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# I am Sandra Bland

By Julianne Malveaux  
NNPA Columnist

Had I ever met Sandra Bland, I am sure I would have liked her. She is described as an advocate for justice who had embraced her purpose to fight racism. She is described as a sister who knew her rights. She was well-educated, assertive, and a resource for her people. She was dragged out of her car for failing to signal a traffic lane change because Texas Highway Patrol Trooper Brian Encinia chose to abuse his power and violate her rights. Because he could.

Three days later, Sandra Bland was dead. The police call her death a suicide. Her family is disputing the autopsy. Brian Encinia is responsible for what happened, since there was no reason to arrest Sandra Bland and put her in jail.

Sandra Bland was an “uppity” Black woman from suburban Chicago who I not kowtow to Trooper Encinia. Perhaps he preferred a woman who said “yes, sir,” who humbly accepted her ticket. Certainly, while it was not against the law to take a smoke, he preferred that Sandra put her cigarette out. Why? Because he needed to order a woman around who asserted her rights. Because she knew what her rights were.

Sandra Bland, the Prairie View



A&M University graduate, was stopped in Waller County, Texas for failing to signal at a lane change. She was ordered to put out her cigarette, and she refused. She was told to get out of her car, and she had the nerve to assert her rights and to ask why.

Trooper Encinia was clearly exceedingly and outrageously out of order. His voice escalated to unnecessary shouting when he yelled, “I will light you up. Get out. Now. Get out of the car.” He grabbed her, threw her on the ground, and shoved his knee in her back so sharply that evidence of bruising was visible in her autopsy three days later. He arrested her with the false charge of assault because she did not acquiesce to his brutality.

Sandra Bland’s You-Tube posts show her as a strong, assertive Black woman who is keenly aware of racial disparities, and committed

to social and economic justice. Former police officer Harry Houck, commenting on this case on CNN, described her as “arrogant” because she would not extinguish her cigarette. Houck did not know Sandra Bland, so how did he surmise that she was arrogant? Isn’t that how some Whites describe Black people when we fail to grovel in the face of their power?

What did Trooper Encinia see when arresting Sandra Bland? Did he, like Houck, see a woman who was not intimidated, a woman who, though not rude, was not “humble”? Did she scowl when she was stopped? Probably. Was she unfriendly or ungracious? Possibly. Was she deferential? Not at all. But there is no law that says that someone who gets a ticket is supposed to

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## COMMENTARY

## For Blacks it is too much like 1955

By Rika Tyler  
and T-Dubb-O

(TriceEdneyWire.com)  
– Some may say much has changed since our grandparents were boycotting in the streets of the U.S. during the Civil Rights era. Some new laws and policies did in fact give Black people some of the same civil liberties as other citizens in this country.

However, we are still being mentally enslaved, figuratively lynched, and discriminated against as if

Malcolm, Martin, Fannie Lou, Rosa, and others never left their homes. The Charleston church shooting was another reminder that laws cannot change the hearts of men.

Similar to the infamous church bombing that left four Black girls slain, a young racist White male decided to go into a church during Bible study with the intent to kill Black people. Dylan Roof murdered nine Black people while having Bible

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## People In The News...

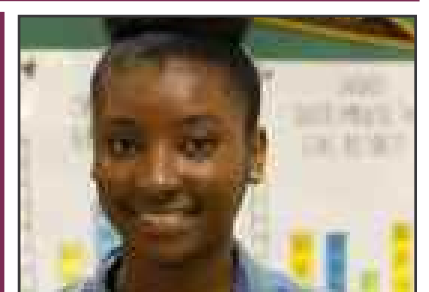
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Dorothy Leavell



Donnie Simpson



Kyle Williams

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## Dorothy R. Leavell

Dorothy R. Leavell is a hands-on publisher and she most certainly is a true crusader for the cause of the Black Press.

In the Windy City, the *Chicago Crusader* is recognized as one of Chicago's leading institutions and one of its oldest and most successful Black-owned businesses.

The awards, recognitions and honor attributed to Dorothy R. Leavell are countless.

The latest recognition comes from the National Association of Black Jour-



nalists (NABJ), who recently announced its 2015-2016 Hall of Fame Inductees, the highest recognition given by the organization.

On Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2015 as part of the NABJ's

40th Anniversary Gala, Dorothy R. Leavell will be among those inducted into its Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony will take place at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, D.C.

The Hall of Fame Induction is presented by NABJ, an organization of journalists, students and media-related professionals that provides quality programs and services and advocates on behalf of Black journalists worldwide.

Founded in Washington, D.C. by 44 men and women on Dec. 12, 1975, NABJ is the largest organization of journalists of color in the

nation.

Mrs. Leavell is an African American woman who has both succeeded and survived in an industry that is typically male dominated and in recent times seen many publications fail or resort to online editions due to loss of ad revenue.

Mrs. Leavell has maintained a readership of nearly 300,000, with neither of her papers ever missing a single issue.

Her success is most certainly due to her commitment to the African American communities in Chicago and Northwest Indiana.

"We do not rewrite stories that appear in main-

stream newspaper. We are here to provide service to the community for the purpose that the Black Press was found—to give a voice to a community that did not have one."

Each day she arrives early and often leaves late. She's been doing that since 1968 when she became the editor and publisher of both the *Chicago* and *Gary Crusader* Newspapers — after the death of her first husband Balm L. Leavell Jr.

The reception area has a framed portrait of her 50th Anniversary photograph and a few of the many awards and recognitions she has received for over 50

years of publishing.

Mrs. Leavell didn't want her portrait hanging out front—her staff insisted that was the right place to hang it.

People who have never met her smile, as they are often impressed with the 50 years of service written on the ribbon across the portrait. It seems to invoke pride, especially in African Americans.

The newspaper maintains its roots in the community with its headquarters in the 6429 S. King Drive in Chicago.

Mrs. Leavell looks forward to the NABJ Hall of Fame induction.

## Donnie Simpson

*Radio One and TV One Announce an Exclusive Multi-Media Deal for DC-Based MAJIC 102.3 FM and TV One Specials*

(Silver Spring, MD) — When Donnie Simpson left the Washington D.C. radio airways in 2010 culminating a 41 year media career in radio, television and movies, the biggest question asked was, "What's next for Donnie?" It is five years later and Donnie is returning to his first love, radio and television.

Media conglomerate,



Radio One, Inc., the only African-American owned and targeted diversified media company in the country, tapped its radio broadcast company and its cable network, TV

One, to bring Donnie Simpson out of retirement and back on-air in DC on WMMJ MAJIC 102.3 FM and as the newest TV One talent.

The multi-year agreement for both radio and television include Donnie hosting The Donnie Simpson Show afternoons on MAJIC 102.3 as of Monday, Aug. 17, and a collaboration between TV One and Donnie Simpson Productions to create programs that will have Donnie back on TV by the fourth quarter of this year.

