”

Through the program, which runs from January to May, students are given an assignment and follow through on the project from start to finish. During the 2013-2014 school year, the

See MAGNET, Page 11

More Happy Winners...



Above, Janice Jackson scored tickets to see Macy Gray in concert courtesy of the North Dallas Gazette. At left, Brenda Spencer, also a winner, will get to take in the sights and sounds of the Cowboys of Color Rodeo. Remember to check in regularly at www.NorthDallasGazette.com for your chance to catch the best entertainment in Dallas!

Imagining a cure...



The Young Ladies of IMAGINE WELL, Inc. a local non-profit organization, donned pink tutus and walking shoes to participate in Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of North Texas, a 5K walk benefiting the American Cancer Society. These young ladies chose to support the breast cancer cause after completing the self-image and self-awareness part of the IMAGINE WELL curriculum.

Letting down their hair...



Two-year-old, Morgan Berghaus had a blast getting to chat with Rapunzel at the Dallas Children's Theater's recent production featuring the popular Fairy Tale character.

Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra presents *Hitchcock!*

Join the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra for a musical anthology of Hitchcock's greatest thrills and chills. You'll hear the spine-tingling scores created by Lyn Murray, Bernard Hermann and Dmitri Tiomkin for movies like *To Catch A Thief*, *Vertigo* and *North By Northwest* - complete with

scenes from each film played on Bass Hall's movie screen. Suspense has never sounded so good!

The shows are scheduled for Friday Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 8 at 7:30 p.m. and a final show on Sunday, Nov. 9 at 2 p.m.

Smooth Jazz Concert Series in Fort Worth features world class talents

Jazz fans are invited to enjoy an evening of jazz on Saturday, Nov. 15 at the Scott Theatre in the Fort Worth Museum District featuring Jazz Violinist Michael Ward and Saxophonist Marion Meadows performing live.

A portion of the proceeds from the concert will help benefit the National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum, which was created to acknowledge the contributions of settlers from numerous backgrounds in creating the culture of the Old West.

Doors open 6 p.m. with a VIP Reception.

The show will kick off at 7 p.m. at the W.E. Scott Theatre located at 3505 W. Lancaster Ave in Fort Worth.

Tickets range from \$45-\$75 for special VIP Reserved seats.

To purchase tickets for this exciting and intimate performance, visit Jim-AustinOnline.com or call

817-923-9305.

Also worth noting, *North Dallas Gazette* fans can win

tickets visit NorthDallasGazette.com for more details!

Lionel Richie brings 'All The Hits All Night Long' tour to Choctaw Casino Resort

DURANT, Okla., – Choctaw Casino Resort in Durant, Okla., is welcoming legendary R&B musician Lionel Richie with his "All The Hits All Night Long" tour to perform at the Event Center at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 7.

Lionel Richie has sold over 100 million records worldwide. He has released nine studio albums, three live albums and seven compilation albums.

Richie has released over 40 singles, five of which became number-one hits on the Billboard Hot 100. He began his career in 1968 with Motown Records as a member of The Commodores.

Throughout his career, Richie has won Academy Awards, Golden Globe Awards, Grammy Awards, BET Awards, Image Awards, TV Land Awards and American Music Awards. He was also awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2003.

"Lionel Richie is one of the best Soul



and R&B performers in the music industry," said Teresa Drew, corporate director of marketing at Choctaw Casino Resort.

Ticket starting at \$95, as well as VIP tickets, are available for purchase online at www.ticketmaster.com, charge by phone at (800) 745-3000 or by visiting the box office located inside Choctaw Casino Resort.

Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit www.northdallasgazette.com to win tickets to Kirk Franklin's Gospel Brunch!!!

NDG Meets the Stars at Shaq's All-Star Comedy Jam...



Above, Amanda Fitzpatrick (Award winning Journalist in Dallas & Dallas socialite) and Michael Blackson (Comedian) hit the red carpet.

At right, Jessica Brewer (NDG Entertainment) and Faizon Love (Comedian) chat it up at Shaquille's All-Star Comedy Jam.



