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Garland ISD celebrates Black History

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Diana Ross coming to Dallas

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Don't forget Malcolm X in 50th anniversary celebrations

By Ron Daniels
NNPA Columnist

The 50th Anniversary of Bloody Sunday, the Selma to Montgomery March, and the passage of the historic Voting Rights Act of 1965 and Dr. Martin Luther King's role in these events is correctly capturing the imagination of Black America. However, there is another set of events that should also receive attention of our people. This year also marks the 50th memorial of the assassination of Malcolm X; it is also the year of his 90th birthday.

It seems odd that very little attention is being devoted to the anniversary dates of the life and legacy of such an extraordinary leader. It is as if Black America is gripped by a case of historical amnesia. But this is not the first time we've suffered from the disorder.

On Feb. 21, 1990, more than 3,000 people jammed into the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem for the 25th memorial of the assassination of El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, Malcolm X. Another 1,000 or more gathered in the street to watch the program on a television monitor, hastily positioned in a church window. Inside, C-SPAN broadcast live ringing tributes to the life and legacy of our "Black Shining Prince."

The audience rose for a prolonged



Malcom X (at right) meets Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. (left) in 1964 (photo: Library of Congress)

rousing ovation as Turner proclaimed, "Malcolm, we will never forget you!" Betty Shabazz, who had never attended a memorial on the anniversary of the assassination of her husband, was visibly moved by the tremendous outpouring of admiration, love and affection for one of the greatest leaders in the history of Africans in America.

The commemoration was hosted by Rev. Calvin O. Butts, senior pastor of Abyssinian, and I had the

honor of serving as moderator of this memorable occasion. Fortunately, the process of uplifting Malcolm did not end there. On May 19 of that year hundreds of people from around the country gathered in Omaha, Neb., Malcolm's birthplace, for a national ceremony to celebrate his 65th birthday.

This magnificent season of celebrating Malcolm did not occur by

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COMMENTARY

The NAACP has a voting suppression problem

By James Clingman
NNPA Columnist

taking a huge hit, especially among some of its members.

While recalling those commercials, featuring Andre Agassi (pro tennis player) saying, "Image is everything" and Billy Crystal's "Saturday Night Live" character, Fernando, who always said, "You look marvelous! It is better to look good than to feel good," I also thought of the NAACP Image Awards and the fact that the NAACP's image is

During the past month, I have spoken to many people who are very disenchanted with the NAACP, not for the same reasons we hear all the time from young folks and others who feel the organization has served its usefulness, but for a much worse reason: Corruption. Members who have

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H.M. Trey



Rep. James White



Meg (local hero)

More than 39,000 readers visited NorthDallasGazette.com last month!

H.M. Trey

H. M. Trey was born in Statesville, NC and currently resides in Charlotte, NC. He earned his B.A. in Exercise and Sports Science from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and his M.B.A. and M.P.A. from Strayer University. Most of his professional career has been spent in the Human Services Field. H. M. Trey has a love for working with kids in the community and being a mentor. H. M. Trey was a part owner of a non-profit organization called



Strengthening and Empowering the Lives of our Future (S.E.L.F., Inc.), which had mentoring, tutoring, and sports programs.

Trey has been writing poetry for many years and has

a passion to write, whether it is poetry, music lyrics, or novels. H. M. Trey is a contemporary fiction author and has had two novels published, with a third novel to be published sometime in 2015. In 2008, he set out to write his first novel, with a desire to ultimately become a full-time writer. His debut novel, *The Wedding Man*, was released in September of 2012. In 2014 H. M. Trey signed as an author with Peace in the Storm Publishing. H. M. Trey's sophomore novel, *Window to the Soul of a Man*, released October 2014 was his first novel released

under Peace in the Storm Publishing. H. M. Trey is currently finishing up work with his third novel, *She Will Be Loved*. In 2015 H. M. Trey will release *She Will Be Loved* along with a piece in a nonfictional anthology and H. M. Trey's first short story.

He lives by what he calls a 3-D Mindset – Determination, Desire, and Drive. With this mindset H.M. Trey is seeking to be that author that is not just known for his writing talents but also for his canny ability to bring his novels to life through the vividness from which he writes. H. M.

Trey is quoted as saying, "Writing is an expression of what's in your soul. It's an art form that allows you to paint pictures with the use of words. The beauty of it is that every soul is different so you are able to enjoy many painted pictures from a diverse array of souls through the act of word play. I find joy in writing, whether it is poetry or novel, for it provides me the perfect platform for self-expression."

Trey's new book *Window to the Soul of a Man* goes where others don't dare because it discusses the things men don't talk about...the

matters of the heart. Being able to truly see into the soul of a man and understand the deep-rooted emotions that he hides from the rest of the world can be an impossible feat to accomplish. It takes a very special eye to see through the shadowed window to a man's soul. This is no different as it pertained to Trevor Alexander. He enjoys the life of a smooth talking bachelor who could come and go as he pleases...or so he thinks.

Connect with H. M. Trey at Peace in the Storm Publishing (<http://www.peaceinthestormpublishing.com>).

Rep. James White

Attorney Allan Parker of the Justice Foundation in San Antonio, Texas and the Reverend Kyev Tatum with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Fort Worth, Texas have joined forces to launch the Black Education Summit of Texas at the State Capitol on March 23 in a joint effort to highlight the need for unlimited educational options for all of Texas School Children, especially for young black males who show no record of academic success in public schools across Texas and the nation.

"It's time to shut the



school to prison pipeline down in Texas and with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) as the voice of freedom and the Justice Foundation the voice of Justice for All, together, we can shut it

down." Reverend Kyev Tatum, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Fort Worth.

This week Texas Representative James White for District 19 was announced as the keynote speaker at the Summit. Rep. White Tyler, Hardin, Polk and Jasper and Newton. He recently was appointed to serve on the Juvenile Justice and Family Issues Committee.

Rep. White shared, "I am deeply honored to be entrusted with such a position, and with it, the opportunity to impact families and youth. The Family is one of

God's ordained institutions and the first level of government in our communities. Families are also the best economic development program. Strong families nurture strong children. Children from strong families have a better opportunity to have higher levels of academic achievement. Strong families contribute to having economically prosperous communities."

"We can end the school to prison pipeline by creating unlimited educational options in Texas. The data over the last 20 years show clearly that our public school districts are unable to educate all children, es-

pecially our Young Black Males who have shown no record of academic success over the last 10 years, which mean they can not read on grade level. It's time to shut it down. It's time to give the Mothers the Money to Choose Where they send their kids to school," Tatum shared.

According to research conducted by Dr. Ifeoma Amah at the University of Texas at Arlington, Although the U.S. Black population in Texas has only increased from 11.5 percent (2,404,566) in 2000 to 12.2 percent (2,979,598) by 2011 (U.S. Census, 2012a; 2012b), Texas educates the

largest number of African American students at the K-12 level in the nation.

Texas A&M University and the Texas Health and Human Services Commission Center for the Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities' research shows Texas public school districts have systemically failed to educate Black children. Sadly, 83 percent of Black boys "have been" put out of class for a behavioral infraction, two-thirds are ill prepared for live after high school, which means they can not read on grade level and they show no Record of Academic Success.

Meg (local hero)

Diagnosed with ulcerative colitis, 16-year-old Meg is serving as an inspiration to a group of DFW-area residents training for the July 19 Napa-to-Sonoma Wine Country Half Marathon with the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation's program, Team Challenge (www.ccteamchallenge.org). Novice and expert athletes in DFW, which will be trained to run or walk by professional coaches for 16 weeks beginning at the end of March, are also fundraising for the Foundation to raise awareness of and funds for the 1.4 million Americans suffering from Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, chronic and



painful digestive diseases for which there is no cure. Individuals who are interested in an experience of a lifetime while raising funds for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis patients can attend an information meeting in March.

Before the age of 6, Meg loved ballet, soccer and was

great at karate. However, the diagnosis of ulcerative colitis explained her difficulty feeding, extreme weakness, upset stomach, abdominal cramps and passing blood. She went from very athletic to very sick almost overnight. Medications like prednisone left her moon faced and with joint pain that made it difficult to get out of bed. By the age of 9 she had already endured several colonoscopies.

At age 14 she thought that she would have her entire colon removed to improve her disease. However, CT scans showed that not only her colon, but also her small bowel were diseased and thickened indicating Crohn's disease and eliminating her as a candidate for

this type of surgery.