Brad Siegel, President of TV One adds, "TV One is excited to be the entertain-

ment platform providing Donnie Simpson's return to television. As evidenced by fan reaction whenever he's out or making appearances, Donnie is a universally adored media personality and his youthful spirit appeals to devotees of all ages. The breadth of his knowledge and depth of musical tastes make him an excellent asset for the network as we expand our programming slate and grow our brand. Knowing how much his fans have missed him, we are eager to get him on the air and look forward to announcing his first special soon."

"Donnie is iconic. The DC market woke up to his voice for 30 years and we are thrilled to bring him out of retirement and behind a microphone again," says Jeff Wilson, Senior Regional Vice President and General Manager of Radio One-DC. "MAJIC 102.3, The Real Sound of the DMV, will certainly be impacted by Donnie being reunited with his loyal listeners. His passion for music, industry relationships, interview style and charisma are a winning combination and we are glad to have him as a member of the Radio One family."

Donnie Simpson, known for his sultry voice, warm smile and piercing green eyes, is the son of a record shop owner. Having been exposed to multiple genres of music, Simpson began his radio career at 15 with WJLB in Detroit, MI. He relocated to Washington DC where he began working at WRC-FM, now WKYS, as a jock and program director. In the early 1980s, Simpson landed

his first television job on WRC-TV. Soon after he hosted Video Soul, a music video show on BET and

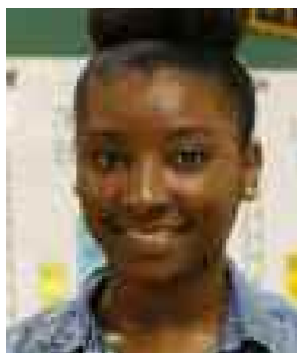
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## Keyle Williams

A recent South Garland High School graduate had the chance to inspire hundreds of students and educators with her moving story. Keyle Williams was invited to share her journey to college at the annual Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Summer Institute June 22-24.

At the encouragement of her teachers, Williams applied to speak at the Dallas event, submitting a 500-word essay about her personal quest to secure a college education. After weeks of anticipation, the 18-year-old learned she bested thousands of candidates in April.

"I was surprised when I



found out I was selected to speak. All of the speeches I have heard at the Summer Institute were really dramatic," Williams said. "I have been through a lot, but I did not think it was on that level. My mom passed away from cancer when I was in third grade, and I do not know my dad. I basi-

cally do not have anyone, except for my grandma."

Williams' personal life has motivated her to strive for success—an admirable trait her teachers and peers praise.

"Keyle is not your average kid," said AVID teacher Amanda Wilds. "She is an amazing, hardworking student, and her story proves that she is an overcomer. The fact that she went off to Harvard's Summer School program her sophomore year, as well as her motivation to get outside of this area and explore new opportunities, means that she is going to do great things."

Williams credits AVID as one of the reasons she is driven to reach such high achievements.

"I have been in AVID

since sixth grade, and it is a support system for me," she explained. "People in my family have been to college, but they never finished. I knew I wanted to go to college, change that history and be different. AVID gave me the tools I needed to go for it."

Detailing how she obtained her AVID tool belt at the Summer Institute, Williams hopes others will follow in her footsteps and pursue their dreams.

"I really want to touch people's lives and give them hope. I want them to see how AVID can impact a student's life."

Williams will attend Hofstra University in Long Island, N.Y. in the fall, majoring in pre-med.

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# Voter Suppression Overshadows Voting Rights Act Celebration

By George E. Curry  
NNPA Columnist

Thursday, Aug. 6, marks the 50th anniversary of President Lyndon B. Johnson signing the 1965 Voting Rights Act into law. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the organization co-founded by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will hold a Call to Action Rally at 9 a.m. on Thursday at the Martin Luther King Memorial on the National Mall.

The NAACP hopes to cap its Selma, Ala. to Washing-

ton, D.C. relay march, called America's Journey for Justice, in the nation's capital on Sept. 16.

Other celebratory activities are planned for different times.

Considered among the most far-reaching legislation in history, the 1965 Voting Rights Act removed many of the impediments to voting created by cities, counties and states that prevented many African Americans from exercising their right to vote under the 15th Amendment to the Constitution.

Dallas County, Ala., which includes the city of Selma, was typical.

As the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a Washington, D.C.-based think tank, observed, in 1965, more than half of Dallas County was Black. However, of the county's 15,000 voting-age African Americans, only 156 were registered to vote. By contrast, two-thirds of voting-age Whites were registered.

It took the savage beating of 600 protesters, including future U.S. Congressman

John Lewis, by White law enforcement officials on April 7, 1965, known as “Bloody Sunday,” to stir the nation's conscience against ballot box indignities. That provided the momentum for passage of the bill.

“Only in the wake of the Voting Rights Act did black voter registration in the South begin to approach that of whites,” the Joint Center said in a report titled, “50 Years of The Voting Rights Act: The State of Race in Politics.” It contin-

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study.

His reasoning was he wanted to start a race war. This showed the African-American clergy that are still on the fence during this critical time in America that even in your place of worship you are not safe from racism.

Racism cannot be abolished by a document. Murder is already illegal, but it seems to be totally moral and legal in some circumstances for law enforcement and others who murder, rob, and extort Black people at their will. Pictures from St. Louis during the Ferguson uprising were placed side by side with pictures from the 50s and 60s and you could not tell the difference between time frames in most pictures.

You see, a White police force armed with high powered rifles and dogs, facing off against unarmed Black people exercising their first amendment right to protest is not justice. Slavery was abolished on paper, but not in the minds and conditions of Black people.

No, we are no longer chained, whipped, forced to pick cotton, housed and fed by the “master”. But we are indeed still slaves because our minds are now enslaved – enslaved to capitalism and classism.

The media portrays us as

“thugs” all while it also controls the influence of how the Black dollar is spent. The plantation was substituted for a school to prison pipeline that is worth billions, and minimum wage work that gives you just enough money to feed, clothe, and house yourself for your hard labor instead of “master” having to do so.

There is a term that is used by Black revolutionaries in which we say, “KKK members traded in their hoods for badges, guns, and seats at political party tables”. So again we ask, are things really different now?

Every 28 hours a Black person is murdered by a police officer, security guard, or vigilante. To us, these are versions of a modern day lynching. Systematic oppression, predatory policing, and the war on drugs has replaced the Bull Conners of the South to keep Black people in “check”.

A lot of us may feel things have changed things due to the fact we have a Black president, and a few successful Black people. They say if you work hard, speak properly, dress properly, follow the law, and basically deny your Blackness as much as possible you won't be gunned down in the middle of the street by police and can make a survivable wage. Forget about

the fact that your people were forced here, built this country, released with not a cent to their names, and told make something out of nothing.

