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New Irving entertainment complex construction falling far short of minority participation goals

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

Construction on the Toyota Music Factory (formerly commonly referred to as the Irving Music Factory before Toyota acquired naming rights in September) continues, and the project promises to be a source of both revenue and entertainment for the City of Irving and its residents. However, according to one local activist, the project is not living up to its promise in terms of providing economic opportunity under the Minority and Women's Business Enterprise (M/WBE) guidelines set out in the beginning.

According to the agreement reached, the project administrators were to make a "good faith effort" to include 30 percent participation from M/WBE businesses during the design and construction of Irving's newest entertainment designation. Ground broke on the project on Aug. 30, 2014.

Anthony Bond, founder of the Irving Chapter of the NAACP and who lobbied on behalf of the project since it was nothing more than an idea, recently requested documents from the city regarding costs of construction to date, and where the project fell in terms of meeting its M/WBE obligations. Currently, that figure rests at 13



Irving's newest entertainment destination (Courtesy image)

percent.

To date, in terms of design and construction, the overall figure is \$96,343,520. The amount paid to minority businesses is reported as \$12,132,348. In the design phase, the M/WBE participation was close to the goal at 29 percent. It is during the construction phase where that percentage dropped.

"It is the essence of why I have championed Irving to adopt a M/WBE program," Bond said, which the city did implement in 2007. "I believe the City of Irving had a genuine commitment, and I believe Ark had a genuine commitment. I don't want to get into the blame and shame game." However, Bond is frustrated to learn 70 percent of the dollars have

been spent, and the remaining balance has already been allocated.

"I am crushed to see the numbers this low in such a diverse community. City of Irving did not participate in the bidding and the awarding of the bids on this project, which involved nearly \$200 million. The land, venue and more belongs to the Irving taxpayers," Bond said. He is not encouraged to learn there is a possibility of total minority participation may reach 20 percent. "Anything less than 30 percent is unacceptable," he stated.

When contacted, the administration at the city's office stated they had placed the responsibility for

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DISD must do better with Black businesses

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Tea may be helpful for weight loss

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McKinney house lost due to fire

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Partnership gives teachers an edge

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People In The News...



Randall Kennedy



Barachi

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READERS SOUND OFF!!!

See Page 2 to see what NDG readers are saying about the latest news!

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Randall Kennedy

(Harvard Gazette) Thurgood Marshall is revered as a titan of the U.S. Civil Rights Movement, the architect of the landmark court case that ended legal segregation in America's public schools, and the first African-American Supreme Court justice. Yet for five of his former law clerks gathered Wednesday at Harvard Law School (HLS), he was more than that.

For Mark Tushnet, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Law, Marshall was a messenger of hope and courage to African-Americans who endured the



injustices of the Jim Crow South. As a criminal defense lawyer for the NAACP in the 1940s and '50s, Marshall often traveled to the segregated South to defend black men who were falsely ac-

cused of rape and murder in hostile courts packed with all-white juries, in towns with influential Ku Klux Klan members.

"When he came to town to do trials, it was as if Jesus Christ came to town," said Tushnet, who clerked for Marshall in the '70s and has written several books about the noted justice. "People would come out to see him. In Oklahoma, kids from an elementary school were taken to the courtroom to see him defending. And the very fact that it was a black man doing a criminal defense, standing up on the stage, it mattered to those kids."

For Randall Kennedy,

Michael R. Klein Professor of Law, who clerked for Marshall in the '80s, the associate justice was a source of pride, lifting the spirits and the consciousness of black Americans who were treated as second-class citizens.

"I grew up with the name of Thurgood Marshall as part of the soundtrack of my life," said Kennedy. "He was Mr. Civil Rights. I remember my father talking about watching Marshall argue a case in 1948. What he remembered was that the judges and the opposing lawyers called Marshall 'Mr. Marshall.' And that was a big deal given the etiquette

of the Jim Crow South, when black men were not called Mister."

For Martha Minow, former dean of Harvard Law School, Carter Professor of General Jurisprudence, and University Distinguished Service Professor, who also clerked for Marshall, he was the embodiment of a deep commitment to social justice and faith in the power of the rule of law to bring equal rights to all eventually.

