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Selma's Lesson: The Struggle Continues

By Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.
NNPA Columnist

President Obama marked the 50th anniversary of Selma by celebrating the ordinary heroes who sacrificed so much to make America better. Noting that nearly 100 members of Congress were in the audience, he urged them to return to Washington to strengthen the Voting Rights Act, weakened by the ill-considered decision of five conservative Supreme Court Justices in *Shelby County v. Holder*. Today, 50 years after Selma, states are moving once more to make voting harder rather than easier.

Reviving the Voting Rights Act is essential, but it is not sufficient. The marchers in Selma were marching not just for the right to vote, but also for jobs and justice. And today, Selma itself reveals how far we have to go.

Much attention was rightly paid to the 103-year-old Amelia Boynton Robinson. In 1965, she was a leader in planning the Selma demonstrations, and her home was the site for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and legislators to gather as they wrote the first draft of the Voting Rights Act. This weekend, 50 years later, she joined President Obama on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, sitting tall in



President Barack Obama, First Family, Rep. John Lewis and thousands of others remember the heroes of Selma 50 years later on March 7, 2015 (Official White House Photo)

her wheelchair.

Yet, her home – which ought to be a national memorial – now sits boarded up, joining other vacant and foreclosed homes in her neighborhood.

Selma is now 80 percent Black. Dallas County, where it sits, suffers the highest unemployment in the state at 10.2 percent. The official figure doesn't count the many who have simply given up trying to find a job. Downtown Selma has as many boarded up stores as operating ones.

USA Today quoted David Gar-

row, the author of *Bearing the Cross: Martin Luther King and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference*, who warned against “reducing history to a photo op.” The focus, he argued, “should be on investment and economic development in places like Selma. The focus should be on what we can do for Selma, not what Selma can do for us.”

And of course, it is not just Selma. African American unemployment remains at more than twice the level of White unemploy-

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Black men have an opportunity gap

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Cuba Gooding, Sr. still thrives

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Bill targets payday loans

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COMMENTARY

Systematic racism in America

By Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.
NNPA Columnist

in many cities across the nation.

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) report on the Ferguson, Mo. Police Department sheds a brighter light on a serious racial injustice malignancy that is not isolated or unique to that besieged city. What the Justice Department concluded in Ferguson, after months of intense investigation, exposes a systematic pattern of injustice and inequality that can actually be found

This federal report presented facts with years of supporting data that revealed how racism was the decisive phenomenon in how the police and courts dealt disparagingly with Black Americans.

Racial disparities in police departments and in judicial systems are not just local problems in a few municipalities that have been exposed as a result

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Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson



Dr. Alfee M. Breland-Noble



Sharel E. Gordon-Love

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Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson

(Editor's Note: March is National Women's History Month, throughout the month in our People in the News section, we are spotlighting Women Making History.)



Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson is a marine biologist and the Executive Director of the Waitt Institute. Johnson travels the world to collect, create, and amplify the best ideas in ocean conservation.

Her work is in ensuring healthy ecosystems and sus-

tainable seafood for the approximately one billion people who depend on the ocean for their nutrition, livelihoods, and cultures.

Johnson leads the Blue Halo Initiative, through which the Waitt Institute

has partnered with the Caribbean governments and communities of Barbuda, Montserrat and Curaçao to support the envisioning, design, and realization of sustainable ocean management for each island.

Johnson developed the Institute's model for this comprehensive, science-based, community-driven approach, and plans are in place to replicate similar comprehensive ocean management initiatives around the Caribbean and the world.

"We're thrilled to be building relationships that emphasize science and community priorities,"

shared Dr. Johnson. "Barbuda was just the beginning of a Caribbean-wide effort to rebuild fisheries and improve coastal livelihoods."

Expansively multi-disciplinarily in her approach, Johnson draws from sociology, economics, marketing, and psychology in addition to ecology.

She holds a marine biology Ph.D. from Scripps Institution of Oceanography, where she grappled holistically with sustainably managing coral reefs. She conducted extensive ecological (350+ SCUBA dives) and socioeconomic (400+ stakeholder interviews) fieldwork on Curaçao and

Bonaire.

Her research proved that bycatch (i.e. unwanted, wasted catch) could be reduced by 80 percent without reducing catch value. This discovery won her the prized Rare/National Geographic Solution Search competition.

Her work also showed that behavioral economics principles influence stakeholders' views on resource management. Advised by Dr. Jeremy Jackson, she graduated in 2011 with a dissertation entitled "Fish, Fishing, Diving and the Management of Coral Reefs."

Johnson is a native of

Brooklyn, NY. She is the daughter of a retired teacher/current farmer and a retired architect/current potter.

She was co-chair emeritus of the Artisanal Fisheries Research Network at Scripps, is a member of the Summit Series community, sings jazz, and instigates dance parties.

Johnson is just as often interviewing fishermen, as she is SCUBA diving, meeting with diplomats, or blogging for National Geographic.

Follow her on Twitter (@ayanaeliza), and learn more on her website: <http://ayanaelizabeth.com>.

Dr. Alfiee M. Breland-Noble



Dr. Alfiee M. Breland-Noble is Director of The AAKOMA (African American Knowledge Optimized for Mindfully-Healthy Adolescents) Project and Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the Georgetown University Medical Center. She is an adolescent and child psychologist and researcher in academic medicine with a strong 10+ year track record of external and federal research funding.

The AAKOMA Project and Lab utilizes evidence-based, culturally relevant behavioral interventions to improve psychological/psychiatric treatment engagement by African American

adolescents and their families for depressive disorders.

She is a recognized expert in adolescent depression and racial disparities in mental health as evidenced by her appointments to the American Psychological Association Treatment Guideline Development Panel for Depression Across the Lifespan (where she is the only child and adolescent disparities researcher) and the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), Addressing Disparities Na-

tional Advisory Panel (which she was elected to from over 1,200 applicants nationwide).

In October 2014, she was recognized as (likely) the first psychologist to receive the Jeanne Spurlock Lecture and Award for Culture and Diversity from the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP).

This award recognizes stellar achievements by senior scholars invested in the mental health of racially diverse youth and families and persons with a commit-

ment to recruiting racially diverse persons into the field of child and adolescent psychiatry.

Dr. Breland-Noble is recognized as a highly skilled clinical researcher with the unique ability to translate complex scientific concepts for lay audiences and adeptness in bridging the "town-gown" divide in the clinical research arena.

Her research and clinical expertise include: reducing mental health disparities for African American and diverse adolescents; depression treatment engagement

in diverse adolescents; expert clinical care for depressed and anxious African American youth and young adults, mental health stigma reduction in diverse populations, health equity in community based suicide prevention and Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) with a specific focus on Faith Based Mental Health Promotion.

Dr. Breland-Noble is a Woman making history by addressing the often overlooked challenges of mental health in the African American teen community.

Sharel E. Gordon-Love

Born and raised in Plainfield, New Jersey, Sharel E. Gordon-Love started writing at the age of six, winning immediate recognition for her essays and short stories. Her first nonfiction work, "Is There Hope for the Black Male?" was published by Black Child Magazine in 1994.



Certified in Microcomputer Technology and Business Administration, Sharel graduated from Berkeley College of Business in 1993 and continued her administrative studies at Kaplan University until 2014.