(At far left), Lavar Edwards-Dallas Cowboys defensive end joins Ken Bishop-Cowboys defensive tackle; Kenneth Boa-tright- Cowboys defensive end (Back of photo); DeMarcus Lawrence-Cowboys Defensive End (center); Chris Whaley-Cowboys defensive tackle (Back of photo); Ben Gardner-Cowboys defensive end; Dallas journalist Amanda Fitzpatrick and Cowboys defensive end George Selvie at Shaquille O'Neal's All-Star Comedy Jam presented by HCE Live.

Jessica Brewer (center) hangs out with NDG contest winners Ashley Hernandez (left) and DraNoel Wilson at the All-Star Comedy Jam. Stay tuned to www.NorthDallasGazette.com and you too could be on your way to the next big entertainment event in Dallas.

Photos by
Frank Lott



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Watching the 'Christmas Creep'

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

Did you notice that some stores are already touting Christmas sales? They are encouraging people to start buying for Christmas now.

We've been experiencing this "Christmas creep" for years. Some of us are reluctant to call it "Christmas Creep" because there is no Christ or Christianity in the profligate spending that accompanies a season that should be defined by gratitude and reflection. The birth of Christ the Child should symbolize rebirth, the symbolism of the seven principles of Kwanzaa a signal to African American community building and spirituality.

Part of the reason for the Christmas creep is that fourth quarter spending can make or break annual sales for retailers. Lots of consumer electronics, jewelry, and even automobiles are disproportionately purchased during these

fourth quarter months, although in the past this heavy spending was reserved for December. Not only will fourth quarter spending influence annual profits, but they will also signal the strength of the economic recovery that only a few are experiencing.

If high-end retailers (Saks Fifth Avenue, Neiman) see their sales boost while lower end retailers see their sales grow only modestly, that might be an indication that recovery is not trickling down. And for all the talk of the end of the Great Recession, the fact that incomes have remained flat means that recovery will remain slow.

During the third quarter of this year, spending was more sluggish than expected, so much so that some retailers are adjusting their spending forecasts downward. Some may even have less inventory on hand so that prices might rise a bit from demand.

When toy retailers, for example, have shortages in this year's popular toy, parents are likely to make

return trips to a store both to check on the coveted toy and to buy "just one more thing" for children. And despite sluggish spending, the post-Thanksgiving Day stampedes are not a thing of the past when they are properly marketed.

This heavy Christmas marketing has a special impact on African American consumers, those who have less income, more debt, and a likelihood of overspending during holidays because "stuff" means "love" for some.

The Christmas creep gives youngsters more time to whine and cajole for "stuff" and places parents under more pressure to spend. While the spending may help stimulate the economy, it will depress the financial standing of those who participate in the spending game.

We live in a nation of over consumers, but African Americans are the ones who can least afford to play this game. One in eight has

nothing – no savings, no investments; no tangible belongings (automobiles, for example). Fewer than half (compared to 70 percent of Whites) own their homes – the primary path to wealth accumulation for the middle class. About half have "bad" debt, or credit card debt. Few have saved for future tuition payments or retirement. Yet, some of these folks will queue up to spend money, all in the name of a Christmas shopping season that starts in October.

The holiday season is a good time to convey a series of economic and community building messages to African Americans. First, can you afford the holiday spending? Second, if you must shop, do some of your spending with Black-owned businesses. African Americans spend less than a tenth of their income with Black-owned businesses.

Doubling the level of spending would increase the number of jobs

that can be generated within the African American community.

Third, it ought to go without saying, but don't pay full price for anything, especially at the end of the year. There are sales galore, and when you have the money, you ought to take advantage of them. Fourth, you can build community and affinity by giving someone the gift of a contribution to their favorite charity: a church building fund, sorority or fraternity capital campaign, or a scholarship fund.

Fifth, use your 2014 holiday spending as a way to develop a budget for holiday 2015.

Christmas at Halloween? Only if you buy into the spending game, you will get tricked and predatory retailers treated by your behavior.

