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Blacks and Latinos working together

By Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. NNPA Columnist

If there was ever a propitious time for African Americans and Latino Americans to unite to advance the cause of freedom, justice, equality and economic empowerment, it is now. Today, more than ever, the rapidly changing national demographics and the potential political and economic power as a direct result of Latino and Black unity in America cannot be overstated.

We are now in the middle of Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 to October 15, across the United States. It is important to note that during this year's observance of Hispanic heritage, Latino leaders are also articulating the strategic value and need for more unity between Blacks and Latinos.

In a recent column to the New York Amsterdam News, Bronx Borough President Rueben Diaz Jr. stated, "As we face heated, dangerous rhetoric on the issues that concern us the most, the Hispanic community must not only stand together but to also unite with our allies of different backgrounds, such as the African-American community, to fight for the betterment of our communities."



I know Borough President Diaz and I believe that one day he may become the first Latino mayor of New York City. Fighting to improve the quality of life in our communities is exactly what our long mutual struggles for justice and empowerment continues to be about. The two largest people of color groups in America are Latinos and Blacks. And if Blacks and Latinos unite in New York and elsewhere, it will achieve more effective political and economic results.

President Barack H. Obama issued a proclamation in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month stating, "America's Hispanic community

has woven unique threads into the diverse fabric of our country and played an important role in shaping our national character as a people of limitless possibility."

We are witnessing a political challenge to the nation's diversity with the exponential increase in residents of people of color in every region of the country. Some studies show that the racial-disparity divide in America is becoming more and more pronounced in housing, education, business, immigration, and mass incarceration.

Going forward will require a seri-

See TOGETHER, Page 5



Flu shots for children available

-See Page 4



National Night Out in Irving!

-See Page 7



Howard Hewett set to play Ft. Worth

-See Page 10



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A new breed of bigoted politicians

By Oscar H. Blayton NNPA Guest Columnist

Among the many windswept cliffs that stand guard on the shores of the island of Okinawa, one is known for its particularly gruesome history.

"Suicide Cliff" is located on the southern portion of Okinawa. It is so named because thousands of Okinawans took their own lives at the site as American forces advanced across the island

in 1945 during the last

Twenty five years later, flying low over cliffside memorials honoring the dead of various towns and villages who perished there, I was struck by the fact that so many people felt compelled to rush to their own destruction. I soon learned that for tactical reasons, and to further their own doomed war effort, the Japanese army had terrified Okinawan civilians with tales of ex-

See BIGOTS, Page 3

See Page 2

INSIDE...

People In The News
Op/Ed3
Health
Community
Education
Irving/Plano News
City Briefs
Entertainment9-10
Market Place1
Church Directory13-15
General Motors16

People In The News...





Tanya Browne



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months of World War II.

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Paul Lamar Hunter

By Ruth Ferguson NDG Editor

Positivity, perseverance are key traits to the success of Paul Lamar Hunter who is scheduled to receive the 2015 Breakthrough Award at the 1st Annual Equanimity Awards Benefit Gala hosted by CNN's Joe Sutton and Teen Celebrity Journalist Pavlina Osta at the Westin DFW Hotel in Irving.

"As a young child I was told I would never amount to anything," Hunter shared. However, he did not



let that hold him back, instead he began to frame his vision for success.

"I begin to live the dream and I saw myself as a person contributing to society. Now, I am living the dream." Born in Racine, Wisconsin, Hunter is the 19th child out of 21 children and the first child to graduate from college. Hunter received his Bachelor of Science in Business from Upper Iowa University. He is the CEO of his own company, Paul Lamar Hunter LLC.

When you visit Hunter's website, watch the videos and read earlier features one thing is clear: he had an unusual childhood. Not only was he the 19th of 21 children to the same parents, but instead of pushing him to strive for a better life, his mother took no interest in his education. Not even taking the time to attend his

college graduation, which as the first one in the history of the family it was a certainly a big achievement. Hunter loves his mother, and has forgiven her, but certainly was motivated to try a different approach as a parent.

"When I started to have children; I always wanted to be there for my children," according to Hunter. As a child he watched as "the responsibility of parenting fell on the shoulders of my older siblings," while his mother devoted her life to a homeless shelter she created. From there he made a commitment to give back and share his personal story,

which he has done in his book *No Love*, *No Charity* with plans for a movie.

Hunter believes he can make a difference for a child today who is afraid they will never be anybody special. Hunter wants to encourage them to know they hold the key to their success.

His greatest teachers were the residents of his mother's homeless shelter. Over the years he met doctors, professors and other professionals that had one common thread: addiction. But they also had a common message for young Hunter: get an education. They would often ask him,

"Do you picture yourself as a successful human being?" From there he began to focus on setting goals for himself, seeing himself achieving those dreams – then taking action to make the dreams a reality.

For example, he set the goal of being in Ebony magazine, it took two years, but he achieved that lofty goal. Right now two of his goals include: visiting President Barack Obama at the White House and appearing on one of Oprah's OWN shows.

For success in life Hunter believes a person must have

See HUNTER, Page 11

Tanya Browne

The new head of Special Education Tanya Browne has come full circle in her career. The journalist-turned-teacher started out in a Dallas ISD classroom in 1993. She later became a dean and associate principal before joining the Special Education department, first as supervisor of secondary programs and then director of curriculum and instruction.

Following a stint as special ed chief in Austin ISD, she's back home and looking forward to making a



good program even better. One goal: ensuring that special education students share in the everyday school activities that make learning fun.

"The district is making

great strides in the area of special education. We are making improvements in the area of inclusion, making sure students are accessing the general education curriculum by being in the gen ed classroom," Browne says.

"Our work and the district's mission is seeing that (special education) students are included in all aspects of school life: that they know about extracurricular activities, are involved in field trips, graduation activities, and other things we might not normally think our students are able to access," she says, adding that such

experiences "help prepare them to graduate and go to school or go to work or access services in the community."

Browne, a graduate of Justin F. Kimball High School, found her way into teaching by way of news reporting. With a journalism degree from UT Austin, she covered the education beat for the NBC affiliate in Waco for three years, visiting schools and diving into the issues surrounding education.

Before long, convinced that education, not journalism, was her life's work, she turned to Dallas ISD's Alternative Certification program to help her get started in the classroom.