Sharel's short story, "I'll Always Be Just a Thought Away," can be found in an anthology compiled by Sachel titled "The HEART

of OUR COMMUNITY," in 2006. Her first novel, When He Calls, was released in 2002, followed by The Putting Away in 2011, for which Sharel was nominated for Breakout Author of the Year 2011 by the African American Literary Awards Show for her title, "The Putting Away" and

nominated in the category of Christian Fiction in 2014 for her title, "Change Me For My Season," the third novel in the "Seasons of Life" series.

Currently Sharel is writing three releases for 2015: An ebook series, "Saved to Serve," the first book in the series is titled, "Messy." Additionally, she is writing a full-length novel titled, "The Dry Place," and a non-fiction work titled "Limitless Through My Limitedness," a personal testimony of the challenges she has faced over the last 7 years with her health.

A supporter of fellow authors, Sharel has been an interviewer of literary works for APOOO (A Place of Our Own) Book Club since 2005 until early 2014, and continues to review for au-

thors upon request.

Sharel has also worn the hat of "radio host" with her own broadcast, "Inspired Moments with Sharel," at World Harvest Radio located in Plainfield, New Jersey, using the platform to introduce new authors, singers, poets and others who work to bring about change.

She also raised awareness for social and critical health issues on each broadcast. She plans to return to radio as a host for World Harvest Radio's "Author's Corner" in 2015.

A two-time cancer survivor and inspirational speaker, Sharel is a licensed evangelist in the Church of God in Christ, and along with her family, attend New Reid Temple C.O.G.I.C. in East Orange, New Jersey.

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Blacks' threat from whites wearing badges

By Lee A. Daniels
NNPA Columnist

Is Raymond Wilford, a 26-year-old Black Seattle resident, not dead or seriously injured only because the White mall security officer who maced and then arrested him didn't have a gun?

I'll come to the deeply suspicious police killings of Michael Brown, in Ferguson, Missouri; of Eric Garner, in New York City; and of Ezell Ford, in Los Angeles momentarily. But it's first worth considering what happened to Raymond Wilford on Saturday, August 9 as he walked to meet a friend at Seattle's Westlake Mall.

His story reinforces what

those three deadly incidents have dramatically illustrated: the potential threat from White men wearing badges of some sort of “authority” Black Americans – especially Black American males – face every day.

According to news reports, which include a video of the incident posted online, as Wilford approached the area of the mall where a peaceful pro-Palestinian rally was underway, he was suddenly accosted by a White man who was shirtless, and, witnesses later said, had been harassing the demonstrators with racist slurs. Much of the brief confrontation between Wilford and the man was captured in pictures and a video taken by a photographer

who had been covering the demonstration.

Wilford, taken aback, raised his fists as if prepared to defend himself against the man whom he said was saying “a bunch of racial stuff” to him and had also raised his hands as if to fight. But neither man threw any punches.

That's when the White mall security guard appeared and, according to Wilford and several witnesses, completely ignored the shirtless White man who was yelling and actually walking toward him, raised the can of pepper spray to Wilford's face and sprayed him. In the video, witnesses can be heard yelling to the security cop, “You maced the wrong guy!”

The video also shows the security guard grabbing Wilford, now disabled by the pepper spray, by the arm and pulling him into the mall, the both of them followed by witnesses shouting that Wilford had done nothing wrong. A Seattle police officer, who had arrived late to the confrontation, told the witnesses not to interfere. Meanwhile, the White shirtless man, who has not been identified, just walked away.

Wilford told the Seattle Times that in the mall, he was given baby shampoo to wash his face, then after 25 minutes released at the order of a Seattle police officer. Wilford, a father of

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RACISM, continued from Page 1

of a pattern of racial discrimination. This is a national problem that has persisted for decades in the United States. The absence of a cumulative national database on racially motivated police brutality and on judicial racial inequity is a contributing factor to this disgusting yet persistent societal contradiction.

The Justice Department report concluded, “These disparities occur, at least in part, because Ferguson law enforcement practices are directly shaped and perpetuated by racial bias.”

The good news is that in the aftermath of the details made public by the Justice Department provides a second opportunity for a more thorough national investigation. Racial justice activists and organizations should demand that the federal government perform a national investigation and audit of all major police departments and judicial systems concerning racial profiling, discrimination, abuse, police violence, prosecutorial misconduct and other forms of injustice based on race.

Of course, most of us already know what the outcome of such a new na-

tional study would surely reveal. Black Americans and other people of color in the United States continued to endure long-term patterns of racial injustice not just in the so-called “criminal justice system,” but also in systems of health care, employment, housing, education, finance, and in exposures to multiple environmental hazards and toxicities.

Systematic racism in America has not and does not occur by osmosis. It is intentional and deliberate. It is the result of the “power” of imposed and unabridged institutionalized racial bias, discrimination, bigotry, hatred, stereotyping and ignorance.

Another important and remarkable “revelation” of the DOJ report on Ferguson was the economic greed of that form of systematic racism. The report stated, “Ferguson's law enforcement practices are shaped by the City's focus on revenue rather than by public safety needs. This emphasis on revenue has compromised the institutional character of Ferguson's police department, contributing to a pattern of unconstitutional policing, and has also

shaped its municipal court, leading to procedures that raise due process concerns and inflict unnecessary harm on members of the Ferguson community.”

The “harm” to the Ferguson community was and continues to be overwhelmingly targeted on Black Americans. Millions of dollars have been unjustly taken from the Black community in Ferguson and surrounding areas of St. Louis County as a direct result of the “unconstitutional” and illegal acts of police and court officials. Will the victims of the racism in Ferguson who have been financially fleeced and extorted by the law enforcement system be repaid or compensated?

The family of young unarmed Michael Brown who was unjustly killed by Ferguson Police Officer Darren Wilson is going forward with a massive civil suit against Wilson, the police and the court system in Ferguson. The DOJ report should be used as conclusive evidence of the pattern and system of racial wrongdoing in Ferguson.

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder did the right thing by ordering the DOJ investigation. Holder kept

his public promise to stand by the people of Ferguson. In fact to the credit of his outstanding leadership at the DOJ, there have been more than 20 DOJ civil rights investigations into various other police departments in the U.S. during Holder's tenure as Attorney General. Holder reaffirmed, “I again commit to the people of Ferguson that we will continue to stand with you and to work with you to ensure that the necessary reforms are implemented.”

Thus, the struggle for racial justice continues in Ferguson and across the nation. The antidote to systematic racism in America is to support and empower Black Americans and other people of color in the transformation of the system of injustice in the U.S. into a fair and unbiased system of justice and equality for all people.

Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. is the President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and can be reached for national advertisement sales and partnership proposals at: drbchavis@nnpa.org; and for lectures and other professional consultations at: <http://drbenjaminfchavisjr.wix.com/drbfbc>

Stress may undermine heart benefits of exercise

(HealthDay News) -- Teens who have trouble coping with stress may face an increased risk for future heart trouble that even exercise can't erase, a new study suggests.

"It looks like the inability to cope well with stress contributes to the risk of heart disease," said lead researcher Scott Montgomery, a professor of epidemiology at Orebro University in Sweden.

Montgomery said what he found "striking" was that physical fitness did not protect teens with poor stress-coping skills from developing heart disease later in life.

"Exercise is important," Montgomery said. "But maybe we have to think

about exercise and physical fitness in the context of coping with stress, particularly with people who have had a heart attack."

For these people, both exercise and developing strategies to reduce stress might be needed to prevent more heart problems, Montgomery said.

But one expert noted that the study only involved males and only measured stress-coping skills once.

For those teens in the study who struggled with stress, also known as low stress resilience, the risk for heart disease increased by 54 percent and the risk of dying from heart disease increased 110 percent.

