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Churches go green, save green, clean God's Green Earth in the process

By Avis Thomas-Lester
Urban News Service

The biggest challenge at the Reverend Dr. Earl D. Trent, Jr.'s historic black church is raising enough money to do the Lord's work.

Trent, pastor of Washington, D.C.'s Florida Avenue Baptist Church, was grappling with that very issue five years ago when he heard a presentation about how going green could reduce utility costs.

"We've always been somewhat socially aware," Trent said. "So when we looked at the savings and the opportunity to do something good for the environment, we decided to give it a try."

The pastor and his board worked with an engineer to design a program to power the 103-year-old church with clean, economical energy. They equipped the roof with solar-electric panels. They replaced the aged HVAC system with a new, energy-efficient model and installed LED lights.

"We are saving at least \$600 per month on electricity," Trent said. "For a church like this one, that's a



Rev. Earl D. Trent looks over an array of solar panels that will not only save money, but help to make God's creation a little bit cleaner in the process. (Photo: Avis Thomas-Lester / Urban News Service)

lot of money. It has worked out so well that we are considering adding more energy-efficient features."

As America continues to reel from an unsteady economy, many black churches have expanded from places of worship to help centers. Many now operate food pantries, drug and alcohol programs and even work-training facilities, atop traditional church services.

Yet, even as need has increased, giving has slowed. Despite the biblical mandate that good Christians

should donate 10 percent of their income to the church, many members have cut their offerings, religious leaders say.

"There are a lot of hands outstretched at church these days, but far too many of them are empty," said one pastor. "We have to raise more and spend it wiser."

Energy efficiency serves two purposes, church officials said. It saves money that can aid members. It also improves aging facilities.

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NDGtv

North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with

Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley



Hear what it was like growing up in a very different Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com



God's Trombones continues through April 24

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Kerry Washington doesn't make the grade

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COMMENTARY

What if Donald Trump's campaign manager was black?

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

It is probably not especially politically correct to bring more race matters into the debacle that is also known as the Donald Trump quest for the Presidency.

He has called out and targeted racial and ethnic groups, as well as targeted individual women because of their appearance (or more, but we won't go there). He has supported basic thuggery, offering to

pay the legal fees for a man who sucker-punched an African American protester, and egging on others who beat up a protester.

The latest goes from the amusing to the amazing. Although there is a video showing his campaign manager, Corey Lewandowski putting his hands on former Breitbart reporter Michelle Fields, he and Trump have said that eyes can lie. Even in the face of video evidence, he

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Vernice Armour



Tom Joyner



Nikki Moore

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Vernice Armour

(UT Dallas News) Vernice Armour faced plenty of obstacles along the path to becoming the U.S. Marine Corps' first African-American female combat pilot.

Armour, known as "Fly-Girl," told the audience at the Arts and Technology (ATEC) Distinguished Lecture Series event on March 22 that she applied a few times before the Marines accepted her. She also failed her flight test on the first attempt.

Dressed in a khaki flight uniform and leather jacket, Armour gave an energetic



talk about how she stayed focused on her mission to become an attack helicopter pilot and then served two tours in Iraq. She repeatedly encouraged audience members to pursue their dreams

and keep moving forward in the face of adversity.

"Flight school was hard. Police academy was hard. Becoming a Marine was hard," Armour said.

She recalled a time when she wanted to quit flight school, but her mother told her to dry her eyes and get back to work because she had worked too hard to give up.

"When we hit the challenges and obstacles, what's your live-by phrase? What is it that moves you through that situation?" Armour asked. "Challenges and obstacles are inevitable. How you navigate and manage those challenges and obsta-

cles, that's the key."

During her talk, Armour said that she has been asked many times if she faced discrimination along the way.

"When I felt friction or tension, it could have been for any reason," Armour said. "Friction and tension are normal. They're going to happen. However, we cannot afford to lose focus, cannot let drama affect our goals. When you let drama or outside things take you off course, what are you putting at stake, personally or professionally?"

She told the crowd not to wait for clearance to pursue their dreams, and challenged them to "create the

breakthrough" themselves.

"There aren't any ground controllers in life," Armour said. "It's up to you to give yourself permission to engage."

Among her many breakthroughs, Armour was the first African-American woman on Nashville's motorcycle police squad. She has played for the San Diego Sunfire women's professional football team. In flight school, Armour made the Naval Air Station's prestigious Commodore's List, received the Academic Achievement Award and was the top graduate of her class. After retiring from the Marines,

she founded VAI Consulting and Training LLC. She also has written a book, *Zero to Breakthrough*, and appeared on a variety of programs including The Oprah Winfrey Show and The View.

Her signature book, *Zero to Breakthrough* (Penguin 2011) chronicles the process she utilized to transition from beat cop to America's First African American Female Combat Pilot. She is an internationally recognized inspirational leadership keynote speaker for premier leadership conferences and Fortune 500 companies.

Tom Joyner

The Tom Joyner Foundation and Paul Quinn College have partnered to increase the number of elementary school teachers with a STEM focus as part of the Teacher Quality Initiative (TQI).

The goal of the partnership is to increase the pool of strong teacher education graduates that will teach in the Dallas Independent School District. The partnership will be formally announced at a press conference at 10 a.m., April 15 in the Flag Room at Dallas City Hall, 1500 Marilla



Street, Dallas, Texas.

Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings, Tom Joyner, founder and chairman of the Tom Joyner Foundation, Thomas E. Joyner, Jr., the Foundation's president and CEO,

Michael Sorrell, president of Paul Quinn College, Lew Blackburn, board member, Dallas Independent School Board and State Sen. Royce West are scheduled to attend.

"As I've talked to administrators at school districts around the country, they have constantly complained about the need for more students to pursue a career in teaching, particularly those who have expertise in STEM areas," said Thomas Joyner, Jr., the Foundation's president and CEO. "This program is designed to get more students into teaching careers with partners who are eager to find and develop

them."

Paul Quinn's Michael Sorrell added, "Paul Quinn College has always been deeply committed to the students and families of the city of Dallas. Working with the Tom Joyner Foundation to help address the need for outstanding teachers in every child's classroom is yet another example of this focus. With this Teacher Quality Initiative, Dallas is taking yet another step towards ensuring that all of her children are college-ready by the end of their high school career."

The program provides a scholarship for undergradu-

ate students preparing to become elementary school teachers with a strong STEM focus eight semesters of full tuition and fees scholarships. Students will follow a pre-designed sequence of courses for this program, and work as AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) tutors during the academic year. Most of the teacher education courses are designed using a 1/2 model (one hour of in-class learning each week and two hours of in-class practicum, practicing what has been learned during class discussions).

Joyner added, "We are

also working with other entities to provide some awesome summer seminars designed to enhance their knowledge in a variety of STEM areas each summer."

Interested students can apply for the scholarship at TomJoynerFoundation.org/tqi. If students are selected to receive the scholarship, they receive 1) Full tuition and fees for seven semesters at designated colleges; 2) Free summer seminars with master teachers using state of the art education technology; 3) Free online licensure preparation exercises and materi-

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Nikki Moore

Brunette bombshell Nikki Moore is the most electric talent to storm into Hollywood and a force to be reckoned with as she returns to her Texan roots as 'Sherry Jensen' in her highly anticipated new indie feature film *Occupy, Texas*, set to premiere at the Dallas Film Festival on Friday, April 15th.

Nikki plays high school guidance counselor, 'Sherry Hensen,' the ex-girlfriend of the protagonist 'Beau Baker,' whom he reconnects with along his journey of self-discovery!

Written and produced by native Texan, Gene Galliano, who also stars as the protagonist 'Beau Baker,' *Occupy, Texas*, follows a washed out 'Occupy Wall



Street' protester who has just received the devastating news of his parents untimely death.

Beau must leave behind the streets of New York and relocate back to upper middle class Texas to care for his two teenage sisters and the family estate. He unknowingly sets out on a journey to reconnect with his past and himself.

Nikki stars opposite Peri Gilpin ("Frasier"), Reed Birney ("House of Cards," *Changeling*), and Lorelei Linklater (*Boyhood*).

