



Visit Us Online at www.NorthDallasGazette.com

Long history of racial tension set the stage for Ferguson protests

By Matthew Teague
LA Times

As Dorothy Kaiser rides down the main streets of Ferguson, the town unfolds before her like a diary. This neighborhood is newer; that one is older; she raised her children in this house, and grew up in that one herself.

As far as anyone can tell, she has lived here longer than anyone. She's 80 now, and moved to Ferguson at 2. She understands this place.

Moving west along one of the town's central streets, Suburban, she points and recounts and smiles. She knows every doorway and mailbox.

Then, at a narrow spot in the road, she falls silent. The diary slams shut.

"I wouldn't really know this area," she says.

This is where the gate used to be, she says.

The one to keep black people out. At the narrow spot there's a sign: "Welcome to City of Kinloch."

Kinloch is the oldest black town in Missouri, and possibly west of the Mississippi River, formed in the 1890s when a real estate developer found a loophole in laws against selling property to black people.



Protesters block traffic along West Florissant Avenue in Ferguson, Mo. A grand jury's decision last week not to indict a white Ferguson police officer in the killing of Michael Brown, an unarmed black man, stoked anger over the shooting, leading to more demonstrations and arrests. (Wally Skaljic / Los Angeles Times)

Life there centered on Kinloch Airfield, a history-making place where President Theodore Roosevelt flew in a plane built by the Wright brothers, where the first control tower was built, where a man first parachuted out of a plane.

Larman Williams grew up in Kinloch. He is now 80, like his white counterpart, Dorothy Kaiser. Like her, he knew his town block by block, and remembers it as a vibrant place. "People were wonderful," he said.

People were poor, sure, but they worked hard. The problem was that

other than the airport, all the businesses — and so, the tax base — were based in Ferguson. Black people from Kinloch could cross into Ferguson during the day to work as maids or factory men. But they had to be back across the border by sunset, when the gates closed.

The ordinance ordering black people out of town was known as the "sundown law," and cities across the nation had similar rules. Ferguson's was around into the 1940s. And if whites and blacks had little contact or understanding of each

See FERGUSON, Page 3



Minority-owned businesses still not adequately represented

-See Page 3



Wake up without the coffee

-See Page 4



Elle Varner at House of Blues

-See Page 9



Win Tix to Jubilation!!!

[http://www.facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette!](http://www.facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette/)

COMMENTARY

How do Blacks in Ferguson effectuate the change they desire?

NDG Editorial

In the wake of nationwide protests following the death of Michael Brown and the sham of a grand jury proceeding Black America finds itself once again in a familiar dilemma. Where do we go from here? What are the solutions? How do we reaffirm our humanity in the eyes of White America to convince them that the #Blacklivesmatter#?

Thousands of activists,

young and old, throughout the country --- including Dallas --- have taken to the streets to demand justice. They are asking for accountability, transparency, change in policy and most importantly, an end to the onslaught on African-American life, males especially.

In observing from the outside looking in the question that repeatedly arises is where is the

See CHANGE, Page 7

INSIDE...

- People In The News 2
- Op/Ed 3
- Health 4
- Community 5
- Education 6
- Community Spotlight 7-8
- Entertainment 9-10
- Market Place 11
- Career Opportunity 12-13
- Church Directory 14-15
- NDG Book Review 16

People In The News...

See Page 2



PO2 Clarence Allen



Elissa Gabrielle



Zach Tate

Stay in the know by registering for NDG Weekly Newsletter at [NorthDallasGazette.com!](http://NorthDallasGazette.com)

PO2 Clarence Allen

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – A 2006 Grand Prairie High School graduate and Grand Prairie, Texas native is serving with Patrol Squadron Sixteen (VP-16), also known as the “War Eagles”.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Clarence Allen is an aviation structural mechanic with VP-16, a Jacksonville-based squadron that operates the Navy’s newly-designed maritime patrol aircraft, the P-8A Poseidon.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Clarence Allen is an aviation structural mechanic



with VP-16, a Jacksonville-based squadron that operates the Navy’s newly-designed maritime patrol aircraft, the P-8A Poseidon. Each aircraft has an aircrew of nine, is nearly 130 feet

long, may weigh up to 188,200 lbs. (max gross) and can travel over 560 miles per hour and nearly 1,380 miles on a tank of gas.

As an aviation structural mechanic, Allen’s job duties are to maintain aircraft airframe and structural components flight surfaces and controls hydraulic and pneumatic control and actuating systems and mechanisms, landing gear systems, air conditioning, pressurization, visual improvement, oxygen and other utility systems.

“We prime and paint and make minor metal repairs

and repair some of the composite materials on the aircraft, and all flight control services,” said Allen.

The Navy’s replacement platform for the P-3C, the P-8A Poseidon, is designed to secure the Navy’s future in long-range maritime patrol capability, while transforming how the Navy’s maritime patrol and reconnaissance force will man, train, operate and deploy.

“It is pretty reliable, nothing really breaks on it because it is so new, for the most part and the airframe itself is reliable,” said Allen.

The P-8A provides more combat capability from a

smaller force and less infrastructure while focusing on worldwide responsiveness and interoperability with traditional manned forces and evolving unmanned sensors.

Allen also said he is proud of the work he is doing as part of the squadron’s 260-member team, helping to protect America on the world’s oceans.

“This squadron is a lot smaller than what I am used to, and there is a family aspect to serving with VP-16,” said Allen.

The P-8A leverages the experience and technology

of the P-3C’s capabilities and assets to meet the Navy’s needs of developing and fielding a maritime aircraft equipped with significant growth potential, including an extended global reach, greater payload capacity, higher operating altitude, and the open systems architecture.

The War Eagles were the first squadron to deploy with the new P-8A platform. One of their first major missions had international attention as they participated in the international search effort for Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 in

See ALLEN, Page 4

Elissa Gabrielle

Empowering, Enlightening, Engaging and Inspirational, Elissa Gabrielle is a powerhouse in the literary industry. Respected by many, revered in the highest regard, Elissa Gabrielle maintains a spirit of excellence in all she does. She is known to have the midas touch. The sky is the limit for this sassy, sundry and prolific author. Elissa Gabrielle has broken the ceiling of literary excellence with her gift in the skill of multi-genre writing. The author of multiple poetry books, numerous nov-



els and contributor to several anthologies, Elissa has proven herself to be well-versed in artistic creativity.

Elissa Gabrielle has the uncanny ability to take newcomers and mold,

shape them into literary superstars and has created multiple award-winning authors and best-selling books in the process.

Her colloquial and imaginative creations have led to sensual and seductive inclusions in Zane’s Purple Panties, Erogenous Zone: A Sexual Voyage, Mocha Chocolate: A Taste of Ecstasy, The Heat of the Night, Historie Chocolate D’Amour, Pillow Talk in the Heat of The Night, Zane’s Busy Bodies: Chocolate Flava 4 and more.

As a Literary Entrepreneur, Elissa is the founder of the greeting card line, Greetings from the Soul:

The Elissa Gabrielle Collection, collaborator and creator of The Triumph of My Soul, and publisher of Peace In The Storm Publishing. Elissa has managed to turn relatively unknown authors into household names and has molded and shaped the careers of some of today’s brightest literary stars. In addition to these innovative achievements, Elissa has graced the covers of Conversations Magazine, Big Time Publishing Magazine, Disilgold Soul Magazine and has been featured in Urbania Magazine and Black Literature Magazine.

Peace In The Storm Publishing has been nominated

in several categories in the African American Literary Awards Show, and has won Independent Publisher of the Year in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

In addition, Elissa Gabrielle won for Self-Published Author of the Year in 2010 for her explosive novel, “A Whisper to a Scream.” Elissa also won for Self-Published Author of the Year for the collaborative effort, “The Heat of the Night.”

Her writing and publishing passion is rooted in her desire to give a reader’s soul a rise, one page at a time and grounded in her quest to bring forth the Triumph

Anthology series, an ongoing testament of faith.

The first anthology in the series was the highly acclaimed The Triumph of My Soul, which will be followed by The Soul of a Man and The Breakthrough respectively. “I started the Triumph series because in life, we all fall down, but by the Grace of God, we get back up. There is always victory in tomorrow,” Elissa says about the Triumph series.

By pushing herself to stay a cut above the rest, Elissa Gabrielle brilliantly and consistently delivers Literary best.

Zach Tate

The man, the Legend, the Myth. Zach Tate is more than just an author, he’s a legendary artist with the gift of both the spoken and written word. He’s an entrepreneur with vision. He’s a motivational speaker with the power to transform lives. And he’s a fitness expert with the talent to transform bodies and health. He is encouragement, enlightenment, inspiration and motivation on fire.

Tate is the critically-acclaimed, #1 best-selling author of the classic novels, No Way Out, Lost and Turned Out and Johnny Hustle. He is the Maestro behind some of the best penned and most popular



novels across many genres and is known as the “Ghostwriters Ghost Writer” for his ability to create authors who are living legends from his words and epic storytelling. Throughout his literary career, which spans more than a decade, Zach has sold over 100,000 books. With Gambling with

Hearts, Zach is back with a healthy dose of authentic storytelling complete with everything his loyal readers have come to expect from him.

Born in the Bronx, New York and raised by the hard knocks of life, he’s reemerging with a mission to bring back quality stories full of substance. A writer of screen and stage plays, poetry, songs, novels and television shows, Zach wears the crown as King of Fiction proudly. He currently resides in North America, where he is building a legacy, enjoying the fellowship of his readers and working on the next big thing.

SAVE OUR YOUTH! Tate is passionate about today’s youth and has cre-

ated a one-man show where he takes his audience from the streets to prison to a better way of life. His powerful performance has yielded standing ovations and has helped to change the perspectives and ultimately the lives who have been fortunate enough to witness the awe-inspiring and life changing show.

As a certified personal trainer with over a decade of experience in the health and wellness industry, Tate has helped to transform the lives of many clients by educating them on the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. management.

Clothing designer, model and actor are just a few other titles Tate carries. To learn more about Tate visit www.greatzachtate.wordpress.com.

\$69* DIVORCE

Criminal Defense

- DWI / Suspended License
- WARRANTS Removed*
- 24 Hour Jail Release*
- Occupational license, felonies
- Protective Order
- Misdemeanor/Felonies*

Family Cases

- Divorce / Annulment
- Child Support / Paternity
- Custody Modification
- Restraining Order
- Protective Order
- Name Change / Adoption
- Domestic Violence

Easy Payment Plans

Law Offices Of Vincent Ndukwe

214-638-5930

817-277-0196 (Metro)

2730 N. Stemmons Frwy, Suite 409 • Dallas, TX 75207

Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization
¥ If you qualify. *Fees quoted above are minimum down payment needed to begin processing your case.



P.O. Box 763866 • Dallas, Texas 75376-3866



Phone: 972-516-4191
Fax: 972-509-9058



North Dallas Gazette assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.

