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The voters select Donald John Trump, Sr.

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

The improbable became a reality on Nov. 8, 2016, with the election of Donald John Trump, Sr. as the next President of the United States.

Something many people believed would never happen, and kept telling themselves is very unlikely, just happened.

If Washington should learn anything from 2016, it is the fact the American people do not take kindly to be informed on who to choose. You can advise, you may suggest but if they sense you are looking down from your lofty perch and attempting to dictate, if only subtly, who they should choose then you will pay a serious price. This includes the national party, elected officials, celebrities and media.

Not all news was bad locally

On the local level, there were some positive moves seen in the Democratic Party, especially among Hispanics who were galvanized into the political sphere for the first time.

"From my personal observation and participation, (Democratic turnout) was increased," said Frances Rizo, a precinct chair and diversity chairman from Duncanville who greeted attendees at the Texas Theater watch party in



Spectators watch returns on the big screen at an election watch party hosted by the Texas Theater in Oak Cliff. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

Oak Cliff. "I was greatly encouraged at the Latino voter turnout. Our organization, Tejano Democrats, did a campaign where we had canvassers going door-to-door in large Latino precincts."

Rizo noted there were more Latino candidates in the Dallas area than ever before, and admitted that current events helped the effort along.

"We do have to give Donald Trump some credit," Rizo said with a smile. "It woke some of us up to the need to get involved."

Rizo's biggest lament is what she called a failure to teach the citizenry the process of democracy and the

price that has to be paid to maintain it. She suggested it might be a good idea to bring back a draft for both men and women, though not necessarily into military service, to instill a sense of the value of citizenship.

"Democracy is not a spectator sport," Rizo said.

Next Steps?

How will the vanguards of the Republican Party work with a man who boasts of revenge against his enemies? Paul Ryan should probably expect a demotion from the Speaker of the House.

The man chosen was distanced

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NDG **tv**

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



Parkland hosts diabetes workshop

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African Children's Choir in Plano

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Almost Christmas is a treat

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COMMENTARY

Elections won't change anything until we vote with our wallets

By Jim Clingman
NNPA Columnist

nessed is likely the worst in the history of electing a President.

By the time you read this, I trust you will have wiped away the slime and the grunge, regurgitated a few times, taken a good bath or shower, relentlessly scrubbed the stench from your bodies, and maybe even found it necessary to delouse, because the dirty, filthy, hateful, distasteful, embarrassing, vile, toxic, grimy, polluted campaign we all wit-

At the time of this writing (November 4, 2016) the results are unknown, but in light of the lies, slander, vitriol, vulgarity, hypocrisy, hyperbole, false accusations, innuendo, leaks, assaults, and even physical threats of murder, it matters less than usual who wins. No matter the result, there will be millions of people

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Stacey D. Stewart



Mandy Price



Tochukwu Mbiamnozie

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Stacey D. Stewart

The March of Dimes Foundation announced in September that its Board of Trustees has unanimously approved the selection of Stacey D. Stewart as its next President. Mrs. Stewart will begin transitioning to the March of Dimes on Nov. 7 and officially assume all duties as the President on Jan. 1, 2017.

"We are very excited to have Stacey join us as the next President of the March of Dimes", said Gary Dixon, Chairman of the March of Dimes Foundation National Board of



Trustees and Chairman of the Search Committee. "She brings a wealth of experience as a non-profit CEO, a leader of complex organizations with national and global footprints, a

fundraiser and a national spokesperson. Stacey is mission-driven and results-focused and is deeply committed to our mission and public service."

Following the announced retirement of Dr. Jennifer Howse, the Board of Trustees engaged Diversified Search – an executive search firm – who initiated a 6-month process seeking input from many senior management, volunteers, donors and other key stakeholders. With these insights, a national search was launched that included more than 200 candidates with backgrounds across nonprofit, business, govern-

ment, medicine and educational sectors.

"We were tremendously impressed with Stacey's candidacy," explained Monica Luechtefeld, Search Committee and National Board of Trustees member. "She is an experienced executive who is deeply committed to our mission to give every baby a fighting chance. She has a vision for the March of Dimes: to grow the revenue base and enhance the Foundation's financial strength; to engage our volunteers, employees and philanthropic supporters; and to continue our strong C.A.R.E.S. focus: community, advocacy, re-

search, education and support."

Before joining the March of Dimes, Stewart served as the U.S. President of United Way Worldwide where she provided strategic direction in driving community impact, as well as enhancing the organization's brand. A business veteran, Stewart also has held a number of senior roles, including Chief Diversity Officer and Senior Vice President for the Office of Community and Charitable Giving at Fannie Mae, as well as President and Chief Executive Officer for the Fannie Mae Foundation.

"Stacey is an accom-

plished leader and passionate champion of bringing communities together to solve our toughest problems," said Brian Gallagher, President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way Worldwide. "While we are saddened that she is leaving United Way, we could not be more pleased to see her join an organization that is so committed to the health and well-being of babies, mothers, and communities as a whole. Stacey is sure to make a tremendous impact at the March of Dimes and, ultimately, for the families it serves."

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Mandy Price

The Dallas Foundation announced the five finalists for its annual Good Works Under 40 Award (GWU40), which celebrates North Texas' committed, skilled and passionate volunteers under the age of 40. Of the five finalists, a GWU40 winner will be selected to receive a \$10,000 check to donate to his or her charity of choice. The program is now in its seventh year and is co-presented by *The Dallas Morning News*.

"Each of this year's five finalists for The Dallas Foundation's Good Works Under



40 Award has channeled their deep passion and very impressive skill set into benefiting the lives of others. We are so proud to recognize their contributions toward making our community

better for the residents of Dallas," said Mary Jalonick, president and CEO of The Dallas Foundation.

Mandy Price, who spearheaded the initiative to organize and establish the Dallas office of the Texas Civil Rights Project (TCRP), dramatically increasing the organization's ability to serve and address the civil rights concerns of the residents of Dallas County and the entire North Texas region. She has established a successful and high-profile career at one of the world's leading law firms, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, and has been recognized as a "Texas Rising

Star" in corporate mergers and acquisitions. Price holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from The University of Texas at Austin and is a graduate of Harvard Law School, where she was a member of the Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review.

Four other finalists were also named.

John Mungoli, who has served Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children for the past five years through participation in their evening volunteer program, camps for patients, the volunteer executive board, and the hospital's special events.

Andrew K. Nguyen, who launched the nonprofit organization Honor Courage Commitment, Inc., and later started the #22Kill campaign, whose push-up challenge went viral on the Internet and increased awareness of the number of veterans committing suicide.

Byron Sanders, who serves on the board of directors for both Big Thought and KIPP Dallas-Fort Worth, lends his time, talent and professional network to increase awareness and growth opportunities for both organizations.

Katie Schlieve, who co-founded One Wing Foundation, supports organizations

that provide resources for the medical, physical and grief recovery of bereaved parents who have experienced pregnancy or infant loss.

The GWU40 winner will be announced at a reception at Old Parkland on Nov. 10. In addition to the winner's prize, the four remaining finalists will receive \$3,500 checks for their respective agencies. GWU40 nomination applications were reviewed by a volunteer selection committee comprised of emerging civic leaders and led by Meg Boyd of Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children.

Tochukwu Mbiamnozie

(BlackNews.com) — Finding the perfect fit in luxury shoes just became a breeze for those who demand style, but whose feet are larger than standard sizes. TucciPolo has announced the expansion of its made-to-order handmade luxury shoe collection with sizes just right for everyone, even those with big feet.

TucciPolo's founder Tochukwu Mbiamnozie, who is from Imo State, Nigeria, saw the need and stepped in to provide the perfect solution for people seeking handmade luxury shoes in larger sizes.

"NBA players, celebrities and many other men and women simply find them-



selves unable to walk into a typical store to buy Italian leather shoes off the rack," said Mbiamnozie. "This can be very frustrating for people with larger feet who want to enjoy the same high quality and style the smaller-footed population has access to."

To accommodate customers with larger feet, TucciPolo now offers handmade

men's designer shoes and women's shoes in a range of sizes. Its made-to-order luxury shoes are available in U.S. sizes from 6 to 18 and EU sizes from 39 to 55.

Mbiamnozie explained many shoe stores do not carry items meant to fit larger sizes. The demand generally is not high enough to justify inventory costs of stocking a big selection of luxury shoes meant to fit those with larger feet.