Growing up in Houston, Texas, Nikki began her acting career at a young age in local Houston commercials, community-theater, and attended Interlochen Arts Camp. She moved to New York City at the age of eighteen to attend The New School University's prestigious where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Theater, Writing, and the Arts.

During her time in New York City, Nikki studied with esteemed theater companies, teachers, and dance studios, including, Atlantic Theater Company, Moscow Art Theater Company, Broadway Dance Center and with

renowned coach, Allen Savage.

After seven years as a New York City actress, Nikki moved to Los Angeles, where she currently resides, to further pursue her acting career, and has since appeared in feature films such as *Soritty Row*, alongside Robert Belushi, Rumer Willis, and Jamie Chung, *The Babymakers*, alongside Olivia Munn, and *The Perfect Student*, alongside Michael Bower.

In addition to acting, Nikki enjoys boxing and trains at Freddie Roach's Wild Card Boxing Club in Hollywood. She also earned a Master of Arts degree in Clinical Psychology from Pepperdine University and enjoys giving back to the community through her work as a Psychotherapist.

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NAACP applauds Supreme Court ruling on ‘eligible voter’ in Texas case

The Supreme Court decision in *Evenwel v. Abbott* secures a major victory for voting rights and preserves a fair, stable rule for state and local governments, which may continue to rely on an inclusive “one person, one vote” standard that has long governed redistricting efforts. The decision also affirms one of the key principles—representational equality—which the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) has long supported before the Supreme Court and in jurisdictions throughout the country.

Evenwel involved a sweeping attempt to redefine how redistricting is conducted and to undermine a bedrock constitutional principle that every citizen counts. Specifically, the appellants, two white voters from rural counties in Texas, asked the Court to force states to apply a new, nebulous “eligible voter” standard, as opposed to a total population count, in drawing state and local electoral districts. The use of an ill-defined “eligible voter” standard had the potential to confer second-class status on millions of people, particu-

larly those living in urban areas in the United States, including children, people on the path to citizenship, those not registered to vote, and individuals unable to vote due to racially discriminatory felon disenfranchisement laws. Upwards of 75 million children, 13 million of whom are Black and, thus, not yet eligible to vote, would be counted out of the redistricting process had appellants prevailed. Indeed, appellants’ case threatened to take America’s redistricting process back to nefarious periods in our democracy similar to when Black people

were counted as 3/5ths of a person for redistricting purposes and expressly excluded from the body politic.

The Court’s decision today vindicates the “one person, one vote” standard, which rightly takes into account Census-derived total population counts when apportioning voting districts. This standard has been applied universally for over 50 years by all 50 states and the thousands of localities within them. Moreover, this clear understanding of “one person, one vote” is already re-

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Where is the money for MWBE firms in the Irving Music Factory Project?

Letter to the Editor:

It started out over nine years ago as the Irving Entertainment Center being developed by the Las Colinas Group, now it is finally under construction as the Irving Music Factory

with the ARK Group as the developer, and it is now time to ask where is the Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) monies in this \$173 million dollar project? That is why I just sub-

mitted an Open Records Request today to the City of Irving requesting they give me the total number of dollars that have been spent to date on the Irving Music Factory with MWBE Firms. It is my un-

derstanding to date that millions of dollars have already been spent on the design and engineering phase of the project and allocated on leases for this project that just restarted construc-

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denied touching Fields. He and Trump tried to dismiss her as “delusional,” essentially “blaming the victim.”

Imagine that Corey Lewandowski was an African American man. Imagine that he nearly knocked down a White woman reporter. Can you hear the outrage? Can you hear the demands? Were Lewandowski African American, would he have been caricatured as a hoodlum or thug, pandering to the stereotypes? Or would Mr. Trump have had Black Lewandowski’s back as firmly?

I am not surprised that Mr. Trump has condoned Lewandowski’s violence, nor am I surprised that he’s taken the “wuss” role by suggesting the reporter, who was attempting to get his attention, had “touched” him (and that maybe he should press charges). It is entirely consistent with his other campaign behavior. He has suggested that his supporters might “riot” if he does not get the Republican nomination. His amazing incivility adds to the

vaudevillian atmosphere of this bizarre campaign. How different would it be if Corey Lewandowski were Black?

A black man could not have put his hand on a white woman with impunity. If he did, he probably would not have had to wait more than a week to be charged for his transgression. He might have apologized, whether he were asked to do so or not, both from civility and from cultural conditioning. Trump and Lewandowski assumed that Michelle Fields, a White woman, could be thrown under the bus by two powerful, White men who called her a liar, delusional, and any other slur they could get away with. A Black man would not have had the luxury – he would have had to rush into rapid CYA (cover your hind parts) mode.

Those women who are supporting Trump need to be well aware of his propensity to disregard and disrespect women. Loyalty notwithstanding, Lewandowski’s untoward behavior deserves some reaction – maybe not a firing, but some form of sus-

pension, or something that suggests that a “hands on” campaign need not be literally hands on, or that the “ground game” that Lewandowski is often praised for does not mean that he should knock reporters down to the ground.

Those African Americans (and there are a few), who are supporting Donald Trump need to ask themselves what the reaction would be if Corey Lewandowski were Black. Would Trump be as supportive? Would others? And just for the record, who are the senior African Americans on the Trump team? Just asking. Not complaining, if there aren’t any.

I am of the generation that used to play “what if” all the time. Knowing, but determined to imagine and speculate, what would happen if you flip the script. What if the White McKinney, Texas police corporal Eric Casebolt had pulled a blonde White girl by the hair instead of pulling the braids of the Black Dajerra Becton? Or, what if a Black officer, not Casebolt, had pulled a White

girl by her blonde locks? The very muted outrage that we heard when Becton was assaulted would have turned into a crescendo had a Black police officer had the temerity to assault a White teen.

Similarly, if a car full of Black plainclothes NYPD police officers had chosen to hassle a White mailman because he hollered at them, would there have been the same arrest and cover-up that has taken place in the White Heights arrested Glen Grays and forced him to abandon his mail truck?

I am not sure why I play “what if” or “just imagine.” We know that race still matters, and that matters still aren’t fair. Still, as I watch Mr. Trump circle the wagon around Corey Lewandowski, I just have to wonder how different his reaction (and the public reaction) might be if Lewandowski were Black. Just wondering.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist based in Washington, DC. Her books are available at www.juliannealveaux.com or via Amazon.

Zeta Phi Beta hosting Bingo for Babies

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. - Kappa Zeta Chapter, invites guests to join them at their 4th Annual BINGO For Babies to raise money for stronger, healthier babies in support of the life-saving work of the March of Dimes.

This afternoon of fun with a Kentucky Derby twist will be held at the DeSoto Civic Center, 211 E Pleasant Run Rd, in DeSoto.

Tickets are \$25 pre-sale, \$30 at the door, or \$250 a table (10 top). Dress in your

“Sunday Chic” or “race regalia” and join us for an afternoon of Kentucky Derby style fun, at our 4th Annual Bingo for Babies.

Contact Queen Ekobena for more information, 763-443-9612 queen@advocatesofanferney.org.

If you are not able to attend, they welcome your donation of items and or/funds. Please contact via email 2ndanti@kappazpb.org or call (214) 941-DOVE (3683) regarding donations and/or item pick-ups.

LETTER, continued from Page 3

tion only a few weeks ago.

I am asking the City of Irving and the ARK Group to show us the monies that have already been spent thus far with MWBE Firms.

Many people worked for years to get the City of Irving to put in place an MWBE policy with MWBE Goals of participation.

The City of Irving and countless citizens have spent countless hours and numerous meetings, discussions, council meetings and executive sessions over the last nine years to get this Irving Music Factory to this point. I have gotten a verbal commitment from both Noah and Rick Lazes, the owners and heads of the ARK Group that they will

comply with the city’s MWBE Goals for a project such as this, and hopefully exceed them.

I have faith in the ARK Group that they will do what they say they will do in regards to MWBE participation in this project. I pray that they do because a lot of people who worked hard for all these years to get the Irving City Council to approve the Irving Music Factory. They did so be-

lieving this project would fairly include MWBE firms.