"His faith in the rule of law and the legal system was profound, even though he wrote the most searing critique of the bicentennial of the American Constitution I've read," said Minow.

"He was not at all naive, but he was someone who modeled for the world that it's possible to use reason in courts to tear down oppression."

At the panel discussion held in conjunction with the upcoming release of the movie "Marshall," which opens in theaters Oct. 13, HLS professors who served as Marshall's law clerks recalled and explored his life and legacy. Directed by Reginald Hudlin '83, the film features Marshall as a young attorney in a 1941 criminal case in which he defended a black chauffeur and butler falsely accused of

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Barachi

Las Vegas, NV (BlackNews.com) -- Miami-based singer/ songwriter/ actor/ producer Barachi sparked electricity and excitement with two recent live performances in Las Vegas. The singer unleashed his unique brand of sexy R&B/Pop recently in front of nearly 3,000 revelers with live performances at Vegas hot spots Jewel Nightclub and Liquid at ARIA Resort & Casino. Barachi performed the romantic grooves "Tell Me" and "U Got Me" from



Therapy, his upcoming Visual Album, Film, and Soundtrack on GMUSIC ("SonyRED"), powered by The Orchard, a division of Sony Music Entertainment.

"I had tingles throughout my body when I saw the crowd's reaction and the lineup for pictures," says Barachi, who proved again that his incredible vocals are not just made in the studio. "It was an experience I will never forget. I look forward to giving the fans what they want by creating excellent music and sharing quality material."

"The response from the Vegas fans is key to Barachi's launch, 'Tell Me' is the first song that was performed, and seeing the crowd's reaction ... We will

begin a nationwide campaign immediately," says Lindsay Guion, CEO GMUSIC ("SonyRED"), powered by The Orchard, a division of Sony Music Entertainment.

"Over the past six years that I've been in Vegas I've seen so many artists perform, and a majority of the time their vocals are not up to par compared to what you hear when they are on the radio," says Kevin Justin, Senior Marketing Host for The Hakkasan Group, Las Vegas, which owns the both Jewel and Liquid Pool Lounge venues.

ues.

"But with Barachi, it was refreshing to hear that he could actually sing without all the tricks that go on in the recording studio to enhance vocals. The way he naturally performed was excellent and we were glad to see that the crowd was having a good time."

A self-taught musician, Barachi composed and co-produced every track on his upcoming project. More information on the brand-new Visual Album, Film and Soundtrack to Therapy starring Barachi

Lucien is available at www.barachi.com.

Based in New York City, GMUSIC GROUP provides comprehensive management and label services that include recording, publicity, promotions, publishing, merchandising, tour support, booking, and marketing.

Recently appointed CEO of GMUSIC GROUP, Lindsay Guion is a personal manager and global advisor who brings 20 years of experience in branding extraordinary talent to his current role.

NDG Readers Sound Off...

Ed Gray, NDG Senior Columnist: Dallas Sleeps Because It's Good for Business

Whew! I was about to fall totally asleep before I read

-- Barbaitter

KKDA Soul 73 changes

I so miss he radio station there is no other station to play old school like this one I'm a 70s baby n I soaked up songs from this station then and before they went off air... Does anyone know where the ppl are now? The DJs...

And I also loved wen they did the Fortune of the day.

-- Tamika Ballard

NDG Readers' opinions on the State Fair

Ride you're most scared of:
I do not ride. I walk and eat.

-- Janet Morris

I love the ship ride. Scars me every time. Especially when you sit in the back.

-- Cynthia Monique Garza

Fried food item you're most excited for:

Love Fletcher's corny

dogs!

-- Andréa Reed

I can't wait for the funnel cakes, fried Oreos and jalapeno corn dogs!!!

-- Na'Kenya Zena Stewart

Favorite Grambling State memories from State Fair Classic Games:

The first time my daughter watched the Marching Tigers was my favorite memory.

-- Rachel Elizabeth Bowlden

Trying to create my first memory by attending the State Classic this year!

-- Latayah Beauchamp-

Andrews

Favorite PVU memories from State Fair Classic Games:

My best friend from grade school is PV alumni ..every year since 1991 we attend State fair classic ! Love the halftime Marching bands ..plan to take my granddaughter this year for the first time! She will love it as I do!