"Made-to-order luxury shoes provide the perfect solution for ladies and men seeking style, luxury and fashion in footwear that is designed especially for them," said Mbiamnozie. "Italian leather handmade shoes are a delight that everyone should be able to enjoy."

Products in TucciPolo's

made-to-order line do require time to prepare. Each pair of luxury shoes is handcrafted, using only the finest Italian leather. Since TucciPolo's men's and women's shoes are couture-level creations, each hand-painted, they may take up to 15 days to deliver.

TucciPolo offers an extensive line of Italian leather luxury shoes for men and women. It also handcrafts a luxury line of accessories, such as leather bags, belts and wallets.

"We take pride in helping our customers, regardless the shoe size they wear, step out in style," Mbiamnozie said.

To explore the full line of luxury shoes and accessories for men and women, visit the web site at www.tuccipolo.com

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2016 election exposed America's racism and misogyny to the world

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

Just a few days before the corrosive 2016 election, it occurs to me that no matter what the outcome, our social fabric has been shredded by the ugliness of this campaign. Sure, there have been ugly campaigns before, but this one has revealed the extent to which racism and sexism are acceptable features of life in these United States. Women, including Hillary Clinton, have been routinely disparaged, not only in politics, but also in their roles as television talking heads and anchors.

While I'm not weeping for Megyn Kelly (she's a big girl, and she can take care of herself), her on-air collision

with Newt Gingrich was classic, with a jowly male bully loudly talking over a television host and accusing her of being “obsessed” with sex. And the disparagement of women flowed down the ticket – in Illinois, Senator Mark Kirk (R-Ill.) had the nerve to disparage challenger Rep. Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.) because of her Thai heritage. Her dad traces his family's military service back to the eighteenth century, while her Mom is from Thailand. When she cited her military background, Kirk nastily said he was unaware that her family had come all the way from Thailand to fight for the United States. Shame on Kirk for demonstrating his ignorance by criticizing the military service of a woman

who lost both her legs in the Iraq war.

All's fair, they say, in love and war, and many see politics as a special kind of war. And certainly, those women who play the politics game have to have thick skin and broad shoulders, because men are not likely to treat women with kid gloves because of their gender. However, gendered criticism (“she lacks stamina,” “look at that face”) is woven into the fabric of our nation's racist patriarchy, and the “other” (women, people of color) is often put down using gendered or racialized code words. In some cases, as with Tammy Duckworth, people don't even bother to use code words.

The backlash from eight years of the Obama presi-

dency means that plenty of racists have come out to play. I thought we'd seen the last of David Duke, the reported KKK member who is again running for the U.S. Senate from Louisiana. Instead, he seems to have slithered from under some rock, just in time to endorse Donald Trump, throw shade on Evan McMullin (the Utah native and former CIA operative who is running a long-shot campaign for President), and attack Jewish people. Most listeners recoiled from Duke's hateful words, and the Trump campaign quickly distanced itself from the Duke endorsement. Shocking, though, that this level of racist hate is so openly artic-

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in this country who will be so angry that very little will get done for “The People.” January 20, 2017 will be a very sad day for many voters depending on which side is victorious. That's a terrible commentary on this country, and an even worse reflection on the leadership we have chosen.

But what does it say about us? We have fought one another over the two candidates, neither of whom is held in high regard by the majority of the electorate. It has been suggested that our choice is between the “lesser of two evils,” and some say the “evil of two lessers.” We have been led down one of two primrose paths of prevarication, perversion, pseudo-piety, and pompous posturing, only to have gone to the polls holding our noses to choose our next leader.

Some have even dropped out of the system altogether because they cannot stand to be a part of such down-right evilness. Some have said they will start a civil war, if their candidate does not win; some say they will “take out” one of the candi-

dates if things don't go their way; some have said they will move to another country; and some say the whole system is corrupt anyway so why care about it at all?

We have former candidates who called the two finalists insulting names: “pathological liar,” “con man,” “woefully unqualified,” “criminal,” “predator,” and the like; but those same self-righteous folks, some of whom profess to be of high moral character, are telling us to vote for the very persons they disdained and denigrated during the primaries. What kind of people are they? Are they typical of what we call a “politician”? Hypocrites who turn on a dime when it's politically expedient for them, no matter what they said a couple of months ago? I guess we know the answers to those questions, right?

Talk about trouble, folks, we are deep into it. This nation is split nearly 50/50, so there is very little room for compromise or concession on either side, and we are right in the middle of this mess. Yes, the nirvana and

utopia, called Barack and Michelle, that many Black people thought we were living in is all over—gone. What shall we do now?

Truthfully, irrespective of who wins this election, Blacks and poor folks are going to be in the same shape we have been in for awhile. After the assessments and Monday morning quarterbacking is over, many of us will still be sitting in the stadium sulking, complaining, and lamenting what took place. I am reminded of LeBron James' comments after losing the championship to the Dallas Mavericks: “...at the end of the day, they (his haters) have to wake up tomorrow and have the same life that they had before they woke up today. They have the same personal problems they had today.”

Well, alright then. We will have to get back to the real world, which includes not having real political power and very little influence on public policy. But maybe this will be the final wake-up call Black people need to understand that until we get our economic act together, we will continue to be viewed as mere child-

like voters instead of a true force to be reckoned with.

Here's a solution: If you are a conscious and conscientious Black person, go to www.iamoneofthemillion.com and join the movement as we move closer to economic and political empowerment. We know that in order to attain the levels of power and influence we seek there must be an organized critical mass of people and a vehicle through which that can be done. This is not a knock on anything anyone else is doing; it's simply a call for just two percent of Black people in this country to join forces, offering their time, talent, and treasure to help our people. The One Million is the only active movement of its kind.

So after you have cleaned up and disinfected yourself on November 9th, get into a game you can win—The One Million!

James Clingman is the nation's most prolific writer on economic empowerment for Black people. His latest book, “Black Dollars Matter! Teach Your Dollars How to Make More Sense,” is available on his website, Blackonomics.com.



Melissa Johnson / Flickr

Parkland clinic hosting diabetes awareness event Nov. 14

The statistics can be startling: about one in 11 Americans has diabetes, someone is diagnosed with the disease every 23 seconds and 89 million are at risk. And, according to the American Diabetes Association, diabetes remains the 7th leading cause of death

in the United States.

In conjunction with November's observance of National Diabetes Awareness Month, Parkland Health & Hospital System will host a Diabetes Awareness Day event from 8 a.m. – noon on Monday, Nov. 14 at the Bluitt-Flowers

Health Center, 303 E. Overton Road, Dallas, 75216. Bluitt-Flowers is one of Parkland's 12 Community Oriented Primary Care health centers located throughout Dallas County.

The event is open to the public at no cost and will feature Parkland diabetes

team members and a representative from the American Diabetes Association presenting information on a variety of topics including diabetic medication, insulin and monitoring, foot care, eye care, as well as meal planning, cooking

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Red Cross seeking donations to prep for holiday season

This November, the American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give the perfect gift – a blood donation – to help ensure a sufficient blood supply throughout the holiday season.

A decline in donations occurs from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day when donors are busy with family gatherings and travel. However, patients don't get a holiday break from needing lifesaving transfusions. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.

Timothy Sheely's wife received 12 units of blood prod-

ucts during emergency surgery after the birth of their son. "If it had not been for blood donors, she may not have survived that ordeal, but thanks to generous blood donors, I still have a wife and my kids still have their Mom," he said. "I can't possibly thank those people in person, but I can give a little piece of me back with each donation for the greater good. Thanks to those who are able to donate and choose to donate!"

The Red Cross encourages donors to start a new holiday tradition and bring family and

friends together to donate blood or platelets. Donors of all blood types are needed to give this November to help ensure a sufficient supply for hospital patients. As a thank you for donating around the Thanksgiving holiday, all those who come to donate Nov. 24-28 will be invited to download a set of recipes from celebrity chefs.

To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Donors are encouraged to make appoint-

ments and complete the RapidPass online health history questionnaire at redcrossblood.org/rapidpass to save time when donating.