"Seeing the kids and all of the programs going on was just exciting," she said. "When I decided to transition out of news, I knew exactly what I wanted to do, and that was education."

Today, with two decades of experience as an educator, researcher, speaker and trainer under her belt, she welcomes the chance to contribute to the future of special education in Dallas ISD

"As ED, one of my big opportunities is to serve my

staff and provide leadership for them, to build a learning organization so that our staff can be prepared to support our schools," she said.

Browne speaks passionately about the benefits of doing more to serve special education students.

She wants educators and society to realize that, like all students, they want to learn. To be effective at teaching students across the spectrum of disabilities, she says educators have to be creative in the classroom and serve as advocates for their students, effort that is well worth the payoff."

Denise Lee

The time is 1959. The place is a seedy bar in Philadelphia. The audience is about to witness one of Billie Holiday's last singing appearances, given just four months before her death.

The performance includes more than a dozen of her biggest musical numbers, which are interlaced with salty, often humorous reminiscences of the lady and her music. So pull up a chair and order up a drink because she's got a life to sing.

Dallas actress Denise Lee makes her Jubilee Theatre stage debut as Billie Holiday in Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill, which has become a signature role



for her – having starred in the production twice before at WaterTower Theatre in Addison and the Contemporary Theatre of Dallas. Geno Young, known by Jubilee Theatre fans as the Music Director for many Jubilee Theatre productions will take the stage in the role of Jimmy Powers, Lady Day's pianist and confidante.

Veteran theatre maven Sharan Benge returns to Jubilee Theatre to direct this, her 6th production for the company. Her past directorial efforts with Jubilee Theatre date back to 2003 and include A Raisin in the Sun, Bee Luther-Hatchee, Blues for an Alabama Sky, Crumbs From the Table of Joy and Home.

Bargain Priced \$18 Preview Performances run Oct. 2 – 8. Opening Night is Friday, Oct. 9. Performances continue through Nov. 1, 2015 (\$24-\$28). Evening performances are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee performances are Saturday and Sunday at

3:00 p.m.

Want to be part of the production? Each performance will offer special cocktail table on-stage seating for \$40 per ticket (2 tables, each with 2 chairs). Call 817-338-4411 for more details and availability.

Tickets may be purchased online at jubileetheatre.org, in person at the theater Box Office, located at 506 Main Street, or by calling 817-338-4411. Box Office hours of operation are Tuesday – Friday 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and one hour before each performance.

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Ford encourages HBCU student achievement

By Ben Chavis NNPA

Each generation of African Americans has been challenged with both old and new hurdles to clear in the life-long marathon to achieve success and to fulfill career goals and objectives. The importance of attaining a quality education cannot be overstated in particular for the African American community.

I serve on the Board of Directors of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) that represents the interests of 126 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). NAFEO is the only national

membership association of its kind, representing the presidents and chancellors of the diverse black colleges and universities: public, private and land-grant, two-year, four-year, graduate and professional, historically and predominantly black colleges and universities

Working with NAFEO has help me to grasp and to understand the complex matrix of issues involving our nation's HBCUs. Completing a college education in America can determine one's quality of life quantitatively in terms of potential annual income as well as helping to become socially self-sustainable. As we all know, however, a college

education is now more expensive than ever before; and, entry to good schools is highly competitive.

Recently, I was pleased to learn about a program that was specifically created to reach and to provide students scholarships at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Ford Motor Company and Ford Motor Company Fund are reaching out to students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities for their third edition of the Ford HBCU Community Challenge Competition.

Up to \$75,000 in scholarships, and university and community grants will be awarded for the first-place student team and its project. The Ford HBCU Community Challenge is an extension of one of the Ford Fund's signature educational programs — the Ford College Community Challenge.

The Ford HBCU Community Challenge is conducted in partnership with the Tom Joyner Morning Show and the Rickey Smiley Morning Show, and encourages HBCU students to design community projects that address pressing local needs. Salute to Tom Joyner and Rickey Smiley for their leadership in the effort. The program's theme is "Building Sustainable Communities." I like this theme be-

See HBCU, Page 11

BIGOTS, continued from Page 1

treme cruelties they should expect at the hands of the approaching Americans. The island's people had their minds manipulated to the point that many chose to kill themselves rather than fall into the hands of a ruthless enemy.

Eventually, the people of Okinawa came to realize that these were "useless deaths" as the Americans turned out not to be the monsters portrayed by the Japanese army.

In the years since viewing this tragic site, I learned it is not unusual for people to be manipulated into a mass hysteria that makes them act against their own self-interest, or even to rush toward their own self-destruction. In this cycle of the U.S. presidential election, we have extraordinarily clear examples of the type of propaganda and demagoguery that leads to this type of madness.

Donald Trump is the poster child for destructive demagoguery. This bloviating bigot has pulled the Republican Party down to new lows and, in the process, dumbed down the national political discourse to a point where America is gnawing at its own flesh in an at-

tempt to expel nonexistent horrors.

Echoing the likes of former Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama and the two Virginia senators, Harry F. Byrd Sr. and Harry F. Byrd Jr., Trump feeds his followers platters of noxious vitriol that are devoid of facts. In addition to demonizing Latinos and "Black Lives Matter" activists, Trump, a privileged White man who inherited his wealth from his father, once declared that the Pequot Indians "don't look like Indians to me." This is a person who feels so entitled that he can determine what America is and who Americans are.

Like the thousands who followed a manipulative Japanese army to their hurried end on Okinawa, individuals who flock to Trump's banner of bigotry and foolishness—eventually will see the senselessness of championing someone who makes extremely ill-considered pronouncements and whose campaign completely lacks sound policy ideas.

Fortunately for them, however, Trump will not be president of the United States. Unfortunately, however, other Republican presidential hopefuls are mimicking his audacious and bigoted posturing because his followers are giving so much credence to this cartoon of an ugly American.

Ted Cruz, Rand Paul, and Mike Huckabee may not be stoking the fires of the exact same bigoted causes, but they are ramping up their rhetoric to approximate Trump's level of demagoguery. Just as George Wallace and both Senators Byrd relied on a strategy of saying the "N-word" louder than anyone else, this new breed of bigoted politicians base their strategies on attacking liberal targets of opportunity with more vigor than anyone else. And while there are varying degrees of bigotry among the Republican field of presidential candidates, they all seem to be willing to have the country self- destruct rather than give in to its liberalization.