"Not only are you more likely to have a heart attack,

but you are more likely to have a severe heart attack," Montgomery said.

He noted that low stress resilience isn't something one is born with. "Experiments in animals suggest that exposures to stress very early in life influence our ability to cope with stress. If we have a lot of very early stress, we are less able to cope with it later on," Montgomery explained.

For people with low stress resilience, even minor events can be extremely stressful, and the effects will last longer than among people better able to cope, Montgomery said.

"We know from other studies that very stressful events can cause heart attacks. If you have a low

stress resilience and something more serious happens, it can have injurious consequences to the heart," he said.

The report was published online March 4 in the journal *Heart*.

For the study, Montgomery and colleagues collected data on almost 238,000 men born between 1952 and 1956 who were included in the Swedish Military Conscription Register.

At the time, military service was compulsory for all men aged 18 and 19. Men underwent an examination that included medical, psychiatric and physical measures. Stress resilience was measured as part of the exam.

Between 1987 and 2010, more than 10,500 of the men developed heart disease. The researchers found that low stress resilience was tied to a higher risk of heart disease. This association remained even after taking into account physical fitness and other risk factors for heart disease, although the study did not prove a cause-and-effect link.

Simon Rego, director of psychology training at Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City, said that there are several limitations to the study.

First, it included only Swedish men, which limits the "generalizability" of the results, he said. "Second, stress resilience was only

measured once and stressful exposures were not actually examined at all," Rego said.

Researchers, clinicians and health care professionals should continue to promote physical activity as a way to help prevent both physical and mental ills, he said.

But it may also help if stress-management skills were taught to teens along with promoting exercise, Rego added.

SOURCES: Scott Montgomery, Ph.D., professor, epidemiology, Orebro University, Sweden; Simon Rego, Psy.D., director, psychology training, Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York City; March 4, 2015, Heart, online

Female heart attack patients wait much longer to seek help

Women suffering a heart attack wait much longer than men to call emergency medical services and face significantly longer delays getting to a hospital equipped to care for them, putting women at greater risk for adverse outcomes, according to research to be presented at the American College of Cardiology's 64th Annual Scientific Session in San Diego.

The study found that delays in getting hospital treatment—either because women waited longer to call for help or were not taken to the right hospital as quickly as men—were associated with a higher risk of dying. Overall, women were nearly twice as likely to die in the hospital compared with men, with in-hospital deaths reported for 12 percent of women and 6 percent of men in the study.

The risk of dying remained higher in women even after adjusting for other clinical variables including age, treatments received and cardiovascular risk factors. Women were also less likely to undergo treatment to open clogged arteries compared with men



(76 versus 80.4 percent), which tend to work best within the first hour after a heart attack starts.

"Pre-hospital delays remain unacceptably long in women, and time matters," said Raffaele Bugiardini, M.D., professor of cardiology, University of Bologna, Italy, and lead author of the study, which examined records of 7,457 European patients enrolled from 2010 to 2014 in an international registry to study heart disease and treatments.

Many delays occurred because women simply waited longer than men to call emergency medical services, with women waiting an average of one hour compared to 45 minutes for

men. Even after calling for help, Bugiardini said women "seem to disappear somewhere in the health care system."

More than 70 percent of women in the study took longer than an hour to get to a hospital that could treat them, while less than 30 percent of men took that long. Overall delays—the time to call for help and then be taken to the right hospital—ranged from five minutes to three days.

Interestingly, once patients were admitted, there were no significant differences between men and women in time to treatment with a medication to break-down blood clots, which took 26 minutes on average

for men and 28 minutes for women, or with balloon angioplasty to open clogged arteries, which took 45 minutes on average for both men and women.

Men and women who got to the hospital within 60 minutes and, therefore, received treatment relatively quickly, had similar in-hospital mortality rates. Bugiardini said the most important factor for worse outcomes for women in his study was the pre-hospital

delay, and he called for broad efforts to improve recognition of heart attack symptoms, especially among women.

"Our findings should set off an alarm for women, who may not understand their personal risk of heart disease and may take more time to realize they are having a heart attack and need urgent medical help," Bugiardini said.

One challenge is that women typically don't have

the "classic" signs of a heart attack. For example, instead of crushing chest pain, they may have shortness of breath, nausea or vomiting, or pain in the back, neck or jaw.

These symptoms may develop slowly over hours or days and even come and go. Women and medical personnel may also attribute symptoms to other health conditions such as indigestion, which may lead to misdiagnoses.

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Tommy Davidson headlining Dallas Chapter of Links Jokes and Jazz Fundraiser

The Dallas Chapter of The Links, Incorporated annual fundraiser will feature Comedian Tommy Davidson, well known for his exceptional range of stand-up comedy and one of the original stars of the hit television show *In Living Color*.

Also headlining is internationally acclaimed Jazz

Flutist, Bobbi Humphrey. A Dallas native, Bobbi is known for her fusion of jazz-funk and soul, and is often called the “First Lady of the Flute” by critics and listeners alike. She has performed with many legendary greats, including Stevie Wonder, Dizzy Gillespie, Lee Morgan and Duke

Ellington.

This event benefits the STEM Academy of the Dallas Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, for girls from Dallas area schools, who are academically motivated to study and further their education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

“It is going to be a memorable evening with two phenomenal world-class entertainers in a world class venue...it doesn’t get any better.

“I am honored to serve as Chair of this year’s fundraiser, especially given that it is such a worthy cause,” said Effie Dennison.



Sen. West hosts Eggs & Issues to discuss Trinity Parkway, Southern Gateway

Southern Dallas County transportation projects will be the focus of the next Eggs & Issues Town Hall Meeting hosted by District 23 State Senator Royce West. The community informational meeting will be held Saturday, March 21 from 9 a.m. to 10:30 at the University of North Texas at Dallas in Room 138 of Building Two located at 7300 University Hills Blvd.



in Dallas.

Senator West is inviting

the community to join him for breakfast and an overview by agency officials on two proposed projects in District 23; the Trinity Parkway, a planned toll road that is part of the Trinity Corridor Project and the Southern Gateway Project that will add capacity and redesign sections of I-35E and U.S. Highway 67.

“For the past several months there has been dis-

cussion back and forth on the merits of local transportation projects, namely the Trinity Parkway and the Southern Gateway projects. I invite the public to share its opinions, be they in support or opposition to these particular projects,” said Senator Royce West. “It is one thing to object to a proposed project, but there is no denying that congestion is a daily fact of life for

those who travel on I-30/the Mixmaster and on either I-35E/R. L. Thornton Freeway or U.S. Highway 67, particularly during morning and evening peak traffic periods.”

Senator West adds that the planning and study phases for these highway projects are part of the public record dating back at least 10 to 15 years. Since that time, problems with

congestion have worsened drastically according to regional transportation officials.

Complimentary breakfast will be served while it lasts. Free parking is available in spaces not attached to a meter. If you would like to attend the Eggs & Issues breakfast, please RSVP by March 16, 2015 to Tamara Hobbs at tamara.hobbs@senate.state.tx.us or call 214-467-0123.

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two who moved to Seattle a from New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, said the security guard apologized to him before he was released, but that he’s considering filing a complaint.

For Raymond Wilford the White man with a badge of “authority” he encountered was armed – with a racist imagination, but, fortunately, also only with a can of pepper spray. So, the security guard’s completely mis-perceiving a potentially serious situation did not have serious consequences.