Meg states "The truth is Ulcerative Colitis & Crohn's disease are lifelong and debilitating. It changes your life and your ability to be like others. It involves constant restroom trips, needing days off, and being exhausted when you try to keep up with "normal" daily activities." She now takes 9 medicines for breakfast and is getting ready to go back on prednisone and injectable biologicals because her disease is still not in remission.

However, she does not want people to feel sorry for her and has chosen to speak in public for others like her. She is making an impact fighting and sharing her

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A different standard for black girls

By LeConté J. Dill
NNPA Guest Columnist

Nearly 40 years ago, a metaphor or fable, if you will, about “upstream-downstream” was created by healthcare practitioners to better explain and argue for the value of preventative health care measures. The fable describes a group of community members standing near a river who witness someone drowning. Some of the community members jump into the water and pull the person to the shore. As soon as they do so, they try to resuscitate her.

Then, another drowning person floats down the river; and as the community

recruits more lifesavers, still more drowning people float past them. Eventually, someone thinks to go upstream to find out what was causing so many people to be pulled into the river. More recently this fable has been used as a metaphor for those lost in the midst of a failing educational system in an effort to get Americans to look upstream to see the sources of the problem; and to query why so many of the failing students are people of color.

If we think of those upstream determinants as structural barriers, what happens when girls of color are pushed out of educational systems that are sup-

posed to support them? How can a path be cleared for them that serves as a bridge to economic stability, and optimal life outcomes? In a new report, Black Girls Matter: Pushed Out, Over-policed and Underprotected the African American Policy Forum examines these concerns in New York City and Boston. The report breaks down data by race and gender, and its findings are disturbing. In New York, for instance, in the 2011-2012 school year, Black girls were disciplined 10 times more often than White girls. In fact, in some settings Black girls were found to face a greater racialized risk of unjust

punishment than Black boys.

Girls of color are often more harshly punished for non-violent offenses that educators have coded as “disruptive” and “disrespectful.” They are sometimes punished for behavior that would be viewed as innocuous for boys. For instance, one girl interviewed for the report explained: “Some of the girls did have this sense of frustration, that there is a different standard for girls’ behavior versus boys. So boys seem to just get more looking the other way, or more tolerance of even the exact same behavior.”

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worked tirelessly within their local branches for years are now speaking out about how the venerable organization is destroying its image by allowing, participating in, and turning a blind eye to member voter suppression, fixing local elections, and lack of accountability of funds. I don’t think that’s the image desired by most NAACP members.

To borrow the most over-used word in the Obama administration’s lexicon, let me be “clear.” I am not on a mission to destroy the NAACP. The only administrator I have ever had contact with is Gill Ford, who presides like a dictator over the local branches. In fact, I admire Brother Detrick Muhammad and the work he does on economic development; I appreciate Hilary Shelton for his involvement in a variety of pressing issues, especially his outspoken participation at Ron Daniels’ panel discussion in D.C. last year.

I do have concerns about the organization’s direction and never ending solicitation of donations from members, in light of the \$46 million Ben Jealous said he left in the NAACP coffers

when he resigned. Moreover, as I reflect on the countless number of volunteer hours I worked for the NAACP, I believe I have the right – and the obligation – to voice my criticism and call for change within. I use this external forum because they refuse to respond internally.

The image of the NAACP is tarnished, mainly because it offers tepid responses to crisis-level issues; in addition, it has left a “trail of tears” across this country at local branches, via the corrupt and downright dictatorial practices of Gill Ford, a person the national office protects, if not collaborates with. The NAACP image portrays strength and resolve, courage and confidence, integrity and respect for its membership; but some of its national personnel are the complete opposite of that portrayal.

Getting a response from folks at the national office, by email, letter, phone call, or carrier pigeon is tantamount to trying to break into the CIA. Having written, called, and sent emails on many occasions, I can personally attest to that fact. And don’t dare to call it out; that road usually leads to

nowhere.

Therefore, the conclusion I have drawn is that image means more to the NAACP than its local members, who are just pawns that are used and disposed of at the whim of Gill Ford. Many have been expelled from the NAACP when they disclose wrongdoing, point out corruption, and reveal financial inconsistencies or just outright violations of the law. If members persist in their righteous attempts at internal justice, retaliation is sure and swift. The mistreatment of local members is shameful and disrespectful.

It is ironic and perplexing that an organization that hands out “Image Awards” does not qualify for one of its own awards. The NAACP had to put forth a great image, locally and nationally, for its National Convention to be held in Philadelphia this year, where local branch members have been and still are embroiled in a legal battle for disclosure of hundreds of thousands of dollars (Gill Ford did “his thing” there too). The economic impact on the city will be in the millions and the NAACP will reap handsome economic benefits as well—all based on a manufactured

image. That must change, and it can only change from within.

Over the years I have written several articles that juxtapose issues like symbolism and substance, consciousness and capital, doing good and feeling good, power and principle, and leaders and pleaders, just to name a few. I have come to know that we settle for empty words, pretentiousness, and shallow images as it relates to our internal accountability. As Carter G. Woodson wrote in his timeless work, *The Miseducation of the Negro*, Black people have a tendency to follow mis-leaders rather than authentic leaders. Right now, the NAACP is mis-leading our people, and is using its image to shroud the wrongdoing within its ranks. I trust they will clean it up before it’s too late or, even worse, before they get caught with their hands in the proverbial cookie jar.

Jim Clingman, founder of the Greater Cincinnati African American Chamber of Commerce, is the nation’s most prolific writer on economic empowerment for Black people. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati and can be reached through his Web site, blackonomics.com.

Uninsured Texans have until Feb. 22 to enroll with new extension period

Announcement from HHS will allow any Texan who has started their coverage application but were delayed due to issues on the HealthCare.gov site, to finish the process.

This week, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that any uninsured Texan who started the enrollment process through the Health Insurance Marketplace but were unable to finish due to an issue with HealthCare.gov or the enrollment hotline will have until February 22 to complete their application. This special enrollment period means Texans who are currently uninsured may still be able to select a plan that



will begin March 1, and give them the peace of mind that comes with knowing they are protected.

“This special enrollment period represents a major opportunity for uninsured Texans,” said Mimi Garcia,

Get Covered America Texas State Director. “It is critical that everyone who started the enrollment process but was unable to finish it, act immediately to complete their enrollment by February 22. Get Covered Amer-

ica will continue reaching out to uninsured Texans who may qualify for this opportunity to answer their questions and encourage them to enroll if they are eligible.”

In the coming week, the Get Covered America campaign will make 25,000 calls to consumers across the country who may be eligible to enroll during this special enrollment period offered by HHS. Those consumers will be offered appointments with in-person assisters who can help them complete the enrollment process. Consumers can also schedule appointments to get free expert assistance directly through the Get Covered Connector, which

has more than 13,000 appointments available over the next week before February 22.

Anyone who believes they may qualify to enroll during this special enrollment period can access the Health Insurance Marketplace online, over the phone, or through a free, in-person enrollment assister. Consumers qualify for this special enrollment period if they:

- tried to enroll in a health coverage plan by February 15 but didn't complete the application because of an issue with healthcare.gov or the Marketplace Call Center;
- or mailed a paper application for Marketplace cov-

erage by February 15 and received a notice telling them they're still able to complete their enrollment.

Anyone who meets those criteria should act immediately to ensure they can complete the process. Consumers who fail to get insured run the risk of paying a fine and spending 2015 without the security of health coverage.

Anyone who started the process but was unable to finish can still meet with a free, in-person enrollment expert in their community. To find someone near you and schedule an appointment, visit the Get Covered Connector at www.getcoveredamerica.org/connector.

Many pregnant teens use alcohol and drugs, study finds

AUSTIN — New research from The University of Texas at Austin suggests that many teenagers may not be getting the message about the risks of using alcohol and other drugs during pregnancy — but that having involved parents and being engaged academically can help.

The study, led by Assistant Professor Christopher Salas-Wright at UT Austin's School of Social Work and published in the Spring 2015 issue of Addictive Behaviors, examines the relationship between substance

use and teen pregnancy using a large, nationally representative sample.