During the past seven years, most of them have urged their followers to reject the Affordable Care Act, with little regard for the fact that many of them cannot pay for basic medical needs. These Republican candidates have called upon their followers to oppose an increase in the minimum wage, despite the fact

that many of those supporters are low-wage earners. They ask conservatives to join them in opposing the multilateral nuclear deal with Iran, even though the sons and daughters of those conservatives might bleed on the battlefields of any ensuing war. And, of course, they oppose extending equal rights to the LBGT community, while many of their backers have family members and loved ones who are in the LBGT community.

They are urging their followers to go over the cliff and pull the rest of America over behind them.

For those of us who refuse to swallow the venom of the likes of Trump, Cruz, Huckabee and Paul, we have a pressing obligation. We must do all that is necessary to prevent the forces of self-destruction from taking hold. We must not allow a group of hysterical bigots to determine the future of America. We must stand against those who are taken by a type of self-destructive madness and would throw America over a political cliff to drown in a sea of hatred and despair.

Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps. combat pilot and human rights activists who practices law in Virginia.

Dallas County HHS offers flu vaccine for certain area children

Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) is offering the seasonal flu vaccine at all of its six clinics for children eligible for Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC). The cost is \$10 for new patients and \$5 for returning patients.

Dallas County residents from birth to age 18 in the following categories are eligible to receive the flu vaccine from DCHHS under the TVFC program:

- · Medicaid eligible
- · Uninsured: a child who has no health insurance coverage
- · American Indian or Alaskan Native
- · Enrolled in Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- · Underinsured (as defined by the Texas Department of State Health Services): a child who has commercial (private) health insurance, but coverage does not include vaccines; a child whose insurance covers only selected vaccines (TVFC-eligible for noncovered vaccines only); or a child whose insurance caps vaccine coverage at a certain amount. Once that coverage amount is reached, the child is categorized as underinsured. Insured children with vaccine coverage who have high copays or deductibles are no longer considered underinsured. These children are now considered fully. privately insured and are no longer eligible for TVFC vaccines.

To find out whether a child is eligible for TVFC, check with the insurance provider to determine whether immunizations are covered.

"Parents should not wait to get their children vaccinated for the flu," said Zachary Thompson, DCHHS director. "The flu



shot is the best form of prevention against the flu."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the flu vaccine for almost everyone except children younger than 6 months of age and people who have severe allergies to eggs. The flu vaccine DCHHS provides is an all-in-one shot that protects against multiple flu strains including the H1N1 virus.

"We're encouraging everyone to get the flu shot as soon as possible because it takes about two weeks for the body to develop the antibodies needed to provide protection," said Dr. Christopher Perkins, DCHHS medical director/health authority. "Additionally, we urge everyone to practice flu prevention recommendations which will help prevent spreading the virus."

Those recommendations include cough and sneeze etiquette along with proper hand-washing. DCHHS has flu prevention materials on its website available for the public to download.

The children's flu vaccine is available at DCHHS Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call 214-819-2163. For clinic locations, go to: http://www.dallascounty.org/department/hhs/immunizationhours.html.



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Hearing the piercing cry of child poverty

By Marian Wright Edelman NNPA Columnist

Pope Francis speaks out faithfully and forcefully against poverty and has been called "the pope of the poor." But on his first visit to the United States there was demoralizing news about poverty, especially child poverty, in our nation - the world's largest economy.

Despite six years of economic recovery, children remain the poorest group in America.

Children are poor if they live in a family of four with an annual income below \$24.418 -\$2.035 a month. \$470 a week, \$67 a day. Extreme poverty is income less than half this.

New Census Bureau data reveal that nearly one-third of the 46.7 million poor people in the United States in 2014 were children. Of the more than 15.5 million poor children, 70 percent were children of color who dren remain poor costs our already constitute the majority of our nation's youngest children and will be the majority of all our children by 2020.

They continue to be disproportionately poor: 37 percent of Black children and 32 percent of Hispanic children are poor compared to 12 percent of White, non-Hispanic children. This is morally scandalous and economically costly. Every year we let millions of chilnation more than \$500 billion as a result of lost productivity and extra health and crime costs stemming from child poverty.

The Black child poverty rate increased 10 percent between 2013 and 2014 while rates for children of other races and ethnicities declined slightly. The Black extreme child poverty rate increased 13 percent with nearly 1 in 5 Black children living in extreme poverty.

Although the Hispanic child poverty rate fell slightly, Hispanic children remain our largest number of poor children.

Nearly 1 in 4 children under 5 years old is poor and almost half live in extreme poverty. More than 40 percent of Black children under 5 are poor and nearly 25 percent of young Black children are extremely poor.

New state data show child poverty rates in 2014

remained at record high levels across 40 states, with only 10 states showing significant declines between 2013 and 2014. In 22 states, 40 percent or more Black children were poor. In 32 states, more than 30 percent of Hispanic children were poor. And in 24 states, more than 30 percent of American Indian/Alaska Native children were poor. Only Hawaii had a Black child poverty rate below 20 per-

See POVERTY, Page 13

TOGETHER, continued from Page 1

ous effort to ensure a massive voter turnout of Latinos and Blacks in the 2016 elections. Neither the Black nor Latino vote can be taken for granted. The political future of the U.S. will swing in the balance and scale of how Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV) efforts will be financed, advertised, staffed and mobilized.

Neither elected officials nor Corporate America can effectively reach the Black and Brown communities by ignoring their media outlets. And a promising sign of in-

creased unity between the two powerhouse groups is that the National Association of Hispanic Publishers (NAHP) and the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) have announced the establishment of a NNPA-NAHP National Advertising Task Force. The purpose of the coalition is to educate marketers on the benefits and importance of the African American and Hispanic newspaper markets.

"With close to 97 million African Americans and Hispanics in the U.S. today, representing 33 percent of the total population, this consumer segment demands attention," said Martha Montoya, VP of the NAHP. "The buying power of the African American and Hispanic communities, currently at over \$2.3 trillion combined, continues to outpace the national average."