One out of three Black men will go to prison in their lifetime. One out of three! That's just in America. In the UK, there are more Black men in prison than there are in that entire country. We are not just discriminated against in the United States, but White supremacy and racism is a world-wide disease that ruins lives of Black families daily.

What separated Emmett Till from Trayvon Martin? The year is the main difference. Like George Zimmerman, Emmett Till's murderers were also let off Scott free. It's like 1955 with Wifi.

Black people were fully aware of their struggle during that time period. Today, we think we won something back then. We fail to realize the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King is still just a dream. Very few of the visions of our ancestors who sacrificed their lives to see us able to thrive and flourish have come to fruition.

We have been bamboozled by a few government-signed documents. The Confederate flag still waves proudly in many places. It symbolizes how we are still denied civil liberties daily.

But, now we have a bunch of Black people who fail to realize their minds are still enslaved. If we don't wake up now, we will never really get free.

*T-Dubb-O, a Hip-Hop artist, is a director for Hands Up United, a grass roots organization building towards the liberation of oppressed Black, Brown and Poor people through education, art, civil disobedience, advocacy and agriculture.*

*Rika Tyler, a community organizer and advocate for children, is a program director of Hands Up United. She works to ensure programs are aligned to serving the community of Ferguson and the Greater St. Louis area.*

*This article is sixth of an op-ed series on behalf of the Civil Rights Coalition on Police Reform. The coalition, convened and led by the national Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, is comprised of over 30 national civil and human rights organizations, faith and community leaders working to address the nationwide epidemic of police brutality and lethal shootings, claiming the lives of Black men, women and youth; and provide necessary reforms to change the culture of policing in America. For more information, visit www.lawyer-scommittee.org.*



# How to convince vaccine skeptics — and how not to

Many people who are skeptical about vaccinating their children can be convinced to do so, but only if the argument is presented in a certain way, a team of psychologists from UCLA and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign reported today. The research appears in the online early edition of the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The finding is especially important because the number of measles cases in the U.S. tripled from 2013 to 2014. The disease's re-emergence has been linked to a trend of parents refus-



Vaccine skeptics can be convinced with the right argument, researchers say. (Photo: CDC Global / Flickr)

ing to vaccinate their children.

What doesn't change their minds? Telling parents their fear of vaccinations is uninformed and erroneous.

What does? Reminding parents that measles is a terrible disease and that they can protect their children by vaccinating them.

In the new study, 315

adults from throughout the U.S. were randomly divided into three groups. At the start of the study, about one-third of the participants held very favorable attitudes toward vaccines, while about two-thirds expressed some degree of skepticism. The skeptics included approximately 10 percent of participants who held very negative attitudes toward vaccines. People with positive and negative attitudes toward vaccines were equally represented in each of the three groups.

One group read material from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

saying that all children should be vaccinated for measles, mumps and rubella, and explaining that the vaccine for those diseases is safe and effective. The material also said that while some parents worry the vaccine causes autism, many scientific studies have shown that no such link exists.

This approach did not change attitudes at all, the psychologists report.

The outcome was the same for the control group, whose members read an unrelated statement about feeding birds. As expected, these subjects also did not

show a change in their attitudes about vaccines.

The final group read materials that described the dangers of measles, mumps and rubella, and explained how a vaccine can prevent these diseases. The materials included photographs of children with these diseases.

The group also read a paragraph by a mother named Megan Campbell, whose 10-month-old son suffered a life-threatening bout of measles.

"We spent 3 days in the hospital fearing we might

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many other network specials.

Simpson eventually hosted *The Donnie Simpson Morning Show* on WPGC-FM where he continued to

captivate listeners for 17 years. He left radio in 2010.

Donnie comments on his return, "After 5 1/2 years of retirement my wife said, 'Everywhere you go people

tell you how much they miss you and that they want you to come back. You should go back to work'. That's what she said. What I heard was that voice from a horror movie yelling, 'Get Out!'"

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# Tips on how parents can prepare their child for the school year

(Newswise) — “It is never too early to start talking with and listening to your child about the upcoming school year,” says Dr. Amie Duncan, Ph.D., Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center.

Dr. Duncan advises that parents begin talking to their child about school a couple weeks before it starts, and that they listen closely for their child’s fears or concerns. “About 4-6 weeks before school starts, the process of transitioning from summer to school should be underway,” she says.

“It is important that parents listen to and respond to their child’s potential anxieties about the new school year, especially if they are making a big transition such as from an elementary school to a middle school. It is perfectly normal to experience first day jitters,” she says. These feelings can be relieved with some of the suggestions below.

## Preschoolers and kindergartners need to know what will happen

- Parents should take their child to visit their school and let them play on the school’s playground, walk through the classroom and meet their new teachers before school starts.

- Parents can let their children watch educational cartoons to help prepare them for what a typical day at school will consist of and what they will learn at school.



Photo: Foma Seldu / Flickr

- Talk to your child about the new school year, new grade level and new teacher.

- Prep for school success by establishing a “school area” to keep supplies such as a backpack and lunchbox.

- Take your child on a school shopping trip, and allow her to help choose a backpack, notebooks, and/or pencils needed for school. The supplies don’t need to be expensive!

- To help ease the transition for younger or anxious children, parents may want to tuck some small reminders of home (perhaps a picture) in a backpack or lunch.

- Parents should establish routine bed and wake up times to prepare their child for their school schedule. It may be helpful to begin doing this 4-6 weeks before school starts.

- Be Positive & Excited for the new school year!

## Elementary and Middle school children will need to adjust to new beginnings

- Parents should expect that their children may want trendy or “cool” school sup-

plies.

- Parents should take their child on a quick trip to school before classes start to help locate classrooms, lockers, the cafeteria, and the bus drop-off location if the child will be riding the bus to school. If there is an orientation the parent and child should attend it. Your child will see your investment in the school.

- Right from the start, help your child get and stay organized by having a designated area to store their backpack and having a distraction free area to complete homework

- Set up specific homework/study times to help your child develop critical study skills that will be needed for years to come.

- Talk to your child about high-risk behaviors, such as drinking, drug use, and sexual activity. Middle school is the time when children may begin questioning about and experimenting with these high risk behaviors. Have this talk early and often.

- Encourage your child’s participation in at least one extracurricular activity or

school club. Let her choose the activity. Children who are involved in such activities generally do better academically, have better social relationships, and are more confident, resilient, and happier. Make sure they are involved in some activities but don’t let them get over-loaded!

- Don’t hesitate to make an appointment with the school counselor right away if you have concerns about how your child is adjusting to school. Keep the lines of communication open.

## High schoolers need and thrive on positive reinforcement

- Parents should help their teen set realistic goals on how to earn the best grades and complete assignments.

- Parents should help their teen become organized by buying a daily planner and teaching the child how to use it correctly or teach them how to organize their schedule with a tablet computer or laptop.