I anxiously await my first data to verify our trust that this is currently the case and will be the case throughout completion of the Irving Music Factory.

Anthony Bond, Irving

GREEN, continued from Page 1

Energy modernization can be cost-prohibitive, experts said, easily topping \$50,000 for a moderately sized church. So, many jurisdictions offer no-interest or low-interest loans and will finance projects up to 100 percent.

Several private organizations and government agencies help churches go green. Washington, D.C.’s Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies partnered with the African Methodist Episcopal Church in a 2012 energy pilot program.

Con Edison covered \$68,500 of the \$178,000 cost of energy-saving boiler and pipe insulation last year at Harlem’s Riverside Church, site of a 1990 speech by Nelson Mandela and the 1972 funeral of baseball legend Jackie Robinson.

The Environmental Protection Agency’s Energy Star for Congregations program “certifies” churches as energy efficient. Rosemary Enobakhare, a supervisor in the EPA’s congregations office, said some pastors are taking an activist role.

“Faith leaders understand that when it comes to environmental issues like a changing climate, minority

and underserved communities are suffering the most,” she said.

The Rev. Dr. Eleazar Merriweather, pastor of Detroit’s St. Paul AME Zion Church, which is on the EPA’s “certified” list, said he regularly preaches energy conservation to his 225 members. His energy forum drew 200 participants in 2013.

“We had people there to teach them how to conserve on power so that their energy costs would be lower,” said Merriweather. “That contributes to them being able to pay their bills.”

Deacon William Gentry, CFO at suburban Maryland’s First Baptist Church of Glenarden, said energy costs there have dropped 20 to 25 percent since its energy features were updated. It also has a recycling program.

“It is a church that strives to be fiscally prudent and ecologically sound,” Gentry said.

Michael D. McAfee, a senior energy consultant with the National Utilities Refund, said his agency conducts energy audits to help churches determine how much they should spend and whether they

have been overcharged on their utilities.

Energy auditors examine utility bills as far back as 48 months, identify overcharges and apply for refunds for their clients. McAfee said he has found a \$15,000 overcharge at Glenarden.

Trustee Robert Trent said Greater Mt. Calvary Holy Church in Northeast Washington is working with the D.C. Energy Department’s Property Assessed Clean Energy program to finance a \$3-million energy upgrade. The Trents aren’t related.

“There is a requirement by the city to go green. We are trying to be in alignment with what’s going on,” he said, adding that his 7,000-member church will save \$100,000-plus per year in energy costs.

Rev. Earl Trent said he appreciates that his church has reduced its carbon footprint and that his flock are good shepherds over the Earth, as the Bible says Christians should be.

But mostly he’s happy that he has saved his congregation upwards of \$7,500 per year.

“We’re always looking at the bottom line,” Trent said. “We can use whatever we save to help people.”

Cashews recalled due to possible glass pieces

Snyder’s-Lance, Inc. is initiating a voluntary recall for a limited amount of Emerald 100 Calorie Pack Roasted & Salted Cashew Halves & Pieces product, distributed nationwide, due to the possible presence of small glass pieces.



glass to be the raw cashews received from one of our suppliers under a specific lot code.

No injuries have been reported to date. We are recalling these products because they may contain small pieces of glass that could potentially cause injury. Although our investigation is ongoing, we believe the source of the

Emerald product affected by this recall include 100 Calorie Packs Roasted & Salted Cashew Halves & Pieces with “sell by” dates of Dec. 12, 13, 18 and 21, 2016.

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SBA offering loans to Garland and Rockwall tornado victims

The Small Business Association (SBA) has acted under its own authority to declare a disaster following the denial of the state's appeal for a major disaster declaration for individual assistance, and is now offering low-interest federal disaster loans.

The disaster declaration for the Dec. 26, 2015 tornado makes SBA assistance available in Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fannin, Grayson, Henderson, Hill, Hunt, Johnson Kaufman, Navarro, Rains, Rockwall, Smith, Tarrant, Van Zandt and Wood counties.



Low-interest federal disaster loans are available to businesses of all sizes, most private nonprofit organizations, homeowners and renters whose property was damaged or destroyed. * Loans

up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate.

Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged

or destroyed personal property.

Businesses of all sizes and private nonprofit organizations may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets.

SBA can also lend additional funds to businesses and homeowners to help with the cost of improvements to protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

Interest rates can be as low as 4 percent for businesses,

2.625 percent for private nonprofit organizations and 1.813 percent for homeowners and renters with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

Apply online at disasterloan.sba.gov/ela.

Beginning Monday, April 4, 2016, SBA representatives were on hand at the Dallas/Rockwall County Disaster Loan Outreach Center to answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each indi-

vidual complete their application.

SBA's Dallas/Rockwall County Disaster Loan Outreach Center is at Church in the City Relief Center (6005 Dalrock Rd., Rowlett, TX 75088) and is Open April 4 through mid-April, Monday – Friday, 9 am. – 6 p.m. (Contact – 800-659-2955 disastercustomerservice@sba.gov).

Additional tornado recovery information is available on the City of Garland's 2015 Tornado Information web page.

El Centro's annual Fashion Show is scheduled for April 29

El Centro College's Annual Fashion Show "Main + Market," pushes the envelope of the Dallas fashion scene each year. This year's production on April 29 will feature vibrant, playful styles, structured, architectural and simplistic pieces, out of the box, avant-garde looks and even maternity and children's

wear. Guests will see all this and more in the collections of 17 graduating designers.

"Main + Market" Fashion Show is a collaboration of the Fashion Design and Fashion Marketing Departments of El Centro. Students, divided into ten committees from both programs, worked on this

fashion experience all spring semester to demonstrate their talents and creativity. Fashion Design Professor, Michael Anthony, says, "I try to push my students to achieve their best in their designs and in the execution of their final garments," and it shows in the precision of their work.

New this year: Prior to the Fashion Show, a showcase featuring work from students in the Architecture, Interior Design, Fashion Marketing, Food and Hospitality, and Welding programs at El Centro will display their work starting at 6 p.m. in the El Centro College Student Center. The showcase will be fol-

lowed by an award and scholarship ceremony and finally, the Fashion Show will start at 8 p.m. in the Performance Hall (Room C130).

Guests are invited to ride DART, as all lines pass through the West End Station, just one block from El Centro College.

Guests who drive may

park at any of the downtown parking lots, which vary in price.

Tickets for the fashion show are available for \$10 at the El Centro College Cashiers Office (2nd floor of the A building) until April 28. For more information contact Wade Hyde at whyde@dccc.edu or 214-860-2739.

DIFFA/Dallas launches Young Professional Program

DIFFA/Dallas has officially launched the DIFFA/Dallas Young Professional program for the 2016 fiscal season. The group consists of a mix of over 80 dedicated young professionals ranging from 21 to 34 in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. These individuals are devoted to help raise funds and awareness about HIV/AIDS in North Texas.

Longtime DIFFA/Dallas supporters and board members, Brittanie Buchanan

Oleniczak, Phil Harrison, Andrew Griffith, and Alison Johnson occupy the role of the program's chairs.

"The Young Professional program is an excellent opportunity for millennials to get involved and contribute to the success of the organization," said Brittanie Buchanan Oleniczak, DIFFA/Dallas Young Professional program chair. "The goal of this program is to extend our messaging about the impact of

HIV/AIDS in North Texas, as well as establish a legacy of DIFFA/Dallas future leaders and supporters."

Those looking to join the organization must have a passion for the cause, a love for fashion and design, as well as a strong drive to make a difference within the community. In addition to these qualities, members must commit to dedicating 20 hours of volunteer work to an AIDS Service Organization supported by

DIFFA/Dallas, as well as serve on one or multiple DIFFA/Dallas committees throughout the season.

DIFFA/Dallas held its inaugural Young Professional program kick-off event on Feb 18th at Whole Foods Market in Uptown.

For more information about DIFFA/Dallas or the DIFFA/Dallas Young Professional program, please visit DIFFADallas.org or email dallas@diffa.org.