Nearly 3 in 5 (59%) pregnant teens reported having used one or more substances in the previous 12 months, a rate that is nearly two times as great as that of nonpregnant teens (35%). Additionally, the study suggests that use of these substances continues during pregnancy for many teens, particularly younger ones. More than one third (34%) of all pregnant adolescents ages 12-14 reported having used one or more sub-

stances during the previous 30 days. The substance use, however, decreases dramatically for all pregnant youths as they progress from the first into the second and third trimesters of pregnancy, according to the study. The most commonly used substance is alcohol (16%), followed closely by cannabis (14%), and finally other illicit drugs (5%).

“To our knowledge, this is the largest study to date on the relationship between substance use and teen pregnancy,” Salas-Wright said. “Mothers' substance

use during pregnancy can have important consequences for the health and development of newborn babies. Despite efforts to prevent substance use among pregnant teens, our findings suggest that we still have a lot of work to do.”

The study was co-authored with Michael G. Vaughn of Saint Louis University's School of Social Work and graduate students Jenny Ugalde and Jelena Todic of The University of Texas at Austin's School of

Social Work.

“We found that the odds of substance use were roughly 50 percent lower among pregnant teens reporting consistent parental support and limit-setting, as well as those who expressed strong positive feelings about going to school,” Vaughn said.

The study used data from a large, nationally representative study of youths in the United States between 2002 and 2012. Their sample included 97,850 adolescent girls between the ages of 12

and 17. A total of 810 said that they were pregnant.

Researchers examined the prevalence of the use of a wide array of substances including alcohol, cannabis, cocaine/crack, methamphetamine and opiates among pregnant and nonpregnant youths during the previous 12 months. Additionally, they examined the prevalence of substance use among pregnant and nonpregnant teens during the previous 30 days, and across each trimester among the pregnant teens.

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'Ghosts of Denton' author to speak at North Texas Book Festival's annual awards dinner on April 10

DENTON – North Texas Book Festival's guest speaker for this year's annual awards dinner is Shelly Cumbie Tucker, author of "Ghosts of Denton: The History of the Mysteries in a Small Texas Town." Book Trails Dinner is at 6 p.m. Friday, April 10, at Patterson-Appleton Center for the Visual Arts in Denton.

Tucker is known throughout Denton County as the tour director of Ghosts of Denton, haunted history tours. Her blog is at <http://www.ghostsofdenton.com/the-book.html>.

"Shelly is full of wonderfully chilling stories about Denton's haunted history," said Katherine Boyer, NTBF's treasurer. "We are

sure to be entertained."

The event also will include the announcement of NTBF Book Awards winners in several categories, as well as grant presentations to several area libraries and literacy programs.

Tickets are \$25 for NTBF members and \$30 for non-members. To attend, go to

<http://www.ntbf.org/for-authors-and-illustrators.html> or email ntbf10@verizon.net.

Tucker and fellow authors also will sign books and speak at the 15th annual book festival 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 11, at Patterson-Appleton Center for the Visual Arts, 400 E. Hickory St., in Denton. The

event is open to the public, and there is no admission charge.

Author tables are still available, and prices range from \$30 to \$70. For more information, go to <http://www.ntbf.org/for-authors-and-illustrators.html>. If authors want to appear in the festival's official program, registration materials

must be received by March 10; authors who miss the registration deadline will be accepted to the festival as long as space is available.

"Authors who attend both the awards dinner and the festival will have the opportunity to set up Friday night," Boyer said. "Those authors are NTBF's Trailblazers."

GISD commemorates African American History Month

Students across Garland ISD are observing African American history through enlightening attractions and energetic programs this month. Back Elementary School kick started the celebrations with their African American sitcom-themed Step Team tour Feb. 4.

"We included shows that we—the coaches—watched when we were kids and incorporated little things we remembered in the program, like George Jefferson's strut," said Back second-grade teacher and coach Anjelica Turner. "The tour went well. The more shows they do, the more comfortable they will feel performing."

Now in its third year, the Back Elementary Step Team includes 18 third, fourth and fifth-graders. In addition to wowing the audience with rhythmic step routines, the group also entertained with dance numbers set to theme songs of popular sitcoms, such as "Good Times," "In Living

Color" and "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air." The performance featured students sharing historical facts and uplifting messages, as well.

"We were very excited about starting this big tour this year. The kids loved it," said music teacher and coach Jean Metcalf. "This has been a fun ride." By the end of the day, the Step Team and their three coaches visited Shorehaven, Couch, Club Hill and Rowlett elementaries.

"With the tour, I wanted them to get the feel of being able to perform in front of people they do not know. So, if one day we perform in a competition setting, it is not nerve wracking," said coach and second-grade teacher Ebonee Torrens. "We have always shown them where this eventually ends up, and I hope one day to allow them to compete."

Although Back's Step Team tour is complete, other campuses will follow suit with festivities throughout February. The following

schools will host events and activities later this month:

Black History Museum at Classical Center at Bran-

denburg: Feb. 20-27

Black History program featuring NAACP Garland Chapter President Ricky

McNeal at Handley Elementary School: Feb. 26, 6:30-8 p.m.

The Yellow Brick Road

to Harlem Black History Celebration at Steadham Elementary School: Feb. 26, 6 p.m. and Feb. 27, 8:30 a.m.



The Back Elementary Step Team, Photo courtesy of Caren Rodriguez.



LOVIN' BY EXAMPLE.

Here's to the leaders that don't talk about dedication, they show it. To the people who constantly perform selfless acts as they reach out, reach back and bring others along. We show our gratitude during Black History Month, but we applaud you everyday. Let's all be inspired to stay deeply rooted in spreading the love, 365 days a year. Find your motivation at 365Black.com.

 **365BLACK**

Eastfield hosts town hall: 'Minority Males in America & Beyond'

MESQUITE — Eastfield College students, faculty, staff and special guests will participate in a Campus Town Hall meeting on Wednesday, February 18, that addresses the issue of minority males and authority and how to move forward after the recent Mike Brown shooting in Ferguson, Missouri. The panel discussion, which is part of the college's Black History Month celebration, will begin at 12:30 p.m. in G-101/102.

"I hope the panel discussion will encourage students to think critically about what happened in Ferguson," said Speech faculty member Courtney Brazile, advisor of the col-



lege's Men's Empowerment Club, which is hosting the Town Hall meeting. "As educators, we should encourage dialogue about these types of issues if we indeed want to help our students move forward in the most meaningful way."

The Town Hall panel will include attorney Russell Wilson of the Law Office of Russell Wilson; Eastfield College Criminal Justice professor Patrick Patterson, who spent 10 years in the U.S. Army/Air Force Military and Security Police

Criminal Investigation Division and worked for five years in federal security; Eastfield College Police Captain Timothy Ellington; motivational speaker and youth mentor Kivarris Recitor; and Danielle Ayers, minister of social justice at the 12,000-member Friendship West Baptist Church in Dallas and a delegate of the Transatlantic Roundtable on Religion and Race. The moderator will be Brynndah Turnbo, Eastfield College's First Year Experience Coordinator.

Eastfield is also hosting other lectures, concerts and special events throughout February. The theme for the month is "Celebrating a Century of Black Life, His-

tory and Culture. Other upcoming events that will be held on the Mesquite campus are:

- 25th Annual African American Read-In, Feb. 24: The theme for this year's read-in is "Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Maya Angelou. Selections of Angelou's works will be read by Eastfield students as well as faculty members Larissa Pierce, English; Katawna Caldwell, English; and Selena Stewart-Alexander, Developmental Reading & Writing/English at 11 a.m. in F-117. The Eastfield College Chorus will also perform.

- Historically Black Colleges and Universities Fair,

Feb. 25: A transfer fair featuring representatives from HBCU institutions will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

- Recital Series, Feb. 25: The soul and jazz group "Funky Knuckles" will perform in F-117 at 12:30 p.m.

- Art Slideshow and Giraud Polite Photography Reception and Discussion: A slideshow titled "A Century of Black Artists" will be on display in the Eastfield Library from Feb. 9-March 6. Photography by Giraud Polite, Brookhaven College Visual Communications faculty, will also be on display, and there will be a reception/discussion on Feb. 26 in G-101/102 at a time to be determined.

Richland students receive \$42,500 in scholarships

The Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF) recently awarded scholarships totaling \$42,500 to 13 full-time, degree-seeking Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) students at Richland College. Richland College is a U.S. Department of Education-designated Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI).

Richland College is one of only 15 higher education institutions in the U.S.

through which the APIASF is offering the AANAPISI Scholarship Program.

"Our partnership with APIASF generously helps advance Richland College's goals to promote access and achieve equity for a growing segment of our students who otherwise would not have this important opportunity to realize their educational goals," said Kathryn K. Eggleston, Ph.D., president of Richland College.