That assessment is not meant to diminish the personal anger and humiliation of these kind of encounters we know Blacks and other people of color constantly endure from “Whites with badges” in department and other kinds of stores, airports, schools and college campuses, and so on. It is to underscore the validity of a series of questions:

For example, if that Seattle mall security guard had had a gun, would Raymond Wilford’s name now be on the long list of unarmed

Black men, women and children killed by “Whites with badges” in questionable circumstances? Broadening the focus of our questioning, does the desire to “control” Black people – or the fear of black people – that drove the security guard to such rash and wrong action also infect some number of police offi-

cers in localities all across America? Is that, at bottom, why Michael Brown, and Eric Garner, and Ezell Ford were killed?

After all, neither Michael Brown nor Ezell Ford was engaged in any wrongdoing when stopped by the police; and neither of them had any history of being a “troublemaker.” Neither did Eric Garner, whom police officials said was known to sell loose cigarettes on the

streets of his neighborhood – a minor violation of the state penal code.

So, how is it that in all three of these instances, this one Black teenager and these two Black men ended up being killed by White police officers?

I suspect we already know the answer to that question in both these three specific circumstances and

in the longer trail of innocent Black people being killed by White police officers. I think I see both those elements of White racism – fear and the desire to control – on tragic display in the video of Raymond Wilford’s unjustified arrest, which he survived, and in the video of Eric Garner’s unjustified arrest, which he did not.

Lee A. Daniels is a long-

time journalist based in New York City. His essay, “Martin Luther King, Jr.: The Great Provocateur,” appears in Africa’s Peacemakers: Nobel Peace Laureates of African Descent (2014), published by Zed Books. His new collection of columns, Race Forward: Facing America’s Racial Divide in 2014, is available at www.amazon.com.



Rep. John Lewis as a much younger man marching in Selma, where protesters met up with violence from white police officers. Fifty years later, it’s still a problem. (Courtesy photo)

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Summer term registration opens at Collin College in Plano

Collin College offers schedule flexibility in its summer term, with multiple sessions made to fit every student's schedule. Registration begins in March and early registration payment for all sessions is Wednesday, May 13.

The available summer term sessions are:

- 3-Week May: An intensive Monday-Friday session from Monday, May 18 – Tuesday, June 2.

- 5-Week June: Monday, June 8 – Thursday, July 9.

- 5-Week July: Monday, July 13 – Tuesday, Aug. 11.

- 10-Week Summer: Monday, June 8 – Tuesday, Aug. 11.

The summer e-schedule is now available at

http://www.collin.edu/academics/class_schedule.html. Priority online registration for current or returning Collin College students

is available Monday-Wednesday, March 9-11 and is based on hours earned at Collin College. Students with 50+ hours can register beginning Monday, March 9; 30+ hours, Tuesday, March 10; and 1+ hours, Wednesday, March 11. Registration opens for all on Thursday, March 12.

Payment for all summer courses selected during early registration is due by 8 p.m., Friday, May 13,

regardless of start date or duration.

Full payment, approved financial aid or third-party funding must be in place by that date for all courses selected between March 9 – May 13.

Same-day payment is required for all classes selected during regular registration: Friday, May 15 – Sunday, June 7. Students register-

ing on or after Monday, June 8 will be subject to late fees. Unfunded courses may be dropped for non-payment.

For more information on admissions and registration, contact admissions@collin.edu. Financial aid is available from financialaid@collin.edu. Payment information should be directed to cashier@collin.edu.

Our failure to measure up

By Marian Wright Edelman
NNPA Columnist

Too much and for too long, we seem to have surrendered personal excellence and community values in the mere accumulation of material things. Our Gross National Product, now is over \$800 billion dollars a year. If we judge the United States of America by that, Gross National Product counts air pollution and cigarette advertising, and ambulances to clear our highways of carnage...

Yet the Gross National Product does not allow for the health of our children, the quality of their education, or the joy of their play. It does not include the beauty of our poetry or the strength of our marriages, the intelligence of our public debate or the integrity of our public officials. It measures neither our wit nor our courage, neither our wisdom nor our learning, neither our compassion nor our devotion to our country, it measures everything in short, except that which makes life worthwhile. And it can tell us everything about America except why we are proud that we are Americans.

—Senator Robert F. Kennedy

What do we stand for as a nation and who do we wish to be? In a 1968 speech at the University of Kansas, Senator Robert Kennedy correctly worried too many used our nation's wealth as

the standard of greatness rather than the human values that should matter most.

Our Gross Domestic Product – now \$17.7 trillion – includes many things for us not to be proud of. So we should ask ourselves how well America is doing on the things that should matter most – the well-being of our children and families and the quality of justice and life in our communities and nation?

Among high-income countries, the United States ranks first in Gross Domestic Product and first in the number of billionaires, and second worst in child poverty rates – ahead only of Romania whose economy is 99 percent smaller than ours. It is a national disgrace that children are the poorest group of Americans with 14.7 million living in poverty.

We are first in military spending — \$11.1 billion a week — and first in military weapons exports.

We are first in the number of people incarcerated and worst in protecting our children against gun violence. A Black boy born in 2001 has a one in three chance of going to prison in his lifetime and a Latino boy a one in six chance of the same fate. Children and teens in America were 17 times more likely to be killed by gun violence than those in 25 other high-income countries combined.

We are 30th in preschool enrollment rates and 17th in reading, 23rd in science,

and 31st in math scores for our 15-year-olds. Nearly 60 percent of all fourth and eighth grade public school students in the U.S. and more than 80 percent of Black and almost 75 percent of Latino children in those same grades could not read or compute at grade level in 2013.

We rank first in health expenditures but 25th in low birth weight rates, 26th in child immunization rates, 31st in infant mortality rates, and second worst in teenage births – just ahead of Bulgaria.

If we compare Black child well-being in America to child well-being in other nations, the U.S. Black infant mortality rate exceeds that in 65 nations, including Cuba, Malaysia, and Ukraine. Our incidence of low-birth weight Black infants is higher than in 127 other nations, including Cambodia, the Congo, and Guatemala.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child spells out the basic rights children should have everywhere and is the most widely and rapidly ratified international human rights treaty in history. The United States stands only with new U.N. member state South Sudan as the two countries that have not ratified it – and South Sudan has started working towards ratification.

The United States stands alone, despite recent progress, in still permitting life-without-parole sen-

tences for juvenile offenders who were under 18 at the time of the offense. The U.S. Supreme Court has banned capital punishment for crimes committed by juveniles but America remains one of 58 nations that continues to use capital punishment for adults. In 2013 the U.S. had the sixth highest number of executions — after China, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and North Korea.

If America wants to be a truly great nation on the world stage, it's time to redefine the measures of our success. The litmus test I propose is that of the great German Protestant theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer executed for opposing Hitler's holocaust, who said "the test of the morality of a society is what it does for its children." The great South African president Nelson Mandela agreed with him and believed "there can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children." On the Bonhoeffer-Mandela measure of success, we must do much, much better.

Marian Wright Edelman is president of the *Children's Defense Fund* whose *Leave No Child Behind®* mission is to ensure every child a *Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.* For more information go to www.childrensdefense.org

EMT training now available at Richland Community College

DALLAS – Richland College is launching a new Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program, expanding the college's health profession programs.

The first EMT session begins April 14, and each session will last three months. The sessions will be offered twice per semester.