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

Beware of 'Click Jackers'

Move over all you computer hackers, the "click jackers" are here, intent on becoming the crime bosses of the Internet. Hackers break into your private digital information so that they can use it for all sorts of nefarious purposes. The jackers trick you into allowing them to actually take over your computer.

Here's how they do it, according to the Association of Mature American Citizens. There you are, innocently surfing the Web or checking your email, when suddenly your eye is caught by an interesting link. It takes your fancy because you are interested in the topic the link suggests. Perhaps it's

the latest news about your favorite movie star or a chance to win big bucks just for clicking. If you do that, you might almost hear the click jackers shouting "gotcha!"

Your click enables the bad guys to use your computer to do all sorts of fraudulent business like online shopping and banking, leaving you holding the bag. So, make sure your computer security applications can detect this new type of threat. In addition, advises AMAC, don't fall for the scam in the first place. Ignore all messages that mysteriously pop up on your favorite Web site and delete - don't open those odd, unexpected emails that arrive in your inbox.

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The Top 4 myths on being a great leader

By Roxi Bahar Hewertson

1. If you are a star performer in your field or discipline, you will surely be a star leader of others.

From the day we were born, all the applause has been about "what I have done well," not "what we have done well." The exception is teamwork within or outside your family. The skills, attributes and even motivations required to lead people successfully are entirely opposite from those required to be a successful individual contributor. Consider this: if the roles and skills weren't so opposite, it would be a walk in the park for someone to move seamlessly from being a great violin player to being a great conductor. Leading others is an emotional and intellectual seismic shift that will quickly separate effective leaders from ineffective ones. Making the transition from being an individual contributor to being a leader can seem as difficult as swimming from New York to London alone, without a life jacket.

2. Emotions should be left outside the workplace
Leading people is messy!

People are, and will always be, unpredictable. Each person is unique, and that means leading people is complex, fun, interesting, frustrating, and yes, messy. Life happens, and it's full of triumphs and tragedies, any of which can happen to any of us at any time. We can't predict surprises! Leaders have to be ready for just about anything and everything. Like it or not, every person brings their emotions to work. People are 24-hour thinking-feeling creatures. They can and often do behave differently from our preconceived perceptions and/or assumptions about them. Our values drive our decisions, which generates emotions that often show up in our behaviors. It's a knee bone connected to thigh bone kind of thing! Emotions are contagious; we catch flyby emotions more quickly than we catch a cold. The idea that we can keep emotions out of the workplace is a lot of bunk. Besides, we want people to feel when it suits us, right? We want them to be loyal, grateful, ethical, engaged, and kind to the people they work with and for. It's just the inconvenient feelings that we would like

people to leave at the door. It doesn't work that way. We all bring our 24-hour, life-long selves into work, like it or not.

3. The best way to make

changes is from the top and expect your people to get on board. The painful truth is, change efforts fail in every organization about 70 percent of the time, and

for some that's on a good day. The status quo has a powerful, almost surreal stranglehold on people and organizations. We think and say we are open to new

ideas and changes, but it's often not true. And the number one reason change efforts fail is because people resist them. That's because

See MYTHS, Page 13

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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504 Salon
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Irving YMCA
220 W. Irving Blvd

Mitchell's Barbershop
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Roy's Pawn Shop
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Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church "The Green"
3329 Country Club West

Irving Islamic Center Valley Ranch - Valley Ranch Masjid
9940 Valley Ranch Pkwy W.

Irving Salvation Army
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Senter Park Recreation Center
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Cimarron Park Recreation Center
201 Red River Trail

Georgia Farrow Recreation Center
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Irving Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
135 S. Jefferson

Irving City Hall
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Irving Public Library
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Emmanuel Baptist Missionary Church
511 Gilbert Road

Ben Washington Baptist Church
3901 Frisco Ave

Shepherd Church
615 W. Davis

West Irving C.O.G.I.C.
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Bible Way Baptist Church
4215 N. Greenview Dr.