“Do what you say you are going to do ... when you say you are going to do it.”

Publisher's Office:
publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:
marketing@northdallasgazette.com

Editorial Department:
editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:
www.NorthDallasGazette.com
www.twitter.com/NDGEditor
www.facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette
www.pinterest.com/NDallasGazette

STAFF

Chairman Emeritus

Jim Bochum
1933 – 2009

Editor

Ruth Ferguson

VP of Digital Marketing and Entertainment

Jessica Brewer

Published By

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Web Master

Todd Jones

Contributing Writers

Jackie Hardy
Ivy N. McQuain
Terri Schlichenmeyer
Nicole Scott
Tamarind Phinisee

Special Projects Manager

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

Editorial Writers

Ivy N. McQuain
Ruth Ferguson
Nicole Scott

Community Marketing

Nina Garcia

Production

David Wilfong

Religious/ Marketing Editor

Shirley Demus Tarpley

Advisory Board:

John Dudley
Myrtle Hightower
Fred Moses
Annie Dickson
Cecil Starks
Willie Wattlely
Coty Rodriguez-Anderson
B. J. Williams
Denise Upchurch
Barbara Simpkins,
ADVISORY BOARD SECRETARY

Advisory Board Committees:

Public Relations Planning and Implementation
Cecil Starks, CHAIRPERSON
Business Growth Referral
John Dudley, CHAIRPERSON
Program Policy Development
Annie Dickson, CHAIRPERSON
Quality Assurance
Myrtle Hightower, CHAIRPERSON
Coty Rodriguez

The North Dallas Gazette, formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded in July 1991, by Mr. Jim Bochum and Mr. Thurman R. Jones. North Dallas Gazette is a wholly owned subsidiary of Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Minority Owned Businesses still underrepresented in state procurement

By contributing writer
Nicole James Scott
TPA Wire Service

After conducting a disparity study in 2009 The

Texas Comptroller's office concluded special programs to secure procurement for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs) are still necessary. It went on to af-

firm its commitment to ensure state agencies make a concerted effort to utilize HUBs for contracts in construction, professional and consulting services and

commodities purchases. All state agencies, medical and health facilities and institutions of higher learning were included in the study.

See M.O.B. Page 11

FERGUSON, continued from Page 1

other, that wasn't surprising. "Oh, I was scared of them," Kaiser said. "They were black. They were different."

I mean, yeah, there was tension. But there's always going to be tension. Right? - Brian Fletcher, former Ferguson mayor

The fear climbed in Ferguson, Kaiser said, when Missouri changed its laws against selling property to black people. "There was anxiety," she said. "They were coming."

And no gate could stop them.

By the late 1960s, Williams had finished school — a master's degree in education — and taken a job as a teacher. He and his wife, Geraldine, decided to buy a home of their own.

"I wanted to live in a nice house," he said recently, laughing. "I had bought us a big new car, and wanted a house to go with it."

The house he saw on Buckeye Drive in Ferguson seemed ideal. Lots of windows, a big yard that sloped down to the street. A "for sale" sign.

"So I called," he said. But the real estate agent could tell he was black, on the phone. No sale.

So Williams found a way around it, by calling his pastor, who went to speak to the seller on his behalf and vouched for his character, his work ethic, his spirituality. And it worked. In 1968, Larman Williams became the first black man in his neighborhood — and probably all of Ferguson — to buy property. His three children were the first black students to go to the Ferguson school.

"It was important, yes it was," Geraldine said. She and Williams have since divorced and he lives in a

home for seniors. But she still lives in the little house on Buckeye, where the day before Thanksgiving she and her grandchildren cooked in the kitchen.

Buying a house there felt important. But it didn't feel good. Neighbors stood off from them, at first. Other kids wouldn't befriend theirs.

Then one day, things started to change. "My neighbor called out to me from his yard," Williams said. "He wanted to apologize. He had seen humanity in us, with time. People started to see us as part of the neighborhood."

By the 1980s, everything in Ferguson changed.

The Kinloch Airfield, which had grown to become the St. Louis airport, needed land as it expanded. Lots of land. So it began buying up homes in Kinloch, scarfing up property at prices above the going rate — creating a pressure shift between Kinloch and Ferguson. Suddenly black people had enormous incentive to leave Kinloch and cross the border permanently.

"You had people with enough money to buy houses they couldn't have afforded otherwise," said former Ferguson Mayor Brian Fletcher. "Houses they couldn't afford to maintain. So things went down."

At first, black residents wound up clustered in neighborhoods where it was easier for them to buy property. Then, in relatively short order, they became the predominant demographic in Ferguson. In 1990, roughly three-quarters of residents were white, and one quarter was black. In 20 years that ratio reversed.

Kinloch imploded. Its population dwindled to just

a couple of hundred people.

As Ferguson became more black, its political structure stayed white. The specifics would later be picked apart on cable news: A white mayor. An almost exclusively white City Council. Among scores of police officers, only a couple who were not white.

Fletcher said the city struggled during his term to find black police officers. Ferguson wanted them, he said, but they could make much better money in wealthier neighboring towns with lower crime rates. "They got the cream of the crop," Fletcher said. "We just couldn't make the ratios."

Fletcher now runs the "I Love Ferguson" shop downtown, where he sat recently surrounded by Ferguson souvenirs. He spoke with enormous passion about his town.

Yes, there was a problem, he said. But no one knew how to solve it.

"I mean, yeah, there was tension," he said. He shrugged and held his shoulders hunched. "But there's always going to be tension. Right?"

The night the grand jury announced its decision not to indict Officer Darren Wilson for shooting Michael Brown, people gathered on the street in front of the Ferguson Police Department.

The crowd organized itself in identifiable concentric rings. On the edges there were people who came for the spectacle, laughing, jubilant. Toward the middle were people concerned but not violent; they had come to speak out. And at the middle, pressed against the barricades, was a core of people who spat at the police facing them.

"How can you live with yourself?" yelled 55-year-

old Marvin Skull, who wore a ski mask and a bulletproof vest. He singled out the lone black officer in the line of police. "Hey, there's some trash over here! Why don't you come tidy it up for your masters?"

At the center of the protest someone used a bullhorn to castigate the police, in the minutes before the grand jury announced its findings. A few seconds after the announcement, the bullhorn arced through the air, end over end, and crashed into the police officers' riot shields. The time for words had given way.

The rest of the night played out on front pages and television screens around the world, as looters plundered stores and some businesses went up in flames.

In his tiny room at the senior center, Larman Williams sat among the signifiers of his life: his Bible, his diploma, a photo of his parents, a photo of his children. He watched as the events unspooled on his television.

At first Williams understood the protesters and their wants. He had lived in this town — with this police force — longer than any of them. But once the violence started, he said, he felt nothing but heartbreak.

Many protesters were young — born decades after blacks had to leave Ferguson by nightfall. Many weren't even from Ferguson — agitators who poured into town from other parts of Missouri or other states.

"It's not the way we do this," he said. "It's so much foolishness."

He searched a moment for his eyeglasses on a table, and finally looked up.

"I'm tired," he said.
matthew.teague@latimes.com

Ten ways to wake up without a cup of coffee

By Kate Bratskeir
Special to the NNPA from
The Houston Forward-Times

Coffee is good. Coffee is great. More than half of adults in the U.S. think so, drinking a cup of the stuff every day. The habit has been shown to lower the risk for diabetes, depression and some cancers.

While many of us count on a cup to wake us up in the morning, drinking coffee isn't the only way to energize yourself for the day ahead. Whether you're trying to cut back on your coffee consumption or have never been able to warm up to the beverage's bitter taste, check out the 10 other things that can invigorate your sleepy mornings.

Try Some Uplifting Stretches

"Fish pose" — lie flat on your back and bring your hands underneath your hips. Then, lift your chest above

your shoulders and stretch your head back slowly. Fish pose is just one yogic move that stimulates the body

Chomp On An Apple

Taking a bite of this energizing fruit is a delicious way to jolt your body into gear. Apples contain natural sugars and other carbohydrates that can help stabilize your blood sugar. Other fruits, like bananas and oranges, will do the same. Pair a fruit with a protein, like a serving of Greek yogurt, for sustained satiety.

Roll Out Of Bed And Work Out

Heading outside for a morning run may be the last thing you want to do while comfy under warm covers, but lacing up your sneakers in the a.m. has been shown to boost your mood and energy levels. Exercise releases endorphins that'll make you feel good and more prepared for the day.



You don't have to go on a five-mile run to reap these benefits. Try something like the seven-minute workout (which takes about the same amount of time it'd take to brew and drink a cup of coffee) and earn yourself a jolt.

Get Some Fresh Air And Sunlight

If you're really not down for a morning workout, consider going for a gentle stroll for your boost. The proverbial "breath of fresh air" has been shown to reduce feelings of stress and fatigue. Getting a dose of morning sun is linked with

better mood and lower BMI — a double-win.

Give Yourself A Massage

One study found that performing a little acupressure could assist in providing a bit of energy. As HuffPost reported in 2013:

The study had volunteers stimulate five pressure points on the body for three minutes each: the top of the head, the point between your thumb and index finger, right below the center of the knee cap, below the ball of the foot and the base of your neck.

Take A Cold Shower

Yes, it's miserable (but you will get used to it if you turn it into a habit), but the instant change in temperature can actually relieve stress and make you feel more alert.

If the idea is too much (or too cold) for you, start simple by splashing your face with some cool water. It'll have similar stress-relieving powers.

Pour Yourself A Very Cold Glass Of Water

Still feeling temperature shy? Compromise by drinking a cup of ice water first thing in the morning. Like the shower, it'll trigger your adrenaline and boost blood flow to your brain.

Try Tea

If you enjoy the ritual of sipping something warm in the morning, swap your cup of coffee for tea. The drink still contains caffeine (though considerably less)

for a little buzz, as well as many other benefits, including strengthening the immune system and lowering blood pressure.

Call Mom

Chatting up anyone with whom you feel a close personal connection can help charge you up.

But Mom may be best at it. She may have been the one to holler your name during the days you slept on a bunk bed, and she still might be the one to pull you from your groggy state. Research suggests merely phoning your dear mother could help decrease feelings of stress.

Make Morning Its Own Soundtrack

Craft yourself an a.m. playlist packed with your favorite energizing tunes and listen to it while you're getting ready in the morning. It'll help jazz you up.

ALLEN, continued from Page 2

the southern Indian Ocean. "I was in Australia, making sure that the aircraft was able to participate in the search and rescue of MH370, it was a good experience because we were working toward a common

goal that had a big impact on families," said Allen. Sailors' jobs are highly varied in VP-16. Approximately 60 officers, 200 enlisted men and women make up and keep all parts of the squadron running

smoothly — this includes everything from maintaining aircraft airframes and engines, to processing paperwork, handling weaponry, and flying the aircraft.