- Parents should encourage their teen to get involved in at least one extracurricular activity or sport because it will help them meet people. Studies suggest that when children feel connected to their school they have another reason to do better academically.

- Even if last school year wasn’t the best for your teen, every year can be a new beginning and parents could model encouragement and enthusiasm.

- Continue to support and

encourage good study habits with regular homework/study times. Look hard for opportunities to offer positive reinforcement.

- Keep the lines of communication open. Ask questions about what’s going on in your child’s life. (Use open-ended questions, rather than those that require only a “yes” or “no” response). Listen closely when the child expresses what is happening in her

life.

- Set aside family time as much as possible.

- Continue to stay involved! Studies show that at all grade levels - even high school - the more parents are involved in their child’s life and the more they know about what is going on at school, the better their kids do. Stay in the center of your child school life and you will know what is going on, and how things are going.

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# Pitfalls to avoid when making a student loan

By Charlene Crowell  
NNPA Columnist

If you are a college student, a recent college graduate or even a college dropout, student loan debt is not only likely, but probable. Among Black families, more than half – 52 percent – borrow for college costs, according to the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL).

Additionally, paying off college loans can take years, if not decades. If students fail to complete their program or secure a good paying job, they may find themselves at greater risk of defaulting on their loans. Today, more than 8 million student borrowers have fallen into default on more than \$110 billion student loans.

So it is critically impor-

tant that families sending their children to college as well as current and former students gain insights into their legal rights and the pitfalls that can arise when repaying student loans.

When entering into a student loan, borrowers and co-signers should clearly understand all of the loan terms. This includes understanding when payment on the loan will begin, how in-

terest is assessed, and what types of repayment options are available. Student borrowers in distress should also understand their legal rights. For example, there are restrictions on when and how debt collectors may contact a borrower.

Borrowers who have paid their student loans as required may also have earned a tax benefit. This

See LOAN, Page 11

# Buckner North Texas Crisis Relief awarded \$30,000

Buckner North Texas Crisis Relief Center was recently awarded a gift from The Louis B. and Mary Ratliff Critical Needs Fund of The Dallas Foundation totaling \$30,000. The gift will help Buckner strengthen and support southeast Dallas families by providing client assistance and meeting basic life needs during crises.

"We are very thankful for the Louis B. and Mary Ratliff Critical Needs Fund

of The Dallas Foundation," said Jackie Belt, director of domestic aid and assistance at Buckner Center for Humanitarian Aid. "This generous gift will allow the many needy children and families that come to our center to receive emergency assistance at the point of need."

More than 19 percent of all families in Dallas live in poverty, and in Dallas County, one in every five people are food insecure.

This year the Buckner Crisis Relief Center anticipates serving more than 15,000 Dallas children and families through client assistance programs. The Center provides clients with food, clothing, furniture, financial aid, school supplies and ESL classes.

The goal of the programs is to extend immediate assistance to people in need while helping families become self-sufficient.

"The work of the Crisis

Relief Center directly aligns with the parameters of the Louis B. and Mary Ratliff Critical Needs Fund: To help provide basic necessities of life to those who are low-income, indigent,

homeless, or ill. We are so pleased to support these programs which offer a hand up to individuals and families during a time when support is most needed," said The Dallas Founda-

tion's President and CEO Mary M. Jalonick.

This is the second grant Buckner has received from the Louis B. and Mary Ratliff Critical Needs Fund of The Dallas Foundation.

## BLAND, continued from Page 1

be grateful. Most folks who get a ticket are annoyed, and have a bit of an attitude. She did not bow and scrape, or say, "Yes massa," so now she is dead, and Encinia is, at minimum, partly responsible for her death.

African American women are often stereotyped as angry Sapphires with chips on their shoulders and a penchant for confrontation. A Black woman doesn't have to raise her voice or swivel her neck to be considered angry.

All she has to do is to express herself, or fail to smile. Perhaps the officer would have preferred a deferential and obedient Sandra Bland. It didn't happen. So he retaliated.

I know Sandra Bland, because she is every woman. She does not conform to the majority culture's stereotype of what a woman should be. We, Black women, rarely conform. As the late Dorothy Irene Height, president of the National Council of Negro Women, once said, "Black women don't do what we want to do, we do what we have to do."

Forty-six percent of African American families are female-headed. We do the work. Black unemployment is higher than White unemployment, and Black wages are lower. We do the work. We work harder for less pay than other women. In the words of Fannie Lou Hamer, we are "sick and

tired of being sick and tired." Sandra Bland accepted her calling to fight for justice.

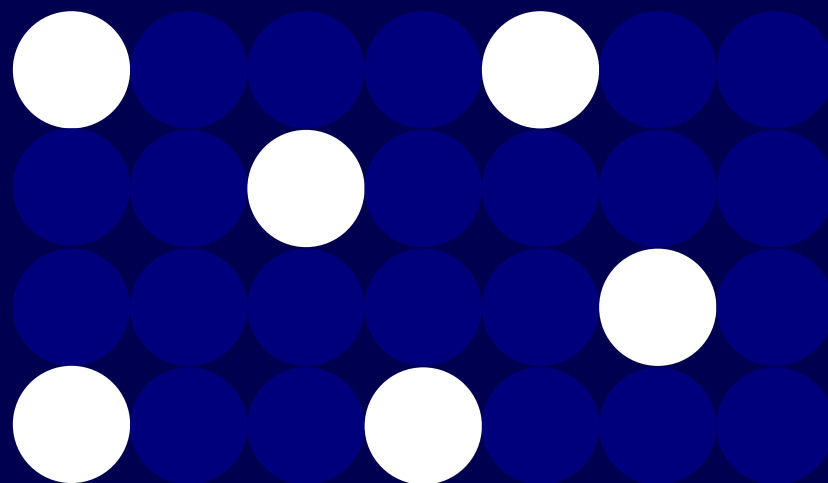
Her posts show a woman who would not yield to racism. She is not dead because she failed to signal when she changed lanes. She is dead because she knew and asserted her rights.

Every woman who is an activist is Sandra Bland, the Christian, the organizer, the advocate for justice. She is dead because she dared talk back to a brutal officer. Sandra Bland is every assertive Black woman. I am Sandra Bland.

*Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. She can be reached via [www.julianne-malveaux.com](http://www.julianne-malveaux.com).*

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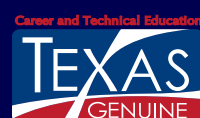


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## SKEPTICS, continued from Page 4

lose our baby boy," Campbell wrote. "He couldn't drink or eat, so he was on an IV, and for a while he seemed to be wasting away."

Among group members who were skeptical about or very opposed to vaccines, this last approach substantially increased support for vaccination.

"It's more effective to accentuate the positive reasons to vaccinate and take a nonconfrontational approach — 'Here are reasons to get vaccinated' — than directly trying to counter the negative arguments against vaccines," said Keith Holyoak, UCLA Distinguished Professor of Psychology and a senior author of the study. "There was a reason we all got vaccinated: Measles makes you very sick. That gets forgotten in the polarizing debate on whether the vaccine has side effects."