Students who complete the EMT program may immediately start their career, or they may use it as a pathway to earning their state EMT certificate that will allow them to use their certification anywhere in the United States, pursue a paramedic certificate or even earning a firefighter diploma.

"EMTs are the first responders in any emergency," said Lisa Smithart, Richland College's medical programs coordinator. "They see interesting situations and assist firefighters, paramedics and even physicians when needed."

Interested students must be 18 years of age and be current with their immunizations, valid CPR card and health insurance. Students must also possess a high school diploma or GED and be eligible to work in the U.S.

For more information on Richland College's EMT program, visit www.richlandcollege.edu/hp.

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Carrollton and Irving select Hayden to serve on DART Board

Former City of Carrollton councilmember Timothy A. Hayden has been appointed to the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) board of directors to represent both Carrollton and the City of Irving.

Hayden, who served on the Carrollton City Council from 2000 to 2009, is a safety and risk control consultant with Wortham Insurance and Risk Management.

He currently sits on the board of the Metrocrest Hospital Authority and serves as Government Affairs Chair for the Southwest Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers. He has served in the past on the North Central Texas Council of Govern-



Former Carrollton City Councilman Timothy A. Hayden

ments Regional Emergency Preparedness Planning Council, and the City of Carrollton's Board of Adjustment.

Hayden is a graduate of The University of Texas at

Austin where he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance.

He replaces Randall Chrisman of Carrollton who had served on the DART Board since 2002.

Garland Prepares to celebrate its history

Celebrate Garland's rich history on Saturday, April 11, 2015 as Downtown Garland hosts the second annual Garland Heritage Celebration. The day will feature musical entertainment, a model train exhibit and fun for the entire family.

The City of Garland and The Garland Landmark Society will celebrate the completion of the exterior refurbishment of historic 1910 Pullman Coach Car #582 during a rededication ceremony. The ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. in Heritage Crossing, as part of the 2015 Garland Heritage Celebration.

The railcar, recently re-

located from behind City Hall to the new Heritage Crossing corridor, represents a unique hybrid design and is believed to be one of perhaps a dozen that remain in existence in North America today. The railcar served as a passenger coach on the main line steam trains of the Santa Fe railroad system from 1910 to about 1930, playing a vital role in troop transportation during World War I. During the 1930s and 40s, the car was transitioned to branch line service, connecting small towns in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas to the main lines. In 1949, the car was taken out of pas-

senger service and converted to use as living quarters for a Santa Fe employee, thereby saving it from demolition like most railcars of similar construction. In 1976, Santa Fe donated Car #582 to the City of Garland for display in Heritage Park.

The public is invited to learn more about Garland's rail heritage by attending the many themed events at this year's celebration, including a model train exhibit and special themed story times at Central Library, as well as depot and walking tours. Live music and children's

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SELMA, continued from Page 1

ment. Only 60 percent of all African American men have a job of any kind, with only one in five African Americans 16-19 employed. We lock up more people – mostly people of color – than any other nation in the world. The Justice Department's investigation of Ferguson, Mo. showed a destructive racial bias still stains our criminal justice system. Our schools in poor communities – ghettos, barrios and rural areas – still suffer a savage inequality in resources and capacity.

Yes, great progress has been made, and it is important to recognize and remember the courage and costs of those who sacrificed to make America better.

But the commemoration must be a call to action. We should be protesting in Selma, not celebrating. The Civil Rights struggle was in some respect a movement that had three parts. The first was ending legal segregation. The second guaranteeing the right to vote. The third, the one Dr. King

knew would be the most difficult, was to guarantee economic justice, equal opportunity and a fair start for all. As Selma shows today, and as the Fergusons across the country demonstrate, that part has yet to be achieved.

President Obama was right. It's great to see 100 legislators at the demonstration, but we need them to legislate, not demonstrate. We need them to return to Washington and raise the minimum wage. We need a jobs program for young people in urban America. We need to fulfill the easy rhetoric about education as an answer, by investing the most in those who need it the most – the sons and daughters of the poor and low wage families.

President Obama called out to the young to lead once more: "It is you, the young and fearless at heart, the most diverse and educated generation in our history, who the nation is waiting to follow." We've seen the stirrings in the Black-LivesMatter demonstrations across the country. What

Selma reminds us is that to make America better will take much more action to

demand what could be, and much less acceptance of what is.

Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. is founder and president of the Chicago-based Rainbow

PUSH Coalition. You can keep up with his work at www.rainbowpush.org

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Cuba Gooding, Sr. still enjoys a thriving career

By Timothy Cox
Special to the NNPA from the
Afro-American Newspaper

BALTIMORE — Mention the song “Everybody Plays the Fool,” and an older generation of music lovers will immediately recall that The Main Ingredient, featuring lead singer Cuba Gooding, before he added the “senior” tag to his name, recorded the once-popular tune.

A younger generation will immediately connect Gooding’s surname with his son, the actor, Cuba Gooding Jr. — famous for starring in several top films such as *Boyz ‘N The Hood*, *Jerry Maguire*, *Fighting Temptations*, *American Gangster*,



Radio and now the recently released *Selma*.

In an interview from his home near St. Augustine, Fla., the elder Gooding reflected on his successful music career and raising two successful actor sons, including his “baby boy,”

Omar Gooding.

At 70, Cuba Gooding Sr. has no problem divulging details about the past and the development of his formidable musical career from his Harlem, N.Y. origins. He notes that his father, Dudley MacDonald Gooding, was a Barbados native with an affinity for the Marcus Garvey “Black Nationalist” movement in the early 1900s. “He told my mother that he would name his first born son Cuba — that’s because he once lived in Cuba and had positive feelings about the country,” said Gooding Sr.

He also revealed that his mother (Addie Alston) wanted him to become a solo singer in the mold of

Nat King Cole or Brook Benton. “She always wanted me to separate myself from that whole group thing.” In fact, The Main Ingredient had already formed in Gooding’s midst, as some of his boyhood friends started rehearsing in his neighborhood, but Gooding was unaware of their existence.

The original group was called The Poets and later, The Insiders. Before Gooding joined, The Main Ingredient had already recorded a marginal hit, “Spinning Around” in 1970 and scored heavily on the The Impressions’/Curtis Mayfield composition, “I’m So Proud,” in ’71.

The original group in-

cluded Tony “Panama” Sylvester, Luther Simmons and Donald McPherson (vocal lead of “Spinning Around” and “Black Seeds Keep on Growing”). McPherson died in 1970, Gooding recalls. “We were not the typical black soul group from the early 1970s. We recorded on the prestigious RCA-Victor label (now SONY) with the likes of Harry Belafonte and Charley Pride, said Gooding. But remember, we were young and still wanted to be cool and soulful like our counterparts, The O’Jays and The Delfonics and people like that,” he said.

“I could never compete with the ones who sang in church, like Eddie Levert

and the guys from The O’Jays. I don’t even know any spiritual songs, I grew up singing and wanting to be like Johnny Mathis and Frank Sinatra. I had to teach myself to become a group performer instead of a standup, solo artist,” said Gooding. “I vividly remember standing in Times Square in New York City — never asking for money, but just singing and working on developing my craft.”

He reflects on a career highlights after being recruited to join The Main Ingredient. “Heck, I was working in credit collections at Sax Fifth Avenue, and had no interest in singing on that level. The

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activities are also planned.

Also featured in this year’s celebration will be the dedication of the new Texas Historical Marker recognizing the Travis College Hill Historic District, located on Eleventh Street between Avenues B and D. The historical marker dedication ceremony will take place at 3 p.m. April 11, and will be celebrated with a tour of homes in the neighborhood from noon to 5 p.m.