How to get hired right out of college with the right internship

Improving economic conditions have finally caught up to millennials, providing them with a brighter job market, according to the United States Department of Labor.

But a recent Federal Reserve Bank of New York report says the devil is in the details. Not all new college graduates are doing equally well. The kind of degree they earned is an enormous factor in the job hunt.

"There's no question that your field of study significantly alters your prospects, but even having chosen the right field is no guarantee," says Matt Stewart, an entrepreneur and co-founder of College Works Painting (www.collegeworks.com), an internship program that provides practical business experience for college students.

"How you approach your field, such as engage-

ment at an internship, can boost your professional prospects immensely."

For example, interns with College Works Painting operate their own house-painting business with hands-on guidance from mentors. They learn valuable leadership skills by functioning as leaders in a business.

"Unemployment for our alumni has remained at less than 4 percent, including when youth unemployment exceeded 16 percent a few years ago," Stewart says. "This kind of challenging yet fun student experience helps ensure a good career for college graduates right out of the gate."

He offers tips about what students should look for in an internship so they can gain the professional experience they need to land a job after graduation.

See HIRED, Page 13

Dallas' National Pan-Hellenic Council The Weekend 2016 in May

Local frats and sorority sisters mark your calendars for The Weekend of National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) on Friday May 13-15 at various locations in Dallas, Texas. National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. - Dallas Chapter is "Taking it

Back":

• May 13 - Friday: To The 80's, PAN Mixer

• May 14 - Saturday: To The Our Neighborhood, Golf & Picnic

a) 1 p.m. : NPHC-Dallas Living Legends Picnic (Honoring Greek Reginald

Gray), City Park Pavilion 1, 211 W Belt Line Rd, Lancaster, TX 75146

b) 12 p.m.: NPHC-Dallas Invitational Golf Tournament, Country View Golf Course, 240 W Belt Line Rd, Lancaster, TX 75146

• May 15 - Sunday: To Church, Worship Service at Greater Bethlehem Baptist Church 10 a.m.

Please send email for questions or more information to president@nphcdallas.org.

Jay Z and his mom are offering scholarships for students needing a second chance

Students who have either graduated from high school or earned their G.E.D. may apply. Minimum grade point average is 2.0. Students must have a strong desire to go to college and earn their degree. Students must also have a desire to

give back to their communities.

The scholarship fund was established by Gloria Carter and her son Shawn Carter (better known as rapper/business mogul Jay-Z) to offer a unique opportunity to stu-

dents who have been incarcerated or faced particular life challenges but still want to pursue higher education. The program gives them a chance that most other programs do not offer. The Carter Foundation is a firm believer in

helping young people not only reach their career goals but also establish a secure future.

The deadline for this scholarship is on April 30th, and the award amount ranges from \$1,500 - \$2,500.



Rapper Jay-Z and His Mom, Gloria Carter, Announce New 2016 Scholarship Program via the Shawn Carter Foundation

Celebrity chef serves up breakfast for Garland HS students to teach about the importance of breakfast

Breakfast is believed to be the most important meal of the day, and Garland ISD wants to make sure its students start their mornings off right. The district's Student Nutrition Services Department teamed up with local chef Taylor Kearney to host a cooking demonstration and tasting at Garland High School this spring.

"He demonstrated a new product we are offering," explained Assistant Director of Nutrition and Menu Operations Jennifer Craig. "This event kicked off our breakfast promotion. We hope to increase participation across the district, especially in high schools."



Local chef Taylor Kearney serves students during a recent demonstration at Garland High School. (Photo: GISD)

Introducing the chorizo taco, GISD partnered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Texas

Hunger Initiative and Children at Risk for Kearney's visit. The Front Room Tavern Executive Chef cooked

up turkey chorizo, scrambled eggs, bell peppers, onions, jalapenos, cilantro and salsa as students watched. He then handed out samples.

"I could smell it on the way in and wondered what was going on. This was a nice surprise," said GHS junior Dariuss Eckles.

"It tasted really good. I do not usually eat school breakfast but this makes me want to start," added classmate Jonathan Mercado.

While the obstacles to waking up and arriving on campus early enough for breakfast may be many, GISD wants its students to know the benefits are nu-

merous as well.

"It helps with brainpower, math, science and testing," commented Shannon Jones, branch chief for school nutrition programs at the USDA. "It is just a good thing. It gets your energy going first thing in the morning, so that you can sustain throughout the day."

GHS students now have Kearney's visit as a reminder of that truth. And, the Garland native's presence will not soon be forgotten.

For more information about Student Nutrition Services initiatives, visit the department's website.

JOYNER,

continued from Page 2

als; 4) Summer internship opportunities; 5) Job placement upon completion of the program.

The students must meet the following criteria: 1) Be graduating high school seniors or students in their first semester at Tarrant County College or Travis County College; 2) Be a biology or math major; 3) Have a 3.0 or better grade point average.

Representatives from school districts interested in learning more about the program can contact, Thomas Joyner Jr., president and CEO of the Tom Joyner Foundation, atthomas@tomjoynerfoundation.org, 972.789.1058.

NAACP, continued from Page 3

garded as America's "de facto national policy" in legislative redistricting, enjoying overwhelming, bipartisan support among state and local governments. Today's decision reaffirms the guiding logic of this inclusive standard, which fosters access to electoral representation and constituent services for all people, regardless of race, sex, citizenship, economic status, or other characteristics, or whether a person chooses to or is able to vote.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, writing for the Court, made clear that "[a]s history, precedent, and practice demonstrate, it is plainly permissible for jurisdictions to measure equalization by the total population of state and local legislative districts." Justice Ginsburg further stressed, as LDF had urged in its amicus brief supporting

Texas and the Court has repeatedly held, that "districting based on total population serves both the State's interest in preventing vote dilution and its interest in ensuring equality of representation." As the decision explained, "[n]onvoters have an important stake in many policy debates—children, their parents, even their grandparents, for example, have a stake in a strong public-education system—and in receiving constituent services, such as help navigating public-benefits bureaucracies. By ensuring that each representative is subject to requests and suggestions from the same number of constituents, total population apportionment promotes equitable and effective representation."

In rejecting a contrary argument, Justice Ginsburg pointed out that "[a]dopting

voter-eligible apportionment as constitutional command would upset a well-functioning approach to districting that all 50 States and countless local jurisdictions have followed for decades, even centuries," and there is "no reason for the Court to disturb this longstanding use of total population." Importantly, the Court strongly signaled that it would be difficult to demonstrate another constitutionally permissible method of counting population for redistricting purposes that would not violate the "one person, one vote" standard and other traditional redistricting principles.

Janai Nelson, LDF's Associate Director-Counsel, hailed the decision: "More than 50 years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court, beginning with *Gomillion v. Lightfoot*, followed by *Reynolds v. Sims*, and through today, held that the Equal Protection Clause of the Four-

teenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution requires that legislative districts be substantially equal in population." Ms. Nelson added, "Today, the Court has wisely — and unanimously — upheld this longstanding, unbroken line of cases, and recognized that the 'one person, one vote' standard has helped realize the constitutional promise of inclusion and equal access to America's representative bodies."

"Prior to *Gomillion*, *Reynolds*, and the Voting Rights Act, states used racially discriminatory tactics, such as electoral apportionment schemes, literacy tests, poll taxes, and outright prohibitions on suffrage, to exclude Black people from the political process," said Leah Aden, LDF Assistant Counsel and its lead attorney on *Evenwel*. "As a result, elected officials often ignored racial minorities in the making of important

policy decisions that impacted their daily lives. It is only through the Civil War, key constitutional amendments, years of litigation, and other advocacy that America has begun to over-

come these obstacles to equal access to representation and to count every individual when electoral districts are drawn. Today's decision is affirmation of that history."

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Irving ISD PreK registration is open for 2016-2017 school year

Online registration is open for this week to Irving ISD's prekindergarten (PreK) program. For the 2016-2017 school year, Irving ISD is offering a half-day PreK to families that qualify, and full-day, tuition-based PreK at the district's three early childhood schools.