NNPA Chair Denise Rolark Barnes emphasized, 'This task force also marks a historic partnership between the NNPA and NAHP, the nation's most influential publishing organizations that are currently led by women. Martha and I have a shared

vision and commitment to empower our communities by strengthening the voices of the media we serve."

The potential force of African Americans and Latinos working together in business, politics, education, housing, family and community development are enormous. The challenge will be to achieve and maintain this unity not just for one year or two, but for a lifetime of solidarity and action to represent and defend the interests of our communities respec-

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: dr.bchavis@nnpa.org; and for lectures and other professional consultations at: http://drbenjaminfchavisjr.wix.com/drbfc.



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SMART STARTS HERE

Eighth-graders get a jump on HS credit with astronomy, physics classes

One thing Matthew Adesanya has learned from his eighth-grade Physics students at Fred F. Florence Middle School is that time flies when he's trying to get them to complete an activ-

"You give them 5 minutes to do something, and it takes 20," Adesanya laughed.

There were several times students needed refocusing, and he would belt out "Attention!" followed by a series of instructions.

At the beginning of a recent class, the students were calculating velocity using a complex algebraic formula. The subject matter itself



Eighth-graders at Fred F. Florence Middle School are learning about astronomy and physics through hands-on learning. Photo Courtesy of Dallas ISD.

presents another hurdle: he estimates that about 70 percent of the students have yet to take algebra.

"I have to reinvent the wheel, to make it simpler," he said.

After calculating velocity, students brought the concept to life in a group activ-

ity. Using motion detectors connected to laptops, they measured the speed of students as they walked toward and away from the device. The goal was to create a specific line on the graph based on the instructions to walk slowly or faster. The

first activity took a bit

longer than expected, but students were able to move on to the next one before class ended.

The majority of the students were engaged, interested and seemed to understand the concepts - especially with the lessons being reinforced through the hands-on activities. Once the bell rang, they demonstrated velocity by quickly exiting into the hallway toward the cafeteria.

At Hector P. Garcia Middle School, Andrea Jiménez is directing her students who are logged onto a NASA website on 10 computers along the perimeter of the classroom. They are

finding information about the James Webb Space Telescope to learn about the importance of collecting astronomical data.

The theoretical nature of astronomy isn't always easy to grasp. When it comes to space, scientists use what they know to offer best guesses.

"That's why they struggle," Jiménez said. "They're like, 'How do they know?' Well, we think they know."

Add to the struggle the fact that the eighth-graders are learning high concepts usually presented to high school juniors and seniors. Further, science itself is a moving target. A regular discussion on current events

See PHYSICS, Page 8

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GISD highlights Attendance Awareness Month

Showing up to school on time and every day is essential to academic success. If a student misses two class days every month, they will lose 10 percent of the school year, falling behind academically. With a goal to prepare students for a successful future, Garland ISD is stressing the important role this simple act plays on knowledge and life during Attendance Awareness Month this September.

"Student attendance is directly connected to student achievement. The more a student attends



school, the more likely they are to be successful," said GISD Attendance Administrator Angela Daniels.

Making sure students re-

alize that teachers, administrators and staff want to see them at school every day, inspiring messages and posters are displayed at campuses, on announcements and posted online. Bussey Middle School student Luis Beltran related to the messages, as the seventh grader has not missed one day of class since kindergarten.

"I come to school because I believe it is my responsibility and personal goal," the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) student stated.

Hoping to instill that kind of determination in its students, Liberty Grove Elementary School launched a reward-driven campaign.

"In an effort to increase attendance and decrease tardiness, we are having a 'Don't be Tardy to the Party' celebration every marking period," said Assistant Principal Barry Horn. "Students with no absences or tardiness will be invited, and every party will have a mystery special event planned."

See MATTERS, Page 16

Celebrating a half century...

Dr. Joe May, chancellor of the Dallas County Community College District, celebrated the opening of the State Fair of Texas by walking in the Friday kick-off parade (Sept. 25) with students, college mascots and employees from DCCCD, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. DCCCD also is staffing an education information booth during the fair's annual Mundo Latino exhibit, which is housed inside the former Women's Museum. This year's Mundo Latino exhibit is titled "Guitarras de Mexico." Sharing the history of guitars, guitar makers and guitarists, the showcase has a special focus on instruments made in Paracho, Michoacán – also known as the "Guitar Capital of Mexico." DCCCD was invited to partner with Mundo Latino to show the importance of higher education to the Hispanic community.

Dallas ISD recognized for transparency

Dallas ISD has earned the highest recognition of financial transparency—the "Platinum Level" — from the Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle.

The Leadership Circle award recognizes local governments across Texas with a high standard for financial transparency. The award spotlights entities that:

- Open their books to the
- Provide clear, consistent pictures of spending;
- · Share information in a user-friendly format that helps taxpayers understand how their tax dollars are

Dallas ISD Chief Financial Officer Jim Terry said the award is a testament to the district's work and effort to make sure Dallas ISD's finances are available to all stakeholders.

"We hold ourselves to a very high standard for financial transparency, as we

value the opportunity to show that we are very good stewards of the tax dollars. This recognition is possible thanks to the hard work our staff puts in every day," Terry said. "We appreciate the Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle award for recognizing these efforts."



Irving Police host fun, successful National Night Out

Officers with the Irving Police Department helped neighborhood groups give crime a "going away party" during last night's 2015 National Night Out, which is a nationwide event sponsored by police departments.

Thirty-nine Irving neighborhood groups hosted National Night Out parties and welcomed Irving PD officers to their community.

Officers stopped by various community gatherings, meeting with residents to foster and grow policecommunity partnerships. Irving PD has been hosting National Night Out events since the early 2000s.

To see more photos from the event, visit Irving PD on Facebook.







American Planning Association names downtown Plano as pick for 'Great Place in America'

The American Planning Association (APA) last week named Downtown Plano one of four Great Neighborhoods on the organization's annual Great Places in America list. Downtown Plano becomes only the second North Texas area to make the coveted list since its inception in 2007. Fair Park in Dallas was designated a Great Public Space in 2011.

APA's Great Places in America program recognizes neighborhoods demonstrating exceptional character, quality, and planning—attributes that enrich communities, facili-

tate economic growth, and inspire others around the country.