Supporters and opponents of vaccines can find

common ground, the researchers said.

"People who are skeptical about vaccines are concerned about the safety of their children," said Derek Powell, a UCLA graduate student in psychology and co-lead author of the study. "They want their kids to be healthy. That's also what doctors want. Instead of fighting their misconception, remind them why the vaccine is the best way to keep their kids safe."

People tend to become more entrenched when you challenge their beliefs, Powell said.

The study has broader implications for persuading skeptics on a wide range of issues. Fighting a misconception head-on is not an effective way to change someone's mind, said Holyoak, who conducts research on learning, reasoning, knowledge and creativity.

"Try not to be directly confrontational," Holyoak

said. "Try to find common ground, where possible, and build on that."

While some people hold very extreme anti-vaccination beliefs, many more have heard that vaccines are controversial and could be persuaded either way, Holyoak said. "They're persuadable by the positive argument, but not by the head-on attack," he said.

The researchers found no difference between parents and non-parents in the study. "They were the same at pre-test and were affected in exactly the same way," Powell said.

The researchers said there may be even more effective ways to increase support for vaccination, such as by showing a video with families and doctors taking the positive approach.

The study's co-authors are Zachary Horne, a graduate student of psychology, and John Hummel, a professor of psychology and philosophy, both at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

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# MOTOWN: The Musical does not let the Winspear audience down

By Margaret Freelon

MOTOWN: THE MUSICAL currently on stage at the Winspear Opera House is overall a great production. The music and performers celebrating the legendary Motown sound were incredible and this stage production did not leave this reviewer longing to hear any of the Motown favorites. They start from the moment the play opens, until the glories end.

The actors did an incredible job of bring the stories of Diane Ross and Marvin Gaye so richly to life, as was little Steve Wonder and a very young Michael Jackson. From the beginning to the end, the story of Motown is one that will have you wanting to go "Dancing in the Street."

The Motown sound is the sound track to many of the Baby Boomer lives. And they will not greatly enjoy a chance to hear all of the great sounds they grew up



Krisha Marcano (Florence Ballard), Allison Semmes (Diana Ross) and Trisha Jeffrey (Mary Wilson) MOTOWN THE MUSICAL First National Tour (Image credit: Joan Marcus)

grooving to. But the success of MOTOWN THE MUSICAL is not strictly the music, it is the peek behind the curtain to learn a little more about the man, Berry Gordy, who created it all, and the performers who became super stars along the way. But don't get it twisted, young people who might only recognize a few of the songs from movies and commercials, still en-

joyed the play as well.

The stand out performances include Allison Semmes playing the incomparable Ms. Diana Ross. The play focuses a considerable amount of attention on the budding romance between Gordy and Ross and how they must handle their professional relationship as well.

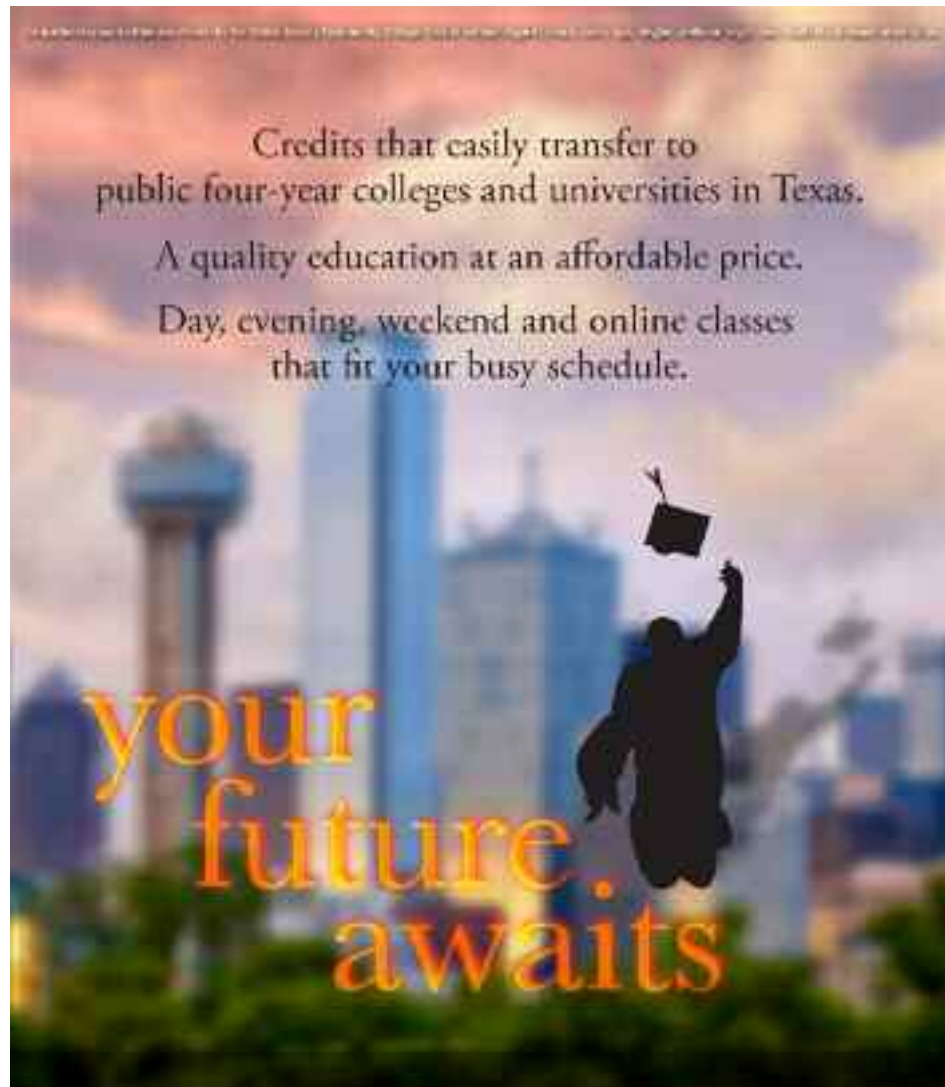
Jarran Muse brought Marvin Gaye so much to

life, for a minute you might forget he is not Marvin. His body movements were very aligned with how we re-

member Gaye's. From his early days of grace when he wanted to be the next Frank Sinatra, to his calls for

change and question of the

See MOTOWN, Page 12



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## MegaFest film festival will showcase documentary 3 1/2 Minutes, Ten Bullets

The International Faith and Family Festival will return for the second time during MegaFest's five-day run at the Omni Dallas Hotel from Aug. 20-22. One of the headlining films is

"3 1/2 Minutes, Ten Bullets." The film chronicles the aftermath of a violent confrontation on Black Friday 2012 at a Florida gas station.