According to the Texas Education Agency, kids who go to prekindergarten:

- are more prepared for kindergarten.
- have better reading and writing skills.
- do better in grades K – 12.



- have better social skills, behavior and conduct.
- have greater success in life.

The addition/inclusion of a full-day, tuition-based PreK will offer opportunities for families who are interested in a full-day program or who do not meet the requirements of the half-day program.

"Irving ISD has a number of programs designed to

help students reach their maximum potential," says Superintendent of Schools Jose L. Parra, Ed.D. "A full-day prekindergarten program is one more opportunity we have to prepare students for their future. Our full-day PreK classes will give students a strong foundation for reading, writing and problem solving. When students step out of PreK in the spring, they are prepared for the academic and social expectations of school."

Benefits of full-day PreK in Irving ISD include:

- Rigorous curriculum

prepares students for kindergarten and their future.

• Certified teachers are focused on the academic, social and emotional needs of 4 year olds.

• Cost of \$100 a week for the full-day PreK program is competitive, compared to local private schools and daycare facilities.

• Instruction is all day, like grades K-12.

• Classes will be held at one of the three early childhood schools in Irving ISD, designed for young learners.

- The Amadi Guess Foun-

ation provides an after-school program at no additional cost.

To be eligible for full-day, tuition-based PreK:

• Child and parent/guardian must be an Irving ISD resident.

• Child must be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2016.

To be eligible for free half-day PreK:

• Child must be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2016.

• Meets one of the following requirements:

- o family income based on federal lunch program

guidelines

o primary language other than English

o homeless (according to McKinney-Vento definition)

o dependent of one who is currently in active military service, was injured as a result of active military service, or is the survivor of one killed in active military service

o child who currently or has ever been in the foster care system (requires a letter from the Department of Family and Protective Services)

See PRE-K, Page 8

Plano Receives Prestigious State Environmental Award, \$310K

The City of Plano has won one of the most coveted environmental and community improvement honors in Texas. Keep Texas Beautiful recognized Plano as one of 10 winners of the 2016 Governor's Community Achievement

Awards for outstanding community improvement. As a result, Plano will receive \$310,000 for a landscaping project along a state maintained right-of-way.

The City is among ten winners that will share \$2 million in landscape fund-

ing from the Texas Department of Transportation.

Judges chose the winners based on their achievements in seven environmental and community improvement areas: community leadership and coordination, education, public awareness,

litter prevention and cleanup, litter law and illegal dumping enforcement, beautification and community improvement, and solid waste management.

The GCAA program has

recognized outstanding communities for more than 49 years, with TxDOT providing landscape funding since 1986.

Keep Texas Beautiful will formally recognize and

award Plano during its 49th Annual Conference in Sugar Land from June 20-22, 2016.

Plano has been a Keep Texas Beautiful affiliate since 1991.

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**CARROLLTON
Battle of the Bands
slated for downtown**

Calling all bands to compete in Downtown Carrollton on Saturday, April 30 for the chance to perform at the City's 7th Annual Festival at the Switchyard.

The competition will begin at 5 p.m. in the Downtown Square (1106 S. Broadway Street) and bands will perform in the gazebo structure. There is no fee to sign up and the event is rain or shine.

All bands will perform three songs no longer than six minutes each. Time slots will be assigned randomly. The performance must be suitable for a family audience. Band names, lyrics, appearance, and performances must be free from obscenities and references to drugs, sex, or alcohol.

There are cash prizes for

the top three acts. For a complete list of rules, judging criteria, and to fill out an application packet, visit cityofcarrollton.com/battle-of-thebands.

**FORT WORTH
Pancake picnic
benefits children's
medical center**

The 3rd Annual Junior League of Fort Worth Pancake Picnic, benefiting Cook Children's Medical Center, is scheduled for April 9, 2016 and will take place at Cook Children's.

This event is about more than pancakes. It is a day when children get to leave their hospital rooms, forget about their sickness and enjoy being a kid. It is a way for the Junior League of Fort Worth and our entire community to show our support to a medical center that has touched so many lives. Most importantly, it is a way for us to all come together and celebrate one another.

The morning will be filled with a delicious breakfast for all to enjoy and fun family activities including a game truck, photo booth, art projects, face

painting, a dunk tank and more!

**GARLAND
Garland Heritage
Celebration**

Two days of activities will commemorate important milestones in Garland's history including two opportunities to celebrate the City's 125th birthday.

During the third annual Garland Heritage Celebration, Downtown Garland will feature free movies, a vintage car show, history lectures and a birthday celebration including cake, lemonade and an official City Proclamation by Mayor Douglas Athas. Learn more and see a schedule of events at GarlandHeritage.com.

**RICHARDSON
Wildflower Art &
Music Festival slated
for May 20-22**

A star-studded variety of local and national musicians and artists from around the country are set to perform at Richardson's Wildflower! Arts and Music Festival May 20-22 in Galatyn Park. The three-day



event is North Texas' largest music festival.

A complete list of performers and venues as well as ticket information can be found online at www.wildflowerfestival.com. Tickets go on sale April 18—single day adult tickets are \$25 and three-day passes are \$40. Admission for children ages 5-12 is \$5; there is no charge for children ages 4 and under. Single tickets may be purchased online or at the gate; passes will be available online or at any Metroplex Tom Thumb store.

Richardson residents may receive up to six adult tickets per festival day per household at a discounted

price of \$12; see purchase locations and proof of residency details online.

**April is a month of
volunteerism**

Since 2012, the City Council has designated April as a "Month of Volunteerism" to encourage residents to volunteer their time for the betterment of the community. The City offers several ways to volunteer through its facilities and special events, and has partnerships with or supports (through grant funding) many nonprofits in the community that offer additional volunteer opportunities.

For a full list of volunteer opportunities through the City of Richardson, visit www.cor.net/richardsonvolunteers.

**SACHSE
Inaugural water
expo planned for
April 9**

Sachse's inaugural water expo, called H2O XPO, is

scheduled for Saturday, April 9 at the City Hall Amphitheater, and water customers who attend and sign up for the Water My Yard program can take advantage of a rebate on their water bills, says Teresa Savage, Finance Director.

The City Hall Amphitheater is in the center of the City Hall complex, 3815 Sachse Road. The H2O XPO is free and features booths and exhibits on a variety of ways to conserve water, save money and get a handle on the irrigation of lawns and landscapes. It starts at 11 a.m. and continues until 2 p.m. A free hot dog lunch will be served by employees of Atmos Energy, which is also the lunch's sponsor. Farmers Electric Cooperative is the expo's title sponsor.

In addition to the booths, a 45-minute presentation by author and syndicated radio host Howard Garrett, known as The Dirt Doctor, will be held in the Council Chambers at 12:15 p.m.

PRE-K, continued from Page 7

Registration for both PreK programs is now available online at www.irvingisd.net/registration. Staff at the early child-

hood schools will be available between April 4 and May 20 (from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.) to assist with the online registration process,

process required paperwork, begin the eligibility process and enroll.

For additional information about the PreK programs, visit www.irvingisd.net/prek or call 972-600-5050.

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Win tickets to Honest John at Comedy Night at the Muse

Look we all need a laugh. Shake off the stress of the week with a night filled with laughter at TBAAL's Comedy Night at the Muse featuring Honest John on April 29 and April 30 9 p.m. each night. NDG readers can visit our Facebook and Instagram pages for details on how to win tickets for

two!

Running around L.A. telling jokes at night and working as a nurse during the day eventually landed HONEST JOHN on the stage of BET's "Comic View," HBO's "Def Comedy Jam" and "Showtime at the Apollo."

"When people would come up to me on the street and ask where I was going to perform next, that's when I quit my job as a nurse and started doing comedy full time!"

Tickets are available at TBAAL.org for \$15 per show.

Victor McGlothlin is featured speaker at TeCo on April 9

TeCo Theatrical Productions, Inc. announces the second installment of its 2015-2016 speaker series, From Page to Screen with Victor McGlothlin, a lecture and book signing event featuring 13-time bestselling author and filmmaker, Victor McGlothlin. He will speak about his journey overcoming poor reading skills as a student to the successful author and filmmaker he became.