"APIASF is excited to partner with Richland College for the second year

through the APIASF AANAPISI Scholarship program," said Neil Horikoshi, president and executive director of APIASF. "With more than 40 percent of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders enrolled in higher education attending an AANAPISI campus, this partnership provides an opportunity to support AAPI students in Texas and allows them to gain access to financial and support services — ultimately helping them to earn a quality education and degree."

Richland College received a five-year AANAPISI grant from the U.S. Department of Education in 2010 that will total more than \$1.4 million in funding. With 14-16 percent of Richland College's student enrollment composed of Asian American students and at least half demonstrating financial need, the AANAPISI funding impacts many of the college's underserved students.

For information on APIASF, visit apiasf.org.

MEG, continued from Page 2

story and with the help of CCFA is working for a cure. Her mom did the Vegas half marathon with Team Challenge in 2013 and Meg finished her first half marathon in Dallas in December and was asked to be a local hero. Her friends and family have jumped into supporting fundraising for Team Challenge.

"Millions of people, including more and more children every day, are suffering from the emotional and physical impacts of Crohn's disease and ulcera-

tive colitis," says Staci Brown, National Event Director. "Since 2007, Team Challenge participants have trained for half marathons while raising millions of dollars to better the lives of patients. Team Challenge continues to give countless patients hope for a life without Crohn's or colitis."

Interested participants can learn more about how they can run or walk 13.1 miles and help make a change by visiting www.ccteamchallenge.org or by calling 972-386-0607.

GIRLS, continued from Page 3

Girls of color are also experiencing multiple forms of violence before they even walk through the school doors. They are ingesting trauma for breakfast. Its embedded in the pressures of serving as quasi-mothers for younger family members, enduring physical, sexual, mental, and emotional abuse at home, and leaving their homes with no safe route to school in neighborhoods that have literally been disinvested in by city and corporate officials.

Once they reach their schools, they often find the

buildings and classrooms to be unsafe. Many schools that serve low-income youth and students of color have permanent metal detectors. These schools are coded as "dropout factories," known for graduating less than 60 percent of the 9th graders who attend them. In Black Girls Matter, the authors found that girls of color reported facing discriminatory and abusive comments from school security officers, and intrusive body searches as they entered the school and in the hallways. Rather than fostering a safe space these

conditions at times made some girls avoid school altogether. Simply put, school push-out for girls of color can result in a kind of slow-death, and the absence of a genuine opportunity to succeed. Rather than serving to prevent failure down the road it is more likely to produce failure.

So, as we travel back upstream to see what is going on in our public schools, let's do so armed with more data — both qualitative and quantitative — so that we can gain a better understanding of the roots of the problems that girls of color face. Let's call for public policies and

innovative programs tailored to their needs; and let's acknowledge that when girls are pushed out of school lasting effects spill over into every aspect of their lives. Let's lend a hand before the girls are forced to fend for themselves in treacherous waters.

LeConte Dill is an Assistant Professor at the State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate School of Public Health, teaching and conducting community-engaged research related to urban health, positive youth development, and qualitative methods. A native of South Central Los Angeles,

LeConte lives and works in Brooklyn, N.Y. She holds degrees from Spelman College, UCLA, and University

of Californi- Berkeley, and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta.

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'Hearts & Heels' to support American Heart Association's mission

In North Texas, one organization supports the American Heart Association by inviting men and women from across the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex to participate in the Hearts & Heels Brunch and Show on February 28, 2015 at Hilton Garden Inn – Dallas/Duncanville in Duncanville, Texas

A portion of the proceeds from Hearts & Heels will be



committed to the American Heart Association. Total

You Unlimited CEO and Founder, Emily Blue, be-

lieves it is extremely important to help eradicate heart disease. "Heart disease is still the number one cause of death in both men and women. It is important for us to continue to fund life-saving treatments and educate individuals on how they can prevent heart disease. That is why we support the American Heart Association," says Blue.

Hearts & Heels is a

brunch and show designed to increase awareness about heart disease and will be hosted by DFW Television Personality Amanda Fitzpatrick. As an award-winning journalist and community advocate, Fitzpatrick will bring a fresh and exciting flow to the event.

This event starts with a meet-and-greet along with health screenings, a silent auction and shopping with

specialty vendors at 10 a.m. and a brunch and show at 11 a.m. Attendees are encouraged to wear red in support of National Heart Health Month.

For more information about tickets, becoming a sponsor, vendor or advertiser, interview opportunities or other news, contact Autumn Morris at 1-888-628-3270 or visit www.heart-sandheels2015eventbrite.com.

Health4Me app allows Dallas patients to use smartphone to pay medical bills

UnitedHealthcare's mobile app Health4Me™ now offers several new features including a secure electronic bill-payment service that enables UnitedHealthcare plan participants to pay their medical bills and manage their health care claims and related expenses all from their smartphone.

The mobile bill-payment service is available to more than 13 million UnitedHealthcare plan participants nationwide; anyone can access a guest version of Health4Me to identify local



health care providers and comparison shop for health care based on quality and cost.

Health4Me is designed to help all consumers conveniently make more informed decisions regarding their care. New Health4Me features for UnitedHealthcare plan participants include:

- enabling consumers to pay their medical bills with their credit card, debit card, health savings account or bank account;
- helping consumers manage and understand their claims, and monitor medical expenses for tax reporting;

- tracking their physical activity, including wirelessly connecting to a FitBit device; and

- streaming content from UHC.TV, an internet TV channel with health and wellness information.

UnitedHealthcare is the only national health plan to offer participants payment capabilities that are integrated with claims and benefits information. Such services will become increasingly important as consumers continue paying a larger percentage of their

medical bills, according to a report from the American Medical Association.

"Health4Me is a valuable resource that helps me better understand my health benefits and improve my overall well-being," said Kristina Barbuto, a Health4Me user in Oak Ridge, Tenn. "The navigation is easy and streamlined, making it simple for me to learn more about my treatment options and costs."

The latest enhancements

build on the success of Health4Me, which is available to all consumers on iPhone® and Android® devices and has been downloaded more than 1 million times. The app enables anyone to locate nearby health care providers, and convenience care, urgent care and emergency care facilities, as well as review market average prices for more than 755 medical services across

See APP, Page 7

MALCOLM X, continued from Page 1

accident; it was the outcome of a conscious strategy, a calculated plan devised by a group of leaders determined not to let the legacy of Malcolm be the victim of "historical amnesia."

As the 25th anniversary of the assassination of Malcolm X approached in 1990, King was ascendant and celebrated, and justifiably so, as a seminal leader. But, Malcolm was not seen on par with Martin in the popular consciousness. His legacy languished on the margins of memory of a young generation of Africans in America, progressive youth/young people and much of Black America.

It was against this backdrop that a formation called the African American Progressive Action Network (AAPAN) resolved that 1990 should be declared "The Year of Malcolm X."

AAPAN created a National Malcolm X Commemoration Commission with James Turner as co-chairman, to coordinate the campaign.

The goal was not to denigrate Martin Luther King but to seize upon the 25th anniversary of the assassination of Malcolm to wage a campaign to elevate his profile beyond the true believers to a new generation of young activists and to remind folks of the unique contribution of Malcolm X to the liberation of Black people around the world.

Dr. Martin Luther King and Malcolm X are unquestionably the seminal leaders of the civil rights/human rights, Black Power, Nationalist/Pan-Africanist era that transformed the status of Africans in America. In a choice between Martin and Malcolm, it is clear that the power elite preferred Martin. Hence, Martin has been

sanitized and elevated while Malcolm has largely been ignored, except in those periods when his devotees have refused to allow his contribution to be relegated to irrelevance.

Celebrating Malcolm X was not about diminishing Martin but enhancing the understanding of the life and legacy of Malcolm among the masses of Black folks. The campaign was highly successful. For years, the symbol X signified young people's identification with Malcolm. Indeed, in 2005, on the occasion of the 40th memorial of Malcolm's assassination, another massive commemoration was held at Abyssinian Baptist Church.

The current lack of major national recognition of the 50th memorial suggests the need for yet another campaign to prevent Malcolm's memory from being relegated to relative obscurity. It is not that programs are not being planned. As is the case every year, there will

be commemorations in New York and cities across the country. In fact, I'm told that young activists/leaders are conducting an "X Speaks" online. My concern is that the various commemorations are largely among the true believers and taken together they lack the public/visible scope and scale commensurate to the occasion of the 50th memorial of the assassination of Malcolm and the year of his 90th birthday. I simply believe that Malcolm deserves better.