Collin County

Allen – 11/17/2016: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Lovejoy High School, 2350 Estates Pkwy

McKinney – 11/22/2016: 12 p.m. – 6 p.m., American Red Cross Dallas Chapter McKinney Branch, 1450 Red Bud Blvd

Plano – 11/19/2016: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Wal Mart Supercenter Store 2883, 8801

Ohio Drive

Dallas County

Dallas

• 11/20/2016: 1 p.m. – 7 p.m., Texas EMS Conference, 650 South Griffen Street

• 11/21/2016: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., Texas EMS Conference, 650 South Griffen Street

• 11/22/2016: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Richland College, 12800 Abrams Rd.

• 11/22/2016: 12 p.m. – 5 p.m., Everest College, 6080 North Central Expy.

• 11/23/2016: 8 a.m. – 2

p.m., American Red Cross Dallas Chapter, 4800 Harry Hines

• 11/25/2016: 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., American Red Cross Dallas Chapter, 4800 Harry Hines

• 11/28/2016: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Einstein Bros. Bagels, 15615 Coit Road, Suite 100

Irving – 11/21/2016: 12 p.m. – 6 p.m., Intellicenter, 3701 Regent Blvd

Richardson – 11/26/2016: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Islamic Association of North Texas, 840 Abrams Rd.



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Lewisville to hold public forums on Fair Housing issues

The City of Lewisville is conducting an Assessment of Fair Housing and is holding multiple public forums to discuss resident's issues and help formulate future strategies.

These forums are the first

steps in the process of creating the city's Housing and Community Development Five-Year Strategic Plan. The City wants to use local knowledge and decision-making to determine the best way to revitalize distressed

areas and expand access to quality housing.

Forums are scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 15, 6:30 p.m., Glenmore Savage Community Room, 1197 W. Main Street; and Monday, Dec. 19, 7 p.m., City Council

Chambers inside City Hall, 151 W. Church Street. Both sessions are free to attend and open to all Lewisville residents.

A public survey of housing issues was posted on cityoflewisville.com/housing

beginning Monday, Nov. 6, soliciting input from residents regarding community issues. It will remain active until Wednesday, Nov. 30. Input gathered from the public survey and the public forums will influence a draft

Assessment of Fair Housing. That document will be featured on the City's website from Friday, Dec. 2, through Monday, Jan. 2. Comments on the document are welcome at the Monday, Dec. 19, public meeting.

Calloway's Nursery donating 10 percent of poinsettia sales to Lena Pope

This holiday season, Calloway's Nursery will hold its annual poinsettia sale to benefit Lena Pope, a non-profit organization that provides counseling and education services impacting more than 20,000 people in need each year.

For many years, Calloway's Nursery has part-

nered with Lena Pope on its poinsettia sale to support Lena Pope's mission to create hope, happiness and success for children and families. This partnership allows Calloway's to extend its outreach efforts, making a meaningful impact on the communities in which employees live and work.

"Calloway's Nursery strives to be a good neighbor in every community it serves," said Calloway's CEO Marce Ward. "We're proud to partner with Lena Pope to honor our commitment to the community and help those in need across Texas."

"The poinsettia sale is a

great way to make an annual tradition even more meaningful, because each purchase helps Lena Pope build stronger families in our community," said Todd Landry, CEO of Lena Pope. "We appreciate that Calloway's creates this giving

opportunity in support of our education and counseling programs."

Until Nov. 25, Calloway's will take early orders for poinsettias from local businesses, organizations and individuals. For each poinsettia sold, 10 per-

cent will be donated to Lena Pope. Six-inch red poinsettias are \$9.99 each; twenty or more poinsettias must be ordered to receive free wraps and delivery between Dec. 5-16.

To order, call or visit your local Calloway's Nursery.

TRUMP, continued from Page 1

from by every living former President of the United States and many leaders of his party. Almost every newspaper endorsed his opponent.

But he won.

He insulted women, anyone who crossed him, nearly every ethnic group, threatened deportation of thousands and pledged to build a wall to keep the undesirables out.

But he won.

Listening to the results roll in it became very clear the Democrats gravely underestimated the level of fear and anger on the immigration issue. Perhaps Trump's success in the Rust Belt can be contributed in part to residual anger at former President Bill Clinton and the jobs lost as a result of NAFTA. However, the voters appeared more concerned about the potential of more lost jobs due to the

influx of immigrants. The Democrats must figure out a way to make sure the citizens of rural America feels heard.

At the end of the day will the United States of America survive his presidency? Of course, we will. While many may disagree with the results, at least it demonstrates that in America, the people have the final word.

David Wilfong contributed reporting to this story.

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Stewart holds a master's of business administration from the University of Michigan and a bachelor's degree in economics from Georgetown University. In addition to many national awards, she also has been recognized with honorary degrees from Alabama A&M, Morgan State University, Texas Southern University and Trinity University. Mrs. Stewart is married to Jarvis C. Stewart, the Chairman and Managing Partner of I+R Media LLC, a public affairs and strategic communications firm based in Washington, D.C. The Stewarts have two children, Madeleine and Savannah.

"I am grateful to have the opportunity to lead an organization with such a sto-

ried history as the March of Dimes," said Stewart. "Across polio, birth defects and the prematurity campaign — few organizations have made such a lasting impact on the futures of mothers and babies as the March of Dimes. I feel honored to join this tradition and seek new ways to reach and protect every mother and baby in the future."

"We welcome Stacey as incoming President," said Dr. Howse. "She is a highly regarded and accomplished nonprofit executive who will bring her keen sense of social justice to the March of Dimes and our commitment to health equity and a healthy birth for every baby. While we've made progress in reducing rates of prema-

ture birth, more work is needed. I am confident that her leadership will drive continued improvement in national prematurity rates by expanding our cutting-edge research and broadening the reach of our programs."

Dixon shared this sentiment. "We are very excited to have Stacey lead us into the future. We are equally grateful for the wonderful legacy and iconic leadership of Dr. Howse. Our work to end prematurity under her leadership has been outstanding. It's delightful to see these two working together toward a smooth and orderly transition. Our entire organization, its volunteers, staff, donors and partners should be proud of both our heritage and our future."

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Discover Dallas ISD Fair to showcase district schools and programs

With more than 159,000 students, the Dallas Independent School District is unquestionably the area's pre-K-12 education leader. Still, in today's competitive education market, district officials want to be sure families are aware of the dozens of schools and academic programs available in Dallas ISD schools.

That's why the district is bringing together representatives of every district school for the first-ever Discover Dallas ISD Fair on Saturday, Dec. 3, at the district's Ellis Davis Field House and STEAM Middle School at D.A. Hulcy.

Whether families have children heading to



For the first time ever, Dallas ISD will showcase all 228 schools for families to view the various programs offered to students on Saturday, Dec. 3 at Ellis Davis Field House and STEAM Middle School at D.A. Hulcy. Photo courtesy: Dallas ISD

pre-kindergarten or high school, parents should mark their calendars for this opportunity to meet and talk with teachers and school ad-

ministrators eager to explain why their schools are a superior choice for families who want the best education for their students.

Dallas ISD has 228 schools offering academic programs from pre-K, single-gender and magnet schools to collegiate academies, STEM and STEAM schools and neighborhood schools that boast close ties to their surrounding communities. "In north Texas, our schools offer more educational options than are available anywhere in the metroplex, and we have a track record of improving graduation rates and preparing students for college and careers," said Stephanie Elizalde, Dallas ISD chief of School Leadership.

"We want parents to see and experience what our schools are doing to put more

students on a track for academic and career success," said Elizalde. "Seeing is believing, and this event is a chance for our district's 228 schools to showcase what they have to offer discerning families looking for a quality education for their children."

The fair will feature school representatives, exhibits and demonstrations of career and technical and STEM programs like robotics and culinary arts. And because Dallas ISD schools excel at exposing students to the fine and performing arts, the fair will feature choir, band and instrumental performances.

To learn more about the Discover Dallas ISD Fair, visit www.dallasisd.org/discoverdallasisd, or call (972) 925-3959.

coverdallasisd, or call (972) 925-3959.

To ensure adequate parking and to provide families sufficient time to visit booths and collect information, it's suggested that families attend the fair according to the following schedule:

- 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Families with last names A-L
- 12:30 to 4 p.m. - Families with last names M-Z

Elementary schools will be showcased at Ellis Davis Field House, 9191 S. Polk St., and secondary schools will exhibit across the street from the field house at Hulcy Middle School, 9339 S. Polk St. Parking and admission to the event are free of charge.