The Great Neighborhoods of 2015 are places that are unique and exemplary in their amenities and infrastructure, cultural identity, and use of sustainable and innovative prac-





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LENDER WHITEFOIC

Allen

Fall fun in Allen

Don't banish gingerbread to December; tweens and teens can create their own spooky gingerbread houses at Allen Public Library on Monday, Oct. 19. Love creepy-crawly literature? Kids ages 7-12 can test their R.L. Stein knowledge during the library's Goosebumps Party on Friday, Oct.

If you're already missing summer pool days, grab a swimsuit and towel and

head to Don Rodenbaugh Natatorium for a dive-in movie on Saturday, Oct. 24. Swim or float in the pool while Disney's "Hocus Pocus" plays in the background. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$5 for kids ages

McKinney Interactive Town Hall Meeting

The City of McKinney will hold a District 1 town hall community meeting on Thursday, Oct. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at McKinney City Hall, 222 N. Tennessee St.

Residents will receive updates on various city projects within District 1, and city leaders will be available to answer questions. For more information, call 972-547-7505.

Garland **Fire Prevention** Week: Oct. 4-10

This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign reinforces the importance of location when it comes to smoke alarms.

The National Fire Protection Association reminds residents to have operational smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home. The Garland Fire Department will host educational fire station open houses throughout Fire Prevention Week, as well as a free Safety Fest on Saturday, Oct. 10. Learn more about Fire Prevention Week activities at GarlandTx.gov.

Frisco

FISD to Host Flu Clinics, Cardiac **Screenings**

Students and parents are encouraged to take advantage of flu shot clinics scheduled this fall at each FISD campus. In addition, each high school will host cardiac screenings next week for middle and high school student athletes and those involved in band. cheerleading and dance. An electrocardiogram or ECG is a test that checks for problems with the electrical activity of the heart. Visit friscoisd.org for info.

Richardson LWV holds public meeting

The League of Women Voters Public Meeting is Oct. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Richardson Civic Center, in the Richardson Room. Panelists will discuss Richardson city charter amendments on the November ballot.

PHYSICS, continued from Page 6

- "Science Today" - is a time to talk about new discoveries and happenings.

"Science is something you're always going to have to be studying because it's always changing," she said.

Associate Principal D'Jamalia Freeman said Garcia Middle has at least seven opportunities for students to earn high school credit there. Astronomy is an incredible chance for students, she said.

"It's about opportunity. I'm glad we're able to give them a hand up before they leave for high school," she

Last year, campuses chose which science course they wanted to offer: 19 chose Astronomy, 14 chose Physics. Ten other schools began accelerated Pre-AP

science courses this year, and those will offer Astronomy or Physics in 2016-2017 or 2017-2018.

Before their eighth-grade year is over, all students in Texas choose an "endorsement" that helps determine a focus in reaching graduation requirements. Changes in the state law - HB 5 allow students to take high school science courses in non-sequential order.

Dallas ISD STEM Sci-

ence director Jenny Christian said that students who choose the STEM Science Endorsement must earn five science credits - one more than with other endorsements. Taking Astronomy or Physics in the eighth grade puts students ahead.

"This way they do not have to 'double up' and take two science courses at the same time for one year," Christian said. "Obtaining a STEM endorsement helps

prepare these kids for the college courses necessary to pursue careers in areas of increasing need."

To offer the classes also requires teachers who are able to teach them.

"We spent all of last year recruiting certified science teachers to teach these courses," Christian said, adding that the district offered training to middle school science teachers this past summer to help them

prepare for the certification

As for the students in her Astronomy class, Jiménez hopes they find a new perspective - and that they consider their place in the universe.

"We often think we are so big," she said. "What I want them to take away is an understanding about how small we really are as individuals."



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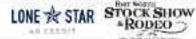


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Fancy Nancy author visits DCT on Oct. 17

Author Jane O'Connor is coming to Dallas to make appearances at Dallas Children's Theater (DCT) and Bookmarks at NorthPark Center. FANCY NANCY: THE MUSICAL based on the popular book series by Jane O"Connor with Book & Lyrics by Susan DiLallo and Music & Lyrics by Danny Abosch runs at DCT through October 25. On Saturday, Oct. 17 at 4:30 p.m., DCT is adding a special performance of FANCY NANCY: THE MUSICAL in her honor. Tickets for this and other performances are available by calling DCT at 214-740-0051 or by going online at dct.org.

Bookmarks at NorthPark Center is hosting a free Fancy Nancy party in the North Court at 10:30 a.m.



also on Oct. 17. DCT will be providing an exclusive sneak peak of FANCY NANCY: THE MUSICAL followed by Jane O"Connor reading one of her books, answering questions and signing autographs. Bookmarks will be giving each child in attendance a paperback copy of one of the author's books in addition to a special "fancy" accessory for girls and boys alike. Saturday afternoon beginning at 3 p.m., O"Connor will autograph copies of FANCY NANCY books at Dallas Children's Theater. Books can be purchased at the DCT Store. Only those who are in line by 4:15 p.m. will receive an autograph, as O"Connor also plans to attend the musical performance.

Audiences and critics have responded most fa-

vorably to the energetic musical. Every kid can relate to Nancy, with her boisterous attitude and tangled up feelings. Grownups have been equally dazzled while noting the heartwarming lessons that we never outgrow. The Mermaid Ballet recital, complete with a scene-stealing dancing shark, will have spirits dancing and all children hysterically happy.

FANCY NANCY: THE MUSICAL will run at DCT now Oct. 25. The performance at 4:30 on Oct. 17 is expected to sell out, so order tickets early. For tickets or more information visit dct.org or call the box office at 214-740-0051.

NDG readers have a chance to WIN free tickets to the show. Visit our Facebook page for more details.

Maze featuring Frankie Beverly to play in Ft. Worth

Beverly has established a trust fund with music lovers worldwide. Fans know when they attend a Maze concert they will be treated to an evening of honest, raw soul

And that's how it has been for more than 40 years. Nothing has changed. The band has stayed in its lane, continuing to do its thing, bringing quality music from the heart night after night.