Top off the day with a free movie at the Plaza

Theatre at 7 p.m. The classic film, *Giant*, stars Rock Hudson, Elizabeth Taylor and James Dean.

“We are excited about hosting our second annual Garland Heritage Celebration and the progress that has been made over the past two years to better highlight Garland’s historical assets,” said Heritage Crossing Coordinator Kim Pajot.

For more information about this year’s event, visit the City’s event website or call 972-205-2993



Part of Garland’s celebration will include the dedication of this recently refurbished railcar.

Texas A&M Professor: Black men have opportunity gap, not an achievement gap

COLLEGE STATION — “The education system and the prison system are in competition for their souls,” says Texas A&M University Professor of Urban Education Marlon James about black males in America.

James is a renowned expert in urban and multicultural education and researches the development of highly successful black males, providing recommendations for concerned parents, schools and communities.

James, associate director of the Center for Urban School Partnerships, College of Education & Human Development, points to what he says are the unfair markers of success placed on youth in urban communities, especially young black men (e.g. standardized test scores), as being contributors to a societal system that dooms them to fail.

“We don’t have an achievement gap,” he insists. “We have an opportunity gap. We are not making equal investments in children. How do you exist in a society that is resisting your maturation?”

However, where some may see a grim future for a



doomed generation of black men, James says he sees opportunity. He believes that educators can bring out the best in these young men by using success stories as blueprints for excellence.

He says, “I firmly believe that it is lunacy to start with the problem and say, ‘Here’s what black males are struggling with. Now let’s devise a solution.’ I believe you start with black men who have achieved excellence and then you backwards map because these young men can become excellent if we know what excellence looks like.”

In a study called “Can You See Me Now,” he and his peers in the field ask dozens of young black men — from all walks of life — about their thoughts on educational attainment in spite of social barriers and glass ceilings.

What James and his col-

leagues find is that the men have a far more holistic view of intellectual success that can’t be measured by an aptitude test. Rather, they define genius as a synthesis of know-how — a collective wisdom of sorts. They aspire to achieve what James calls “S.P.A.R.K.”: five intellectual, personal and physical qualities that demonstrate an ability to combine two contradicting values.

S = Spirituality vs. Social Justice

James notes it’s not always easy to make everyday life choices while living up to religious beliefs or moral convictions — nobody is perfect. However, he says, many young black men are not only resistant to societal urges, but are actually motivated by their religious or moral beliefs to impact society for the better.

As James describes,

“There is no contradiction between who they feel God tells them they are and how they ought to treat other people and how they arrange their lifework.”

P = Professional vs. Personal

Similarly, young men who possess this quality show an ability to resist what James calls a sort of “relative morality”: the concept that they can be a different person depending on whether they are in a personal or professional space. Rather, they are able to blend the two identities without insecurities about who they are.

“I am who I am here,” James says. “I don’t put on ‘fronts’ here. I’m the same person at home with my kids. I’m the same person in church. I’m the same person while playing basketball with my friends. I have the same value system. I am who I am.”

A = Artistic vs. Academic

Some young men love artistic self-expression just as much they love reading, writing and arithmetic. James points to his own 12-year-old son as an example

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Issa Rae, making the Black Experience relatable

By Shantella Y. Sherman
Special to the NNPA from the
Afro-American Newspaper

The world is full of African-American girls who have little rhythm, tend to be unsure of themselves in social situations, and who consider themselves, awkward. However, unlike those who grew up in the 1980s who turned introvert and found solace in mountains of books, today's awkward Black girls need look no further than writer-actress Issa Rae, to find an ally and gain their social footing. Born in America to Senegalese parents, Rae's experiences living in Dakar, the D.C. area, and Los Angeles, helped shape her awkwardness and became



Writer-producer Issa Rae discussed the role social media and mainstream television have in defining blackness during a recent book signing hosted by the Oracle Group and D.C. Public Library. (Photo by Shantella Y. Sherman)

the framework for the breakout web series. The explosive popularity of Rae's award-winning

net-series, *The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl*, signaled a collective embrace of weird and relatable experiences. The series, which has garnered more than 25 million views and close to 200,000 subscribers on YouTube, follows the social and racial mishaps of a 20-something office worker through a continuous set of unnerving situations. The success of the web series spawned a book by the same name, which recently became a New York Times bestseller. "It's an honor to see that the character has resonated with people because I had no idea there were so many of us out there. It is reassuring and validating, which makes me overwhelmed

with happiness. From the first episode I began getting letters and people were identifying with it and claiming their awkwardness," Rae said. However, the eureka moment when Rae realized the success of the show came when she ran out of money to produce *Misadventures* and began a Kickstarter campaign to fund it. "[My producer and I] set our goal at thirty thousand and raised almost double that. That was a testament to me that people were willing to pay to see [the show]," Rae said. At a book talk sponsored by the Oracle Group and D.C. Public Library, Rae told the standing-room only crowd that creating the images she was not seeing on

television was her initial aim with the web series and that social media has had a tremendous influence on getting diverse Black representation onto network television. "Social media changed the game in that you're seeing all of these tweets, you're seeing all these trending topics from Black people who are expressing what they want to see. Now people take notice. I want to interrupt the system. I want to have people of color be relatable, because we are," Rae said. "I've always had an issue with the [assumption] that people of color, and Black people especially, aren't relatable. I know we are." Named twice to the

See RAE, Page 11

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Soul Rep Theatre Company Presents *The Shine Plays* by local playwright

Soul Rep Theatre Company will conclude its comeback 8th indefatigable season with the two week run of *The Shine Plays*, an evening of three dynamic one-acts written by Dr. Ted Shine, a noted dramatist, television script writer, educator, and tremendous contributor to the Black Arts Movement and regional theater from the late 1960's – 1970's.

Soul Rep's Artistic Director, Guinea Bennett-Price, and Richard Quadri will direct *The Shine Plays* that will include *Herbert III*, *The Woman Who Was Tampered With In Youth*, and Shine's most popular play, *Contribution*. Each of the

plays are set in the South in the 1960's, with *Herbert III* specifically set in Oak Cliff. Shine, now in his 80's and living back in Dallas, is known for creating "realistic, seemingly meandering, artfully constructed dialogue, plot twists and thoughtful commentary on the Black and human condition."

Herbert III and *Contribution* are both considered brilliant "little" serio-comedies, while *The Woman Who Was Tampered With In Youth* is pure melodrama. *Contribution* explores the relationship between a matriarch and her grandson who is attempting to sit in and integrate a local lunch

counter. *Herbert III* examines the dynamic between a husband and wife coping with the fears and realities of raising Black sons in America. *The Woman Who Was Tampered With In Youth* evolves around an eccentric old maid looking for a border.

Soul Rep has assembled a solid cast for this evening of one-acts that include veteran actors Vickie Washington and Rhonda Boutte, newcomer Jared Wilson - a recent graduate of SMU - Rene Jones, Linus Spiller, and Soul Rep company members, Anyika McMillan-Herod and Douglas Carter. Boutte, a member of Kitchen Dog and Under-

main Theaters, happens to be Ted Shine's niece. She credits him for inspiring her to pursue Theater. Soul Rep Company members also have connections to Dr. Shine. He served as the professor for co-founder McMillan-Herod and company members Dee Smith and Tonya Davis, at Prairie View. Guinea Bennett-Price is a graduate of Howard University, where Shine is an alum and taught in the 60's.