DCCCD students learn more than hard skills for the job market

Some digital media students at Eastfield College may have thought that just knowing how to use a computer to design graphics would be enough to get a job. However, industry groups in North Texas and around the country say that they are struggling to find employees who have soft skills – those intangible assets, such as communication and critical thinking, which help workers become more productive.

A recent study by professional networking company LinkedIn.com found that "soft skills are increasingly crucial" for job-seekers. According to the report, 59 percent of the hiring managers they polled found it "difficult" to find workers with soft skills. In addition, 58 percent said the lack of soft skills has limited "their com-



Alan Pedraza presents his work to other students. (Photo: DCCCD)

pany's productivity."

The LinkedIn.com study revealed that some of the most in-demand soft skills are communication, teamwork, punctuality and critical thinking, and teaching those skills has become an essential component in classrooms across Dallas County Community College District cam-

puses.

Alan Pedraza, a digital media student who is finishing his last semester at Eastfield, said he is by nature very quiet. He also knows that to work in the design industry, he must be able to communicate and work as a team member to improve his effectiveness.

"Since I was a kid and all through high school, I wouldn't talk to anyone, and I just kept to myself," Pedraza said. "But I found out in my first job while I was in high school that I had to learn to communicate with others."

Slowly, Pedraza has shed some of his shyness. Last summer he had an internship with the media department at Eastfield, where he had the opportunity to work on his design skills.

"I had to communicate with the rest of the supervisors. I would do the logos and animations and turn them in, and then I had to describe what they were," Pedraza explained. "I think it has to do with confidence. If you're not confident, then you don't think you can do it."

David Danforth, digital media program director at

Eastfield, said students in his classes have to present and sell their work in front of other students.

"A lot of them are not comfortable doing that. We tell them, as graphic designers, that they have to defend their work," said Danforth. "If they're talking with a client, and the client has an idea but it's not a good idea, they have to find a way to approach the issue. They can't just say, 'No, that idea sucks,' because that client is going to walk away and find someone who thinks his idea is a good one."

Danforth explained that the program instituted soft skills, in addition to the technical aspects of digital media, based on industry needs.

"We have an advisory committee that meets once a year with us, and they tell us

every time, 'They know the software. They know design. But it's the communication skills they are lacking,'" Danforth said.

"I think it might be generational. Millennials don't talk much to each other. They're used to texting. They're used to emailing each other or 'snapchatting' each other," added Danforth, who also cautioned that it's important for Eastfield's faculty and older students to adapt to millennials' style.

"At some point, everybody is going to end up working with people from that younger generation, and you can't just tell them they have to do it this way or that way. What happens if you try to get a job and your boss is a millennial – and that person

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ELECTIONS, continued from Page 3

ulated. And Mr. Trump's racial rhetoric suggests that the Duke endorsement, if unwelcome, was at least somewhat consistent with that which Mr. Trump has been preaching.

The use of terms like "law and order" or "stop and frisk" ignores the issues the Black Lives Matter Movement has raised, not the least of which are the police

killings of young Black people. And the Black Lives Matter Movement has been routinely been disparaged during this 2016 campaign. The disparagement of the Black Lives Matter Movement really disparages all Black people and reminds us that, despite progress, race still matters.

If racism and sexism are woven into the fabric of our

nation, how do we pull those threads out without ruining the fabric? Or has the fabric already been so fully shredded that we have the opportunity to "start over." Actually, there will be no starting over. Our economic structure and the credo of predatory capitalism depend on the ability of capitalists to extract surplus value from the work of those that are "other." Capitalists maximize profits by minimizing

expenses. Thus enslavement, though an inhumane institution, was also an efficient one for those who were able to use free labor. We've come a long way from enslavement, but the exploitation of workers continues, which is why the "Fight for \$15," which will disproportionately benefit women and people of color, is so important.

This 2016 election has put many of our national

wounds, and much of our fractured history, on display. Is there healing after all of this divisiveness? Washington gridlock isn't likely to stop just, because the election is over. Still, there must be leaders who are willing to talk solutions. When does our nation finally confront race and talk about reparatory justice? When do we, culturally, talk about sexism and the pay gap that remains, despite women's

progress? Or will we continue to limp along, wounds exposed, the fabric so frayed that it can't be stitched back together?

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available via www.amazon.com for booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.juliannealveaux.com.

African Children's Choir slated to play First Christian Church Plano

The African Children's Choir melts the hearts of audiences with their charming smiles, beautiful voices and lively African songs and dances.

The choir will perform locally on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church Plano (813 E. 15th St.).

The program features well-loved children's songs, traditional Spirituals and



Gospel favorites. Concerts are free and open to all. A free-will offering is taken at the performance to support African Children's Choir

programs, such as education, care and relief and development programs.

Music for Life (The parent organization for The

African Children's Choir) works in seven African countries such as, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Nigeria, Ghana and South Africa. MFL has educated over 52,000 children and impacted the lives of over 100,000 people through its relief and development programs during its history. MFL purpose is to help create new leadership for tomorrow's Africa, by focus-

ing on education.

The African Children's Choir has had the privilege to perform before presidents, heads of state and most recently the Queen of England, Queen Elizabeth II, for her diamond jubilee. The Choir has also had the honor of singing alongside artists such as Paul McCartney, Annie Lennox, Keith Urban, Mariah Carey, Michael W. Smith, and

other inspirational performers!

Promotional support of this community concert is greatly appreciated.

The African Children's Choir is a nonprofit humanitarian and relief organization dedicated to helping Africa's most vulnerable children today so they can help Africa tomorrow.

No tickets, donations welcome.

18th Annual Christmas in the Park happens on Saturday, Dec. 17

On Saturday, December 17th thousands of southern Dallas families will gather at the Fair Park Automobile Building for the 18th Annual Christmas in the Park. A record 44,336 people were served in 2015 with basic necessities like clothes and food while others found toys, bikes and more to help make a child's Christmas wish come true. Joining S.

M. Wright II, co-founder, President and CEO of the S. M. Wright Foundation will be his mother, co-founder Debra D. Wright and his brother, co-founder The Reverend Calvin Wright, along with many of Dallas' business and community leaders.

One of the highlights is Coats for Kids, which is a program created by Maddy

McGuire, a Highland Park High School (HPHS) student. She has been participating with her parents, Natalie and Mike, along with her sister Sophie in Christmas in the Park since she was three years old, making this her 14th year to volunteer. She also founded the S. M. Wright Club at HPHS and along with approximately 50 volunteers, seek

donations of new warm coats all year long to give hope and happiness to kids in desperate need. In 2015 3,000 new coats were gifted at Christmas in the Park. The club also presented a check to S. M. Wright II in the amount of \$19,240 raised from donations to benefit the foundation. Funds raised by the club purchase new Coats

See PARK, Page 8



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PLANO

Student art on display at Collin College gallery

Enjoy artwork from some of Collin College's best student artists as THE ARTS gallery presents The Student Expo, Nov. 7-Dec. 14.

The exhibition will include student artwork in a variety of diverse media, including art metals/jewelry, ceramics, communication design, digital arts, drawing, figure drawing, painting, 2-D design, 3-D design, paper making/bookbinding, photography, printmaking, sculpture and watercolor. A special reception for the show is planned in the gallery from 4:30-6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, Dec. 14.

THE ARTS gallery is located in Room A175 of Collin College's Spring Creek Campus, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano. Regular gallery hours are: 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Fri-



day-Saturday.

SACHSE

City kicks off winter averaging for utilities

The process the City of Sachse uses to determine wastewater charges for individual accounts, called winter averaging, has begun and will continue until March of next year.

To calculate the charges for sewer service, water utilities, including Sachse's Water Department, take an average of the amount of water used during the winter months, and uses that average as the basis for wastewater charges for the year. The month with

the highest total and the one with the lowest total are not factored into the average.

The reason this is done during the wintertime is because utilities assume that the vast majority of water used during the winter is used primarily inside the home and discharged into the sewer lines. The assumption is that most homes and businesses severely curtail or eliminate their outdoor irrigation during the winter.

The five-month averaging, concluding next March, will determine the wastewater charges for April 2017 through March 2018.

Step Up in Dallas receives support from coach

Recently Coach, Inc., a leading New York design house of modern luxury accessories and lifestyle collections, orchestrated a special event to celebrate their continued support of Step Up, a non-profit organization that inspires girls to achieve their dreams. The occasion, held at Coach NorthPark Center and hosted by blogger, Tanya Foster, also toasted the opening of the latest chapter of, Step Up in Dallas, made possible through the backing of the Coach Foundation.