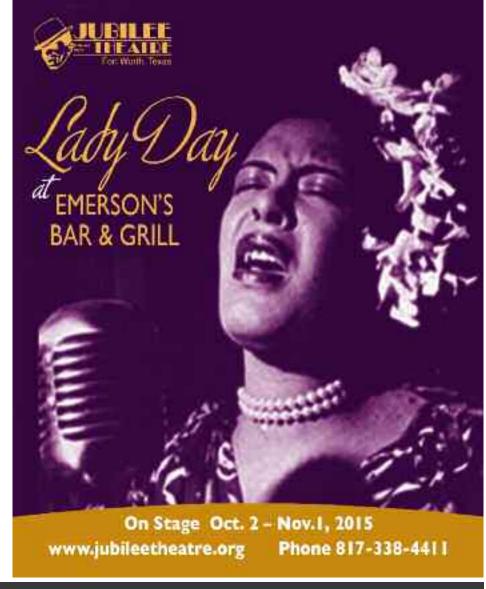
There are no gimmicks, no stage tricks in their shows. Just Beverly with his smooth, soulful vocals supported by the tight Maze band.

Maze featuring Frankie Beverly arrived on the scene in 1977. The essential must-

Maze featuring Frankie have Maze albums include Joy and Pain (1980), Live In New Orleans (1981), We Are One (1983), Can't Stop The love (1985) and Live in Los Angeles (1986). Maze was saluted by Mary J. Blige, Avant, Ledisi and other acts on the 2009 hit CD, Silky Soul Music: An All-Star Tribute To Maze Featuring Frankie Beverly.

> Join Maze Featuring Frankie Beverly in Fort Worth at the Fort Worth Convention Center, Friday 23 October 2015. ticket on sale now from 35.00 to 100.00 but, an NDG reader can win tickets for two to see Maze Featuring Frankie Beverly by entering via our Facebook page.





Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit us on Facebook to win tickets to Maze featuring Frankie Beverly "We Are One Tour" October 23,2015 @ Fort Worth Convention Center!

Howard Hewett set to deliver the tunes in Cowtown Oct. 16-17

Ladies, get ready, R&B crooner Howard Hewett is performing on Friday, Oct. 16 as well as Saturday Oct. 17 in Fort Worth. Fans are certainly looking forward to a "A Night to Remember" at the Fort Worth's Austin Event Center located at 1111 E. Berry Street.

When the Akron, Ohio native arrived in Los Angeles it was his feet, not his voice that opened doors for Hewett, as a dancer on the legendary Soul Train. Then once he joined Shalamar, his career took off. Fans helped the group soar to the top with hits such as "The Second Time Around," "Full of Fire,"



and "Dead Giveaway." Of course, like many other groups, they broke up but Hewett's career continued with hits like "I'm For Real" and "Stay."

After 1995's It's Time, Hewett stopped recording solo, spending much of his time providing wonderful guest vocals on albums by jazz artists such as Joe Sample, Brian Culbertson, George Duke and Everett Harp and on several gospel albums. Then in 2001, he recorded his first all gospel album, The Journey, on

Sony, followed a year later by The Journey Live: From the Heart before returning to the R&B world. Last year he released "You Still Live Inside of Me," a song that combined elements of both country and soul.

NDG Readers can win tickets to the event. Visit NorthDallasGazette.com for more info! Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show will begin at 8 p.m. There will be a meet and greet after the concert for purchasers of VIP tickets fo \$55, reserved tickets are \$45 and general admission tickets are \$35. T For more info visit www.jimaustinon-line.com or call 817-923-9305.

Win tickets to see Ludacris on Oct. 30

I actually knew Christopher Bridges, before I knew who Ludacris was because of his appearance in movies (and my general lack of hip hop knowledge). He has not released any new music lately but he is back on stage and *NDG* readers can win tickets to his Friday, Oct. 30 show at the Dr. Pepper Arena in Frisco. Visit NorthDallasGazette.com or our Facebook page for more details.

The former Atlanta disc jokey got his start rapping credit on Timbaland's "Fat Rabbit" before debuting his solo album "Incognegro" in 2000 on his own Disturbing tha Peace label. With the help of a production team of Shondrae and Organized



Noize, the album reached the Billboard 200, and led to Ludacris signing with Def Jam Records.

The ever-enterprising Ludacris became more of a household name as an actor with appearances in the Oscar winning Best Picture Crash and recently the Fast and Furious franchise. But singing is his passion and his fans can enjoy his performance on Oct. 30 at the Dr. Pepper



Enter to Win! Ticket Giveaway

NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit us on Facebook to win tickets to Ludacris October 30,2015 @ Dr. Pepper Arena & DTC's The Mountaintop.

HUNTER, continued from Page 2

three key attributes:

- A can do mentality no matter what is going on you must believe you can achieve:
- A spirit of perseverance it is tough out there and

there will be nights you will hit your head against a wall, but you have to push on;

• A persistently positive attitude – "I am still on this journey; people has abandoned me on this journey, but I am still living the dream," Hunter confirmed

As Hunter prepares to accept the award this weekend, he shared, "2015 has been a successful year for me and now I am getting prepared for 2016. I see big things opening up for me. I

believe God has some big plans for me."

He is the father of 4 children. He graduated from Washington Park High School in 1990. In 2005, he earned an Associate Degree in Supervisory Management from Gateway Techni-

cal College. In 2012, he became the first in his family to earn a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Upper Iowa University.

He has been profiled in many national newspapers and magazines including Ebony magazine, AMPS magazine, Austin Fit magazine, The Chicago Defender, the National Examiner, Rolling Out magazine, The New Tri State Defender-Memphis, San Antonio Express, La Prensa, and Black Doctor.com.

HBCU, continued from Page 3

cause it helps to encourage this generation of African American college students to consider the importance of community development as a professional career focus.

The top three teams selected will be flown to the Ford World Headquarters in Dearborn, Michigan to present their projects before a panel of automotive and media professionals.

We need to look for ways to engage and challenge our young talented minds with an opportunity to make a difference in our communities. The truth is there should be more corporations that follow the Ford Motor Company emphasis on higher education and community development.

Every HBCU institution should urge its students to participate in this exciting program. It is an opportunity for the students, universities and communities to all win. Timing is important to get the necessary information to apply for this opportunity. Go to the following links to get information about the Ford HBCU Community Challenge and www.rick-eysmileymorningshow.com/hbcuchallenge.