-- Stacy Nicole Shaw

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Does Dallas ISD really want to work with our local Black contractors?

NDG's View

The old adage, 'where there is smoke, there is fire' has been ringing true about the way the Dallas Independent School District (Dallas ISD) has handled minority, particularly Black, contractors. The blatant disrespect and downright disregard of the racial minority business contractors who apply, and are continually overlooked, for bids with the district.

But let's set the tone. In the North Dallas Gazette's Aug. 23 article by Contributing Writer David Wilfong entitled Dallas ISD responds to concerns from Black contractors, addressed questions regarding the surge in complaints from Black contractors. These DFW contractors believe they are being overlooked as white male contractors put businesses in their wives' name. This end-run allows them an advantage when bidding on projects with the districts. These immoral, yet not illegal, practices are costing Black contractors opportunities with the Dallas ISD as

well as causing financial constraints.

Wilfong reported from his interview with John Proctor, president of the Dallas Black Contractors Association that Proctor estimates Black businesses are getting approximately one percent of the work with Dallas ISD, maybe up to three percent with the city, and only about one percent of the work with private businesses. He said they spend more time sitting on the bench waiting for work than they do performing work for Dallas



ISD.

These numbers are insulting and downright disrespectful. It leaves us to ask how ridiculous and insulting for the metroplex's official school district to partake in heinous and immoral practices against Black contractors? Who does the district have working for them if they cannot determine Black contractors are being overlooked by White women posing as minority contractors, who in reality may not even know what an Allen Wrench is?

when in fact those same awarded bids are never completed by the Black-owned firms listed? The point we are striving to make is that thanks to manipulation, sometimes the numbers do actually lie! Black minority-owned contracting firms are continually overlooked and disregarded when attempting to partner with the Dallas ISD because of the district's discriminatory practices.

If you think the district cares about Black contractors just take a look at how

tors who are bidding on various opportunities with a one percent success rate, we believe they do not respect Blacks.

We applaud Dallas ISD Trustees Joyce Foreman, District 6; Bernadette Nutall, Trustee; Dr. Lew Blackburn, District 5 for their on-going efforts in being the voice for the students and listening to the concerns of parents relating to several key issues.

However, we call upon each of them to do more to address the continual challenges Black contractors have with the district's procurement process. With more economic opportunities available the community can grow, the children have an opportunity to have work and training to build a brighter future for themselves, and they have a chance to be empowered by

seeing thriving Black-owned businesses making a difference daily.

No longer are the racist buffoons hiding behind white sheets lurking in the night waiting to burn the crosses. No, they sport button down

pressed shirts with slacks and penny loafers. They smile and shake the contractor's contractors hand while hoping our color does not stain their hand. They listen intently to our desires to grow our business if we are awarded bids. Then they place our bids in the dark places and bury our hopes with denial letters.

Dallas ISD officials, are you going to continue to allow the disparity to continue? Or are you going to truly work with Black contractors?

2008 Dallas ISD Bond Expenditures



Of course, we realize there are plenty of qualified women in the construction industry, but we also know White male business owners are putting businesses in the names of White women simply to gain a competitive advantage.

But are we truly surprised with the district's discriminatory practices against Black contractors? Are we surprised false information is often sent out or dispersed through the media with statistical data that suggests minority-owned firms are awarded contracts,

they deal with their Black students. Within the past three years, various news coverage has included students protesting for a better learning environment. Parents have protested because of the closing of schools. In predominately Black communities, the schools and textbooks are beyond outdated.

So the question becomes, does Dallas ISD even respect Blacks at all? From the looks of how the district treats their students, the parents, and now the contrac-

Black tea may be able to help with weight loss, too

UCLA researchers have demonstrated for the first time that black tea may promote weight loss and other health benefits by changing bacteria in the gut. In a study of mice, the scientists showed that black tea alters energy metabolism in the liver by changing gut metabolites.

The research is published in the European Journal of Nutrition.

The study found that both black and green tea changed the ratio of intestinal bacteria in the animals: The percentage of bacteria associated with obesity decreased, while bacteria associated with lean body mass increased.