Throughout the special evening, attendees shopped the latest collections and learned more about Step Up from CEO, Jenni Luke. A portion of



Executive Director of Coach Foundation Margaret Coady, Tanya Foster, Step Up Managing Director Cordelia Tullous, and Step Up CEO Jenni Luke. (Photo: Amber Knowles)

the proceeds directly benefitted the local Step Up chapter.

Due to the Coach's direct support, it was noted during the event that Step Up in Dallas was able to complete the first module of programming focused on goal setting and encour-

age more than 150 girls to enroll in their mentorship curriculum. Coach embraces Step Up's mission to empower girls to accomplish their goals and was pleased to support the Dallas opening, making the city the first regional extension in ten years.

PARK, continued from Page 7

for Kids through Burlington Coat Factory's community program and HPHS awards service hours for students. Ray Washburne, President and Managing Director, Highland Park Village and co-founder of MCrowd Restaurant Group, and his wife, Heather, Honorary Chairs, will be joined

by Nita and Cullum Clark, Chairman of the Board at the S.M. Wright Foundation and their children, co-chairs and the host committee. 2016 co-chairs are Allie Beth and Pierce Allman, Gina and Ken Betts, Julie and Darren Blanton, Deni and Kevin Bryant, Doug Deason, Ola and Randall Fojtasek,

Heather and Todd Furniss, Suzanne Bock Grishman and Michael Grishman, Brooke and Jeff Jackson, Natalie and Mike McGuire, Lisa and Jeff Rachor, Michael Watson, Carrie and John Willding.

All supporters and their families have long-time traditions of volunteering to disburse toys, food, other ne-

cessities and help with managing the event. Over 1,800 volunteers will join to share the holiday season with their families. Run by the S.M. Wright Foundation, a 501c3 nonprofit organization providing support and stability to inner-city underprivileged children and less fortunate families in the South Dallas/Fair Park community,

Christmas in the Park has grown from serving less than 200 underprivileged kids in 1998 to over 44,000 residents. The foundation also provides hunger relief, educational support, health, social service assistance and economic empowerment. The foundation's goals are to move these families from a position of dependency to

self-sufficiency and to restore stability to families and the community.

For more information on Christmas in the Park and the S. M. Wright Foundation and how you, your corporation and business can become involved, visit the website at www.christmasat-fairpark.com.

Legendary Apollo astronauts visit middle school female students at Frontiers of Flight Museum

Capt. Fred Haise (Apollo XIII), and Col. Walt Cunningham (Apollo VII), recently visited with 7th-8th grade students from the all-girl schools, Irma Lerma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School of Dallas and Young Women's Leadership Academy at Bill Arnold of Grand Prairie. The students are part of the Frontiers of Flight Museum's Young Women's STEM Leadership Initiative Visit: <http://www.flightmuseum.com/initiatives-partnerships/>.

The initiative is a collaboration between Dallas ISD's Irma Lerma Rangel Young



Astronauts Fred Haise and Walt Cunningham entertain questions about space exploration at the Frontiers of Flight Museum.

Women's Leadership School and Grand Prairie ISD's Young Women's Leadership Academy. Both are public all-girl's schools in the D/FW area which emphasize leadership, as well as STEM

(science, technology, engineering and math) education.

The Frontiers of Flight Museum is conveniently located just north of downtown on Lemmon Avenue at

the southeast side of Dallas Love Field Airport, north of Mockingbird Lane. Housed in a modern 100,000-square-foot facility, the Museum provides a focal point to explore the history and progress of aviation, as mankind continues to pursue going higher, faster and farther. Hours of operation: Monday - Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: Adults \$10; Seniors (65+) \$8; Youths/Students (3-17) \$7 and children under 3 are free. For more information, visit <http://www.flightmuseum.com/>.

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Almost Christmas is a splendid new holiday treat

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

Almost Christmas is a holiday treat your family will want to enjoy again and again. It hits all the right notes with a good blend of laughter and heart-warming family story. At times the audience was laughing so loud at the antics of Mo'Nique, you could not hear the movie, it was just that good.

Walter (Danny Glover) is adjusting to life without his queen following the death of his beloved wife. Now he is facing the prospect of his first family Christmas without her, which with four very independent grown children is a quite an undertaking, throw in spouses and grandkids and the house is burst-



ing at the seams. Now you know everyone, of course, does not play well together.

Sibling Rivalry

First, the two sisters, Rachel (Gabrielle Union) and Cheryl (Kimberly Elise), are virtually sworn enemies, and they have a take no prisoners approach to their battles. Add to the mix a hus-

band with a wandering eye (J.B. Smoove) and the sisterly relationship is on a collision course for disaster.

Then the two sons, while they can get along together ok are so far apart in age and mindset, don't have a lot in common. Christian (Romany Malco) is running for Congress and certainly won't let

a little thing like Christmas get in the way of schmoozing with potential donors. Evan (Jessie T. Usher), the accident baby that many of us have in our families, is a rising college football star, but is missing mama leading him to make some bad decisions?

The grandchildren are too much. The two older kids are nerdy, but hilarious without being smart aleck. Rachel's daughter Niya (Nadej Kyla Bailey) is rather wise for her age. Cameron (Ikoya Brunson) may love books more than sports, but he has a good heart, although perhaps a weak stomach. Like all kids today these two are attached to their tech toys and are not above spying on the grown-ups via a hidden cell phone.

But you cannot have a Christmas story without a sweet little angel face little girl that steals every scene she is in. For Almost Christmas, the perfect fit for youngest grandchild Dee is Marley Taylor.

Scene stealers

J.B. Smoove as Cheryl's husband and was a standout in the otherwise disappointing Barbershop 3 earlier this year. His skill as a standup comic is on display. Omar Epps in a role that will remind you of the character he played in Love and Basketball is quite the leading man once again.

But the one who brings every single scene she is in – whether on screen or not – is Mo'Nique. As Walter's sister-in-law, Aunt May to the

family, she tries to help fill her sister's shoes in keeping the family together. But it is pretty clear the two sisters were very different women. Unlike her angelic sister who devoted her life to family, church, and the homeless shelter. May traveled the world as a back-up singer and she never fails to reference every tour. She cannot cook anything someone would want to eat, and her language is better suited for a bar than a church. Bottom-line she is hilarious.

Often movies of this type suffer because they try too hard. Almost Christmas does not suffer that fate. It is a movie you will enjoy this holiday season, and look forward to watching again and again.

Deals being served up for Veterans Day

Several local restaurants are offering free food to veterans on Nov. 11 as a thank you for their service to the country. OK let's be real, it is a marketing tool too, but are you really going to turn down a free cannoli? Here are a few announced freebies so far:

Carlo's Bakery will be offering 1 free cannoli to service men and women who show valid identification. - Only valid for in-store purchases on Nov. 11. Veterans and active-duty military must present valid military ID or proof of service at the register to receive the offer. Limit one per person. Valid for both plain and chocolate cannolis. Cannot be combine with other promotions. While supplies last.

Abacus and Jasper's restaurants are proud to announce a new initiative in support of our nation's veterans on Veterans Day, November 11th, 2016. Every veteran who dines in one of the restaurants will receive a complimentary entrée with a valid military ID.

"Our military heroes deserve our support and admiration, and with this ac-

knowledge, we say thank you to all the men and women for your service and sacrifice." said William Hyde.

Restaurants participating in this initiative are Abacus in Dallas, as well as Jasper's locations in Plano and Richardson.



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Christmas Is "Claus" For Celebration At Gaylord Texan Resort

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Gaylord Texan Resort, where the doors to a winter wonderland are preparing to open for the 13th annual Lone Star Christmas event – taking place this holiday season from Nov. 10, 2016 – Jan. 1, 2017. Visitors of all ages will be delighted by a variety of festive holiday activities, live entertainment, and

grand holiday displays to celebrate the most wonderful time of the year.

A few of the special activities of the season includes the annual Ice display and this year they are stepping it up a notch with more than 2 million pounds of ice carved by 40 master ice artisans from Harbin, China. They have created what promises to be magical holiday

scenes, an "On the Blocks" ice bar (21 & up), and five ice slides – all taking visitors through a brand new theme, the classic television special Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town.

Visitors will feel as though they have been transported to the North Pole as they walk through the 14,000-square-foot attraction kept at a wintry 9

degrees. To keep guests warm, the resort will provide free parkas for both children and adults – but everyone should still come dressed for the delightfully chilly experience.