Ron Daniels is President of the Institute of the Black World 21st Century and Distinguished Lecturer at York College City University of New York. His articles and essays also appear on the IBW website www.ibw21.org and www.northstarnews.com. To send a message, arrange media interviews or speaking engagements, Daniels can be reached via email at info@ibw21.org.

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Cricket Wireless Celebrates Black History Month and salutes #CommunityStars

ATLANTA - In celebration of Black History Month, Cricket Wireless encourages its employees, customers, fans and followers to engage on social media via Twitter to highlight the positive contributions of local community stars. Using #CommunityStars, these posts can highlight personal efforts or salute others for community support, volunteering efforts, mentoring outreach, and progress in the work setting that inspires others.

The #CommunityStars conversation will be amplified during in-store events scheduled in select locations in Philadelphia, Chicago and Los Angeles. Featuring winners of the Cricket Community Stars: Salute to Solopreneurs contest, these rap sessions are free and open to the public. Additionally, Cricket will join Black History Month celebrations in Atlanta, New York and Miramar, Florida.

“Cricket is proud to join the nation in recognizing African Americans – including our

family of employees and customers – who consistently reach back to help local communities move ahead,” said Jermaine Spight, spokesperson, Cricket Wireless. “We look forward to encouraging an engaging social media dialogue which celebrates these often unsung community stars.”

Throughout the year and across the nation, Cricket partners with numerous community organizations – including local chapters of the Urban League, North and South Metro chapters of 100 Black Men of America (Atlanta), and A-MAN, Inc. (Los Angeles) – to support college-bound youth. Additionally, through the Cricket Community Stars contest (launched in 2014), the brand recognized small business owners for their dedication to local communities.

For more information or to join the #CommunityStars conversation, visit Cricket on Twitter.

APP, continued from Page 7

500 episodes of care, providing a comprehensive view of what consumers should expect throughout their course of treatment. For UnitedHealthcare plan participants, the estimates are based on actual contracted rates with care providers and take into account an individual’s real-time account balances, when applicable.

“Health4Me helps consumers conveniently and easily manage their health care finances, and make more informed choices, while at home or on the go,” said Yasmine Winkler, UnitedHealthcare’s chief marketing & product officer. “By enabling consumers to more easily monitor, manage and understand their health care expenses any time and any place, we are helping people take charge of their health and make more informed decisions regarding their care.”

The payment feature, designed in collaboration with InstaMed, a health care payments network company, has previously been available online via UnitedHealthcare’s plan participant portal, www.myuhc.com. The mobile and online service, known as myClaims Manager, enables people to manage their claims and pay medical bills electronically by entering their credit card, debit card or bank account information, adding convenience for consumers while helping health care providers get paid faster and easier.

Health4Me and myClaims Manager are available to UnitedHealthcare employer customers of all sizes and their employees. Payments can be made to anyone in UnitedHealthcare’s entire network of physicians and other care providers, and providers can register to receive the payments electronically.

NATIONAL AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

Established in 1926 as Negro History Week, President Gerald R. Ford expanded the celebration in 1976 to include the entire month of February. This year, Navy commands are encouraged to celebrate and reflect on the theme: “A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture.”

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CIVIL WAR 1861-1865

MAR 1861 12 prior-enlisted black servicemen were commissioned as ensigns

MAR 1862 13th was made a warrant officer

1ST group of black servicemen to complete officer training in the Navy and led the way for future African-Americans.

BY THE END OF THE WAR 64 African Americans had become officers in the Navy

THE GOLDEN THIRTEEN



DORIS MILLER

The **1ST** African American to receive the **Navy Cross** for the act of bravery during Pearl Harbor (December 7, 1941)

1942

EDNA YOUNG

The **FIRST** black woman to serve in the regular Navy to achieve the rank of petty officer

1948

WESLEY A. BROWN

The **FIRST** black graduate of the UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

CLASS OF 1949

1949

ADMIRAL J. PAUL REASON

The **1ST** Black Naval Officer to rise to **4 Stars**

commanded component of the **Atlantic Fleet**

- 101 missions
- 1,000 sorties
- 117,000 miles & 60,000 hours of flight

DECEMBER 1996

CARL BRASHEAR

The **FIRST** African American to become a U.S. Navy Master Diver

1970

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVELY JR.

The **FIRST** African American to command a Navy ship

- NAVY SHIP USS Phoenix (C-12) (1971)
- NAVY WARSHIP USS Paul Jones (DD-391)
- NAVY WARSHIP USSO USS Conroy (DD-745)
- NAVY MAJOR COMMAND WARSHIP USS Johnston (DD-517)
- NAVY MAJOR COMMAND WARSHIP USS Johnston (DD-517)

34 YEARS OF SERVICE (1965 - 1999)

ADMIRAL MICHELLE HOWARD

The **FIRST** African American Woman

- to command a U.S. Navy ship
- promoted to two-star and three-star admiral
- to serve as Vice Chief of Naval Operations
- to be a four-star admiral

1982 - PRESENT

AFRICAN AMERICANS

continue to serve with distinction

now comprising more than **17%** of our active duty Navy total force and strength

PRESENT DAY

Source: US Navy

NDG enjoys a night at Jubilee Theatre's In Real Life...



In *In Real Life* opening night pre-show reception with the guest of honor, Mrs. Charlayne Woodard, writer of *In Real Life*; husband, Alan Michael Harris and NDG's V/P of Entertainment, Jessica Brewer.



Inspiring Q & A with Playwright, Charlayne Woodard and Actress Ebony Marshall-Oliver. After the show the two elegant ladies discuss their ups and downs on their path to success.



Playwright & Actress Mrs. Charlayne Woodard and V/P of Entertainment, Jessica Brewer get caught snapping a selfie! (All photos by Buddy Meyers)

Enjoy the incredible, one and only Diana Ross



DIANA ROSS has had a profound influence on American pop culture and is one of the last true superstars. She's an Academy Award-nominated actress for her unforgettable role as Billie Holiday in *Lady Sings The Blues*, a Tony and Golden Globe winner, a bestselling author, winner of 8 American Music Awards and a recipient of The Kennedy Center Honors.

Her beauty and fashion icon status have put her on the covers of hundreds of magazines. Ms. Ross has sold over 100 million

records and recorded 18 Number One hits across several decades. Her voice is unmistakable and unparalleled, and she's been the inspiration for countless artists throughout the world.

Her music became the sound of young America in the '60s soon after she signed with Motown Records in 1961 with The Supremes. There was a time when The Supremes rivaled The Beatles as the most popular act of their generation. When she embarked on her extraordi-

nary solo career in 1970, she took the world by storm yet again, creating one timeless classic after another, and she's still going strong today.

She sings the soundtrack of our lives; the music that evokes a million treasured memories. She's a true music legend and though many have attempted to copy her exquisite style—there's only one DIANA ROSS!

The show at Verizon in Grand Prairie is 8 p.m. on Feb. 26 the cost is \$49 - \$200.

Is *InStyle's* response to Kerry Washington's cover photo debate even plausible?

By Chelsea Lenora White
Special to the NNPA from
The Houston Forward Times



Kerry Washington will be on the cover of the March issue of *InStyle*. And while the issue hasn't hit newsstands yet, Washington's Instagram post of the cover photo has already garnered criticism from fans accusing the magazine of lightening the actress's skin, reports *Us Weekly*. One commenter wrote: "Glad you made the cover Kerry, but this

isn't right. I'm sorry. It's not. Don't let them do that to you," and another simply asked, "Why is she white in this picture?"

Rather than deny the accusations, *InStyle* re-

sponded swiftly with a statement and an explanation on its site:

"We are super fans of Kerry Washington here at *InStyle*. To feature her on the cover of our March spring fashion issue is both an honor and a delight. We have heard from those who have spoken out about our newsstand cover photograph, concerned that Kerry's skin tone was lightened. While we did not digitally lighten Kerry's skin tone,

See COVER, Page 16

Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit www.northdallasgazette.com to win tickets to see *In Real Life* @ Jubilee Theater Center.

Legendary Rebirth Brass Band coming to Dallas

Simply put, The Rebirth Brass Band is an institution. Formed in 1983, the band has long since graduated from the streets of New Orleans to theaters and festivals all over the world.