After parking next to another car, a white middle-aged male and a black teenager exchanged angry words over the volume of the music in the young man's car. Michael Dunn fired 10 bullets at a car full of unarmed teenagers and fled. Three of those bullets hit 17-year-old Jordan



Davis, who died at the scene.

Arrested the next day, Dunn claimed he shot in self-defense. "3 1/2 Minutes, Ten Bullets" follows the journey after the confrontation, reconstructing the night of the murder and revealing how hidden racial prejudice can result in

tragedy.

All registered MegaFest attendees are permitted entry into IFFFF. Tickets for an IFFFF day pass are \$39, or \$99 for a guarantee pass. Registration is available online. For a complete list of scheduled events for the film festival, please visit [mega-fest.org/filmfestival](http://mega-fest.org/filmfestival).

## Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

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## NDG Book Review: *Mama's Boy* not a very unique read

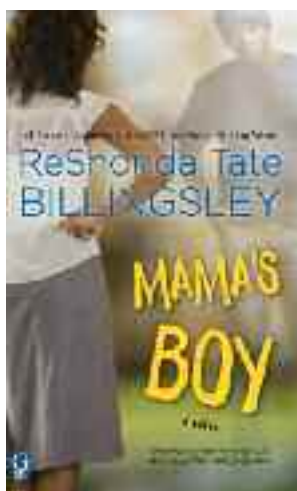
By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You think about it all the time.

The child making headlines in the news could be yours. He could be the kid wrapped up in trouble he never meant to have, the one whose name is known for the wrong reasons. And what would you do? You've thought about it, and in the new novel "*Mama's Boy*" by ReShonda Tate Billingsley, two mothers act.

The video on TV was so disturbing that Gloria Jones couldn't bear to watch.

In the clip, there was an altercation. A black boy. A Jasper, Texas, policeman. A scuffle followed by gunshot. Gloria couldn't watch — but she couldn't look away, either.



The boy in the video was her teenage son, Jamal.

He'd always been a good boy, her Jamal, until he started hanging out with troublemakers. Gloria blamed her husband, Elton, for that; he'd been hard on Jamal lately, always yelling, always criticizing. She knew that was part of

the reason why Jamal never came home sometimes, and now the authorities were looking for him. Her brain refused to wrap around the thought that her son was a cop killer...

Madam Mayor.

Kay Christianson liked the sound of that. As the front-runner in a heated election, she quietly felt confident for a win but she had no time to think about it much. Kay was Houston's leading prosecutor, a devoted mother, and wife of defense attorney, Phillip Christianson. Folks often wondered how that last part worked, how two people could be on opposing sides and still be happily married but Kay loved her husband's passion, in the courtroom and otherwise.

Being the Mayor of

Houston would add another level to her perfect life, and Kay was looking forward to it. With the election nearing, she only had one case to complete, a big one from Jasper in which a teen was accused of murdering a policeman.

Gloria Jones just couldn't look away from the video. She knew her son had shot a policeman, but it had to have been an accident. She couldn't look away from that clip — or the other one, the one from Houston. Gloria recognized the prosecutor who could put her baby boy away for a long time — and when their secret came out, it could change everything...

Every literary cliché in the book. That's what you'll find in this book,

which is unfortunate. "*Mama's Boy*" could have been so much more.

I had a lot of hope, in fact. Author ReShonda Tate Billingsley snatched a piece of headline we're all familiar with, and started her tale of a black teen, a white policeman, and an altercation that leads to violence. From there, however, we rarely see Jamal except to move the story along; instead, this tale becomes a run-of-the-mill, same-old drama between two women, their husbands, and one another.

Yes, I finished this book, so it wasn't torturous. It wasn't very unique, either. It was okay, and you might like it. If you're looking for something different to read, though, look at "*Mama's Boy*" and think again.

## TWC Day at the Dallas Arboretum

It is Time Warner Cable Day at the Dallas Arboretum on Aug. 15.

From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the air-conditioned Rosine Hall, paid garden guests will have the opportunity to participate in hands-on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activities designed to stretch their imagination.

As a part of its Connect a Million Minds Initiative (CAMM), Time Warner Cable partners with the Dallas Arboretum to provide August Dollar Days to the general public and to support after-school STEM activities as it applies to science and nature.

See TWC, Page 13

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# Texas Workforce Commission pledges \$800k for veterans in college

AUSTIN - The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) recently announced the award of \$800,000 to support five new accelerated certificate or degree

programs through its College Credit for Heroes program, a statewide effort designed to maximize the award of college credit to veterans and service mem-

bers for their military experience. The announcement expands the reach of the program to include 37 universities and community college partners.

Following a pilot program, College Credit for Heroes was designated as a permanent program with the passage of SB 806 in the 84th Legislative Session.

College Credit for Heroes has established a standard evaluation process used across the state for veterans to receive classroom credit, by growing a vast network

of partner schools and by supporting the development of 76 fast-track programs to help veterans translate their military experience into civilian careers.

## LOAN, continued from Page 6

tax break could be particularly valuable to private student loan borrowers who incurred debt at higher interest rates than that offered by the federal government. However, borrowers rely on correct and timely information and forms from their servicer to be able to claim their deduction.

Scams are also popping up online to take advantage of student loan borrowers. Fraudulent companies peddle bogus student loan debt relief services. Others lure consumers in, charging them money for advice and services they could otherwise receive for free, like filling out federal student aid forms.

If you think these kinds of issues do not really

amount to much – think again. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) recently levied fines and restitution against a student loan servicer and a company providing financial aid advice for their violations that together affected more than 200,000 students.

On July 22, the CFPB ordered Discover Bank and its affiliates to return \$16 million to more than 100,000 borrowers and an additional penalty of \$2.5 million. Discover overstated the minimum amounts due on billing statements and denied consumers information they needed to obtain federal tax benefits. According to the CFPB, the company

also engaged in illegal debt collection tactics.

“Discover created student debt stress for borrowers by inflating their bills and misleading them about important benefits,” said CFPB Director Richard Cordray. “Illegal servicing and debt collection practices add insult to injury for borrowers struggling to pay back their loans.”

Maura Dundon, a CRL senior policy counsel, added, “The servicing and debt collection practices detailed in the Discover consent order demonstrate the harms that borrowers can face in the student loan market. The CFPB is appropriately investigating student loan servicers, but a larger, more comprehensive effort is urgently needed. The

CFPB should develop new rules to protect all borrowers and address the abuses rampant in the broader student loan market.”

In response to the CFPB’s request for public statements on student loan servicing, CRL’s comments stated, “Origination is just the beginning of the lending process. Successful repayment depends in great part on the servicer, who controls every aspect of repayment, and serves as the gateway to any relief or assistance to which the borrower might be entitled.”