Of course, there will be photos with Santa available but for more info on all of the events planned visit www.christmasatgaylordtexan.com.



Former First Lady of two African nations, Graça Machel launches new women's network

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Contributor

In an effort to transform the narrative and negative perceptions of African women and children, Graça Machel, the former first lady of two African nations, recently established a first of its kind Pan African Women in Media Network (WIMN).

The network of women journalists will work in conjunction with the Graça Machel Trust.

"The Graça Machel Trust's Women Rights program is based on our aim to multiply the faces and amplify the voices of women, especially in areas where they are underrepresented," said Machel, who's also the founder of the Foundation for Community Development in Mozambique. "Through our women's networks in agribusiness, finance and 'Women Creating Wealth,' we foster links and build a critical mass of highly-qualified and active women across sectors and professions who can work collectively to influence, shape and drive the socio-economic policies to ensure that they achieve economic prosperity and social change."

The Graça Machel Trust works across the African



Graça Machel said that the primary mission of WIMN is to amplify the voices of women's movements, influence governance and promote women's leadership and contributions in the economic, social, and political development of Africa. (Graça Machel)

continent to amplify women's movements, influence governance, and advocate for the protection of children's rights and dignity.

The Trust consolidates the work of Machel and seeks to build on her legacy by inspiring the younger generation to take up new challenges and create societies that value and care about social justice.

Machel noted that the primary mission is to amplify the voices of women's movements, influence governance and promote women's leadership and contributions in the economic, social, and political development of Africa.

The Trust also advocates for the protection of children's rights and dignity.

Recognizing the crucial role that media plays in

shaping societal attitudes, Machel said it's important that women are at the center of transformation within the media landscape.

The new network has also gained the support of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), the Black Press that's comprised of approximately 208 African-American owned newspapers across the United States.

"The National Newspaper Publishers Association supports and salutes the Graça Machel Trust that effectively empowers African women. When African women are empowered, it results in advancing all African people throughout the world," said Dr. Benjamin Chavis, the president and CEO of the NNPA.

"The Diamond Empowerment Fund, co-founded

by Russell Simmons, me and others also recognizes the extraordinary global leadership of Graça Machel and the Graça Machel Trust. I vividly remember meeting Graça Machel at her home in Maputo, Mozambique along with her husband South Africa President Nelson Mandela and my colleague Russell Simmons in 2006."

Chavis continued: "We discussed the ongoing struggle and movement to transform Africa for progress and the liberation of all who stand for freedom and equality."

Prior to her marriage to Mandela, Machel was the wife of Mozambique President Samora Machel. She also served for more than a decade as that country's minister of education and culture.

Machel said that WIMN will drive coordinated messaging and build awareness on issues related to health, education, and women's economic empowerment, which will have a positive effect on women and children.

"Given the influential role that media plays in shaping societal attitudes, the network seeks to change the present narrative of women that presents them as powerless victims and ig-

nores the many positive stories and successes," Machel added. "When economically empowered, women take control of their lives, set their own agendas, provide solutions to their problems and challenges, and develop self-reliance."

Machel added: "To build a strong and equitable future for all Africans, we acknowledge the fundamental contribution of women and ensure that we create a supportive and enabling environment where they are able to fully participate and benefit."

The network will also create an inter-generational platform to allow young talented female journalists to participate and work alongside the continent's more seasoned veterans. WIMN will comprise an initial group of about 30 to 40 women journalists, bloggers and influencers, officials said in a statement.

"Women and children's issues have tended to make headlines more as victims that are helpless, abused and exploited yet women and children have, over time, been capable of so much more, having overcome many obstacles and excelled in many sectors of the economy and society," said WIMN board co-chair

Susan Makore. "The amazing stories need to find more expression in our media. Therefore, I hope to do my part in ensuring that key stories that highlight and celebrate the various facets of children and women's activities across all sectors are given prominence in the media by working with my colleagues that run media houses, especially in Zimbabwe where I hail from."

Bronwyn Nielsen, the co-chair of the WIMN advisory board, said that Africa's youth and female dividends are at the core of the continent's future and, with the right support.

"It is a fact the women and children who can positively impact the future from an economic growth and development perspective," said Nielsen. "I look forward to working with my fellow board members and all the members of this privileged network to jointly leverage our circles of influence under the esteemed guidance of Mrs. Machel to drive this agenda deep across the continent with both speed and passion."

Nielsen continued: "Together we can create a new narrative when it comes to Africa's women and children."

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New York AG, CFPB join forces to fight illegal national debt collection scheme

By Charlene Crowell
NNPA Columnist

A new federal lawsuit alleges that since at least 2009, two major players in the debt collection industry have illegally operated, harassed, threatened and deceived millions of consumers across the country – often for debts that were either inflated or not even owed. The scheme based in Buffalo, New York, also netted tens of millions of dollars in revenue each year.

The case seeks to shut down the illegal scheme, secure compensation for victims and assess civil penalties against the companies and its partners.

On November 2, New York's Attorney General Eric Schneiderman and Richard Cordray, Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, filed charges against the scheme's two principals, Douglas MacKinnon and Mark Gray.

"[W]e are taking action against the ringleaders of this operation," noted Director Cordray, "so they can no longer prey upon vulnerable consumers."

"Living with debt is difficult enough, without the added stress of being harassed and threatened by debt collectors," Attorney General Schneiderman said. "These collection shops inflated debts, threatened victims and deceived them out of millions. This suit sends the message that debt collectors that employ abusive tactics will be held accountable."

In recent years, debt collection abuses have emerged as a growing consumer finance issue for communities of color. Both research and investigative news have found that consumers of color, along with low and middle-income communities are frequently

targets of collection lawsuits that today represent a still-growing \$13 billion industry.

According to the lawsuit, MacKinnon and Gray operate a network of at least 60 fly-by-night collection shops to collect on large debt portfolios purchased by three interrelated firms: Northern Resolution Group, Enhanced Acquisitions and Delray Capital, all based in Buffalo, New York. MacKinnon and Gray created, operated and oversaw the illegal operation.

Among the actions cited as illegal violations included:

- Falsely threatening legal action;
- Impersonating law enforcement officials, government agencies and court officers; and
- Inflating consumer debts and misrepresentations of amounts consumers owed.

These kinds of actions violate both the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

Enacted in 1978, the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act protects consumers from abusive or deceptive fraud in debt collection practices. It applies only to the collection of debt incurred by a consumer primarily for personal, family, or household purposes. Two of its most important provisions are that a debt collector cannot phone a consumer's residence before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m.; nor attempt to contact a consumer at their place of employment.

Similarly, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act specifically bans unfair and deceptive acts or practices in the consumer financial marketplace in a variety of lending areas that include mortgages, student loans,

debt collection and others.

Last year, CFPB returned \$360 million to consumers wronged by unlawful debt collection practices and collected over \$79 million in fines. In addition, the Federal Trade Commission separately received approximately 900,000 consumer complaints on debt collection.

In recent comments to the CFPB, the Center for Responsible Lending advised, "CRL strongly supports the concept that a debt collector must possess a reasonable basis for making a claim that an individual owes a debt ... The burden rightfully should be on debt collectors to establish that they have the legal right to collect the debts and are collecting from the right people, for the right amount of money."

For Lisa Stifler, CRL's deputy director of state policy, the joint action taken by New York's Attorney General and CFPB is representative of what should happen more often to better protect all consumers.

"Consumers need the protection of both state officials and CFPB to rid the marketplace of bad actors and illegal debt collection practices. It's an encouraging sign that one of our most populous states is working in concert with CFPB to end financial abuse. It's an example worth emulating by other states."

Charlene Crowell is the communications deputy director with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsible-lending.org.

The mobile emergency room

As older folks grow older conditions may arise that require critical medical attention and, in many cases, getting to an emergency room may be too difficult to manage, according to the Association of Mature American Citizens.

So a number of hospitals across the country have devised mobile emergency rooms-fully equipped SUV's manned by specially trained paramedics who can deal with a variety of emergencies in a patient's own home.

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A TICKETSURANCE PLAN CAN PROTECT YOUR BUDGET FROM UNEXPECTED, COVERED SITUATIONS LIKE:



How a little work could lead to over \$1,000 in savings

By Nathaniel Sillin

How long would it take you to earn an extra \$1,000? Contrary to what spam and internet ads tell us, after taking taxes and deductions into account, it's not an easy task. But you might be able to



save over a thousand dollars with a little work. The key is to decrease or eliminate un-

necessary recurring expenses.