"We are excited to pay tribute to one of the trailblazers of contemporary Black Theater," explains Bennett-Price. "Dr. Shine's

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guys needed me (after McPherson's illness and eventual death) so they promised me I could make more money than I did on my two-week salary at the department store. So, the rest is history."

With Gooding's magical lead vocals, the group scored heavily on the 1972 single "Everybody Plays the Fool" and two hits from 1974, "Just Don't Want to Be Lonely" and "Happiness Is Just Around The Bend."

Comparing today's music business with the 1970s, Gooding says he will never forget recording album projects live, on sound stages, accompanied by a 40-piece orchestra. "It doesn't get any better than that. Today, talent and stardom is all dependent on whether American TV viewers call and vote for you, ala 'American Idol.'"

The golden years also had its share of bad times, he said. "We found ourselves \$250,000 in the hole, after paying for all those recording sessions, for all the musicians, the payola - all that was in RCA's budget. We never got the lion's share. That's why Stevie (Wonder) created Black Bull Music, so he could get his (publishing) share from Berry Gordy and Motown.

"This is a business, but sadly, the ones who make all the money are the ones who have no musical talent at all. The lawyers, the agents, the managers, road managers, accountants - they get the money. And, you pray that the government doesn't come and hit you before all of them get paid."

During the interview Gooding discussed the deaths of "two of his good friends from the industry," namely Edward "Sonny"

Bivins and Winfred "Blue" Lovett, both of The Manhattans. "I knew those guys from early in our careers, because we were all from the New Jersey/New York area," he said. "I'll really miss them."

On a more upbeat note, Gooding recounted his input in helping to rear two successful acting sons, Cuba Jr. and Omar. Another son, Thomas, is a bass player and works as musical director of Cuba Sr.'s touring band. There is also a daughter named April.

On helping Cuba Jr. and Omar become actors, the older Gooding says, "I learned from my mom and dad that it was more important to be a parent. That means that I did what was necessary for them to be successful. I took that approach as if they were in a formal schooling environment. I taught them that it was important to be successful, and I taught them by example. I also taught them martial arts."

Mr. Gooding said he wanted to make it clear that he was not his sons' sole positive influence. "Their mother played a major role in their development," he said. "Their mother (Shirley Sullivan) taught them how to pronounce their words - to speak the King's English properly so the people would respect you regardless of your education. My answer is plain and simple - understand the responsibility of being a parent above and beyond being a biological father. I am truly blessed. It was like my father was telling me what to say to them," he said.

Gooding notes that after a long period of marriage, he eventually left the family for nearly 17 years, but regrouped and remarried his mate in the 1980s.

Hanging out with the Irish...



(Above) NDG catches Silver Leaf Costumes' staff in their stylish Irish outfits!

(Top Right) All smiles with Andrew Martinez and Star Villa with their festive top hats!

(At Right) NDG Staff Nina Garcia enjoying family time with son at the North Texas Irish Festival



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Bill would protect against payday loan debt trap

AUSTIN – A bill that creates a common-sense statewide solution to the payday lending crisis threatening the financial security of hundreds of thousands of Texans was filed today in the Texas House of Representatives. The measure limits some of the worst short-term lending abuses in the state and mirrors the strong work done by 20 Texas cities over the past few years.

House Bill 2808, by Representative James White, R-

Woodville, tracks the key provisions of the municipal ordinances in the following ways:

- limits the number of allowed refinances to four;
- requires a partial pay down of 25 percent for each refinance; and
- tightens definitions in current law to make consumer protections easier to enforce.

“House Bill 2808 represents a sensible approach to end the cycle of debt that traps so many Texas fami-

lies,” said AARP State Director Bob Jackson. “City ordinances in Texas are taking some of the bite out of the payday lending debt trap, but all Texans deserve the same protection from unscrupulous lending practices that one-third of the state’s residents now enjoy.”

The payday loan industry is big business in Texas, with one in five borrowers 50 years of age or older. Among these individuals, 75 percent say they strongly

support government leaders in Texas working to lower the cost of payday and auto title loans, according to a survey by AARP.

Current Texas laws do not limit the fees payday lenders and auto title businesses can charge. There is also no limit to the number of times these businesses can charge high-fees for essentially the same loan. These lending practices often trap borrowers in a cycle of debt where they are never able to pay down the

loan.

For example, a fast cash payday advance of \$500 that is rolled over five or more times could wind up costing \$1,200 or more. For many borrowers, the aver-

age cost to repay a payday loan in full accounts for 36 percent of their gross monthly income, which is more than typical housing expenses. This is a debt trap that many can’t escape.

SHINE, continued from Page 10

contributions are undeniable. His work still holds up today and hasn’t been produced in the area in over 20 years. This production will prove to be a real tribute and homage to one of Dallas’ own success stories.”

Born in Louisiana in 1931, Ted Shine grew up in Dallas, graduated Howard

University in 1953, and studied at the Karamu Theater in Cleveland on a Rockerfeller grant. He earned his MA from the University of Iowa and his doctorate from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He began his five decade collegiate teaching career at Dillard University

in 1960. Shine also taught at Howard University and settled at Prairie View A&M University in the 1970’s where he recently retired as head of the Historically Black College and University’s Theater Department.

Showtimes for THE SHINE PLAYS are Thursdays and Fridays at 7:30 PM, Saturdays at 2:30PM and 7:30 PM and Sundays

at 2:30PM. Tickets range from \$15 - \$20. Group rates are available. Tickets can be purchased online at www.soulreptheatre.com. The Margo Jones Theater is located in Fair Park, adjacent to the African American Museum.

For more information, feel free to e-mail soulreptheatre@gmail.com or like us on Facebook.

RAE,

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Forbes 30 Under 30 list, Rae said having Black people and those representing other cultures in positions of power at television networks is essential in showing the diversity within the race.

“You cannot put a definition on [Blackness]. And that is part of what I set out to prove because I feel that for too long the mainstream media has tried to limit what Blackness can be. Some of us have felt we needed to limit it too. We’re so much and such a beautiful and vast people, that it becomes really unnecessary,” Rae said.

In the book *The Misadventures of Black Awkward Girl*, Rae covers everything from cyber-sexing and weight gain, to eating out alone, and public displays of affection. Rae is currently in talks with HBO about a new, yet-named television series.



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Staffing Diamond Award Winner for achieving the **See BEST, Page 13**

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MALES, continued from Page 8

of somebody who found motivation through the arts.

“He’s at his best academically when he’s drawing and creating,” he says. “His math scores go up. His reading scores go up. I call it ‘dimensional learning.’ When he draws, creates computer graphics and then builds a website – all about

the same stuff he’s reading about in school – he’s unstoppable. I’ve never seen anything like it!

That is actually a form of genius. I believe that we can cultivate this in more and more young men.”

R = Resilient vs. Reformers

The fourth S.P.A.R.K. of

genius applies to those young men who use their past struggles and personal experiences to inform their work.

As James describes, “They’re resilient individuals. They overcame. They continue to overcome but at the same time it’s not about them. As reformers, they dedicate their work and their life to uplifting the

human condition – to help their community, to help people struggling, to help people suffering.”

K = Kinetic vs. Knowledge

James notes that many adolescents feel pressured to fit the mold of either a “jock” or a “bookworm,” but young men who strive to achieve S.P.A.R.K. resist being type-casted or pi-

geonholed into one of the two stereotypes.