Rebirth is committed to upholding the tradition of brass bands while at the same time incorporating modern music into their show.

Their signature brand of heavy funk has placed them among the world's top brass bands and they are the hands-down favorite among the younger generation.

In reference to the sometimes-stringent competition amongst brass bands, *Off-beat* magazine remarked, "...it's clear that Rebirth, which boasts 10 albums and has traveled the world, is the band to beat



Fans can vote to add Dallas to Monopoly Here Now

PAWTUCKET, R.I.—(BUSINESS WIRE)— Roll the dice, pass GO, and get ready to take your Monopoly token on a trip around the world! In celebration of the Monopoly brand's 80th anniversary, Hasbro, Inc. has teamed up with social news and entertainment company BuzzFeed to ask fans to choose which great cities around the world will be featured as property spaces in new Monopoly Here & Now games launching this fall.

The Monopoly Here & Now property space vote, including a special "Wild Card Week" began last week at www.Votemonopoly.com. Through March 4, fans can pick from a list of global destinations that will be featured in the Monopoly Here & Now: World Edition game to be sold globally this fall, as well as top American cities for the Monopoly Here & Now: U.S. Edition game to be sold only in the U.S. From London to Los Angeles, Chicago to Cape Town, fans can rally behind their beloved hometowns, favorite vacation spots, or cities on their travel bucket lists by sharing the vote on Facebook and Twitter using the hashtag #VoteMONOP-



OLY.

From March 3 through March 9, all cities big and small will have the chance to compete for two spaces on the Monopoly Here & Now game boards during "Wild Card Week." Fans can "write-in" additional locations not included in the initial list of destinations and the cities with the most submissions during this week will be featured as the two brown property spaces in the World and U.S. editions of the game.

"We are thrilled to be teaming up with BuzzFeed as one of the leading social news and entertainment sites to bring our fans an exciting way to choose the cities that will be featured in the new Monopoly Here & Now game," said Jonathan Berkowitz, vice president of global marketing for gaming at Hasbro. "This innovative campaign demonstrates how we continue to keep the Monopoly brand relevant by empowering our

fans to help create today's game."

The final list of cities that will be featured in the Monopoly Here & Now games will be announced on March 19, World Monopoly Day and the Monopoly brand's official birthday. The Monopoly Here & Now games will be available this fall and will feature iconic landmark tokens and new gameplay where players travel around the board to visit as many locations as possible, collecting passport stamps along the way. Players will collect cash from visitor fees when opponents land on their locations and the first player to fill their passport wins.

The Monopoly brand is the world's favorite family game brand and the game has been played by more than one billion people in 114 countries around the world. Whether fans play face-to-face, online or on their mobile or console devices, there is a Monopoly experience to fit every lifestyle. Learn more about the Monopoly brand at Monopoly.com, join the conversation at Facebook.com/Monopoly, and vote in the Monopoly Here & Now campaign at VoteMonopoly.com.

Texas named as No. 7 'Most Puppy Loving State' – Should we demand a recount?

Texas has been ranked the #7 most "Puppy Loving" U.S. state, according to the Milk-Bone Doggy Love Index. I work in an office of nearly 20 people and everyone except for maybe three have a dog. I think Texas should demand a recount! :)

To create the Valentine's Day ranking, Big Heart Pet Brands — the makers of Milk-Bone, Pup-Peroni, Canine Carry Outs and Milo's Kitchen brand dog treats — surveyed 3,000 dog parents to determine how regularly they engage in loving behaviors with their dogs (like doggy kisses and regular cuddle time).

Shown below are the Top 25 U.S. states that love their dogs the most: 1. California, 2. New York, 3. Washington, 4. Tennessee, 5. Florida, 6. Massachusetts, 7. Texas, 8. Missouri, 9. Ohio, 10. Arizona, 11. Pennsylvania, 12. Michigan, 13. New Hampshire, 14. Kentucky, 15. Montana, 16. Colorado, 17. Louisiana, 18. North Dakota, 19. Illinois, 20. Delaware, 21. Kansas, 22. Wisconsin, 23. Alabama, 24. Virginia, 25. Arkansas

Milk-Bone also asked state residents how they view dog parents as potential romantic partners, how dogs help enhance their

daily lives, and how they plan to show love to their dog on Valentine's Day. Here's what they found:

- 73 percent of dog parents buy their dog a gift at least once a month
- The #1 most popular way to show love is by giving your dog a special treat
- 39 percent of unmarried women prefer their dog to a date on Valentine's Day
- 18 percent of single men say that having a dog helps them get more dates
- Both women (79 percent) and men (67 percent) find dog-loving people more attractive

Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit www.northdallasgazette.com to win tickets to Skippyjon Jones @ Dallas Children's Theater.

Hi tech must give higher priority to diversity

By Kim M. Keenan
NNPA Guest Columnist

This revolution will definitely not be televised.

When Intel announced that it would spend \$300 million over the next five years to create a workforce that actually looks like America, the coverage of the announcement was scant.

Here, we have a real game changer, and the faint praise of Intel CEO Brian Krzanich's decision to establish a \$300 million dollar "Diversity in Tech" initiative – or Jesse Jackson's efforts at prodding the industry – is almost as bad as the conditions that created the need for the fund in the first place.

Almost.

By stepping up and leading tech companies out of the same old thinking about how to create a diverse workforce, Intel is opening the door for others in the tech world to ensure that the age of innovation looks like all of America.

Last month, Apple included two established minority-owned firms in its \$6.5 billion debt offering, which was the largest high-grade corporate bond sale this year – until Microsoft followed with a \$10.75 billion debt offering that included four minority-owned firms. This is the kind of action befitting the companies in the vanguard of changing the world we live in.

The business case is clear. People of color and women are among the highest consumers of all things tech. And there are too many of

us to be ignored.

The Census Bureau figures tell the story.

"The non-Hispanic white population is projected to peak in 2024, at 199.6 million, up from 197.8 million in 2012. Unlike other race or ethnic groups, however, its population is projected to slowly decrease, falling by nearly 20.6 million from 2024 to 2060," the Census Bureau reported.

"Meanwhile, the Hispanic population would more than double, from 53.3 million in 2012 to 128.8 million in 2060. Consequently, by the end of the period, nearly one in three U.S. residents would be Hispanic, up from about one in six today.

"The black population is expected to increase from 41.2 million to 61.8 million over the same period. Its share of the total population would rise slightly, from 13.1 percent in 2012 to 14.7 percent in 2060.

"The Asian population is projected to more than double, from 15.9 million in 2012 to 34.4 million in 2060, with its share of nation's total population climbing from 5.1 percent to 8.2 percent in the same period.

"Among the remaining race groups, American Indians and Alaska Natives would increase by more than half from now to 2060, from 3.9 million to 6.3 million, with their share of the total population edging up from 1.2 percent to 1.5 percent. The Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander population is expected to nearly double, from

706,000 to 1.4 million. The number of people who identify themselves as being of two or more races is projected to more than triple, from 7.5 million to 26.7 million over the same period.

"The U.S. is projected to become a majority-minority nation for the first time in 2043..."

In that world, a company that only sees white will find competitive challenges to keep up with a world that sees everything but white – green will be the driver of what companies look like, and not just in tech.

This is not a handout by any means. This is a hand up to a solid future for our communities of color. We are drivers of all aspects of this new economy. Our money powers micro chips, search engines, and every handheld device on the planet. Diversity as a core value is more about staying connected with your customers so that they do not discard you for the next new shiny thing than it is about giving something away.

Even more key is the Intel's decision to be the first Silicon Valley Firm to recognize Martin Luther King's Birthday as a holiday. The message is clear. This is not a Black holiday, but a holiday that reflects the American spirit. Service really is the rent we pay for our time here on earth. With all of the progress and all of these gadgets, we expect cutting edge companies to produce cutting edge answers. If we can locate your phone, your keys, and seats

to that sold-out game, it would never make sense that we have no idea where or even how to find qualified people of color? Somewhere, someone is feeling my déjà vu.

The actions taken by Intel, Apple, and Microsoft demonstrate that they recognize that good business requires action to get us on track. We cannot wait for a perfect pipeline of engineers before we diversify the tech industry.

We already have marketing reps, lawyers, engineers, and executives in all colors, so we can start right where we are now while working to expand the pipeline for the future. At stake is an America that can provide jobs for all, and not just for a chosen few.