As a National Bestselling Author who almost lost a college athletic scholarship due to poor reading skills, McGlothlin ultimately overcame that obstacle and completed a Master's Degree in Human Relations and Business, published 14 books and produced three films. On April 19, 2016 McGlothlin's most recent film production, Texas Voodoo Zombies, will make history as the first black zombie film since the 1970's. He is currently producing two TV series pilots to promote local acting talent in Dallas, where he lives with his wife and sons.

As a member of TeCo's Board of Directors, Emma Rodgers serves as chairperson for the program committee, developing the speaker series. She recommended McGlothlin as TeCo's next speaker because they wanted to attract the attention of local book

club members and give them the opportunity to meet McGlothlin, she said.

"There haven't been a lot of opportunities for book club lovers to connect with authors like they use to do back in the day when we were open, so this will be an opportunity for that to occur," Rodgers said.

For 30 years Rodgers co-owned and ran Black Images Book Bazaar, the oldest African American book



Victor McGlothlin is the special guest speaker at TeCo

See TECO, Page 10

God's Trombones continues at Jubilee through April 24

This timeless Jubilee classic with book by Jubilee Theatre founder Rudy Eastman and composer Douglas Balentine, has been among the most popular productions in the legacy of Jubilee Theatre's rich history. Staged multiple times since the theatre was founded in 1981, God's Trombones is a musical celebration that promises to lift your spirits and rock your soul. Enjoy the uplifting production through April 24.

A stellar cast of twelve seasoned actors will join the production of God's Trombones, including three actors who were part of the original cast production in the 1989-1990 Season.



Mandi Green faces temptation from Steven Griffin's devilish character. (Image: Jubilee/Buddy Myers)

Performances continue through Sunday, April 24, 2016. Evening performances are at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Matinee performances are at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The

tickets are \$24 for Sat. Sun. Matinee and Thurs. Eve. Apr. 2 - 24; and \$28 Fri. Sat. Evening Performances Apr. 1 - 24.

Visit www.jubileetheatre.org for more information.

**Enter to Win!
Ticket Giveaway**

NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit us on Facebook to win tickets to see Ashanti & JaRule in concert, Saturday, April 9, 2016

Still time to win free tickets to see Kirk Franklin on Sunday

Kirk Franklin is going to lead the Majestic Theatre congregation in song and praise this Sunday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m. So plenty of

time to get fed at church Sunday morning, enjoy a good family meal and nap and be ready to celebrate Sunday night.

You can STILL win tickets visit our Facebook or Instagram account for more details! We are asking readers to share their favorite

Kirk Franklin song from the 20 years of music he has provided. So far selections have included his latest Happy all the way back

to If You've Been Delivered. What is yours? Don't want to risk not winning, visit LiveNation.com for a ticket.

NDG Winners Circle: Ashanti and Jaheim winning entries

Congrats to our Instagram Winner [@txrealtomesia](https://www.instagram.com/txrealtomesia) for her #NDGGiveaway entry "You know my b-day is April 9th & what better way to celebrate than with my sis who's #alwaystherewhenyoucall #alwaysontime #follow #ndgentertainment #gasmonkeylive @ashanti@ruleyorkcity. She and her sister @shoniestylist won tickets to the Ashanti & JaRule concert April 9th, at Gas Monkey Live!

Congrats to our #NDG-Giveaway Facebook Winner Mr. James Williamson, for winning tickets to Jaheim & Vivian Green! He said his favorite Jaheim Song that he couldn't wait to hear was "I forgot to be your lover."

Still time to win tickets to JaRule & Ashanti! Facebook winner will be announced, Thursday April 7, 2016. Don't miss out!

Apparently even Kerry Washington is not good looking enough for Adweek

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

It is a crying shame when a woman as lovely as Kerry Washington is so unworthy in the eyes of editors that she requires photoshopping to the point SHE barely recognizes herself on their cover. Did they not know this is Olivia Pope and she don't play ... they should have asked somebody!

No need to ask now because when she saw the hacked photoshop job they did on her – Ms. Washing-



ton did not bite her tongue. I mean honestly look at the photo, if I did not know it was her, it would not occur to me that it is Kerry Washington.

On Facebook Washing-

ton stated:

"So... You know me. I'm not one to be quiet about a magazine cover. I always celebrate it when a respected publication invites me to grace their pages. It's an honor. And a privilege. And ADWEEK is no exception.

I love ADWEEK. It's a publication I appreciate. And learn from. I've long followed them on Twitter. And when they invited me to do a cover, I was excited and thrilled. And the truth is, I'm still excited. I'm

proud of the article. And I like some of the inside images a great deal. But, I have to be honest... I was taken aback by the cover.

"Look, I'm no stranger to Photoshopping. It happens a lot. In a way, we have become a society of picture adjusters – who doesn't love a filter?!? And I don't always take these adjustments to task but I have had the opportunity to address the impact of my altered image in the past and I think it's a valuable conversation.

"Yesterday, however, I just felt weary. It felt strange to look at a picture of myself that is so different from what I look like when I look in the mirror. It's an unfortunate feeling.

"That being said. You all have been very kind and supportive. Also, as I've said, I'm very proud of the article.

"There are a few things we discussed in the interview that were left out. Things that are important to

See ADWEEK, Page 13

TECO, continued from Page 9

store in the area, before it closed in 2006. She first met McGlothlin at her book store when he came to her with his first self-published novel.

She stayed in contact with him and watched his success grow over the years. She likes his writing style and hopes that readers will be inspired to read his books and writers or would-be-writers will learn valuable information.

"I hope they get tips on how to write, strategies for writing, how he collects data in order to write, the kind of research that he does. That he would give them the fundamentals of what is required to be a good writer and write a book that is believable," Rodgers said.

McGlothlin's most sought after titles include *The Secrets of Newberry*, where he explores the themes of race in 1955 New Orleans via the spirited capers of his two protagonists, cat bur-

glars Bones Arcineaux and Hampton Bynote; and his long-awaited new release, *Schemers*, a game of high stakes pay-to-play where con-artists seduce wealthy, unsuspecting women in major metropolitan cities.

The lecture will take place on April 9 at 3 p.m. at the Bishop Arts Theatre Center, 215 South Tyler Street, in Dallas. Tickets are \$18 – \$28 and can be purchased by calling the box office at (214) 948-0716 or visiting the website at www.bishopartstheatre.org.

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NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit us on Facebook to win tickets to Comedy @ the Muse: Honest John

Are you overlooking these important tax tips?

Whether you're a small-business owner, a corporate executive or a professional looking to retire soon, you don't want to leave potential tax-deferrable options by the wayside, says Mark Chandik, president of FDP Wealth Management (www.fdpwm.com).

"That's money in the bank – at least it could be," he says. "Don't look at it as a trick. Legally, if it meets certain criteria, it's your money!"

While many taxpayers simply don't know what they're missing, others think they know exactly what they're doing. The problem in both scenarios is that most will simply do this year what they've done in previous years, which could cause them to pay a higher tax bill than necessary.

Chandik, a veteran financial professional and author of "10 Financial Strategies for the Smart Investor," says



there are several areas to explore in saving money on taxes this year.

- Insurance products offer an advantageous tax status. These products include both life insurance and annuities. Regardless of how you see the performance of these products, they have a unique tax status. Life insurance cash values can grow tax-deferred and may be accessed tax-free for supplemental retirement income. Annuities also offer complete tax deferral during the accumulation period.

- The type of investment vehicle can make a big impact on tax efficiency. Tax-wise, exchange traded funds (ETFs) offer an advantage over traditional mutual funds, which can generate a large amount of "phantom income" that's taxed based on the buying and selling of underlying securities. Growth via ETFs, however, may offer the same kind of performance, but the changes at the portfolio level aren't taxed in the same way. ETFs are also less expensive.