A second enforcement action occurred July 23, just one day later. Student Financial Aid Services, Inc. purportedly helps students and their families navigate the financial aid process and

get the most aid for which they qualify by assisting them in filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, also known as FAFSA. Its violations occurred when the corporation billed annual subscription charges without consumers’ knowledge or consent.


“Our enforcement action will put money back in the pockets of consumers who were misled while seeking to access federal student aid,” observed CFPB’s Cordray.

For consumer advocates, more work remains. As these actions show, student borrowers need to be vigilant when applying for student aid, choosing how much to borrow and repaying their debt. Regulators such as the CFPB should

continue to help students by instituting needed reforms to this market.

As CRL noted in its recent student loan servicing comments, “Without improvement, borrowers will not be able to access the relief to which they are entitled, and may face default or additional finance charges that they could have avoided. They will continue to face unfair and deceptive practices that result in extra fees and interest charges, and slipshod practices that make it more difficult to manage their accounts responsibly.”

*Charlene Crowell is a communications manager with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at [Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org](mailto:Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org).*



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## MOTOWN, continued from Page 9

status quo with his more activist oriented album he created late in his Motown days. Those songs have stood the test of time and as our young children are still being killed in the streets by racists and cops, we lament and cry with Marvin wondering – what’s going on? Aside from Gordy’s life story, we perhaps learn more about Marvin’s back-story than is commonly known.

Berry Gordy stayed so far in the background during those hey days of Motown, but for the play it becomes the touchstone for the telling of his family relationships, close friendship with Smokey Robinson and how they built the Motown sound. Now the name of this play could have easily been the Supreme Love: Berry and Diana. She was a young high school student when the two met but eventually Ms. Ross would grow up and Berry made his move. What is surprising is that the play does not touch on the fact the two eventu-

ally had a daughter together, Rhonda Suzanne, who did not learn he was her father until she was a teen. Perhaps this was to respect her privacy.

MOTOWN THE MUSICAL does briefly touch on the story of how the music from Motown became the back drop to African American empowerment in the entertainment and business world.

However, one of the key lessons they play does not go over the top explaining but which is very clear: the men such as Smokey and Marvin with their sexy swagger and the Motown women like Diana, Martha Reeves, Gladys Knight and Mary Wells changed the world’s perception of Black America.

Their elegance and grace – which Gordy invested greatly in training each of them – sat the stage for Sidney Poitier, Ruby Dee, Cicely Tyson and James Earl Jones to be become more accepted. These men and women of Motown also

gave young Black Americans a great sense of pride and something more to aspire for — it is not too far of a stretch to say that without a Marvin and Diana there might not be a President and Mrs. Barack Obama.

Overall MOTOWN: THE MUSICAL is more than worth going to see for the music, the glamour, the gossip and the history. Tickets

start at \$30 and can be purchased online at [www.attpac.org](http://www.attpac.org), by phone at 214-880-0202 or in person at the AT&T Performing Arts Center Information Center at 2353 Flora Street (Monday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.). Use NDG’s promo code: “SOUND” for \$25 savings!

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## VOTING, continued from Page 3

ued, "Five years after the passage of the Act, the racial gap in voter registration in the former Confederate states had closed to single digits. By the start of the 1970s, the black/white registration gap across the Southern states was little more than 8 percentage points."

In four of the 12 presidential elections since 1964, Black voters have turned out at higher rates than their White counterparts, according to the Joint Center. And the number of Black elected officials have increased from less than 1,000 in 1965 to more than 10,000 in 2015, including President Barack Obama.

While properly appreciating the accomplishments of the Voting Rights Act, we should not lose sight of the challenges that lie ahead.

"Since the 2010 election, 21 states have new laws making it harder to vote – ranging from photo ID requirements to early voting cutbacks to registration restrictions – and 15 states will have them in place for the first time in a presidential election in 2016. Those 15 states are: Alabama, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin," according to the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law.

And things are likely to get worse before the election

## TWC, continued from Page 10

Time Warner Cable, and its partners the Dallas Arboretum, the Dallas Zoo and Girl Scouts will provide several cool, hands on STEM stations.

In addition, cool treats and a face painter will be available, which are always a 'hit' with the younger visitors.

The Brennan Center also noted, "As the early stages of the 2016 presidential race begin, state legislatures are already considering hundreds of laws that could determine voters' access to the ballot. Since the beginning of the 2015 legislative session, and as of May 13, 2015, at least 113 bills that would restrict access to registration and voting have been introduced or carried over in 33 states."

Many of these bills were introduced in the aftermath of the Supreme Court decision in Shelby County v. Holder. On June 25, 2013, the court invalidated Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act, the provision determining which jurisdictions are required to pre-clear any voting changes with a federal judge or the Justice Department because of a history of racial discrimination.

To repair the court's damage, Rep. John Conyers (D-

Mich.) and James Sensenbrenner (R-Wis.) and Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) took the lead in introducing a bill that would, among other things, require states and municipalities with a history of repeated voting violations to pre-clear any election law changes with the Justice Department or a federal judge in Washington, D.C., just as had been the case before the Supreme Court's recent action.

Of course, Blacks must also continue to fight against regressive changes at the state level.

Any euphoria created by the tremendous gains made since passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act should be tempered by a stark reality cited in the report by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

It noted, "Based on the most recent data, African Americans are 12.5 percent of the citizen voting age population, but they make up a smaller share of the U.S. House (10 percent),

state legislatures (8.5 percent), city councils (5.7 percent), and the U.S. Senate (2 percent)."

A report by the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights concluded, "While the VRA has been enormously successful in eliminating some of the most egregious forms of discrimination, the reality is that discrimination in voting remains real and immediate."

*George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of Emergence magazine, is editor-in-chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service (NNPA) and BlackPressUSA.com.*

*He is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach. Curry can be reached through his Web site, [www.georgecurry.com](http://www.georgecurry.com). You can follow him at [www.twitter.com/currygeorge](http://www.twitter.com/currygeorge) and George E. Curry Fan Page on Facebook. See previous columns at <http://www.georgecurry.com/columns>.*



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## Church Happenings

www.NorthDallasGazette.com

### AVENUE F CHURCH OF CHRIST IN PLANO

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

**August 9**  
Join us for Bible Classes at 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m. and don't forget to come back at 5 p.m. for our Iglesia de Cristo Services (the Word of God in Spanish.)

**August 11, 7 p.m.**  
You invited to join us for Tuesday's Talk at the church.

**August 12, 7 p.m.**  
Don't miss 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

### BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CARROLLTON

**August 9, 9:45 a.m.**  
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. Don't forget to come back at 5 p.m. for the Word of God in Spanish at our Iglesia de Cristo Services.

**August 12, 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 cool Topics in Summer months. Learn what God says about critical issues and topics through the study of His word.

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

### BIBLE WAY COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

**August 9, 7:35 a.m.**  
Join us this Sunday for our praise and worship services

and receive a blessing from God.