The Intel, Apple, and Microsoft announcements are signs that we have the technology, we have the will,

and we can create an innovation age with a workforce that truly looks like America. We should accept nothing less.

Kim M. Keenan is the President and CEO of the

Multicultural Media and Telecommunications Council (MMTC). Prior to taking the helm at MMTC, Keenan served as General Counsel and Secretary of the NAACP.

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An overview of charitable deductions

Many taxpayers cheat themselves out of valuable charitable deductions by underestimating the value of items given away or not hanging on to receipts. Here's a Liberty Tax checklist of tips for giving to charities and receiving the greatest tax benefit:

Keep better records: The

charitable contribution will be disallowed for any monetary contributions unless the donor maintains a record of the contribution. This applies to any contribution of money, regardless of the amount. Be sure that you have bank records, cancelled checks or written acknowledgements for all

cash contributions that show the name of the charitable organization, the date and the amount of the contribution. For monetary donations or items over \$250 in a single donation, the IRS requires an additional written acknowledgement from

See CHARITY, Page 13



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Lilly Ledbetter selected as keynote speaker at 50th SMU Women's Symposium

Dallas (SMU) – The SMU Women's Symposium will celebrate its 50th anniversary, Wednesday, March 4, with an examination of women's progress through the last 50 years. Lilly Ledbetter, namesake of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 and an advocate for gender wage equality, will present at noon a keynote address about her 10-year battle for pay equality at Goodyear Tire and Rubber.

Past speakers have included Hillary Clinton, Maya Angelo, Margaret Mead, Marlee Matlin, Patricia Ireland and Eleanor Clift.

"Lilly Ledbetter represents women using their voices to create change," says Karen Click, director of SMU's Women and LGBT Center. "We've been inspired by that for 50 years and hope that we continue, as women, to examine our voices and use them."

The symposium is open to the public and will take place from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at SMU's Hughes-Trigg Student Center, 3140 Dyer St. Visit visit.smu.edu/womsym for registration.

More than 600 attendees are expected to attend SMU Women's Symposium, created in 1966 as part of the University's commemoration of its 50th anniversary. Now the longest running event of its kind, the student-led symposium has challenged, changed and broadened women's perspectives on campus and in the community.

"For me, Women's Symposium was a unique opportunity for women to come together to discuss issues in a supportive environment," says Meg Wuebbels Leal, a Phoenix attorney and government relations specialist who was involved with SMU Women's Symposium as a student in the late 1980s. "It serves as a great

See SMU, Page 13

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SMU, continued from Page 12

example to young college-aged women of how to network and support one another.”

Designed to create equal standing for students and women from the community, assigned seating and head tables are absent from the keynote luncheon. Instead, women select seats by table topics. Winners of leadership awards at the dinner are introduced through heartfelt introductions created by students they mentor instead of traditional biographies.

The 2015 symposium will feature a community resource fair, book signing and community awards reception and dinner where Merriott Terry, executive director of IGNITE Texas, will receive the Ward Award for Excellence in Mentoring. The Profiles in Leadership Award will be presented to Roberta Berger, licensed professional counselor and psychologist; Ashley Elsey, founder and owner of Minerva Consulting; Pam Gerbber, executive director, Entrepreneurs

for North Texas; Liz Cedillo-Pereira, attorney and founding partner of Cedillo-Pereira and Associates; and Nellie Tafalla, community activist.

For more information and

to register for all or part of the SMU Women’s Symposium, visit smu.edu/wom-sym. Cost ranges from \$50 for luncheon only to \$110 for the day. Registration deadline is Feb. 25, 2015.



Lilly Ledbetter looks on as President Barack Obama signs The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009

CHARITY, continued from Page 11

the organization. Taxpayers claiming over \$500 for all contributed property must complete and file Form 8283, Noncash Charitable Contributions.

Hold onto your pledge cards: Taxpayers who have had charitable contributions deducted from their paychecks are required to hold onto their pledge cards from the charity, pay stubs, and their Form W-2 or other employer information that states the total amount of donation. Be sure that you have bank records, cancelled checks or written acknowledgements for all cash contributions that show the name of the charitable organization, the date and the amount of the contribution.

Figure and declare the full value of donated item: When declaring the value of donated clothing or items for tax purposes, determine the fair market value. This can be the price the item might sell for at a garage sale or thrift store. IRS Publication 561 Determining the Value of Donated Property is a good source to use. For monetary donations or items over \$250 in a single donation, the IRS requires an additional written acknowledgement from the organization. Taxpayers claiming over \$500 for all contributed property must complete and file Form 8283, Noncash Charitable

Contributions.

Be sure the charity is recognized as legitimate by the IRS: Check that your donations are made to a charity or non-profit organization that the IRS considers legitimate. Approved non-profits include those whose focus is religious, charitable, educational, literacy, preventing cruelty to children and animals, or serving military veterans. Even some Mexican and Israeli charities are eligible through treaties with those countries. You cannot deduct the value of your time, but if you’re a volunteer, you can deduct your out-of-pocket expenses and volunteer mileage at 14

cents per mile.

Taxpayers can generally deduct up to half of their adjusted gross income in one tax year: The IRS allows generous taxpayers to carryover deductions that exceed their charitable contribution amounts for up to five years.

Deduct your mileage or actual costs of transportation to and from charitable events:

Deductible for tax year 2014 is 14 cents per mile. Taxpayers need to keep records of their mileage on a calendar.

Hosting a foreign exchange student: Taxpayers who have written agreements to host students may be able to deduct \$50 a month for expenses.

Uniform maintenance is deductible: If uniforms are required for volunteer service, the costs of cleaning and maintaining them is tax deductible as a charitable contribution.

To find a local Liberty Tax office, call 866-871-1040 or visit www.libertytax.com. Liberty Tax does take appointments; however, they are not necessary.



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February 22
Join us this Sunday at 8 a.m. for our praise and worship services, God will bless you. And don't forget to come back for our Iglesia de Cristo Services (the Word of God in Spanish.)

February 22
Today is also the last Sunday in February, therefore, after our morning and evening services we have our FREE Blood Pressure Clinic for your health.

February 25, 9:30 a.m.
You're invited to join us for Bible study as we worship and praise God for His blessings. Prepare to be encouraged by God's plan to grow.

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

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February 22
You're invited to our Sunday Morning "Prayer and Meditation" followed by Morning Worship Service at 10 a.m. See what God is doing through and with us; you will be blessed. We will also have some Black History facts to share with you.

February 25, 7 p.m.
Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Dr. Woodson and/or Associate Pastor Brenda Patterson teaching on the subject of Spiritual Warfare. These are Hot Topics in Winter Months. We will learn what God says about critical issues and topics through the study of His word. Come and be blessed by God.

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Senior Pastor
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February 22, 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m.
You're invited to our Morning Services as we worship, honor and praise God for His blessings. Our February Month Series is "Being Wired for Sex."

February 25
Join us at 12 Noon with Rev. Viveca Potter teaching on the Word of God; come back at 6:45 for Corporate Prayer and stay for Senior Pastor Autry at 7:30 p.m. teaching the Word of God. Our youth will come for Food and Fellowship at 7 p.m. followed by Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. and Tutoring/Homework Assistance at 8 p.m.

Dr. Terrence Autry,
Senior Pastor
701 Centennial
972-991-0200
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February 22
Join us this Sunday for our praise and worship services at 9:30 a.m. followed by Morning Services at 1550 Edelweiss Drive in Allen and bring someone with you; you will be blessed.

February 25
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 the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall, 200 W. Belmont Drive in Allen. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all, be prepared to grow.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr.,
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February 22, 7:35 a.m.
Join us this Sunday for our praise and worship services and receive a blessing from God.

February 25, 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
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February 22
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.

February 25, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

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

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February 22
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.

February 25
Join us for Wednesday's Bible Study and learn what God has to say to us.

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

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February 22,, 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.

February 25, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word. Come and be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and growth; and, it's all for His glory.

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
920 E. 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
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**THE INSPIRING BODY
OF CHRIST CHURCH**

**February 22,
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.

February 23, 7 p.m.
Join us in Monday School as we learn what God has to say to us.

February 27, 7 p.m.
All men are invited to join us for Men's Fellowship night. What is God saying to us?

Pastor Rickie Rush
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There will be readings and recitals from PACE members and local youth. Also, on the program will be local performer Jennifer White Miller who will present a Harriet Tubman monologue and song performance.