Strictly Business
4159 W. Northgate

Washateria
3712 Cheyenne Street
New Life Ministries
3706 Cheyenne Street

Elisha Mane Attractions
3704 Cheyenne Street

Bear Creek Community Church
2700 Finley Rd.

Evergreen Baptist Church
3329 W. Country Club Drive

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

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

VW Barbership
4070 N. Beltline Rd. Ste. 143

Northlake College
2000 College Blvd Bldg. A

Antioch Christian Church
2041 West Walnut Hill

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
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Extending opportunities...



Ken Carter President and CEO of Focus Communications assists with the registration process at the South Oak Cliff Alliance Job Fair held on Oct. 23 from 1-3 p.m. at the Singing Hills Recreation Center. Sub-contractors participating included Carcon Industries, Reyes Group, STL Engineering, MCL Contracting, ATS Drilling, Redi Mix Concrete and EK Comstock National Transit.

Keeping your resume to the point can lead to success

When writing a resume, is better to focus on your skills that set you apart from others rather than come off as a generalist. If your resume tightly targets a specific need, it's going to be a lot easier to move beyond the first review.

Today employers are not as hung up

on whether a candidate has a perfect GPA or came from a certain school. They are often more impressed when an applicant can communicate their passion.

This should be evident on the resume as well as during the interview. The resume should reflect your area of

interest and passion through special projects successfully completed.

Don't go too far in tooting your own horn, if a candidate says they're proficient in a skill or knowledge, and upon follow up they have to admit they used it once in a class freshman year, they instantly lose credibility.

MAGNET, continued from Page 8

S2B program involved students in designing improvements to an existing transit station on a proposed extension on one of the Dallas

Rapid Area Transit lines.

The program is designed to provide students with a hands-on approach and a basic understanding of en-

gineering design, project development, project management and more.

The EEE Awards are given in three categories – gold, silver and bronze. For the 2014 award, six compa-

nies received a gold award, three received a silver award and one company received a bronze award.

MONSTER, continued from Page 7

for sleepovers and campfires this fall? “M is for Monster” fits that fine, but beware of who you’re scaring...

You probably wouldn’t think, for example, that an alphabet book is for older kids but this one definitely is. Author J. Patrick Lewis offers a basic intro to twenty-six monsters from different cultures, while illustrator Gerald Kelley’s artwork enhances the narrative to lend an eerie feeling to each creature profile.

But there’s the beware: small, sensitive

children may run, screaming, into a bedtime full of nightmares after they see what’s inside this book. The artwork is incredible but it works its magic entirely too well for little ones.

And so, while you may want to keep this out of 3-to-6-year-old hands, I think 7-to-12-year-olds (and some adults) will cherish this book for its info and especially for its art.

“M is for Monster” may be something they’ll want to read a little longer.

MYTHS, continued from Page 12

our life experiences have shown us that too many people with authority over our work lives make lousy decisions based on lousy information ending up with lousy results.

4. Being really smart and/or well-educated is all that really matters. Not even close. It is not enough to be really, really, smart. Emotional intelligence matters a heck of a lot - more even than IQ, particularly if you want to have healthy and productive relationships. Bad and ineffective leaders can create a lot of damage. Good and effective leaders can accomplish in-

credible feats with their followers. If no one is following you, you aren't leading! You can manage all kinds of tasks that might involve schedules, money, projects, budgets, and so on, and yet everything you do with your staff and other stakeholders involves relationships. How well those relationships work has a lot to do with how much TRUST is at the center of them and that has everything to do with EQ not IQ.

Leadership authority Roxi Bahar Hewertson is the CEO of Highland Consulting Group, Inc. and AskRoxi.com.



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CHRIST IN PLANO**

Mondays – Fridays
Call 972-423-8833 for AFFECT, Inc. or email: AFFECTxInc@aol.com for counseling services, resources and assistance for job readiness and training programs for individuals.

November 2, 7:35 a.m.
Join us Sunday for our praise and worship services; and receive a blessing from God.