**August 12, 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

### CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN RICHARDSON

**August 9, 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.

**August 12, 7 p.m.**  
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.

Dr. Terrence Autry,  
Senior Pastor  
701 Centennial  
972-991-0200  
Richardson, TX 75081  
www.Christcommunityrichardson.org

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

**June 15th-August 23rd**  
Our Pastor's 70-Day Challenge has started and you don't want to miss any more of it; "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." – Ephesians 2:10. Call the church for details.

**August 9**  
Join us as we praise and worship God at 8 a.m. in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall, 200 West Belmont Drive in Allen; followed by our Worship Services at Bolin Elementary School in Allen, Texas 75002 and bring someone with you; you will be blessed.

**August 12**  
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 West Belmont Drive in Allen. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all, be prepared to grow.

**August 15, 1 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
Young people bring your parent and join us for our annual back to school bash on at the Chaparral Townhomes Apartments, 351 Chaparral Road, Allen, TX 75002. Come for food, fun, fellowship and music. There will be games, prizes, raffles, face painting, balloons, FREE haircut vouchers and more. We will also be donating backpacks and school supplies to Garden Gates Apartments in Plano, TX, Tuscany at Wilson Creek in McKinney, TX and Hope's Door (Battered Women Shelter in Plano, TX).

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D.  
Senior Pastor  
5705 Cheyenne Drive  
at Bolin Elementary School in Allen 75002 for Sunday Morning Worship and the Admin. Building Address is 200 W. Belmont Drive Allen, TX 75013  
972-359-9956  
www.theship3c.org

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

**August 9, 10 a.m.**  
Join us for our Sunday Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory.

**August 12, 7 p.m.**  
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; 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 and  
Pastor Gloria Fenceroy  
300 Chisholm Place  
Plano, TX 75075  
972-633-5511  
www.mocop.org

### MT. PISGAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

**August 10, 17, 24 and 31**  
Join us for our Intercessory Prayer Ministry and our Monday's Conference calls.

**August 12, at 6:30 p.m.**  
Prayer Wednesdays; for de-

tails on the events above email rcharity@dallasmtpisgah.org

**August 16, 9:45 a.m.**  
Men of all ages join our Men's Mentoring Class every 3rd Sunday in our Education Building to discuss issues about life lessons according to the Bible.

R. W. Townsend, Senior Pastor  
11611 Webb Chapel Road  
Dallas, TX 75229  
972-241-6151  
www.dallasmtpisgah.org

### NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

**August 9**  
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.

**August 12, 7 p.m.**  
Join us in Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us for our growth.

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

### SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

**August 9 at 8 a.m. And/or 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.

**August 12, 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

**August 9, 7:30 and/or 11:30 a.m.**  
You're invited this Sunday as we praise, worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name.

**August 10, 7 p.m.**  
Join us in Monday School as we learn what God has to say to us.

**August 14, 7 p.m.**  
All men are invited to join us for Men's Fellowship night. Come and grow with us.

Pastor Rickie Rush  
7701 S Westmoreland Road  
Dallas, TX 75237  
972-372-4262  
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# A writer's outlook on the concept of time



Send email to: [businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com) to sign up for Sister Tarpley's weekly electronic newsletter.

De Farron Keith Hill, an inspiring and prolific writer who writes about life and life's experiences, is a graduate of Grambling State University.

He said that he enjoys the creative side of helping businesses market their product and/or services.

Hill loves music, especially jazz, and the arts and he likes traveling and playing the guitar. The following are three poetries written by Hill.

**TIME:** All time is relevant. Time is relevant to all times. Whatever you did today is gone; even if you do the same thing tomorrow, it is not today.

Every day changes; every

day brings forth new changes, new situations. If you only take the time from your monotonous schedule and realize the change, you will see, no two days are alike.

Loneliness is present in this world, take the time 2 comfort someone, take the time 2 meet someone, take the time 2 listen 2 them. Selfishness and hatred is only in vain, don't be guilty later of the pain.

Music is beautiful; music is joy, take the time 2 have a girl or a boy. Think about it now, later might be too late. Instead of worrying about the money, think about the rate (death.)

Life will always throw you changes that you won't anticipate; this is no nursery rhyme, think about how U spend it, think about the time, enjoy.

Thank God for all the time He has given you; everything and everyone must come to an end, even you too. Baby-Boo.

## A HIGHER HEIGHT

We are all trying to get higher, and high. When we get high and go into the sweet by and bye, we think we can fly. We are always trying 2 get high; a higher paying job which results in a higher cost of living; a finer car, which results in a higher note; a higher house which results in a higher boat. A higher shoe which puts your head in the clouds and makes U forget that you are really feeling blue.

A higher Benz, which causes you to have to work harder to have more ends; just 2 ride all of your new

friends; who grins, and grins, and grins along with you; and all your new high toys and high price sins. But guess what? The high price of the entrance into Heaven is the Cost of Salvation; and you can't pay it!!! It has already been paid by God. Who is Higher than You. The only way to receive it is through the Grace of God. Get high and excited about the Word of God and it will become the safest dope. Get high and excited about the Word of God and it will become your safety rope. Don't knock it until you try it; I

triple (Father\Son\Holy Ghost) dare you. Get high on God and He will bring you through!!!

## ROOFTOP PEACE

My Nights Turn Into Days; My Days Turn into Night, I can't Sleep, I can't Fight.

I'm Tired of being Tired. I'm TIRED of Seeking Right. I Wish I could take flight & GO out of sight. I Wish I could disappear into the Night. But Deep Down in My Soul I know that Ain't right.

TIRED OF Being TIDE; And SICK OF Being Sick, Thoughts of this situation

Hit Me Hard AS A Brick. THOUGHTS OF Being Tired, JUST MAKE ME SICK. OUT OF THE HOUSE I Left; And A ROOFTOP DID I Find; This Was the only Place That I could get Peace of Mind.

Never Thinking About JUMPING; But Peace Did I find; It gave Me A TIME TO TALK TO GOD And Ask HIM TO COME INTO MY LIFE & BE MY LIGHT;

TO HELP ME SEE CLEARLY AND MAKE THIS SITUATION RIGHT.



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Early Sunday Morning .....8:00 am  
Sunday Bible Class.....9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:45 am  
Evening Worship.....3:00 pm  
Iglesia de Cristo Services .....5:00 pm  
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 pm

Ramon Hodridge, Minister

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- Sunday Service 10:00 am
- Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm

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Youth Church: Every 3rd, 4th,  
and 5th Sunday at 10:45 a.m.  
AWANA: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.  
Contact Information: 972-423-6695  
[www.smbcplano.org](http://www.smbcplano.org)

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A Kingdom Building Church

Pastor: Dr. W.L. Stanford, Sr.

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Allen, TX 75013  
9:00 am

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Allen, TX 75013  
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Isiah Joshua, Jr.





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