You can use the savings to build up an emergency fund or invest them for important long-term goals, such as travel or retirement. Additionally, a savings safety cushion can help keep an un-

expected setback from ballooning into a financial crisis, such as a broken down car or the loss of a job leading to debt.

First, identify savings opportunities. You may want to start by connecting your bank and credit card ac-

counts to budgeting software, or uploading previous months' statements and categorize purchases. You'll get a quick snapshot of your finances, which can help you identify savings opportunities and get a sense of how much money is on the line.

Cancel services and regularly negotiate rates – save over \$100 a month. "Cord cutting" is a popular and simple way to save money. Rather than pay for cable or satellite TV, you might choose to cancel your

See SAVINGS, Page 13

SKILLS, continued from Page 6

wants to communicate with you in a certain way? You might be 50 years old, so you have to adjust to that style," Danforth explained.

Gemmy Allen, a business management faculty member at North Lake College, said the advisory committee for her program recently told the college that local businesses wanted students to acquire soft skills in addition to the hard skills they already were learning.

"In the past, people trained on the job, or businesses expected colleges to train new employees. But now, for example, we also have to explain to students why punctu-

ality is important to productivity," Allen said.

Oslynn Williams, digital media instructor at Eastfield, said he teaches that the concept of timeliness is important in the business world.

"We emphasize not only communication but also how to meet deadlines. We apply logic and creativity to solve problems," Williams said. "Soft skills can make you or break you in a job interview."

Preston Pope, who expects to graduate in December with a degree in digital media, said he thought all he had to do was learn how to use a computer to create graphics and that he would get a job.

"I've learned the hard way that you do need to communicate with people," Pope said. "I never told teachers about the issues I was having in some classes, and that set me back. Now I've learned, in digital media, that people have to communicate and solve problems together to put a product out."

Emylee Lucas, who expects to graduate with an associate degree in digital media in May 2017, said no one has specifically used the words "soft skills," but some instructors have taught the top issues mentioned in the LinkedIn.com study.

"I have done some job interviews where they asked about my hard skills," she said. "But they also wanted to

know about my interpersonal experiences. They wanted to make sure I could work well with other employees and with customers."

"Soft skills are intangibles," North Lake's Allen added. "A lot of the tests we give are just about what's in the textbooks, and the students are just repeating it. They're not coming up with something new. With soft skills, they learn critical thinking: how to help to solve a problem."

"They think they can do the job with technical requirements, but we tell them they have to get along with people, such as the boss and their peers, and they have to act like professionals and have interpersonal skills."

Those types of things are never tested for in school," said Allen.

Juan Serrano, who also is studying digital media at Eastfield, said he wants to start his own business in graphic design and photography, and he has been working in music distribution. As a result, he has learned how to talk to people like promoters and venue owners.

"I have a sales mentality," Serrano said. "I know when to talk 'slang' with my friends and when to speak professionally."

Michael Cooley, dean of the construction program at North Lake, said his program does not offer a specific course on soft skills, but they are incorporated in all of his

courses. Those skills include technical writing, speech and communication, and they are – in addition to the academic classes – required for an associate degree.

Soft skills are in such high demand that they are taught to future chefs enrolled in the Food and Hospitality Institute at El Centro College. Steve DeShazo, director of the program, said those skills are sprinkled throughout the curriculum.

"Soft skills are fully embodied in our co-operative education classes, which comprise the capstone for all of our associate degrees. We teach them so that students can go out and have a successful career," DeShazo said.



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- Coordinate the development of the various forms of electronic communication (email, social networking, church message board and marquee, etc.);
- Act in a consulting role and serve as general editor in the production of communications produced by all ministries of the church;
- Act as the church contact for external media seeking information from or about the church;
- Coordinate efforts to advertise church activities, functions, services and general information to the local community;

Essential Skills:

- Bachelor's degree (preferably in some aspect of mass communication), or equivalent experience.
 - Website portfolio; strong web-site design skills.
 - Proficient in use of HTML, Adobe Creative Suite, Flash,
 - Experience in website and electronic media design and development.
 - Advanced Computer skills with working knowledge of Microsoft Office suite, Microsoft Publisher, InDesign and other desktop publishing software
 - Interpersonal and networking skills; Attention to detail and accuracy.
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 - Command of the English language; strong verbal and written communication skills; with excellent editing and proofreading ability.
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Business owners invited to Midtown Express Task Force Meeting

SouthGate Constructors, the lead contractor for the Midtown Express project, will host its next Business Owner Task Force 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 16 at its Field Office, 2220 Chemsearch Blvd.,

Suite 100. Any businesses or business representatives along or near the Midtown Express Corridor are invited.

The meeting is intended for business owners along the Midtown Express corridor to learn about upcoming

traffic impacts, as well as ask project experts questions about construction near their businesses. This meeting will focus on the businesses in the City of Irving, as well as upcoming traffic changes. Parking is free on the

northwest side of the SouthGate Field Office. Participants should contact the Midtown Express Public Information team at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting with translation service requests.

SAVINGS, continued from Page 12

service and opt for lower-cost entertainment options.

If you don't want to eliminate services entirely, you could try to negotiate rates with your cable or internet providers. A successful call could lower your bill by \$20 a month or more, saving you a couple hundred dollars a year. A few tips: ask for the cancellation department and request the business match a competitor's lower price or give you the current promotional rate. Don't be afraid to try again if you're not successful – it can take several attempts to connect with a representative who will work with you.

Avoid bank fees – save over \$10 a month. Occasionally paying to withdraw money from an ATM or paying fees for a low-balance checking account might not seem like a big deal, but the money adds up. Two ATM fees and a checking-account fee could cost you over \$10.

Some accounts waive fees as long as you maintain a minimum balance, and there often isn't an ATM fee for

withdrawing money from an in-network ATM or getting cash back when making a purchase. There are also checking accounts that refund ATM fees at the end of each month. There can be advantages and disadvantages to any account, read the terms of your checking and saving account agreements to understand when, and why, you may need to pay a fee.

Shop for insurance discounts – you might be able to save over 20 percent on your premiums each month. Use online comparison tools to quickly and easily get quotes on auto, renters, homeowners and other types of insurance. Compare the rates, coverage and insurance companies to see if switching makes sense for you.

Ask your agent about potential savings if you decide to stick with your current insurer. You might be eligible for discounts you aren't receiving because the information on file doesn't reflect your current situation. If not,

there are usually discounts for simple purchases, such as a fire extinguisher for your home or an anti-theft device for your car.

Buy products that more than pay for themselves – save hundreds each year. Sometimes you need to spend money to save money. Buying a coffee maker for your home is the cliché example, but that doesn't mean it's without merit. Purchasing a water pitcher with a filter rather than bottled water can also lead to immediate savings.

Other purchases are long-term investments. It might take months to break even after buying LED bulbs or upgrading your appliances to energy-efficient models, but after that you could save money on your utility bill

each month.

Bottom line. Start your savings effort as soon as possible and you can build your emergency fund, a safety net that can help you avoid stressing about potential financial setbacks. Lowering your monthly cable bill will lead to almost instant savings, while making an investment in energy-efficient appliances will pay off after months or years. Add it all up and in the end you could find that just a bit of effort leads to over \$1,000 in annual savings. It's a great start.

Nathaniel Sillin directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Practical Money Skills on Twitter: www.twitter.com/Practical-Money.

Looking for energetic interns in the Dallas Area

A local community newspaper has an internship position available. The goal is to provide students and aspiring writers an opportunity to gain published clips, experience and professional feedback. The position is for 20 hours a week at \$8.50 per hour. Assignments will include covering local events, phone interviews, and rewriting press releases.



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NOTICE: Pastor Woodson serves the community by providing "Professional Therapy and Counseling Services" NOT FREE, but on a "Sliding Fee" scale. To schedule an appointment call the Pastoral Counseling Center at 972-526-4525 or email the church.

November 13, 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.

November 16, 7 p.m.
Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Woodson and Pastor Brenda Patterson teaching a series on "Design for Discipleship, Book 5, Chapter 3." Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you. It's Time to Grow; Ephesians 4:12 & 13.