"Every day I feel an extraordinary amount of pride to serve alongside our great

Nation's most inspiring men and women," said Cmdr. Daniel Papp, VP-16's commanding officer. "Our team is filled with hardworking and highly qualified professionals who hold uncommon levels of responsibility and account-

ability in support of our mission: To provide maritime patrol services to the fleet in support of national interests. Their work ethic, commitment, enthusiasm, and esprit de corps are second to none!"

As a member of one of

the U.S. Navy's newest maritime patrol aircraft platforms, Allen and other VP-16 sailors are proud to part of a warfighting team that readily defends America at all times.

Source: Navy Office of Community Outreach

INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT?

Let Us Get You The Help & Money You Deserve

Auto Accidents
18 Wheeler Wrecks
Slip & Fall

(214) 749-0040

We Also Handle Criminal
Defense & Wills and
Probate

Gina Smith & Associates
(214) 749-0040

Free Personal Injury
Consultation



Start when you want to!

- Convenient
- Affordable
- Flexible
- Transferable

Richland College
DALLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
www.richlandcollege.edu

AT&T faces \$10 billion discrimination suit

By Freddie Allen
NNPA Senior
Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — A group that advocates for economic inclusion and fair contracting for Black-owned media recently filed a \$10 billion dollar lawsuit alleging racial discrimination against AT&T and DirecTV.

The National Association of African American Owned Media (NAAAOM) filed the lawsuit for an unnamed company that “owns seven original content, high definition television networks (channels), six of which were launched to public in 2009 and one in 2012” and according to the complaint “is the only 100 percent African American-owned video programming producer and multi-channel operator/owner in the United States.”

The suit alleges that AT&T and DirecTV violated a federal statute (Title 42 U.S. Code 1981) found in the Civil Rights Act of 1866, a law that was originally designed to protect freed slaves from discrimination as they joined the labor market and entered business contracts.

Marty Richter, a spokesman for AT&T, called the allegations ‘out-

landish’ and ‘completely baseless,’ and said that the company spent \$15.5 billion with diverse suppliers last year.”

Skip Miller, the lead trial counsel for the plaintiff and partner with the Miller Baroness, LLP law firm in Los Angeles, said his firm is going up against one of the largest corporations in the United States with vast resources, but it’s a lawsuit like any other lawsuit.

“The real deal is the money, that’s what this is about,” said Mark DeVitre, president of NAAAOM. “It’s about economic inclusion in mainstream America. The First Amendment requires diversity.”

According to the lawsuit, AT&T and DirecTV, collectively pay White-owned media companies approximately \$16 billion combined, every year for channel carriage license fees, but don’t pay anything to 100 percent African American-owned media companies.

Even though AT&T executives admitted that they have a “black problem” to the company, according to the lawsuit, they have largely adopted a “wait and see” approach, refusing to increase the amount of business they do with the Black media company, unless it has a negative impact on

their merger with DirecTV. “They [AT&T], just said, ‘No,’” said Miller. “We know you have good programming, but we don’t want to deal with you.”

AT&T carries one of the unnamed company’s seven channels, but instead of paying carriage fees to the company, the telephone and media conglomerate requires that the company pay AT&T hundreds of thousands of dollars per year for the programming.

“Ultimately, AT&T stated that it would consider entering into a carriage agreement with the Company only if AT&T’s and DirecTV’s lack of 100 percent African-American owned channels interferes with approval of the acquisition,” states the complaint filed on December 3. “Otherwise, AT&T would continue to refuse to contract with the Company for its suite of channels, and would shut out the Company from its billions in channel carriage license fees and advertising and expenditures.”

The suit also alleges that AT&T and other White-owned media companies donate money to nationally-recognized civil rights groups in an effort to “buy” their support, actions the complaint calls “window dressing and a deceptive

practice.” “They can get up there say, ‘We support the Urban League.’ Those are all good organizations,” said Miller. “But what does that have to do with the media business?”

DeVitre said those contributions don’t have anything to do with getting African American voices and viewpoints on television.

According to the legal document, 100 percent African American-owned media receive less than \$1.5 million of the approximately \$4 billion that AT&T

See AT&T, Page 16

Indianapolis Recorder publisher passes at 69

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., NNPA President issued a statement on the passing of National Newspaper Publisher Association member Bill Mays:

“On behalf of the National Newspaper Publishers Association Board of Directors and our entire NNPA membership across the nation, we pause sadly to express our sincerest condolences and sympathy to the family of William “Bill” Mays. At the age of 69, William G. Mays was the publisher of the Indianapolis Recorder newspaper and the founder and CEO of Mays Chemical Company. “Bill Mays was an outstanding and trailblazing entrepreneur in Indiana and was recognized nationally as a visionary and innovator. The Indianapolis Recorder continues to uplift the legacy of excellence and service that characterized the leadership of Mays. Our prayers are with the Mays’ family. May the grace and love of God sustain all through this period of bereavement.”

START PUSHING YOURSELF EVEN FURTHER.

START YOUR JOURNEY.

START DISCOVERING NEW TALENTS.

START A NEW EXPERIENCE.

START OUT ON TOP.

ARMY ROTC

START MOLDING YOUR STRENGTHS.

START BUILDING YOUR CAREER.

START AHEAD OF THE CROWD.

START STRONG.

There's strong. Then there's Army Strong. Many executives became leaders by enrolling in Army ROTC. So can you. Join Army ROTC at TCU, UNT, and Baylor University to move ahead after college and beyond. You may even receive a full-tuition scholarship.

To learn more, visit goarmy.com/rotc/tcu

ARMY ROTC

U.S. ARMY

ARMY STRONG.

Call 811-257-6461 today to learn more about Army ROTC opportunities!
Texas Christian University
Baylor University
University of North Texas

© 2009. Paid for by the United States Army. All rights reserved.

Improve your Selfie!

Enroll Now!

Spring Registration ends January 14

El Centro College
DALLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

SMART STARTS HERE.

801 MAIN STREET DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 214-860-2000 www.elcc.edu/rotc@elcc.edu

'A View from the Bridge' on stage at the Collin College

"A View from the Bridge" by Arthur Miller, a classic American tragedy, will be performed Dec. 4-14 at the Collin College Spring Creek Campus Black Box Theatre.

Set amongst the dock-

workers in Brooklyn's Red Hook district, "A View from the Bridge" tells the story of longshoreman Eddie Carbone, who smuggles his cousins into the American dream. A tragedy and modern classic, this

play explores themes of judgment, respect, relationships, possibilities and uncertainties.

Show times are 8 p.m. on Dec. 10-13 and 2:15 p.m. on Dec. 13-14. Due to limited seating, tickets must be

purchased in advance and are available at www.collintheatrecenter.com. Student and senior tickets are \$10 and general admission is \$10. For more information, contact the Collin

Theatre Center Box Office at boxoffice@collin.edu or 972.881.5809.

This play contains adult situations. It is up to the parent/guardian or patron to make the determination if

an event is age appropriate prior to purchasing tickets. Ushers will not prevent entry of children and young people. There will be no late seating for this production.

Richland College joins celebration at White House

Richland College president Kathryn K. Eggleston, Ph.D., and Dallas County Community College District chancellor Joe D. May, Ed.D., joined President Barack Obama, the First Lady, Vice President Joe Biden and hundreds of other college presidents and higher education leaders in Washington, D.C., last week to announce new actions to help more students prepare for and graduate from college.

The White House College Opportunity Day of Action

supported the President's commitment to partner with colleges and universities, business leaders and non-profits to support students across the country to help the nation reach its goal of leading the world in college attainment.

"Richland College is well-positioned to be a part of such an ambitious initiative to assist greater numbers of students in their educational pursuits toward degree completion and well-paying jobs," said Eggleston.

To be a part of this event, Richland College committed to expanding its Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Center to reach more than 4,000 students during the next three to five years with proven programs to increase STEM success.

Richland College was able to create the STEM Center by leveraging community partnerships and external resources. Initially partnering with the Univer-

See RICHLAND, Page 13

CASH FOR CARS
 ALL Cars/Trucks WANTED!
 Running or Not!
 Damaged/Wrecked...OK!
 FREE pick-up and towing!
 Sell your car in 60 seconds!
CALL NOW FOR A FREE GUARANTEED OFFER!
1-888-524-9668
www.cashforcar.com

CASH TODAY!!!
 Fair Price Offer For Oil and/or Gas Royalty
 Small "NET" Revenue Interest



No Matter How Small

Fax Information To:
972-509-9058
 Call:
972-432-5219
 (Leave Message)

Email:
inquiries1909@gmail.com

FREE RENT



Same Day Move-In • GREAT Location!! (Dallas)

STOP PAYING SO MANY FEES! Our rent is FULL SERVICE. We pay for utilities – electricity, heating, air conditioning, and janitorial services ... it's all included! No "Plus-E" – No "CAM." NO PERSONAL OR BUSINESS FINANCIAL HISTORY REQUIRED! GREAT DEALS ON ONE-ROOM SUITES! --- STOP PAYING TOO MUCH RENT! (Just North of Downtown Dallas)

- Surveillance Camera • No Application or Application Fees
- Five-Page lease - Short & Simple • Extremely Competitive Rates
- Same-Day Move-In • Flexible Lease Terms
- On-site Management, Maintenance, Leasing and Space Planning
- Ample, Convenient Parking • No Credit Check
- Beautiful Glass & architecturally unique Building!

Rent Starting at \$199 per month (9.99/sq.ft.)

Office / Medical Space
 1327 Empire Central (@ I-35 Stemmons Freeway)
 Dallas, TX 75247
 (972) 432-5219

NDG now has a "Special Advertising Package" for churches and non-profit organizations that need to let the community know about your Special Event.

Opportunity You Can Measure...

Church Events

- Church Anniversary
- Pastor's Anniversary
- Women's Day
- Men's Day

Non-Profit Org. Events

- Fundraisers (Concerts)
- Special Events (Personal or Community)

Special Rate \$199

(Black & White, per insertion)

Ad size - 4.905" x 6" (Quarter Page, B&W)

(NOTE: Color Ad \$75 extra per inserion)

Production disclaimer - NDG ad meake-ready is not included in promotion. Layout/production of "copy ready" ad will be a nominal extra cost.

E-mail ad copy to: Marketing@NorthDallasGazette.com or call our Marketing Department today!

972-432-5219



Chris Rock does Dallas...



Chris Rock the star of the upcoming flick *Top Five* visited Dallas to promote the film recently. A long-time Dallas Cowboys fan, Rock often enjoys visiting the home town of his favorite team. For this trip he apparently got in touch with his more traditional "cowboy" side of as shown in these photos.



CHANGE, continued from Page 1

Black leadership in Ferguson? Where are the community activists and local organizers? In a town that is 67 percent Black, why are five of the six city council members White as well as the mayor?