FREE new and slightly used books will be given away to children in the audience. Books have been provided by PACE members, members of the public and a generous donation from Friends of the Library. Light refreshments will be served. Contact Tracey Richardson, Historian, for book donations or information at pacemaster@pacedfw.org. or call 469-585-6844.



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More Black History achievements



Sister Tarpley

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

The 2015 theme is: "A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture." This week I will highlight Dr. Henry T. Sampson, the Black man who invented the Gamma-Electric Cell that brought us the cell phone that the world can't seem to do without it.

Everyday I am amazed, as I am sure Mr. Sampson is, of the improvements of the cell phone and its many uses.

When I traveled to Hong Kong, China, it seems that everybody there had a cell phone; and all that you have to do is look around you and you will see the majority of people, adults and children of every kind with their own cell phone.

I love to tell my version of how Mr. Sampson came up with the idea of the cell phone. One day he was trying to get in touch with his wife, who had left home to go shopping, to no avail.

After several hours, he thought to himself, I can do better than this! And, he in-

vented the Gamma-Electric Cell and the "cell phone" was born. From that point on he talked to his wife when ever he had a need to communicate with her.

Forth-four years ago, on July 6, 1971, Henry T. Sampson invented the "gamma-electric cell", which pertains to Nuclear Reactor use.

According to Dr. Sampson, the Gamma Electric Cell, patented July 6, 1971, Patent No. 3,591,860 produces stable high-voltage output and current to detect radiation in the ground.

Born in Jackson, Mississippi, he received a Bachelor of Science degree from Purdue University in 1956. He went on to the University of California, Los Angeles where he graduated with a MS degree in engineering in 1961; University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, a MS in Nuclear Engineering in 1965, and a PHD in 1967.

Mobile Communications took a big step forward in 1983 with the invention of the Cellular System regulating the portable telephones, which use radio waves to transmit and receive audio signals.

Before this time, mobile telephone service in the United States, consisting

mainly of car phones, was extremely limited because metropolitan areas had only one antenna for these purposes.

In addition, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) assigned only 12 to 24 frequencies to each area, which meant that only that many calls could occur at a time.

These limitations often meant a wait of up to 30 minutes for a dial tone and a five to ten year waiting list just to acquire the service. With the invention of cellular phone service in 1983, personal communications no longer depended on wires.

In the 1990s it would become possible to connect to the Internet from virtually anywhere in the world using a portable computer and a cellular modem with satellite service. Technologies that developed from different fields, such as personal communications, computation, and space exploration often worked together to serve the constantly evolving human needs of the information age.

Henry T. Sampson worked as a research Chemical Engineer at the US Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, California. 1956-61. Henry T. Samp-

son then moved on to the Aerospace Corp, El Segundo, CA.

His titles include: Project Engineer, 1967-81, director of Planning and Operations Directorate of Space Test Program, 1981-, and Co-inventor of gamma-electric cell.

He holds patents related to solid rocket motors and conversion of nuclear energy into electricity.

He also pioneered a study of internal ballistics of solid rocket motors using high-speed photography. He was also a producer of documentary films on early

Black filmmakers and films, was a member of the board of directors of Los Angeles Southwest College Foundation, and a technical consultant to Historical Black Colleges and Universities Program.

Sampson's Awards and Honors: Fellow of US Navy, 1962-1964. Atomic Energy Commission, 1964-1967. The Black Image Award from Aerospace Corp, 1982. Blacks in Engineering, Applied Science; and Education Award and Los Angeles Council of Black Professional Engineers, 1983.



Also, Mr. Trey & Mrs. Margie Mobley came to Bethel Bible Fellowship Church to celebrate with Sister Tarpley on February 8, 2015.

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 1555 E. Fabrikas Drive
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 9:30 a.m.
 Wednesday Night Live
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 Allen, TX 75013
 7:00 pm.

NDG Book Review: *The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

There is life after high school.

And were you ever happy to learn that! You couldn't imagine spending the rest of your days feeling like you did at thirteen, or enduring a not-cool lifetime of zits, hormones, self-consciousness, bad hair, and Mean Girls.

You were only able to endure it then by remembering that you weren't alone. And in "The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl" by Issa Rae, life got better.

For much of her early childhood, Jo-Issa Diop never worried about being



cool.

Coolness wasn't an issue when, until age three, she lived with her parents and her father's extended family in his native Senegal. There, she was surrounded by loving aunts, uncles, and assorted cousins, all living

within the family compound.

Coolness never came up when she started grade school in Maryland with a diverse group of children of many races. It was, in fact, barely discussed...

... until Diop's family relocated to South Central, between Compton and Watts, near L.A. There, she attended a series of private schools, in all of which she was one of a small handful of black kids. The family moved a lot – and with each new location, it became harder to keep up, harder to be one of the Popular Kids. It was harder to be cool.

Oh, but she tried!

She attempted to give herself a cool nickname, but it didn't stick. She haunted online chatrooms, but her profile pics were quickly discovered. She was taunted by classmates for her inability to dance, by peers for not having "cool" music, and by family for being overweight. Valentine's Day was particularly embarrassing. Even after moving to New York as an adult and assuming a new name, Issa Rae felt like a misfit.

And then she realized a few things: she didn't need constant companionship. She needn't laser-focus on black culture, or think about racism. She could use in-

nate talents to make videos, launch a new web series, write TV shows, and win awards. She could be liked for who she was in person. And she didn't have to say yes to every man; she could love herself enough to find real love.

Mistaken me: I misunderstood "The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl" as a comedy piece, and I was initially disappointed. Yes, it's got its crack-a-smile moments but it's not hilarious. As turns out, there's really so much more to it.

Author Issa Rae writes with a wonderful universality: no matter who you are,

there's been a time when you've felt out-of-place and floundering. Because of the candor Rae applies to her essays, we intimately know the feelings of which she writes and it's easy to see her as an ally and cringe along with her, since we've been in that same situation. And then, we're delighted when things finally go her way.

So, while this isn't a laugh-a-minute book, it's a nice memoir that will resonate with anyone who's ever felt like an oddball. If that's you, then "The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl" is pretty cool.

Funeral services for Bruce Gerald Caraway, Sr., father of Councilman Caraway scheduled for Friday

Bruce Gerald Caraway, Sr. died peacefully and went to be with his Savior Jesus Christ on February 13, 2015. A Dallas native, he attended Dallas ISD schools graduating from Lincoln High School where he played center on the football team.

A man who served people, he worked in food and beverage for many years as a waiter, bartender and maitre'd at the Baker and Adolphus hotels and Dallas Athletic Club. He was an agent with Atlanta Life Insurance and masseur at the downtown YMCA. He retired from the Brook Hollow Golf Club after 37 years as manager of the men's locker room. Mr. Caraway was one of the original founders of the legendary "Original" Kliff



Club in Oak Cliff.

He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Mattie Mathis Caraway, his children, Bruce Caraway Jr., Dwaine Caraway, Estella Caraway Savage, his five grandchildren, six great grandchildren and host of nieces, nephews and other relatives.

A memorial service will

be held Friday, Feb. 20 from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. at True Lee Missionary Baptist Church, 3907 R. L. Parish Sr. Ave., (formerly Bertrand Ave.) in Dallas.

The celebration of his life service will be held on Saturday, Feb. 21 at 11 a.m. at Good Street Baptist Church, 3110 Bonnie View Rd., also in Dallas.

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our cover lighting has likely contributed to this concern. We understand that this has resulted in disappointment and hurt. We are listening, and the feedback has been valuable. We are committed to ensuring that this experience has a positive influence on the ways in which

we present all women going forward."

In recent years, other publications have faced similar accusations. In 2010, Elle received criticism from readers who accused the publication of lightening Gabourey Sidibe's skin, and in 2014,

fans felt Vanity Fair digitally manipulated Lupita Nyong'o's skin tone.

In response to InStyle's statement, Washington tweeted about the importance of this conversation by tweeting:

"Beautiful statement. Thank u 4 opening this convo. It's an important 1 that needs to be had."

Good cholesterol or bad?

Don't take their word for it; ask your doctor first, warns the Association of Mature American Citizens after a new report from the U.S. Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee says cholesterol is no longer "a

nutrient of concern."

Dr. Dariush Mozaffarian, dean of the School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University, says "There have been multiple analyses and meta-analyses now look-

ing at intake of dietary cholesterol and the risk of heart disease. In the general population, there's really not any strong evidence for a link."

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