- Track year-to-year carry-

over items. Check for any capital losses that could offset current capital gains. Excess amounts of unused capital losses can be carried over to the next year's return. For example, if you have net capital losses in a prior year in excess of a \$3,000 annual deduction limit, they can be carried over to your next year's income tax return. The same goes for any charitable contributions and unused business credits that you can't deduct in a previous year because of limits on such write-offs.

- Just started retirement planning? Review your contributions. Whether it's a 401(k) plan, SEP plan or individual IRA, check out the advantages of using any tax-deferred saving vehicles that are available for tax-reduction strategies. If you're new to retirement planning, know that not all contributions are deductible.

"These tips are just a starting point to let folks know what's possible in savings for tax season," Chandik says.

Mark Chandik is the Principal of FDP Wealth Management (www.fdpwm.com)

and has more than 30 years of professional experience serving corporate executives, professionals, business owner/operators, affluent families and private individuals with investing needs.

HIRED, continued from Page 5

- Know what you will actually be doing. While simply being in a company's culture has value, many businesses assign students to their lowest-level work. Grunt work, to some extent, is a fact of life in most professions. But that kind of work won't propel a student's career. Consider an internship that gives you real responsibility and provides experiences that will definitely come in handy in your future career.

- Consider a company's internship recognition. Don't accept an internship with just any organization. Think about the business awards the company has won, the type of articles that have been written about the company, and how the company contributes to their industry and community. If you can, get information on how other former interns fared.

- For any student, real experience is crucial. Whether you're an artist, athlete, musician, theater major, English student, a STEM-field student, or a business major or future entrepreneur, get-

ting experience often comes with a heavy price. This includes the loss of personal or family finances. Look for opportunities that provide

guidance while allowing you to apply skills to real-life challenges such as budgeting, marketing, and managing employees. These are transferable skills that apply to any industry.

Matt Stewart is co-founder of College Works Painting (college-works.com), which provides business experience for thousands of college students each year.

Investors Liquidation Sale: Laurel Land Cemetery Burial Plot For Sale (one space) Section # 3, Space # 15, Lot # 20



Dennis Jarvis / Flickr

Laurel Land Cemetery charges for cost of single Plot: \$3995.00
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New housing coming in 2017 for McKinney seniors

The McKinney Housing Authority is held a groundbreaking for the rebuilding of Newsome Homes as a senior housing community located in east McKinney.

Officials are promising a state-of-the art facility that will include 180 low-income units. The announced project will be located near Amscott Street east of State Highway 5.

The demand is very high, with a reported waiting list

of 750 hoping to get a chance at moving into one of the apartments.

Newsome was one of only four housing public housing options available in McKinney and was over 50 years old. Unfortunately few repairs were made leaving it in such a condition that tearing it down and rebuilding was the better financial option.

Tax payers will be happy

to learn that over 80 percent of the costs are being financed through private debt with tax credit equity as well. In addition, the city and Community Development Block Grant are a few of the other contributors.

Current Newsome residents received vouchers to cover their housing during construction. The revamped Newsome will open in 2017.

FB police department enlists 'eyes' from community with SafeCam Initiative

As one of its newest crime prevention and investigation tools, the Farmers Branch Police Department is asking local residents and businesses to register their surveillance cameras for the SafeCam initiative.

"Citizen-provided security camera footage is becoming an increasingly valuable asset to our department, helping to establish

leads and identify suspects," said Farmers Branch Police Chief Sid Fuller.

"Surveillance video recorded by cameras owned by residents and business owners have resulted in the arrest of numerous criminals."

Chief Fuller explained that the SafeCam Initiative asks residents and business

owners with exterior security cameras to register them with the department so investigators know who they can contact in the event of an incident in their neighborhood or business area.

For more information, contact the Farmers Branch Police Department Crime Prevention office at 972-919-9135.



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Dannon partners with Tarrant County College for \$123,915 job-training grant

AUSTIN – Dannon Co. Inc. (Dannon) has partnered with Tarrant County College (TCC) to provide job training for 91 new and incumbent workers using a \$123,915 Skills Development Fund grant from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). The grant will benefit workers in the Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County area.

This grant will be used to provide customized training to 91 new and incumbent workers for industry-related topics with focused instruction on precision instruments and measurements, manufacturing processes, electrical maintenance and material handling. Trainees will include machine operators, maintenance and utility mechanics, manufacturing engineers, material handlers, electricians, and processing technicians. Upon completion of training, the workers will receive an average wage of \$25.54.

“Skills grants deliver cus-

tomized training solutions that help Texas employers and workers succeed in the marketplace,” said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar. “This investment builds not

only employee skills, but the capabilities of our community colleges to the benefit of employers and the community. We are pleased to make this investment.”

Employers seeking more information about the Skills Development Fund may visit the TWC website at www.texasworkforce.org/skills.



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ADWEEK,

continued from Page 10

me (like: the importance of strong professional support and my awesome professional team) and I've been thinking about how to discuss those things with anyone who is interested, in an alternate forum. But until then... Grab this week's ADWEEK. Read it. I hope you enjoy it. And thank you for being patient with me while I figured out how to post this in a way that felt both celebratory and honest.”

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BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP, CARROLLTON (A PLACE TO BELONG)

April 10, 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.

April 10, 12 Noon

How do you impact others? Join us Sunday at noon in Bible Study; Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Brenda Patterson and others will teach a series on "Design for Discipleship, Book 2 through Book 7."

Learn how to introduce others to Christ and make Him known to them; to help others know and grow in God's word; and to give others clarity and direction.

April 13, 7 p.m.

Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Dr. Woodson and/or Pastor Brenda Patterson teaching a series on "Design for Discipleship, Book 3 through Book 7." Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you. It's Time to Grow; Ephesians 4:12 & 13.

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

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN RICHARDSON

April 10, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

You're invited to join us for morning worship as we praise and worship God for His blessings.

April 13

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 on 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"

April 10, 8 a.m.

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

April 13, 12 p.m.

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.

April 24, 8 a.m.

Every 4th Sunday

Calling All Youth! Join our Hype Sunday Worship (first service only) on our main campus at 200 West Belmont Drive and be blessed.

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
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www.theship3c.org

INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH, Let's Go Fishing! MATTHEW 4:19

April 8, 7 p.m.

All men, you're welcome to our Men's Friday Night Service for fellowship and learning what God requires of men as leaders of households and in the community.

April 10, 7:30 and/or 11:30 a.m.

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

April 11, 7 p.m.

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

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

MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO (MOCOP)

April 10, 10 a.m.

Join us for Sunday Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory. Call the church for details.

April 13, 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

April 10, 10 a.m.

You're invited to join us in our Worship Service at our new home, 1020 Sherman Street in Richardson, Texas. Call the church for details.

April 11, 9 p.m.

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

R. W. Townsend, Senior Pastor
1020 Sherman Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-241-6151
www.dallasmtpisgah.org

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

April 10

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.

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

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO (WHERE COMMUNITY BECOMES FAMILY)

April 10, 10 a.m.

Join us as we praise and worship God in our Morn-

ing Worship Services. You will be blessed.

April 13, 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; it's all for His glory and His honor.

Our church ministries offer opportunities for motivation and growth; join us and see.

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
920 E. 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, LEWISVILLE

April 10, 7:45 and 10:45 a.m.

You're invited to join us for Sunday Morning Worship Service, as we praise and worship God for His many blessings.

April 13, 12 Noon

Join us for Prayer and Bible Study with Pastor Bessix teaching on the word of God and praying for the sick.

Minister Thomas Bessix
Senior Pastor
900 Bellaire Blvd.
Lewisville, TX 75067
972-221-5668
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The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of His unfailing love.
Psalm 33:5

A loved one died, and on that clear, cold morning, in the warmth of the day the other person was struck with the pain of learning that sometimes there isn't anymore.

No more hugs, no more special moments to celebrate together, no more phone calls just to chat, no more "just one minute."

Sometimes, what we care about the most gets all used up and goes away, never to return before we can say, "good-bye," before we can say, "I love you."

So while we have it. Its best we love it, care for it and fix it when it's broken . . . and heal it when it's sick.

This is true for spouses, children, other family members, friends, marriages, aging parents and grandparents. We keep and love them because they are worth it, because we are worth it.