With Blacks comprising 86 percent of traffic stops, 92 percent of arrests and the only ones being shot dead in the streets unarmed, why are we not turning up in droves at the polls. How come between the shooting of Michael Brown on August 9 and the deadline to register to vote on Oct. 8 only 204 residents of Ferguson became registered voters?

It goes without saying the righteous indignation of those in Ferguson in the form of protests, rioting and looting is understandable. Their pain is not only felt but also shared. However this energy can and should be much more effectively channeled. There must be

someone on the ground, some voice of reason in Ferguson who can provide the much needed direction and guidance to lead Blacks in reversing their current condition.

How is it the same people who created close to half of this country's inventions during the Reconstruction and Jim Crow eras are now incapable of electing a government that is representative of and speaks for them when they are two-thirds of the population? This kind of reality can only exist within the Black community. No other ethnic group would allow this.

And while we are still waiting on "the Man" to save us, thinking White America holds the key to our salvation, we continuously forfeit the opportunity to change our own reality. On Nov. 4, 2014 the same residents of Ferguson and the St. Louis region who are enraged and protesting the

gross injustice that occurred with the killing of Michael Brown and subsequent acquittal of Darren Wilson had the opportunity to elect a new County Executive, an African-American. But not just any African-American, a long-time civil rights activist who also led protests against the killing of Trayvon Martin. Coming on the heels of the killing of Brown, Zaki Baruti should have been a shoo-in. Especially when one considers the alternative, Steve Stenger who won his primary largely due to the support of Prosecutor Bob McCulloch.

Blacks in Ferguson and in cities all across America do not have the political clout to change legislation in Washington but what we do have is power to change our local governments.

Protesting, boycotting, marching, pleading, moral suasion, even looting has not nor will never persuade White America to fix what is wrong in the Black community. It is not their re-

sponsibility nor are they capable. They have their own problems that need fixing. No, just as we built flourishing communities in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Hampton Roads at a time when segregation was legal, we had no voting rights and very other civil rights, so can we now.

There is a particular resonance in that age-old saying "God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can and wisdom to know the difference."

Black people in Ferguson, Chicago, Philadelphia, Jackson, Dallas or anywhere else in these United States of America cannot change how Whites feel or think about them. We cannot change how White America values us. What we do have the power to change is us.

The time is long overdue for Black America to break the curse of Willie Lynch and empower ourselves and communities.



Winter weather's coming. Is your home ready?



Whether you need to replace drafty windows, an aging water heater, or an energy-guzzling furnace, our affordable Unsecured Home Improvement Loan can help you warm up your home just in time for holiday guests.

Unsecured Home Improvement Loan

- Not tied to home value or equity
- Borrow as little as \$500¹
- Funds immediately available
- Competitive fixed rate
- No closing costs

Ready to warm up?

Give us a call at 972-578-5000.
Hablamos español – 972-801-5858



ViewPoint Bank.

viewpointbank.com

(1) Borrower must meet certain qualifications for loan amounts less than \$2,500. Normal credit standards apply. All terms and conditions subject to change without notice.



NDG 12 Days of Christmas Gift Guide Kicking Off

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

Keep your eye on NorthDallasGazette.com for a wide range of gift ideas starting on Dec. 10!

We will spotlight items for children, seniors, your sweetheart, co-worker and even your doggie! Just to

give you an idea of the treats in store:

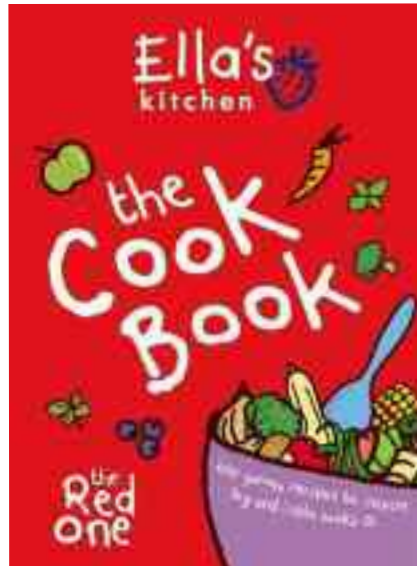
The Oh My Goodness this is beyond good bread is from La Brea Bakery. Their Holiday Stuffing Loaf totally lives up to the promise of being unique and savory, infused with sage, celery, thyme. My office much to my personal disappoint-

ment devoured it, because yes I wanted to enjoy it all by myself. I set it out on the conference table and someone quickly found butter and the rest was history.

From the moment you smell it, you know it is going to be delicious. Some cooks might break it up and use it for homemade stuff. Smart eaters will slice it and use it for a left-over turkey sandwich.

The Cranberry Walnut Loaf and Salted Caramel Pecan Loaf are also delicious. You can actually make one of these unique loaves yourself. But trust me you would much rather

get one of their wonderfully baked loaves delivered to your front door. Visit LaBreaBakery.com for recipes and to order these breads and much more.



Ella's Kitchen provides parents (grandparents and aunts welcome too!) to have fun and make memories with kids in the kitchen. The Cook Book – The Red



One and The Big Baking Book – The Yellow One are two cute books that spotlight how to make healthy eating fun, tasty, and believe it or not actually! (\$13 each, walmart.com)

You don't have to live with a grumpy cat if you give them a Feline Yogi Cat Yoga Mat complete with their very own catnip ball (\$24.99). The sisal rope with a catnip stuffed twine

ball is attached to each yoga mat to stimulate and inspire your cat.

Your purchase will help out homeless animals at AdoptAndShop.org where they are for pets not profit!

Keep your eyes on NorthDallasGazette.com for more gift ideas throughout the holiday season for everyone on your holiday shopping wishlist.



The naked and the bed

It's cool to sleep in the buff and that's good for you, according to the Association of Mature American Citizens.

Dr. Chris Idzikowski, Director of Scotland's Edinburgh Sleep Centre, says "the advantage of sleeping naked is it's easier for the body to cool and maintain the lower temperature the brain wants to achieve."

He's written a book about sleep called, *Sound Asleep: The Expert Guide to Sleeping Well.* In it he also advises the older folks among us, who might be tempted to wear bed socks on those nights when it may be a bit brisk, to swap them out for a hot water bottle.

'Bed socks don't allow you to lose heat from your feet, so you'll end up too

hot. Hot water bottles get your feet warm, but then they cool down or can be kicked out of the way."

The National Sleep Foundation says one third of American adults sleep in the nude and that many of them report the practice offers a variety of health benefits. They also say it makes for a better love life, according to AMAC.

New wheels for a warrior...



Dallas resident, George Way recently received a refurbished 2008 Honda Civic and six months of car insurance on Veteran's Day compliments of Progressive Insurance.

George is a 23-year old Army Veteran who has been deployed to both Afghanistan and Iraq. He moved to the Dallas area this past summer to enroll in Universal Technical Institute to become an Auto and Diesel Technician. After his car broke down and was unable to be fixed, George struggled to get to his daytime job in North Dallas, UTI in Irving and his part-time job at AT & T Stadium in Arlington.

George says that receiving the car has changed his life, and he has even been able to get a better full-time job now that he no longer has to rely on public transportation.

Dare to Dream Again

The key to growth for all companies is the magic of customer acquisition. In the 21st Century, with Facebook, Yahoo, and Bing, companies are moving toward the Internet with amazing purpose and speed as a potential customer can get more information quickly rather than using traditional marketing. In the 1990's, a viable company would be very foolish not to advertise in the Yellow Pages.

However, in 2014, that same company might hesitate to utilize traditional advertising yet very pro-active to insure they are seen on the World Wide Web that provides their potential customers with immediate information accessible with just the click of a mouse. We are now an "Information Society" that must have it NOW, not later. The quicker a company can provide that information, the better.

There is a Web Site called "BRILLIANT COMPENSATION" which outlines very efficiently the role and value of Network Marketing as one of the MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS of customer acquisition for numerous companies such as Mary Kay, Amway, Shacklee, Jusuru, ACN, etc. This Web Site will show in no uncertain terms how you can be part of a plan and a program that will "potentially" provide you with an income stream for life as long as you consistently are involved with "customer acquisition".

The key to this growth is finding a team of people and services that are in residual

demand. Products such as fuel, power, electricity, groceries, etc., that are consumable so that the customer continues to come back and purchase again and again. NSA Water Filters made many millionaires in the 1990's, but it lacked the variable of consumption that results in residual sales.

My team of leaders are working with a company that provides residual income to those who put forth and make the effort.

You will spend the rest of your life hoping that Social Security is sufficient to meet your needs in your sunset years. If you work with our team, you may never have to worry about Social Security again.

Our team has a power / energy product and service that will rock your world by allowing you to potentially generate a retirement income within just six to eight months*. {Of course, certain restrictions/qualifications apply}* This service is wonderful for seniors as it will help them eliminate and/or replace their electricity bill and generate a second income. The potential to generate serious income is incredible. When you call Mr. Ewing of Dallas, he will direct you to all of the information you need. **Please call 214-205-1436** and we will get you started on your way to dream again.

No hype. No false promises. No illusions. One must be willing to work our plan!

The key is that you do not have to PAY TO PLAY ON YOUR WAY to success.

PAID PROMOTIONAL ADVERTISEMENT

Jubilation II: The Colors of Christmas is a unique musical celebration for the season

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

Jubilation II: The Colors of Christmas is one of the few unique seasonal program celebrations Dallas theatergoers can enjoy. The show is filled with clever Christmas re-mixes of well-known Motown and R&B hits. Jubilee artistic director Tre Garrett and music director Geno Young do an incredible job of rewriting familiar tunes adding a holiday spin to legendary songs

such as *Proud Mary* and *The Way You Do The Things You Do*.

The story is told through the imaginative eyes of young Rudy Eastman (named in honor of the founder of the Jubilee Theater) as his imaginary friends host a rent party. To raise the money their friends (the audience) is invited to kick back and enjoy the musical spins by the Silver Belles (Ja'Shaelyn Carmichael, Whitney Coulter and Lakesha Clark)



think the Supremes; and the soulful Mistletoes (Anthony Denson, Gabriel Lawson and Durant Searcy). The show is headed up by Oris Phillips Jr. as Leroy the MC

of the show and Liz Francisco as Mama M who adds spiritual weight and wisdom to the show. She is the Mama we all remember during the holiday season. Leading the songs we treasure from the church choir.

JuNene K is doing double duty on stage as the Ruby's (played by the young Keith Galloway Jr.) mother and the praise and worship dancer during *Who Would Imagine a King*. She is also the choreographer of the show working with a tal-

ented group of young performers who bring a sense of fun to the show as they do everything from the *Twist* to the *Pony* during the show.

The audience enjoys the show because of the talent and content, but also just because the performers seem to be truly having a good time.

Visit the www.jubileetheatre.org for ticket information before the show ends on Dec. 28. It is a family treat you should not miss!