December 3, 1-4 p.m.
Back by popular demand, ladies mark your calendars; W.O.R.T.H. Women are excited to present, again, "Brush It Up, the Christmas Edition, Let Your Inner Artist Out!" Call the church for details.

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November 11, 7 p.m.
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**November 13, 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.

November 16
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.

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November 13, 8 a.m.
You're invited to our main campus at 200 West Belmont Drive for morning service and a blessing from God; followed by our Sunday Worship Services at Bolin Elementary School in Allen, Texas 75002 and bring someone with you and see them blessed by God.

November 16, 12 p.m.
Join us in 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.

**November 27, 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; followed by our Sunday Worship Services at Bolin Elementary School in Allen, Texas 75002 and bring someone with you, you will be blessed.

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**November 13, 7:30
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November 14, 7 p.m.
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Pastor Rickie Rush

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November 13, 10 a.m.
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November 16, 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
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Pastor Gloria Fenceroy
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**SHILOH MBC
IN PLANO (WHERE
COMMUNITY
BECOMES FAMILY)**

**November 13, 8 a.m.
And 11 a.m.**
Join us for Worship Services and fellowship as we give God all glory, honor and praise.

November 16, 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. We are, "Growing in Christ through the study of His Word."

December 11, 2 until 6 p.m.
Mark your calendars for our Annual Christmas Banquet. It's always fun and inspirational. Call the church for details.

Our AWANA (Approved Workman Are Not Ashamed from 2 Timothy 2:15) is held from 6:30 - 8:15 pm, now through May. Kick-off was

September 7th. There is no charge for registration for new participants! This is a Bible-based program for children and youth, ages three years old through the 12th grade. The emphasis is on memorizing the Word of God and developing a personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ in a structured, safe and fun environment. Our church ministries offer opportunities for motivation and growth; join us and see. Be blessed of the Lord.

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In times of stress



Sister Tarpley

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

With the 2016 Elections now over with, and the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays now starting; there are many disasters happening world-wide today, I see and hear of people all stressed out.

First there were hurricanes, storms, floods, mudslides, earthquakes, etc. With each disaster folks have lost jobs, homes, loved ones, and sometime even their faith.

I even heard on the radio that some church members at a certain church in Waco, TX were questioning God about their pastor being electrocuted while doing His work?

I begin to think, why some people seem to survive a disaster better than others? How can people minimize

the stress in their lives from an unforeseen set of circumstances?

I remembered the biography of one man that overcame his disappointments and trials to become a successful individual. At 16 years old with \$3 in his pocket, he moved to New York City.

He slept on a rooftop until he got a job as a dishwasher. He applied for a job that was listed in an ad but he wasn't a good reader and didn't get the job.

He was disappointed but he didn't let that stop him from striving to improve his lot in life. He was determined to succeed; determined to fulfill his ambition.

That man is Sidney Poitier. Not only is he one of the best known actors in this world, but he was the first Black actor to win an Oscar. Denzel Washington is the second Black man.

There are people that continue to live in spite of their disappointments and trials. When they find themselves in tough circumstances, they

bravely overcome them.

When they are struck down by illness and catastrophe, assailed by grief and failure, when they are treated unfairly or betrayed, they not only survive, they confront their stresses and sorrows in ways that deepen their lives.

They go on with grace,

distinction and courage. It has been said that the trials of life are far less important than how one deal with them. By adopting a special outlook on life, many others can learn to be a survivor.

Survivors learn to: Make happiness a habit. They enjoy life even when troubles spring up. They take

one day at a time. They learn to accept large and small victories.

It has been said that no one is born happy. Everyone makes his own happiness. They accept change. They realize that change and problems will come whether we want them or not.

They learn from the problems in their life. At times what looks like a disaster may turn out to be the best thing that happened to them. They don't give up.

Survivors do what has to be done, no matter how overwhelming the odds are. They reach out to others.

They cherish involvement with others. They are givers.

Duke University researchers found that one of the best predictors of health, happiness and long life is the tendency to reach out to people. They live in the present.

"Not one of us can bring back yesterday or shape tomorrow," adds Fredrick Buechner in *The Hungering Dark*. "Only today is ours and it will not be ours for long; and once it is gone, it will never in all time be ours again."

Survivors are not afraid to

See TARPLEY, Page 16



Little Miss Abby Mottley, 10 months old, daughter of Xavier and Elizabeth Mottley, not a care in this world, her father takes care of her

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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

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Wednesday Night Live
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NDG Book Review: *Tales of the Talented Tenth: Bessie Stringfield*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

It's a great big world out there.

So many things to see, so many places to visit. You can find pictures of those spots, but photos aren't enough. You want more, and you aim to touch as much of the world as you can. It's a common desire and, as in "Tales of the Talented Tenth: Bessie Stringfield" by Joel Christian Gill, you might make history while you're doing it.

Bessie Stringfield didn't remember much of her childhood.

She did, however, recall



how her father saved to bring Bessie and her mother to America. They boarded a big ship for the journey from Jamaica to Massachusetts and for the whole trip, Bessie's mother was ill. Once they reached Boston, her mother died; over-

whelmed, Bessie's father abandoned his little girl.

Taken to an orphanage, Bessie was cared for by kindly nuns but she longed for a family of her own. She was still a young girl when she was adopted by a white lady who gave her a good home and a fine education. Bessie grew to be a proper young lady but she had one desire that was unusual for girls then: she wanted a motorcycle. She'd seen boys on bikes and she wanted to be "free and happy" like them.

On her birthday one year, her mother had a surprise for her...

Almost by instinct, Bessie embraced the bike and rode it everywhere. As an adult, she traveled across the U.S. eight times. She did "Penny Tours" by dropping a coin on a map for her next destination. Married six times, she was more in love with the road than she was with any man but there was one thing that baffled Bessie: the South.

Unused to Jim Crow laws, Bessie learned to take care of herself with speed and tricky maneuvers on her bike. Those fancy moves helped her get jobs with sideshows where she became The Motorcycle

Queen of Miami; she entered races, and got work with a courier service during World War II. And when that was over, she traveled around the world before settling down to teach.

"Man," says author Joel Christian Gill, "she was something!" And he's right: "Tales of the Talented Tenth: Bessie Stringfield" is a pretty amazing story.

Set at a time when women (Black women in particular) had few rights, this book tells the true tale of a pioneer on two wheels. What makes it so appealing is that it's entirely illustrated and formatted like

comic books of yore, which enhances the story and its teen-friendliness.

Young readers get a great sense of Stringfield's importance in history and if they want more information, Gill helpfully offers websites and further information at the end of this book.

This is a great biography for readers 12 and up, and could be a good gift for a Motorcycle Mama of a higher age. For them, or for anyone who wants to learn about an interesting, little-known story, "Tales of the Talented Tenth: Bessie Stringfield" is the book to see.

CLINIC, continued from Page 4

demonstrations and games. Glucose screenings will also be available.

"Diabetes is at epidemic proportions in America and in Texas, and is taxing the health of our population and our economy. The time for action is now," said Luigi Meneghini, MD, Executive Director of Parkland's Global Diabetes Program and Professor of In-

ternal Medicine at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

"The goal of the event is to provide useful, practical information to the community in a relaxed and casual environment so participants can learn about the disease and make better lifestyle choices that help them manage diabetes or even prevent it," said

Sharon Cox, a registered dietitian at Parkland who is coordinating the event.

Kellie Rodriguez, CDE, Director of Education & Community Engagement for the diabetes program, emphasized that "screening is important, since 25 percent of patients with diabetes do not know they have the condition. Just as worrisome is the estimate that about 89 million Americans have predia-

betes, a condition in which sugar levels are not high enough to be classified as diabetes, but are elevated

above normal levels. Persons with prediabetes have a 50 percent chance of developing type 2 diabetes if

they don't make significant lifestyle changes, such as diet and physical activity."

TARPLEY, continued from Page 15

dream. People go about their tasks without weariness if they have a goal and a belief in what they are doing.

They have a purpose, a dream.

It is always worth the effort to be a survivor. This

longing to beat the odds, to conquer our own weakness, has carried humanity through its long history. It is the cry of the heroic in all of us.



TOWN HALL MEETING Dec. 6

Representative Eric Johnson's Legislative Town Hall will be held on Tuesday, December 6th from 6:00pm - 8:00pm at the Dallas County Schools Building. (5151 Samuell Blvd. Dallas, TX 75228)

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