Student have until November 1, 2015 to apply and

to enter. Let's inform college students in our communities about this now. Let's raise up a new generation of innovators, developers, engineers and leaders who are committed to the sustainable development of our communities.

Dr. 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: dr.bchavis@nnpa.org; and for lectures and other professional consultations at: http://drbenjaminfchavisjr.wix.com/drbfc.





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POVERTY, continued from Page 5

cent while only two states, Kentucky and West Virginia, had White, non-Hispanic child poverty rates over 20 percent. ity child care investments for children when parents work. To complement gains in these areas and to reduce child poverty long term, we

The rates are staggering, especially when we know there are steps Congress could take right now to end child poverty and save taxpayer money now and in the future. In CDF's recent Ending Child Poverty Now report based on an analysis by the nonpartisan Urban Institute, we proposed nine policy changes which would immediately reduce child poverty 60 percent and Black child poverty 72 percent and lift the floor of decency for 97 percent of all poor children by ensuring parents the resources to support and nurture their children: jobs with livable wages, affordable highquality child care, supports for working families like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC), and safety nets for basic needs like nutrition, housing assistance and child support.

Congress must make permanent improvements in pro-work tax credits (both the EITC and the CTC), increase the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, or food stamps) benefit, and expand housing subsidies and qual-

for children when parents work. To complement gains in these areas and to reduce child poverty long term, we must ensure all children comprehensive affordable health care, high-quality early childhood development and learning opportunities to get ready for school and a level education playing field to help all children achieve and succeed in life. It is a great national, economic and military security threat that a majority of all children in America cannot read or compute at grade

level and that nearly threefourths of our Black and Latino children cannot.

Data show key safety net programs lifted millions of people, including children above the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) poverty line, between 2013 and 2014. These supports all reduced child poverty: SNAP (4.7 million people), rent subsidies (2.8 million people), and the Earned Income Tax Credit and the low-income portion of the Child Tax Credit (roughly 10 million people including more than 5 million children). There also is strong evidence these measures will provide

long-term benefits for children.

We know how to reduce child poverty but keep refusing to do it. How can our Congressional leaders even discuss spending as much as \$400 billion to extend tax cuts for corporations and

businesses while denying more than 15.5 million poor children – 70 percent non-White – the opportunity to improve their odds of succeeding in school and in life?

We can and must do more right now as children have only one childhood.

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.



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October 11

You are invited to 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.)

October 13, 7 p.m.

You invited to join us for Tuesday's Talk at the church. Call the church for details.

October 14, 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

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October 11, 9:45 a.m.

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October 11, Noon Time

How do you study the Bible? Join us for a new one hour only Bible Study; Senior Pastor Woodson will teach a one hour series on "How to Study the Bible God's way." You don't want to miss this Bible Study Group.

October 14, 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 Fall 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

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October 11, 7:35 a.m.

Join us this Sunday for our Praise and Worship Services and receive a blessing from God.

October 14, 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

See CHURCHES, Page 14



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CHURCHES, continued from Page 13

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN RICHARDSON

October 11, 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.

October 14, 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"

October 11

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.

October 14

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.

October 25, 7 p.m.

Calling all youth! Every 4th Sunday we host Hype Sunday Worship at our Administration Building, 200 W. Belmont Drive in Allen, TX 75013. Don't be guilty of missing out on the wonderful and exciting way we worship God and thank Him for His blessings.

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)**

October 11, 10 a.m.

Join us for our Sunday Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory.

October 14, 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.

October 30 through November 1

Mark the date, our Vision Summit 2015 will began,

Friday, October 30, 7 p.m., Saturday, October 31, 9 a.m. and Sunday, November, 10 a.m. Call the church for details.

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

October 11, 9:45 a.m.

You are welcome to join us for our Sunday morning worship service as we praise and worship God.

October 12

Join us for our Intercessory Prayer Ministry and our Monday's Conference calls.

October 14, at 6:30 p.m.

Join us for Wednesday's Prayer and Worship come and hear what God has to say to us.

R. W. Townsend, Senior Pastor

11611 Webb Chapel Road Dallas, TX 75229 972-241-6151 www.dallasmtpisgah.org

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

October 11

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

October 14, 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

October 11, 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.

October 14, 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 and His honor.

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**

October 11, 7:30 and/or 11:30 a.m.

You're invited this Sunday as we praise, worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name.

October 12, 7 p.m.

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

October 16, 7 p.m.

All men are invited to join us for Men's Fellowship night. Come and grow with

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

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Those in whom God delights



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

"His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor His delight in the legs of a man; the Lord delights in those who fear Him, who put their hope in His unfailing love." --- Psalm 147:10.

Mammon and power are the ruling strongholds of the community. If you possess either of these, then you will be courted by those who serve the community in hopes of increasing market share.

It is a competitive environment even in the workplace that often gives way to decisions and actions that are dictated by the financial bottom line.

A recent newspaper article stated that employers are

Ramon Hodridge, Minister

requiring workers to put more time into their jobs, often requiring weekend work in order to be more competitive.

For the Christian worker, this brings pressures on the family and will result in "lost market share" in the spiritual realm.

The Lord has a different measuring stick. The Lord is not impressed with your ability or what you can do for Him. Only one thing delights Him, people who fear (reverence) Him and put their hope in His unfailing love.

What does it mean to fear God and place our hope in His love? It means we acknowledge that God is the source of all that we are. He is the one who gives us the ability to work, plan, and execute.

God does not want us to look to our abilities, but to His abilities. Sometimes it is difficult to balance these two perspectives. However, if we ask God to show us

.8:00 am

.9:45 am

.3:00 pm

.5:00 pm

.7:00 pm

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Radio Program @ 7:30 am on

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how to maintain this balance, He will do it.

Put your hope in His unfailing love today. Then you will know that your heavenly Father is looking on you as a proud Father.

We can only do this if we, "Following Only the Father's Commands." "Jesus gave them this answer: 'I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by Himself; He can do only what He sees His Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does." -John 5:19.

Have you ever thought about a typical day in Jesus' life? Perhaps He might have had questions like these, "Who am I going to heal today? Who will I visit today? Which person will I deliver from demons this day?" Etc.