Elle Varner on stage at House of Blues this weekend

Elle Varner's journey begin with *Perfectly Imperfect* (MBK Entertainment/RCA Records), which she wrote and co-produced, and it's evident that her early experiences have served her well. Crafting the album also proved to be a full-circle moment for the 23-year-old singer/songwriter as she enlisted the help of her parents – Jimmy Varner and Mikelyn Roderick – both of whom contributed their production and vocal arrangement talents and pushed Elle toward, and beyond, the bounds of her creativity.

When asked to describe her feelings about the fin-



ished product, Elle takes a moment to ponder the question. "I can honestly say that I'm in love with every song on this album," she says, matter-of-factly.

Elle recalls the first time she really heard her own voice – she was nine years old and singing in her church's youth choir. That

was the spark that ignited her drive to pursue the arts. Soon after, she had a short-lived moment with the flute, followed by formal piano lessons.

"I wasn't very disciplined about practicing when I was younger, which I think was a blessing in disguise," notes Elle, who eventually

taught herself to play the guitar and now plays "drums, guitar, a little bass, a little piano and flute. Sometimes, when you

know too much about an instrument, you can get lost in that.

Everything from me comes from the most basic

point of musical understanding."

Dallasites can enjoy her music this Sunday at the House of Blues at 7 p.m.

Ring in 2015 with John Legend

Grammy-winning R&B singer, songwriter, and pianist John Legend, born John Stephens, was a child prodigy who grew up in Ohio, where he began singing gospel and playing piano at the age of five. Stephens left his home state at 16 to attend college in Philadelphia, and it was there that he first found a larger audience.

Not yet out of his teens, Stephens was tapped to play piano on Lauryn Hill's "Everything Is Everything," a Top 40 hit for the Fugees member's 1998 album *The*



Miseducation of Lauryn Hill. After completing college, Stephens moved to New York, where he built a

loyal following playing in nightclubs and releasing CDs, such as *Live at Jimmy's Uptown* (2001) and *Live at SOB's* (2003), that he sold at shows. He also became an in-demand session musician, playing and occasionally writing for a wide array of artists, including Alicia Keys, Twista, Janet Jackson, and Kanye West.

Ring in 2015 with Legend at WinStar Casino on New Years Eve at 9 p.m. For tickets and more info visit BoxOfficeTicket-sales.com.

Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit www.northdallasgazette.com to win tickets to Fiesta Charra at the Fort Worth Stockyards.

Dallas Children's Theater rings in the New Year with the Lone Star Circus

Dallas Children's Theater brings the Lone Star Circus back by popular demand after record-setting ticket sales last year. Ring in the New Year with an unforgettable circus extravaganza featuring an international cast of acrobats, aerialists, hand balancers, jugglers, clowns and more.

As part of its season themed Believe, Dallas

Children's Theater invites patrons to believe in the unbelievable with acts from the award-winning Lone Star Circus' presentation of Oh lá lá, an all-new holiday production.

"We love Lone Star Circus!" says Sandra Session-Robertson, Senior Director of Communications and Philanthropy. "Both organizations are committed to

great entertainment for children and families and by working together, we introduce new people to the work of both groups.

"We are proud to have enhanced our partnership in the last couple of years by making this offering a part of DCT's season."

Join DCT and LONE STAR CIRCUS for this

limited engagement addition to your holiday celebration. Oh lá lá will run December 27, 2014 through January 4, 2015, at The Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman in Dallas.

Ranging from \$20-\$46, tickets are available by calling 214-740-0051 or visiting online at dct.org.



Christmas at the Dallas Symphony 2014

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra (DSO) is a Christmas tradition for many in the DFW area.

Dallas Symphony Christmas Pops, the beloved holiday music extravaganza, runs until Dec. 21, 2014 lead by Conductor Lawrence Loh the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas and a special guest vocalist Jubilant Sykes in performances of

cherished holiday hits and classic carols.

Celebrate 2015 with music during New Year's Eve with the DSO conducted by Oliver von Dohnányi, celebrating festive classics and Viennese waltzes in the elegant splendor of the Meyerson, featuring glamorous soprano Laura Alonso Padín.

Gospel greats Blind Boys of Alabama and special guest Ruthie Foster come to

Dallas on Dec. 15. Formed in 1944, the group of five have prospered through six decades and continue to bring their signature style to a new generation.

"We sing gospel music," says founding member Jimmy Carter. "We're not going to ever deviate from that."

All evening performances begin at 7:30 PM. Matinee performances begin at 2:30 pm.

Current ticket prices are \$29-\$129. For tickets and information, visit www.mydsoc.com/Holiday or call 214.TIX.4DSO.

Add a little Sparkle to the holidays

If you are looking for a holiday outing that the entire family can enjoy then look no further than Sparkle at the Anatole. The annual holiday-themed, family-friendly experience takes place indoors at Trinity Hall within the hotel. For less than a \$100 (Ages 13 - 64: \$19.95; Kids 4-12 and Seniors 65+: \$15.95; Children three and under: Free) a family of four can enjoy ice skating, Santa's Hilltop Slide, Bounce House, Veltro wall, stories with

Rudolph, movie lounge, Nothing Bundt Cakes cake bites, arts and crafts. Even parking is included in the price. Your holiday experience also includes an array of live entertainment (check the calendar for a schedule of events), impressive light shows, animatronics elves and reindeer and photos at the Sparkle Snap Shacks.

The Saturday and Sunday before Christmas you can arrange for your good little girl or boy to have breakfast with Santa. The cost for

Breakfast with Santa includes tax and gratuity as well as Sparkle tickets. Tickets for adults are \$39, kids 4-12 and seniors 65+ are \$31 and children 3 and under are free. To make reservations call the Sparkle hotline at 214-761-7814 or email Samantha.Waugh@hilton.com.

Sparkle runs through ends Sunday, January 4th. Visit www.SparkleAtTheAnatole.com for the daily calendar of events, times and details.

Win tickets to Fiesta Charra

Come out and attend the Fiesta Charra held by Jim Austin Online and the Fort Worth Stockyards Coliseum in the Natural History District on Sunday, Dec. 14 from 7 - 10 p.m. Enjoy watching Charro events and listening to live music. Abigail Garcia, Raul Sanchez,



Claudia Arias, Los Fuertes Del Norte, and Mariachi King of Kings will perform

music to accompany the action going on in the ring.

For more info about the event and to purchase tickets visit www.cowtowncoliseum.com

To enter for a chance to WIN two tickets fill out the entry form found on our Facebook page

Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit www.northdallasgazette.com to win tickets to Jubilation II: The Colors of Christmas at Jubilee Theatre on Dec. 26!!!

Smart tax moves to consider before New Year's Eve

By Jason Alderman

The flurry of activity during the last weeks of December can make it difficult to pay attention to finances. If you want to save on your tax bill come April, now's the time to make some critical moves.

If you have a tax advisor or financial planner, it's wise to run these ideas by them first. Here are some suggestions to investigate by year-end with follow-up in the new year:

Accelerate your deductions and defer your income. It makes the list every year because it works. To keep your 2014 tax bill low, try to defer bonuses, consulting income or self-employment income until 2015 while taking as many deductions as you legally can in 2014. Deductions may include paying your January federal and state income taxes before Dec. 31,

real estate taxes and interest payments.

Bunch non-urgent medical expenses this year or move them to 2015. If you have non-emergency medical procedures coming up, it's a good idea to pack them into the same year so people under age 65 can exceed the 10 percent adjusted gross income (AGI) minimum for medical expenses. For those over age 65, the AGI minimum is 7.5 percent.

Make last-minute withholding adjustments. If you've started making more money later in the year, make sure your withholding or estimated tax payments are adjusted before Dec. 31 so you don't face underpayment penalties later.

Evaluate your traditional and Roth IRA holdings. Many people who expect their tax rate to go up in retirement convert traditional IRAs to Roth accounts in



advance. Those who don't do so keep their traditional accounts as-is. No matter how close you're getting to retirement, it's a good idea to take inventory of your IRA investments to make sure they're accessible and to contact your tax advisor if you have questions about strategy.

Contribute as much to retirement accounts as possible. Putting money away for retirement is always a good idea – for your tax bill and for your future. For tax year 2014, individual 401(k) (<http://www.practical->

[moneyskills.com/401k](http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/401k)) contribution limits are \$17,500 and \$5,500 for an IRA (not including catch-up contributions for taxpayers 50 or over). In 2015, those contribution limits will go up to \$18,000 and \$6,000 respectively.

Consider HSAs and FSAs. High-deductible insurance plans may offer a health savings account (HSA) option that allows you to deposit pretax dollars to pay for medical expenses high-deductible plans don't cover. Flexible Spending Accounts ([\[moneyskills.com/fsa\]\(http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/fsa\)\) also allow pre-tax dollars to pay for dental care, vision checkups and glasses and over-the-counter drugs.](http://www.prac-</p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

Gather state and local sales tax receipts. If you itemize your deductions, consider whether to deduct state and local sales taxes instead of state and local income taxes.

Consider a gift. Individuals can give up to \$14,000 a year per beneficiary to as many people as they'd like during 2014 free of gift or estate tax. That amount goes up to \$28,000 per beneficiary per year for spouses (both individual and spousal numbers will stay the same in 2015).

Make a last-minute charitable deduction. If you itemize, you can deduct for charitable contributions – but do some homework first. GuideStar.org lists every IRS-registered non-profit organization, so you

can do full research on the organization's work and legitimacy as well as its tax status.

Take that home office deduction. If you use part of your home for business or if your office is an unattached structure, you may qualify for a home office deduction up to \$1,500 a year.

11. Watch the news and keep your tax preparer's number handy. Congress may spend its final days arguing over a variety of expired tax breaks still pending. It's important to keep an eye on tax news between now and New Year's Day.

Bottom line: Use the end of the year to gather records and advice and make smart choices taxwise and otherwise.

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

M.O.B., continued from Page 3

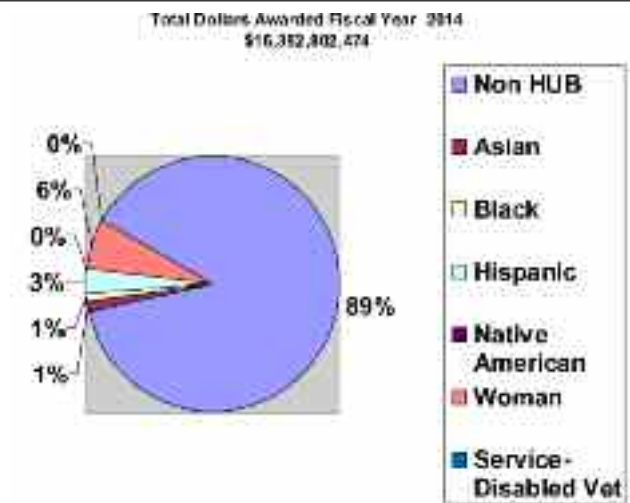
The following primary points highlighted in the study to confirm disparity were as such:

- statistical disparities by race, ethnicity and gender classification in current HUB utilization, particularly in prime contracting
- statistical disparities by race, ethnicity and gender classification in the private marketplace, particularly in the area of utilization of women and minority owned firms in commercial construction
- statistical disparities in firm earnings by race, ethnicity and gender classification, even after controlling for capacity-related factors; and
- anecdotal testimony of disparate treatment as presented by business owners in interviews, surveys, public hearings and focus groups.