Some things we keep -

- like a best friend who moved away or a classmate we grew up with. There are just some things that make us happy, no matter what.

Life is important, like people we know who are special; and so, we keep them close! Suppose one morning you never wake up, do all your family and friends know you love them?

I was thinking . . . I could die today, tomorrow or next week, and I wondered if I had any wounds needing to be healed, friendships that needed rekindling or three words needing to be said.

Let every one know you love them. Even if you think they don't love you back, you would be amazed at what those three little words and a smile can do. Live today to the fullest because tomorrow is not promised.

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: There are two days in every week about which we should not worry, two days which should be kept free from fear and apprehension.

One of these days is YESTERDAY with its mistakes and cares, its faults and blunders, its aches and pains. Yesterday has passed forever beyond our control.

All the money in the world cannot bring back

Yesterday. We cannot erase a single word we said. Yesterday is gone forever.

The other day we should not worry about is TOMORROW with its possi-

ble adversities, its burdens, its large promise and poor performance. Tomorrow is also beyond our immediate control.

Tomorrow's sun will rise, either in splendor or behind a mask of clouds—but it will rise. Until it does, we have no stake in Tomorrow, for it is as yet unborn; and its no guarantee that we live to see Tomorrow.

This leaves only one day – TODAY – Any man or woman can fight the battles of just one day! It is only when you and I add the burdens of those two other eter-

nities – Yesterday and Tomorrow that we break down.

It is not the experience of Today that drives men and women into a state of depression and worrying—it is remorse or bitterness for something which happened Yesterday which is forever beyond our control; and the dread of what Tomorrow which is yet unborn and beyond our immediate control, may bring.

Let us, therefore, live but one day at a time. Let Us Pray and Learn to Keep An Open Mind.



Mrs. Oreler Murry, former principal from Tennessee, visiting her daughter, Mrs. Robbie Douglas, Carrollton, Texas

NDGtv North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with **Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley**

Hear what it was like growing up in a very different Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.

Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

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Allen, TX 75013
9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Night Live
200 W. Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
7:00 pm.

Lady Lake Staff

NDG Book Review: *JUNK* is an engaging and fun read

By Terrir Schlichenmeyer

You know exactly where you put your glasses.

Well, kind of. You remember that you put them down in the kitchen, but then you piled mail, a plastic fork, a magazine, and a pair of gloves on them. Your glasses are right where you left them: under other things. And once you read “Junk” by Alison Stewart, you’ll see those things differently.

Five decades of stuff.

That’s what Alison Stewart and her sister faced when it came time to clear their parents’ home - a mess, the result of “fifty years of life” that filled the



entire basement, packed to the ceiling.

Why, she wondered, do we hang on to the things we keep? How come we collect some items and toss away others? Why do folks often happily accept other people’s cast-offs? Stewart decided to find out.

To begin, she defines junk as “worthlessness.” Stuff is something you don’t want anymore but that someone else might find useful, and treasures “are any stuff or junk that appeals to you.” A third of us collect something, Stewart says, though professionals “make a distinction between collectors and clutterers.” Then there are packrats, while hoarders fall under a newly-created psychiatric category all their own.

At “a giant 250-mile-long junk-a-palooza” rummage sale in the South, Stewart promised herself that she wasn’t going to buy anything but, of course, she

couldn’t resist. In Austin, Texas, she visited The Cathedral of Junk and spoke with the man who created the “creative, chaotic colossus.”

She learned that humans weren’t the only creatures to be inveterate collectors.

In several different cities, Stewart rode shotgun with junk collectors, clean-up crews, and haulers, to get a feel for the kind of things people throw out and what’s done with it. She met the World’s First Official Spammer, she learned why we get so much “junk mail,” she asked about space junk, spoke with professional clutter-fighters and “freecyclers,” talked

with TV producers about pawn stores and picking, and she learned some good news: if you have just too much stuff, there’s plenty of help available.

When it comes to possessions, are you downsizing... or oversized? Whichever direction you’re heading, “Junk” can help you spot the bigger picture.

It’s hard not to look around with a critical eye when you see what author Alison Stewart discovered; why you’ve saved tchotchkes from high school, broken tools, plastic silverware, and unfinished projects will never seem so puzzling. And then, turning things

around, we get a serious (yet light-hearted) look at other people’s junk, how it’s tossed, and where it goes once it’s gone.

In that, Stewart is respectful and doesn’t pick on anyone, but who can resist peeking? Who doesn’t want to see a happy ending to still-useful things?

Yes, this is interesting... um, stuff.

This is not a self-help book. It won’t tell you how to empty your crammed closets, busting basements, glutted garages, or stuffed sheds, but it’s engaging and plenty fun to read – which makes “Junk” a great book to put in your hands.

Irving Police to Carhop at Sonic for Special Olympics

The tables will turn when the Irving Police Department (IPD) will go from giving orders to taking orders at local Sonic Drive-In restaurants. Members of the department will work as carhops at selected Sonic Drive-In restaurants, and patrons’ tips will be donated to the IPD’s Special Olympics Texas fundraising efforts. The department raises funds each year for Special Olympics through a number of initiatives, including tips and Law Enforcement Torch Run T-shirt sales. IPD hopes to beat last year’s efforts where it raised more than \$25,000 for Special Olympics Texas.

This year, the department is expanding to three Sonic Drive-In events. From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 9, police will be taking orders at the Sonic locations at 1310 W. Pioneer Drive and at 1445 N. Belt Line Road. From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 23, the officers will be at the Sonic location at 2327 W. Shady Grove Road.

Law Enforcement Torch Run T-shirt sales allow the public another opportunity to support this fundraising effort. The T-shirts will be sold by officers during the Sonic Drive-in events, as well as at the Criminal Justice Center, 305 N. O’Connor Road, during normal

business hours, while supplies last. Shirt sizes, youth to 2X, are available for \$15 and sizes 3X to 4X can be purchased for \$18. Irving Police Department is one of dozens of law enforcement agencies across the state helping to support the Special Olympics.

Fundraising is only one avenue by which Irving officers support the Special Olympics. Taking service to another level, police will participate in the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics and will join with other law enforcement agencies for the Special Olympic Opening Ceremony at 7 p.m. May 27 at University of Texas at Ar-

lington’s Maverick Stadium, 1307 W. Mitchell St. The competition will take place May 28 and 29, and Irving officers also will decorate Special Olympic athletes with medals.

For more information about IPD’s Special Olympics fundraising efforts, contact the department’s Records section at (972) 721-2437, Officer John Schingle at (972) 721-2604 or Officer Charlie Cavazos at (972) 721-3557. To learn more about Special Olympics Texas, visit sotx.org.



Assistant Police Chief Brian Redburn worked as a carhop in 2015 at Irving Sonic Drive-In to raise money for Special Olympics. Irving Police raised more than \$25,000 for Special Olympics in 2015 through its numerous fundraising efforts.

Carrollton ‘Stands Up’ in April with Dallas Children’s Advocacy Center

April is Child Abuse Awareness month and the City of Carrollton is taking action to “Stand Up For Children”.

The City developed a brochure in order to continually shed light on a sensitive topic that is often not discussed. The “Protect Your Child from Sexual Abuse: Communicate. Listen. Believe.” brochure was published in both English and Spanish.

The brochure is intended

as a leave behind piece for officers to use in their daily encounters and is available at the Carrollton Police Department, public schools, and online at cityofcarrollton.com/stopabuse.

In honor of Dallas Children’s Advocacy Center’s April 8 event, “Show Your Blue Day”, the City of Carrollton is asking residents to wear blue to raise awareness of the need to take action to protect children. Photos of you in your blue

diggs can be posted to the City’s Instagram page at #CarrolltonTX.

At the April 5 meeting, City Council presented a proclamation to the DCAC to honor Show Your Blue Day.

It was presented at the regular meeting to Engagement Specialist Kendall Molsberry.

For more information about Child Abuse Awareness month, visit istandup.org.



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Group Leader: George Keaton, Jr. President
Remembering Black Dallas
www.rbdallas.com

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