Instead, he says, they strive to be both intellectually and physically stimulated in their lives.

“Think of Richard Sherman, cornerback for the NFL champion Seattle Sea-

hawks,” says James.

“Brash, tall brother, dreads. Graduate of Stanford University. Brilliant – all while being the best defensive player in the league. I think there’s more people out there like that than we know.”

BEST, continued from Page 12

honor for five consecutive years.

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orous client survey process followed by careful analysis of responses to determine satisfaction levels.

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March 15

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.)

March 18, 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.

March 29, 9:30 a.m.

Make plans to be with us for our 5th Sunday Fellowships Service; and our Meal and Activities afterwards, you will surely be blessed.

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March 15

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 Women History facts to share with you.

March 18, 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.

Dr. Terrance Woodson, Senior Pastor
1944 E. Hebron Parkway
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CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH, RICHARDSON

March 12, 7 p.m.

If you need some of God's comfort, come to our Grief Share, "Mourning to Joy."

March 8, 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 March Month Series is "I am a Church Member." Discover the attitude that makes the difference.

March 18

Join us at 12 Noon with Rev. Viveca Potter teaching on the Word of God; come back at 6:45 p.m. 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
Richardson, TX 75081
www.Christcommunityrichardson.org

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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

March 15

For this Sunday only, join us for our praise and worship services at 9:30 a.m. followed by Morning Services at Bolin Elementary, 5705 Cheyenne Drive in Allen and bring someone with you; you will be blessed.

March 18

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., 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

March 15, 7:35 a.m.

Join us this Sunday for our praise and worship services and receive a blessing from God.

March 18, 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)

March 15

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.

March 18, 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

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

March 15

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.

March 18

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

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

March 15, 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.

March 18, 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
972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org

THE INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH

March 15, 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.

March 18, 7 p.m.

Join us in Monday School as we learn what God has to say to us.

March 20, 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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Continuing National Women's Month



Sister Tarpley

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

"Receiving the 2013 National Humanities Medal... was both a blessing and a profound moment in the history of Black Women's History because it represented acknowledgement and appreciation of the work that I and my generation of scholars did to include the contributions that Black women have made to our nation's progress and to the global struggle against social injustice, and economic and gender inequality."

As an historian, Darlene Clark Hine, sought not only to explore Black history, but to expand the discipline of history itself by focusing on Black women "who remained at the very bottom of the ladder in the United States."

A leading expert on the subject of race, class, and gender in American society, Hine is credited with helping to establish a doctoral field in Comparative Black History at Michigan State

University.

While attending Chicago's Roosevelt University in the sixties, Hine says it was "hearing Black activists refer so often to history, seeing the Black culture celebrated by artists, and reading new works by Black writers that inspired her with the hope that someday she could change the very definition of "history."

"Historians can write a history of anything or anyone," Hine is quoted as saying, "but apparently few considered Black women worth the telling." Hine herself had to be persuaded to explore the lives of Black women in Indiana, but soon became convinced that the United States history was leaving out far too much that was important to nurture a comprehensive understanding of American society.

Thus, her preliminary research on women's roles in churches and other settings led to brief monograph, *When the Truth Is Told: Black Women's Community and Culture in Indiana, 1875-1950* (1980).

"If I can...impress upon the historical profession" she once insisted, "how important it is to talk to and il-

luminate the lives of people who did not leave written records, but who also influenced generations of women all over the globe, then I will feel that my career is worthwhile."

Darlene Clark Hine was born in Morley, Missouri, the oldest of four daughters

of Levester Clark, a truck driver and Lottie Mae Clark. She has one daughter, Robbie Davine

She received her BA in 1968 from Roosevelt University, her MA from Kent State University in 1970 and her PH.D in 1975 also from Kent State University.



Darlene Clark Hine (Photo: NEH)

From 1972-74 Hine worked as an assistant professor of History and Black Studies at South Carolina State College, 1974-79 she worked as an assistant professor at Purdue University in Indiana and 1979-85 an Associate professor.

From 1985 to 2004 Hine served as the John A. Hannah Professor of History at Michigan State University in East Lansing. She helped to establish a new doctoral field in comparative Black history, one of the first of its kind.

She also helped edit a se-

ries on Black history in the United Statesman Milestones in Black History.

Hine wrote three books about Black women's history. Her book *Black Women in Whites* was named Outstanding Book by the Gustavus Myers Center of Study of Human Rights.

She edited a two-volume encyclopedia, *Black Women in America*. Her book, *A Shining Thread of Hope* was favorably reviewed in the *New York*

See TARPLEY, Page 16

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NDG Book Review: *The Many Faces of Josephine Baker*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You are a kid with determination.

You set your sights on something, and it's done. You don't waste any time, don't mess around – you want it and you'll have it, one way or another.

For one little girl back in the early 1900s, it was the same: she knew she was going to be somebody, no question. And in the new book "The Many Faces of Josephine Baker" by Peggy Caravantes, you'll read all about that girl.

When Freda Josephine McDonald was born in June 1906, her family had almost



nothing.

They lived in "a succession of run-down, rat-infested dwellings" and her mother took in whatever work she could find to make ends meet while she took her frustrations out on her daughter. When she was

just seven years old, Josephine's mother decided that Josephine had to go find a job.

At age 13, Josephine was married for the first time and was single again a few months later. Around that time, she met some traveling musicians and their fame seemed awfully appealing. Josephine decided to go with them on their next tour.

On the few days that she actually attended school, Josephine was a "class clown" who loved to act goofy. That's what she did in on her stage debut and audiences loved her. It was what eventually gave her

the stardom she craved.

From St. Louis to Philadelphia (where she married Willie Baker at age 15) to New York, Josephine became such an attraction that she was hired for a major production in Paris. She wasn't sure she wanted to go, but racial issues were nearly nonexistent in France. In the end, she went to Paris. It was the best decision she ever made.

Parisians loved Josephine Baker, and she loved them back. Even as she traveled the world (including back to Missouri, where racism was as fierce as ever), she always returned to France. That was where she made

her home, where she raised her "Rainbow Tribe," and it was where she put herself in danger during World War II...

In her note at the open of this book, author Peggy Caravantes says that that few know the truth about Josephine Baker's life. Caravantes admits that she "struggled" in researching this memoir – and that admission, right from the beginning, sets the tone of "The Many Faces of Josephine Baker."

Readers looking for the life story of Baker will find the usual: her rough childhood, her early career, her later performances, her

loves, and her children's adoptions are included, all written in a style kids can appreciate. So far, so good – until you take into account the missing words here, incorrect facts, and timeline confusion.

These are things adults will notice but children might not, which exacerbates any accuracy issues.

Add in the many references to Baker's sexuality, and parents of 10-to-13-year-olds may want to use caution with this book. Look through "The Many Faces of Josephine Baker" before you hand it to your child. You may determine that it's not for her.

TARPLEY, continued from Page 15

Times. Hine's papers are preserved in the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library at Duke

University.

Because of her expertise on the subject of race, class, and gender in American so-

ciety, Hine received the Otto Wirth Alumni Award for outstanding scholarship from Roosevelt University in 1988 and the Special achievement award from Kent State University

Alumni Association in 1991.

Hine was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Massachusetts in 1998 and Amherst from Purdue University in

2002.

In 2010 the inaugural Organization of American Historians presented the Darlene Clark Hine Award for best book in Black Women and Gender His-

tory.

Hine was presented with the 2013 National Humanities Medal by President Barack Obama for her work on understanding the Black experience.



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