The more than 200 state agencies and institutions of higher education have a cumulative multi billion dollar annual budget. A great

source of that revenue is generated from 60 different taxes and fees. Taxes and fees such as property tax, sales tax, cigarette tax, alcohol tax, hotel tax, various motor vehicle taxes that all citizens of the state pay. For the fiscal year of 2013 the comptroller's office collected close to \$48 billion in taxes alone. So what is the connection and what does this have to do with state agencies? If you drive a car, buy alcohol, smoke cigarettes, own property, or patronize hotels then you are contributing to that whopping \$48 billion the state collects to fund various state agencies such as the Department of Transportation, and Public Utility Commission and institutions like Sam Houston State, Texas A&M and University of Texas just to name a few.

In essence these agencies and institutions belong to the communities and should in kind serve those communities. So when the Depart-



ment of Health and Human Services advertises in the medical journals and fails to do so in African-American newspapers it is a great disservice. It is the Black press that is the pipeline of communication into the African-American community where the prevalence of diseases such as diabetes and stroke is twice that of Whites. African-Americans have the highest age-adjusted heart disease death rate and African-Americans have the highest hospitalization rate of all ethnicities. In the interest of serving the African-American commu-

nity the Department of Health and Human Services is remiss in bypassing Black newspapers.

But it's not just the Black press that is underrepresented when it comes to state procurement and contracting. According to the 2014 annual Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) report \$15,113,071,094 were awarded to non-HUBs compared to \$2,060,862,969 awarded to HUBs. Asian Pacific, Black, Hispanic, Native American, Woman Owned and Service-Disabled Veteran constitute

HUBs.

All state agencies and institutions are required to keep annual reporting of their expenditures. There is a special report generated specifically to detail how much funding and bids are awarded to HUBs. Just to provide a few examples of the inequality that exists, the University of Texas Health and Science Center's 2013 report listed 42 out of 559 bids/proposals that were awarded to HUBs, 25 of which went to women. In fiscal year 2013 the Department of Transportation contracted a paltry 4.82% of its construction contracts with HUBs. The same year the Public Utility Commission awarded 250 contracts of which 90 went to HUBs. Of those 90, 26 went to Asian males, 2 African-American males, 7 Hispanic males and 1 Hispanic female and 1 Native American male. The remaining 53 were awarded to women. The Alcoholic Beverage Commission awarded 1,600 contracts. The breakdown of those contracts were as follows: 1 Asian male, 1

Asian female, 6 African-American males, 49 Hispanic males, 1 Hispanic female, 2 Native American males and 246 women. These are just four examples but the pattern is consistent among the majority of agencies and institutions. Moreover, most often many of the contracts that are awarded primarily go to women who are neither Asian, African-American, Hispanic or members of any ethnic group.

The issue at hand is not about set asides, diversity or even affirmative action. Albeit groups that have been historically excluded should receive special consideration. However HUBs contribute and put into the collective pot so to speak just as much as other businesses. Any procurement HUBs receive from state agencies are not only deserved but also earned. We are not talking about hand-outs or charitable contributions. In viewing the above chart suffice it to say HUBs are clearly not receiving their fair slice of the pie. Not by a long shot.

AARP calling foul on Congress' backroom budget deal

WASHINGTON, DC- AARP Senior Vice President Joyce Rogers released this statement in opposition to the Kline-Miller amendment to the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2015, an amendment that the Los Angeles Times says "could be a disaster" that would

See AARP, Page 13

TISEO PAVING COMPANY
 419 E. Hwy. 80, Mesquite, TX 75150
 Tel: (972) 289-0723 Fax (972) 216-5637
 www.tiseopaving.com

Performing Concrete Street Paving in the Metroplex Area
 We Accept Subcontracting Bids For All Public Works Projects in the Dallas Area.
 We Are Accepting Applications for Concrete Mixer Drivers and Heavy Equipment Mechanics

Equal Opportunity Employer

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.

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

Iglesia Santa Marie de Guadalupe
 2601 S. MacArthur

The Chateau on Wildbriar Lake
 1515 Hard Rock Rd

Bombay Sizzlers
 397 East Las Colinas Blvd, Ste. 180

Le Peep
 4835 N. O'Connor Blvd.

Mattito's Tex Mex
 1001 MacArthur Park Drive

Taqueria El Tacazo
 1150 W. Pioneer Drive

Capistrano's Café & Catering
 4650 W. Airport Frwy

Empress of China
 2648 N. Beltline Rd.

The Spirit Grille
 4030 N. MacArthur Blvd #112

El Rancho Restaurant
 1210 E. Irving Blvd

504 Salon
 3414 W. Rochelle

Irving YMCA
 220 W. Irving Blvd

Mitchell's Barbershop
 4020 N. Beltline Rd

Roy's Pawn Shop
 635 E. Irving Blvd

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
 1140 E. Irving Blvd

Antioch Christian Church
 2043 W. Walnut Hill Ln

Lee Park Recreation Center
 300 Pamela Drive

Lively Pointe Youth Center
 909 N. O'Connor Rd

Mustang Park Recreation Center
 2223 Kinwest Pkwy

Northwest Park Recreation Center
 2800 Cheyenne St.

Senter Park Recreation Center
 907 S. Senter Rd

Austin Recreation Center
 825 E. Union Bower Rd.

Houston Recreation Center
 3033 Country Club Rd.

Cimarron Park Recreation Center
 201 Red River Trail

Georgia Farrow Recreation Center
 530 Davis Street

Heritage Senior Center
 200 Jefferson Street

iRealy Office Building
 320 Decker Drive

Irving Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 135 S. Jefferson

Irving City Hall
 825 W. Irving Blvd

Irving Public Library
 801 W. Irving Blvd

Shady Grove CME Church
 3537 E. Gilbert Road

Emmanuel Baptist Missionary Church
 511 Gilbert Road

Ben Washington Baptist Church
 3901 Frisco Ave

Shepherd Church
 615 W. Davis

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

Bible Way Baptist Church
 4215 N. 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
 2117 Story Rd.

African Village Restaurant
 3000 N. Beltline Rd

New Look Barbershop
 3317 Finley Rd.

Irving Arts Center
 3333 N. MacArthur #200

CADNET/NORTH DALLAS GAZETTE National and Local Classified Advertising Network

To advertise call 972-509-9049 Email (ad for quote) opportunity@northdallasgazette.com

Autos Wanted

TOP CASH FOR CARS, Any Car/Truck, Running or Not. Call for INSTANT offer: 1-800-454-6951

Health & Fitness

VIAGRA 100MG and CIALIS 20mg! 50 Pills \$99.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW! 1-866-312-6061

VIAGRA 100mg, CIALIS 20mg. 40 tabs +10 FREE, \$99 includes FREE SHIPPING. 1-888-836-0780 or

Metro-Meds.net

Miscellaneous

DirecTV! Act Now- \$19.99/mo. Free 3-Months of HBO, Starz, SHOWTIME & CINEMAX FREE GENIE HD/DVR Upgrade! 2014 NFL Sunday Ticket included with Select Packages. New Customers Only. IV Support Holdings LLC- An authorized DirecTV Dealer. Call 1-800-354-1203

DISH TV Retailer. Starting

at \$19.99/month (for 12 mos.) & High Speed Internet starting at \$14.95/month (where available.) SAVE! Ask About SAME DAY Installation! CALL Now! 1-800-615-4064

DISH TV Starting at \$19.99/month (for 12 mos.) SAVE! Regular Price \$32.99 Ask About FREE SAME DAY Installation! CALL Now! 877-477-9659

Make a Connection. Real

People, Flirty Chat. Meet singles right now! Call LiveLinks. Try it FREE. Call NOW: 1-888-909-9905 18+.

DISH TV Starting at \$19.99/month (for 12 mos.) SAVE! Regular Price \$32.99 Ask About FREE SAME DAY Installation! CALL Now! 877-648-0096

CASH FOR CARS, Any Make or Model! Free Towing. Sell it TODAY. Instant offer: 1-800-864-5784

AVIATION MANUFACTURING CAREERS - Get started by training as FAA certified Technician. Financial aid for qualified students. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 866-453-6204

Wanted to Buy

Wants to purchase minerals and other oil and gas interests. Send details to P.O. Box 13557 Denver, Co. 80201

CASH PAID- up to \$25/Box for unexpired, sealed DIABETIC TEST STRIPS. 1-DAYPAYMENT.1-800-371-1136

ADVERTISE to 10 Million Homes across the USA! Place your ad in over 140 community newspapers, with circulation totaling over 10 million homes. Contact Independent Free Papers of America IFPA at danielleburnett-ifpa@live.com or visit our website cadnetads.com for more information.

Reader Advisory: the National Trade Association we belong to has purchased the following classifieds. Determining the value of their service or product is advised by this publication. In order to avoid misunderstandings, some advertisers do not offer employment but rather supply the readers with manuals, directories and other materials designed to help their clients establish mail order selling and other businesses at home. Under NO circumstance should you send any money in advance or give the client your checking, license ID, or credit card numbers. Also beware of ads that claim to guarantee loans regardless of credit and note that if a credit repair company does business only over the phone it is illegal to request any money before delivering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. 800 numbers may or may not reach Canada.

Marshall's purchase of TV stations in Texas and Louisiana approved

Special to the NNPA from
The Los Angeles Wave

Federal regulators on Thursday approved the sale of two FOX TV affiliates to longtime media executive Pluria Marshall Jr., president and CEO of Houston-based Marshall Broadcasting Group (MBG).

Marshall, also publisher of Wave Publications Group in Los Angeles, will acquire Fox affiliates KPEJ-TV in

Odessa, Texas and KMSS-TV in Shreveport, La., officials from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced.

FCC officials approved the sale of KLJB in Quad Cities/Davenport, Iowa to Marshall Broadcasting last month. The three stations are part of a \$58.5 million purchase agreement between Marshall Broadcasting and Nexstar.

The license transfer to

Marshall Broadcasting was one of several approved transactions that will result in 10 new minority- and women-owned stations, FCC officials said. Thursday's approval makes Marshall Broadcasting one of the largest minority owners of full-power, commercial TV stations in the nation.

FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler and Commissioner Mignon Clyburn said the li-

See TV, Page 16

AARP, continued from Page 12

potentially harm millions of current retirees:

"This last minute back-room deal would, for the first time, amend the pension law to allow the earned vested benefits of retirees to be cut. After a lifetime of hard work to earn their pensions, retirees don't deserve to receive a bad deal, in which they've had no say, cut behind closed doors and excluding the very people who would be impacted

most."

In a letter sent to members of the House and Senate last week, Rogers added "[This] proposal ... impairs a fundamental tenet of pension law and permits multiemployer pension plans to cut the earned and vested pension benefits of current retirees.

Making significant and far-reaching changes to pension law without scrutiny of the legislative proposal and with

no opportunity for debate or amendment is unacceptable. This is all the more true given that the proposal may result in a significant reduction in the modest income of millions of retirees.

We urge Congress to instead consider all possible alternatives, and to allow time for adequate debate that can produce a fair and reasonable solution to the funding challenges facing a handful of multiemployer plans.

RICHLAND, continued from Page 6

sity of Texas at Dallas as a sub-recipient of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Talent Expansion Program (STEP) grant from the National Science Foundation, Richland College has fully funded its STEM Center to advance STEM-graduate completion.

Richland College's STEM Center prepares students for work in a competitive science and technology-based economy and establishes well-defined student career pathways. It provides support and guidance to students pursuing STEM careers, with a special emphasis on women and historically underserved populations with fewer resources. STEM advisors provide recruitment of and focus on new-to-college students who indicate a desire to pursue STEM ca-

reers. Using this advising process, students identify and follow a clear, direct career pathway with multiple points of advisor contact, mentoring and scholarship opportunities.

"Our STEM advisors and faculty are an invaluable resource to students pursuing STEM degrees," Eggleston said. "Through them, the students are able to navigate their college experience with greater focus, allowing for a seamless transition to university transfer and excellent job opportunities."

To attain its goal of reaching more than 4,000 students during the next three to five years, Richland College will establish additional focused career pathway opportunities with universities that include research, design and practice-based experiences. It will also expand its summer Sci-

ence, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) Camp designed to serve 8th grade girls in underserved and under-resourced populations in a community partnership with Girls, Inc. The camp is designed and taught by Richland's STEAM faculty, who are women and minority women, providing role models for young women at a critical age in their aspirational direction.

Participants in the White House College Opportunity Day of Action were asked to commit to new action in one of four areas: building networks of colleges around promoting completion, creating K-16 partnerships around college readiness, investing in high

school counselors as part of the First Lady's Reach Higher initiative or increasing the number of college graduates in the STEM fields.

The President will announce new steps on how his administration is helping to support these actions, including \$10 million to help promote college completion and a \$30 million AmeriCorps program that will improve low-income students' access to college. Today's event is the second College Opportunity Day of Action, and it will include a progress report on the commitments made at the first day of action that took place Jan. 14, 2014.

Expanding opportunity for more students to enroll

and succeed in college, especially low-income and underrepresented students, is vital to building a strong economy and a strong middle class. Today, only 9 percent of those born in the lowest family income quartile attain a bachelor's degree by age 25, as compared to 54 percent in the top quartile.

In an effort to expand

college access, the Obama Administration has increased Pell scholarships by \$1,000 per year, created the new American Opportunity Tax Credit worth up to \$10,000 over four years of college, limited student loan payments to 10 percent of income and laid out an ambitious agenda to reduce college costs and promote innovation and completion.

OPEN POSITIONS AT GOOD SAMARITAN SOCIETY LAKE FOREST VILLAGE at 12/5/2014

FULL-TIME POSITIONS:

1 position, C.N.A., Weekend Double
(Sat/Sun 6a to 10p with 2 scheduled meal breaks)

PART-TIME POSITIONS:

1 position, Driver, HCC (Must be C.P.R. certified)
1 position, C.N.A., M-F shifts, 2p to 10p

If you have any questions and/or are interested, please see or call Human Resources at 940-891-6454 or the Department Director. All applicants (including current employees unless lateral position in same department—then utilize internal application) must apply on-line at www.good-sam.com Applications are reviewed only for open positions and only qualified applications will be considered by the supervisor.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.



DO YOU WANT AN EXCITING
AND REWARDING CAREER?

PURSUE A CAREER AS A
POLICE OFFICER OR FIREFIGHTER!

- Competitive wages
- Array of benefits
- Education incentive pay
- ... and more

SIGN UP TO TAKE
THE CITY OF IRVING'S NEXT
CIVIL SERVICE ENTRANCE EXAM.
CALL (972) 721-2696 TO REGISTER.

*The City of Irving does not discriminate on the basis of
race, sex, religion, age, or disability
in employment or the provision of services.
www.cityofirving.org*



GARLAND

**Attention Suppliers of Goods,
Services and Construction**

**Review Competitive Opportunities at
www.bidsync.com**

www.garlandpurchasing.com

972-205-2415

**We are Hiring at
Kraft Foods Garland**



**Proud Makers of
Famous Kraft Brands**

2340 Forest Lane
Garland, Texas 75042

Apply Today

www.kaftcareers.com

AVENUE F CHURCH OF 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.

December 14, 7:35 a.m.
Join us Sunday for our praise and worship services and receive a blessing from God.

December 18, 12 Noon
Call 972-960-9981 to register for our Between Jobs Support Group at Christian Works for Children, 6320 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX 75240; we meet every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month.

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

BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CARROLLTON

December 14, 9:45 a.m.
You're invited our Sunday Morning Pray and Meditation followed by Morning Worship Service at 10 a.m. See what God is doing through and with us, you will be blessed.

December 17, 7 p.m.
Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Associate Pastor Brenda Patterson teaching this week on the subject of Spiritual Warfare.

December 21, 10 p.m.
Don't forget to join us for our Christmas Celebration Play at the church as we worship and praise God.

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

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN RICHARDSON

December 14
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

December 14
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.

December 17
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 Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall at our 200 W. Belmont Drive location.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed.D.
Senior Pastor
1550 Edelweiss Drive
In Allen for Sunday Morning Worship.
Admin. Building Address
Is 200 W. Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956
www.theship3c.org

BIBLE WAY COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

December 14, 7:35 a.m.
Join us this Sunday for our praise and worship services

and receive a blessing from God.

December 17, 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)

December 14
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. this Sunday.

December 17, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study; you will learn what God has to say to us.

Pastor Sam Fenceroy
Senior Pastor
300 Chisholm Place

Plano, TX 75075
972-633-5511
www.mocop.org

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

December 14
You're invited to join us for Early Morning Services at 7:30 a.m., followed by Sunday School at 9 a.m. and Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

December 17
Join us for Intercessory Prayer at 6:15 p.m. followed by Bible Study at 7 p.m. as we study God's Word to lead and guide us.

December 21, 4 p.m.
You're invited to our Christmas Play, "A Dish of Blessings" in the Family Life Center. Your presence will be welcomed.

Dr. Tommy L. Brown
Senior Pastor
9550 Shepherd Road
Dallas, Texas 75243
Phone: 214-341-6459
www.nmzb.org

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

December 14 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Come and worship with us this Sunday. God will greet us and bless us with words of wisdom as He leads and guide us in all truth and righteousness.

December 14, 2 p.m.
Join us for our yearly Christmas Banquet at the Hyatt Hotel-Richardson on Campbell Rd., there will be a Comedian, DJ, door prizes, a Game Truck for the children, great food, music and complimentary photos. Call the church for details.

December 17, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word.

December 21, 6 p.m.
Come and enjoy our Annual Christmas Concert. You will be blessed with music, songs, and the playing of

various instruments as praises go up to God.

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

December 14, 7:30 and 11:30 a.m.
You're invited this Sunday to our praise and worship service as we honor and magnify God's Holy name; and receive a blessing from Him.

December 15, 7 p.m.
Join us in Tithing Our Time to God as we "Get in His Presence, Don't Put the Fire Out!"

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

IRS Problems?
Call Kedra
469.449.9833
Kedra A. Flowers CPA PC
www.IRSsafe.com

Second Keyboardist Needed: Please Call For Info
www.theship3c.org | Fellowship Christian Center Church | 972.359.9956
200 W. Belmont Drive - Allen, TX 75013
A Kingdom Building Church
Pastor Dr. W.L. Stafford, Sr.
Every Morning Service
200 W. Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
8:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship
Every Morning
1550 Edelweiss Drive
Allen, TX 75013
9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Live
200 W. Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
7:00 p.m.
Lady Beth Stafford

MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO
300 Chisholm Pl. Plano, TX 75075 972-633-5511
Answers you need, Hope for today is waiting for you...
• Sunday School for all ages 8:30 am
• Sunday Morning Prayer 9:30 am
• Sunday Service 10:00 am
• Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm
Pastor Sam Fenceroy
Pastor Gloria Fenceroy
www.mocop.org
Radio Programs
"Vision & Truth Live"
Call Pastor Sam
Every Sun. 9:00am-10:00pm
KWRD 100.7 FM THE WORD
"Truth Made Simple"
Listen to Pastor Sam
Mon.-Fri. 5:25pm- 5:30pm
KDCR 1040 AM

The 12 Days of Christmas



Sister Tarpley

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

When most people hear of "The 12 Days of Christmas" they think of the song. This song had its origins as a teaching tool to instruct young people in the meaning and content of the Christian faith.

Each of the items in the song represents something of a Christian significance. The hidden meaning of each Gift was designed to help Christians learn their faith.

The song goes; "On the first day of Christmas my True Love gave to me." The "True Love" represents God and the "me" represents the one who receives these presents, the Christian.

The "Partridge in a Pear Tree" is Jesus Christ who died on a tree as a Gift from God. The "Two Turtle Doves" represents the Old and the New Testaments, two other Gifts from God. The "Three French Hens" represents Faith, Hope and Love, the three Gifts of the

Spirit that abide. (1 Corinthians 13:13.)

The "Four Calling Birds" represents the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which sings the song of salvation through Jesus Christ. The "Five Golden Rings" represents the first five books of the Bible (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) also called the "Books of Moses." The "Six Geese a-laying" represents the six days of creation. The "Seven Swans a Swimming" represents "Seven Gifts of The Holy Spirit: (Words of Wisdom & Knowledge, Faith, Healing, Working of Miracles, Prophecy & Discernment, Divers Kinds of Tongues, and Interpretation of Tongues.)" (1 Corinthians 12: 8-11; Romans 12; Ephesians 4; and 1 Peter 4:10-11.)