November 18, 6:30 p.m.
You are invited to the Affect, Inc.'s Build Up to Strengthen, Affect to Empower Silent Auction at the Curtis Culwell Center, 4999 Naaman Forrest Blvd., Garland, Texas, 75040. Items include Vacation Trips, Autograph Memorabilia, Luggage, Spa Treatments, Massage, Maid Service, Desserts/Pastries, etc.

November 20, Noon
Join us for a Between Job Workshop at Christian Works for Children, 6320 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, 75240. Call 972-960-9981 to register.

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

**BETHEL BIBLE
FELLOWSHIP
CARROLLTON**

November 2, 9:45 a.m.
You're invited to our Morning Pray and Mediation followed by Morning Worship Service. God will meet and bless you.

November 5, 7 p.m.
Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Pastor Woodson teaching this week on the subject of Spiritual Warfare.

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

**CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH
IN RICHARDSON**

November 2
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
972-991-0200

**FELLOWSHIP
CHRISTIAN
CENTER CHURCH IN
ALLEN
"The Ship"**

**Monday – Friday
9 a.m.-1 p.m.**
TheShip3C's Prayer Lines for those that are in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567 or they may be submitted via email to: prayerline@theship3c.org

November 2
Join us this Sunday for our praise and worship services at 9:30 a.m. at 1550 Edelweiss Drive in Allen and bring someone with you; you will be blessed.

November 5
You're invited to our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live Prayer and Bible Study and/or our Wednesday Night Live Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word at Jocyie Turner Fellowship Hall at our 200 W. Belmont Drive location.

November 7-9
You welcome to our Marriage Takes Three seminar. Friday includes spa day, shopping, lunch and golf. Call the church for details.

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

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

**BIBLE WAY
COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH**

November 2, 7:35 a.m.
Join us this Sunday for our praise and worship services; and receive a blessing from God.

November 5, 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

**MT. OLIVE CHURCH
OF PLANO (MOCOP)**

November 2, 7:35 a.m.
Join us in Sunday School at 8:30 a.m.; stay for our Sunday prayer at 9:30 a.m. and our Worship Service at 10 a.m.

November 5, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study;

you will learn what God has to say to you.

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

**SHILOH MBC
IN PLANO**

November 2, 10 a.m.
Join us this Sunday for our praise and worship services as we glorify God; He will bless you.

November 5, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word.

November 9
Come and celebrate our 130th Church Anniversary with us. God will greet us and bless all of us.

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

**THE INSPIRING BODY
OF CHRIST CHURCH**

**November 2, 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.

November 5, 7 p.m.
Join us in Monday School as we learn what God has to say to us.

**November 22,
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.**
You're invited to celebrate with us the release and book signing of Pastor Rush's latest book, "Come out Swing." Call the church for details or go the website below.

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

**WORD OF LIFE
CHURCH OF
GOD IN CHRIST**

**Mondays - Fridays
November 2, 10:30 a.m.**
Join us for Sunday School with Elder/Superintendent Greg Mason; Sis. Vicki Mason, Adult Class teacher and Evangelist Elizabeth McAfee, Children Class teacher and Director of our Children's Choir; then stay for Morning Service at 11 a.m. as we worship, honor and praise God for His goodness.

November 4, 7:30 p.m.
You're invited to our School of The Prophets as Pastor Voss; who is a prophet, bring the Word of God; and we worship and praise His Holy name.
Dr. Gregory E. Voss,
Senior Pastor
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Building 300
Carrollton, TX 75006
214-514-9147

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8:00 a.m.
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Same Location
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Allen, TX 75013
9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Live
200 W. Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
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Voting: A right, privilege and responsibility



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

Recently, I read an article, 50 Years ago/Voting by Charles E. "Chuck" Siler. It is such an inspiring story that should compel many people, young and old to learn what a right, a privilege and a responsibility it is to vote.

In Texas, 149 years ago, Black people became free men, women and children; and five years later, in Texas, my great grandfather, Nicholas Demus, had a new name, was a property owner and he was a registered voter by paying a "Poll Tax Fee."

Freestone County Records in Fairfield, Texas, verifies that my great grandfather Nicholas was one of over 300 Black men in the County with a letter "c" after their names to indicate that they were "a Colored" voting man.