The demands on Jesus' time were great. Yet we see that Jesus allocated His time

very deliberately. We don't get the idea that Jesus was flustered or stressed from the activity He was involved in

He often sought times of prayer and reflection away from the disciples. His life appeared to have a balance of quiet moments and active ministry into the lives He came in contact with.

How do we determine what we will be involved in each day of our lives? What keeps us in sync with the will of our heavenly Father for the daily tasks He calls us to?

Jesus tells us that He was

only involved in those things the Father was involved in. Nothing more, nothing less. So often we determine our participation in an activity based on whether we have the time to do it or whether we desire to participate.

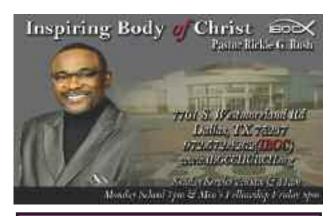
The real question we should ask is, "Does the Father want me to participate in this activity?"

"Lord, should I add this Bible study to my schedule? Should I spend an extra night out on this committee this week? Should I take on a new business that will

See TARPLEY, Page 16



Philip, Tyanna and David Lott, three of Sister Tarpley's four grandchildren, all are growing up healthy; all glory to God.

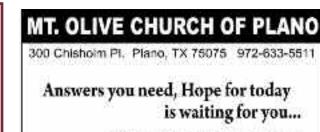


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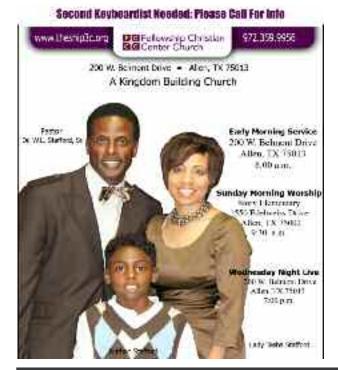
Early Sunday Morning

Sunday Morning Worship.

Wednesday Bible Class..

Sunday Bible Class.

Evening Worship Iglesia de Cristo Services



NDG Book Review: Little Shaq is a book to share

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

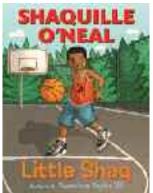
For almost every day of your life, someone's reminded you to share.

Usually, it's about sharing your toys but that's not all. You share games, the sofa, your ideas, snacks, and any chore that needs four hands. Sharing is often about teamwork, and in the new book "Little Shaq" (illustrated by Theodore Taylor III), author Shaquille O'Neal shares a story...

It was almost the end of the ballgame and Little Shaq was hot. Every shot he took was "nothin' but net." He just could not miss – nor did he miss seeing his cousin, Barry, who called for the ball but Little Shaq never passed it to him.

When the game was over and his team won, Little Shaq went looking for Barry. He knew something was wrong. Barry didn't want to talk. Barry was angry.

Once they got home, Little Shaq tried everything to make Barry laugh. Finally, he offered to let Barry be



"Player One" on their favorite video game, which meant that Barry got to pick the team name. Barry accepted the offer and the boys started playing, but Little Shaq couldn't help himself. He wouldn't – couldn't – share, one thing led to another and bang! The boys' favorite game was accidentally broken.

Their friend, Rosa, who'd seen everything, pointed out that both boys were at fault. Little Shaq's Dad said they needed to work together to replace the broken game. But would they ever be able to earn that kind of money?

The answer came that week in school when the boys' teacher, Ms. Terpenny, announced that the

class was going to study plants by growing a garden. Both Barry and Little Shaq knew people who loved plants. Some of their neighbors had gardens, and someone had to make sure the flowers and vegetables were watered. He and Barry could start a gardening business!

And so they did, learning as they went along, making mistakes, but earning money, too. It was a great way to save for a video game replacement, and their new business also gave them time to play basketball. But could they put their new talents together with their old ones to make a difference in their neighborhood?

Remember back when your coach used to tell you that there's no "I" in "team"? Your young sportsman has likely heard those same words — but "Little Shaq" will show him how they work.

Kids who live for basketball will love this easyreader story, partly because it's written by retired b-ball player and author Shaquille O'Neal. He reached back into his own childhood to create this tale, which is something 7-to-10-yearolds will enjoy knowing; teachers and parents will appreciate that, in reading this book, kids will get gently-told lessons in working together, figuring out problems independently, and being responsible and selfsufficient.

For children who are just starting to enjoy chapter

books, this is a great choice to read and, with illustrations by Theodore Taylor III, it's a good book to browse. For any young buckets fan especially, "Little Shaq" is one he'll want to share.

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MATTERS, continued from Page 6

Campus-based efforts like these motivate attendance, but encouragement from home is also impera-

"Parent support is vital to the success of students," Daniels explained. "We want parents and students to be well informed about the consequences of nonattendance. Court is not the only consequence. Students risk losing course credit or repeating a grade if their attendance drops below 90 percent. The law requires that we advise parents about the results of poor attendance."

The recently passed House Bill 2398 has impacted truancy management, decriminalizing the act. To help students, parents and the district comply by new guidelines, a General Attendance Contract was sent home to be reviewed and signed earlier this month. The document outlined attendance expec-

tations and consequences in an effort to curb absences.

"The difference in the truancy process is how it is applied at the high school level," Daniels revealed. "At this level, students who reach 10 unexcused absences after campus-applied interventions will be held civilly responsible for their truant acts, rather than criminally."

Although this push will continue to buzz through September, GISD has been committed to student attendance for years.

Yield your schedule to Him. Let Jesus direct your every activity. You may discover that He desires you to cut back some things in order to spend more time alone with Him.

He will be faithful to show you. And you will become more fulfilled because you are centered in His will for you.



Early Registration \$35 through Oct 4th. \$50 through Oct 29th.



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Vision Summit 2015

ABOUT MY FATHER'S BUSINESS



TARPLEY, continued from Page 15

take me away from home more?

Should my daughter be involved in music lessons?" These are the daily challenges for the world we now live in. We are an activity-based society that often encourages more and more activity, often in the name of Christian virtue.

Our lives will become less cluttered, less stressful, and more fulfilling when we follow the model Jesus provided. It may not always please everyone. Jesus never sought to please everyone. Ask the Lord each day this week how you and He are to spend your time.