The "Eight Maids a Milking" symbolizes the eight beatitudes (Blessed are: the poor in Spirit ..., they that mourn ..., the meek ..., they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness ..., the merciful ..., the pure in heart ..., the peacemakers ..., they which are persecuted for righteousness sake ..., Ye, when men shall revile you,

and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake . . . Matthew 5:3-12.) The "Nine Ladies Dancing" represents nine Fruits (Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and

Temperance) of the Holy Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-23.) The "Ten Lords a-leaping" represents the Ten Commandments. The "Eleven Pipers Piping" represents the eleven faithful disciples (Simon, who is called Peter;

Andrew; James; John; Philip; Bartholomew; Thomas; Matthew; James; Lebbeaus; and Simon, the Canaanite. Matthew 10:2-4.) The "Twelve Drummers Drumming" represents the twelve points of the Apostles Creed. The next time you hear "The 12 Days of Christmas" consider how this otherwise non-religious sounding song had its origins in the Christian faith.

Something to Ponder: "To me, the most important thing that we can do as human beings is give. And we must give in proportion to what we are given. That being said, I don't like to close my eyes at night without having done something for someone, whether it's a random act of kindness or a strategically planned initiative that will ultimately help thousands, if not millions. I believe that even in a world

fraught with war and blatant injustice still, individuals must find ways to lessen human suffering and impact humanity for the better." -- Dr. Donda C. West.

I Know Not Why: I know not why God's wondrous grace to me He hath made known. I'm truly unworthy, but Christ's love redeemed me for His own.

I know not how this saving faith to me He did import, nor how believing in His Word wrought peace within my heart.

I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noonday fair, not if I'll walk the vale with Him, or meet Him in the air.

But; "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I've committed unto Him against that day." --Greenville Avenue Church of Christ's Bulletin.



Brother Andrew Perry with his gift of a copy of "The Ark of Covenant" along with the 10 Commandments (Exodus 25-31) on tablets that he made for Bethel Bible Fellowship Church in Carrollton, Texas. One of several talents God has given him.

Bible Way Community Baptist Church
 4215 N. Greenville Dr. • Irving, TX 75062
 972-257-3766
The place where Jesus Christ is Lord and the Word of God Transforms lives
 Sunday School 9:35 A.M.
 Sunday Worship 11:30 A.M.
 Wed Bible Study 7:30 P.M.
 Daily Radio broadcast: KGGR 1040
 10:00 A.M. - 10:25 A.M.
www.biblewayirving.org

TBOC
 NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM WHO BELIEVES
 SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1970
 SUNDAY 10:00 AM
 WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM
 PASTOR: DR. JAMES W. SMITH
 1001 E. HICKORY ST. CARROLLTON, TX 75006
 972-477-3444

Avenue F Church of Christ
 1026 Avenue F • Plano, TX 75074
 972-423-8833
www.avefchurchofchrist.org
 Early Sunday Morning8:00 am
 Sunday Bible Class9:45 am
 Sunday Morning Worship10:45 am
 Evening Worship3:00 pm
 Wednesday Bible Class7:00 pm
 Radio Program @ 7:30 am on
 KHVN 970 AM Sunday Mornings

COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
 300 E. HICKORY ST. CARROLLTON, TX 75006
 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:15am
 Wednesday Prayer 4:00pm
 Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm
cbbf.org 972-477-3444

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
 Serving the Plano Community for 128 Years
 Founded 1884
 920 E 14th Street Plano, TX

SHILOH
 MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 Where Community Begins Family
 SMBC: A church Focused on Excellence while Teaching the Word, Preaching the Gospel, Reaching the World
 Worship Times: 8 and 11 a.m.
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Mid-week: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
 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
www.smbcplano.org

NDG Book Review: *Memoirs of an Elf* is serious fun

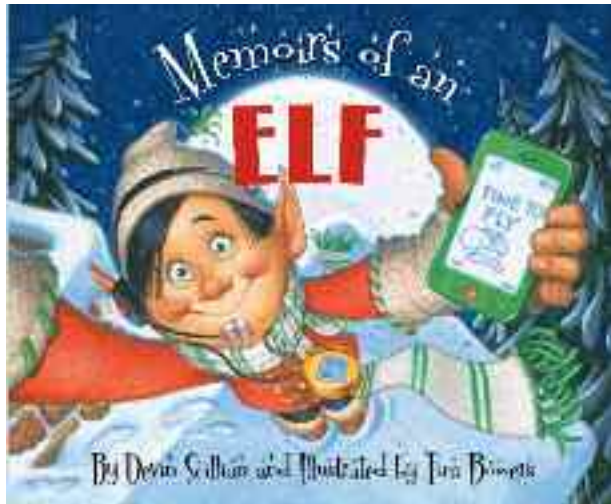
By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Your mom and dad take their jobs very seriously.

They get to work on time and they do a good job. Sometimes, they might even stay late to finish a project because it's important to be responsible. That's a lesson they've taught you because you take your around-the-house jobs seriously, too.

You always do your chores right because people depend on you. But in the new book *Memoirs of an Elf* by Devin Scillian, illustrated by Tim Bowers, an important job is done correctly because Christmas depends on it!

It's Christmas Eve, a quarter to ten, and Spark Elf



is getting antsy. In just two hours, he and his fellow elves Bobbin and Nutshell will help Santa deliver presents. The reindeer are ready, the sleigh is full, and because he feels "so good," Spark snaps an elfie.

At quarter to eleven, with

an hour to go, it starts to snow and that makes Spark really happy. It would make him even happier if Santa would hurry up. Santa says Spark worries too much.

And then it's "launch time!"

Guam and Fiji are first

for gift delivery, followed by New Zealand. Santa starts singing his favorite Christmas carol, and he stops to pet every dog. Santa loves dogs, and they love him, but that takes time and there's none to spare. As Santa plays with a puppy named Tugboat, Spark says it's time to go.

At halfway around the world and with the bag half-empty, the sleigh starts falling behind. Santa needs to step it up, but he's too busy enjoying the cookies that kids have left for him. Santa loves cookies – except ginger snaps. Those are the ones he gives to Spark, Bobbin, and Nutshell.

Spark would love it if you'd leave more ginger-snaps.

With nine hours to go, they finish Mexico City. Four hours to go, and they're done with South America so Santa takes a minute to play with the toys. Spark urges him to hurry. It's almost Christmas morning...

And with a half-hour to go, they finish!

But there's something left in Santa's sack. It's something very important that someone will miss very, very much. Can St. Nick save Christmas in the nick of time?

Oh my, but there's all kinds of cute inside "Memoirs of an Elf."

Spark Elf may be my new Christmas hero, in fact, because author Devin Scillian

gives him a Type-A personality mixed with just the right kind of holiday sweetness. Spark is businesslike and efficient, yet he still appreciates the tiny things that make the Yule cool, and he's eager to share secrets with kids who are lucky enough to have this book.

But Spark isn't the only irresistible thing here: I was totally charmed by the illustrations from Tim Bowers. They made me want to read this book all over again.

This is not your traditional Christmas story, but reading it surely could become a new tradition for your family. It's meant for kids ages 5-to-10, but *Memoirs of an Elf* is serious fun for anyone.

TV, continued from Page 5

cense transfers announced Thursday represent an important step in fulfilling the FCC's commitment to incubate broadcast station ownership by minority-owned companies.

"Increasing minority ownership of television broadcast stations has been an often-stated, but elusive goal," they said in a statement released Thursday. "While there is widespread agreement on the need for progress, there has been very little by way of new ideas to solve the twin problems of access and opportunity.

"With the Media Bureau's approval of several transactions today, however, we see the emergence

of new ownership models that will not only bring more independent voices to the station ownership ranks in a manner that promotes diversity, competition, and localism," the statement read.

Perry A. Sook, chairman, president and Chief Executive Officer of Nexstar Broadcasting Group, has said that the transactions complements Nexstar's strategic focus on localism, including expanded local news, sports and other programming.

He said, "The MBG transaction serves as a model to increase media ownership diversity while extending Nexstar's long-term, well-documented ini-



Pluria Marshall, Jr.

tiatives to serve the public interests and needs of local viewers, hometown businesses, and organizations in the markets where we operate."

Marshall, president and CEO of MBG, said he is "delighted to secure the approval from the FCC and the support of Nexstar" as

the two companies seek to diversify the ownership of media assets among minority operators.

The three Marshall Broadcasting acquisitions have been endorsed by several media monitors and by members of the Congressional Black Caucus because they would signifi-

cantly boost the number of Black-owned TV stations in America, provide broader career options for Blacks in television and create an opportunity for more diverse and increased local programming in broadcasting.

Wheeler said Thursday's approvals represent "clear-eyed market-based solutions to the longstanding challenge of low minority broadcast ownership."

"We look forward to the continued expansion of minority ownership of broadcast stations and invite the participation of all stakeholders in working toward this goal," the statement said.

Before the recent approvals, only a handful of the nation's 1,300-plus full-power, commercial TV sta-

tions were Black-owned, officials say. The other transactions approved Thursday include:

WEVV-TV, Evansville, Indiana to DuJuan McCoy, CEO of Bayou City Broadcasting Evansville, Inc.

W M M P (T V) , Charleston, South Carolina, WCFT(TV), Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and WJSU-TV, Anniston, Alabama to Howard Stirk Holdings, LCC, which is owned and controlled by Armstrong Williams.

KJCT(TV), Grand Junction, CO, KXJB(TV), Valley City, ND, KAQY(TV), Columbia, LA, and KNHL(TV), Hastings, NE to MMTC Media and Telecom Brokers, the brokerage arm of the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council.

AT&T, continued from Page 5

spends on advertising, every year.

"Likewise, DirecTV allegedly spends less than \$1.5 million of its \$2 billion in advertising costs each year on 100 percent African American-owned business," according to the suit.

That amounts to fourteen thousandths of 1 percent spent annually with 100 percent African American-

owned media.

The NAAAOM complaint stated: "This is an economic atrocity, illustrating the scope and magnitude of the racial discrimination in contracting by AT & T and DirecTV." The suit alleges that AT&T's racial discrimination in contracting will continue to perpetuate the economic exclusion of 100 percent African

American-owned media from American television.

"But for AT&T's and DirecTV's refusal to contract with the Company, the Company would receive approximately \$328 million in annual license fees for its seven channels – calculated using a conservative license fee of fifteen center per subscriber per month for each channel for AT & T's and DirecTV's combined 26 million subscribers. If De-

fendants contracted in good faith, the Company would also receive an estimated \$100 million per year, per network, in national advertising sales revenue, or a total of \$700 million per year," according to the complaint.

Miller said it would be hard for his client to survive without doing business with AT&T and access to their roughly 26 million subscribers after the DirecTV

deal, which would account for nearly 30 percent of the pay TV market. The proposed AT&T/DirecTV deal and the Comcast/NBC Universal deal have received lukewarm receptions from industry watchers.

DeVitre said that AT&T's refusal to increase the business they do with 100 percent Black-owned companies is a form of economic genocide for African American-owned media, a sector

that continues to shrink instead of grow.

DeVitre continued: "These companies either have to give away a tremendous amount of equity or make exorbitant 'ransom' payments in order to get carried and you can end up bankrupting yourself with this stuff or losing control of your own company and the system is designed to keep perpetuating it."