My great grandfather, Nicholas, my grandfather, Deacon David N. Demus and my father, Lloyd David

Demus, had to go to a Court House, pay a Poll Tax fee before they could register to vote; therefore it was most important to each to vote in elections.

Consequently, my entire family was taught the importance of voting, that it was a "Right, a Privilege and a Responsibility" to register when they turned 18 years old and become an "informed voter." I was in school at Prairie View A & M University, in Prairie View, Texas, "55 Years Ago", when I registered to vote and I have voted in every election since that time.

This is the same responsibility that I taught my children, Jarrell and Sheila. You should never get too busy to pass on to future generations the importance of voting.

At 18 years old, I was sure that studying the candidates were not important to my children to research the candidates and vote, so, I discussed the candidates with them and explained why I was voting for that particular candidate.

However, I did tell them that one day when they were paying school, property, road, county and city taxes; and voting for school

board members, elected officials in each area, that voting for the right candidate would be major choice and they would do their own research before voting.

Today, there is no fee to register, one does not have to go to a Court House to register, any legal citizen of the United States, can fill out an application, mail it in, and wait for their Registration Card to be mailed to them.

Even now, a voter can mail in their ballot, many elder voters mail in their ballot, my precious aunt in Ft. Worth, Texas, now mails her votes in for elections. I asked her why did she vote, her statement was, "I vote to honor my parents and

forefathers, there was a time that they were forbidden to vote and when they were granted the right, they did so in every election.

Also, my pastor told his congregation if you don't vote, you have no basis to complain." And be aware that all military personnel and U.S. citizens in foreign countries mail in their ballots. No legal person or able body person of the United States of America has a reason not to vote.

Yet, while we have more registered voters, because of certain events, especially during a "President's Election Year," we have less people voting. In reality, it is more important to vote in school board, city, county,

state and nation elections than in a "President's Election Year" because they have a direct effect on your pocket books more than anything else.

Why do we have more people voting during a "Present's Election Year" when all that they are doing is giving the candidate a "popular vote?" It doesn't affect your pocket book directly, but it does in the long run, because we have three branches of government and each branch has its own responsibility.

It is essential to remember, your "vote" is important because it allows you to vote for a candidate that has your morals and values that would be good for you, your family, property, city, county, state and your nation. And, if that candidate does not keep his or promise when elected, you can vote him/her out of office the next election.

It is a "Right," as a legal citizen of the U.S.; your Constitution guarantees you that right. Men and women have died for your right to vote your conviction.

Voting is a "Privilege." A freedom, an advantage, an honor, a benefit, a great opportunity to pick your choice for that office. God gave mankind, a choice when Jesus Christ, my Lord and my Savior died on the Cross over 2,000 years ago.

Voting is your "Responsibility." Accountability, blame if things go wrong, authority to act and to make an informed decision.

It is time for every legal citizen of the U.S. to study the issues, study the candidate and then exercise your "Right, Privilege and Responsibility" vote in Early Election or November 4th and in every election thereafter for the good of your nation.



(L to R): Mr. Young Sung brought donuts to volunteers at Bethel Bible Fellowship's Community Garage Sale, Sister Tarpley worked a North Dallas Gazette's table; and her pastor, Dr. Terrence Woodson, visited each table and event to support and encourage the volunteers.

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PASTOR: DR. JAMES A. WOODSON

Avenue F Church of Christ
1026 Avenue F • Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8833
www.avefchurchofchrist.org

Early Sunday Morning	8:00 am
Sunday Bible Class	9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship	10:45 am
Evening Worship	3:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Class	7:00 pm

Ramon Hodridge, Minister
Radio Program @ 7:30 am on KHVN 970 AM Sunday Mornings

COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
330 E. Princeton Rd. • Carrollton, TX 75006

Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11:15 am
Wednesday Prayer: 6:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm

mbcf.org 972-437-3491

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Youth Church: Every 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sunday at 10:45 a.m.
AWANA: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Contact Information: 972-423-6695
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