Previous studies indicated



The UCLA research could help explain the difference between how black tea and green tea change energy metabolism. (poppet with a camera / Flickr)

that chemicals in green tea called polyphenols are absorbed and alter the energy metabolism in the liver. The new findings show that black tea polyphenols, which are too large to be absorbed in the small intestine, stimulate

the growth of gut bacterium and the formation of short-chain fatty acids, a type of bacterial metabolites that has been shown to alter the energy metabolism in the liver.

"It was known that green tea polyphenols are more ef-

fective and offer more health benefits than black tea polyphenols since green tea chemicals are absorbed into the blood and tissue," said Susanne Henning, the study's lead author and an adjunct professor at the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, which is part of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. "Our new findings suggest that black tea, through a specific mechanism through the gut microbiome, may also contribute to good health and weight loss in humans."

"The results suggest that both green and black teas are prebiotics, substances that induce the growth of good microorganisms that contribute to a person's well-

being," she said.

In the study, four groups of mice received different diets — two of which were supplemented with green tea or black tea extracts:

- Low-fat, high-sugar
- High-fat, high-sugar
- High-fat, high-sugar and green tea extract
- High-fat, high-sugar and black tea extract

After four weeks, the weights of the mice that were given green or black tea extracts dropped to the same levels as those of the mice that received the low-fat diet throughout the study.

The researchers also collected samples from the mice's large intestines (to measure bacteria content) and liver tissues (to measure fat deposits). In the mice that consumed either type of tea extract, there was less of the type of bacteria associated with obesity and more of the bacteria associated with lean body mass.

However, only the mice that consumed black tea extract had an increase in a type of bacteria called *Pseudobutyrvibrio*, which could help

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Local food served on school lunch trays nationwide

By Sandra Renner

October is National Farm to School Month, a time to recognize the importance of improving child nutrition, supporting local economies, and educating communities about the origins of their food.

In 2016, the Center for Rural Affairs joined more than 220 organizations nationwide to promote farm to school throughout October. This year marks the seventh year for National Farm to School Month, designated by Congress to bring aware-

ness to the growing importance of these programs in child nutrition, local economies, and education.

What makes farm to school special? The program helps students learn where their food comes from and provides healthy access to more fruits and vegetables. It is an avenue for rural schools to keep spending in their communities with purchases made from local farms and food businesses.

Educators can also weave farm to school into math and science curriculum. The

program is a great addition to business and entrepreneurship classes, as well as cooking classes. Imagine learning culinary skills using seasonal, local ingredients and how to buy them.

According to the 2015 U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm to School Census, farm to school programs have invested more than \$789 million in local communities; offered 17,089 salad bars with healthy options to students and staff; and grown 7,101 school gardens. Approximately 1,039 school districts serve local

foods during the peak season in the summer months and 1,516 school districts start farm to school early in their pre-K programs.

The numbers don't lie. Farm to school is a win for students, farm, food businesses, and communities. For more information on National Farm to School Month, visit our online toolkit at www.cfra.org/f2smmonth.

Sandra Renner can be reached via email sandrar@cfra.org at the Center for Rural Affairs.

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This is a great opportunity to discover the CIP projects available for the upcoming year.

- Meet City staff from Procurement, Parks & Recreation, Engineering and Public Works
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- Prime and sub-contractors are encouraged to attend
- Ask procurement and project questions



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LCLD and SMU Tower Center hold healthcare policy forum featuring research from their partnership for the first time

The Latino Center for Leadership and Development (LCLD) and Southern Methodist University (SMU) Tower Center for Political Studies are hosting a healthcare policy forum Oct. 10 to highlight research from

one of the the first class of grantees titled, "The Status of Latino Health in a Shifting Political Landscape."

"With the signing of the Affordable Care Act in 2010, thousands of Latinos gained access to healthcare.

As talks of reform of the Act brew in our nation's capital, it is essential that we have an understanding of the impact any change will have on our community," said The Honorable, Miguel Solis, LCLD president.

The forum will highlight research from one of the 13 Tower Center-LCLD grantees, Dr. Edward D. Vargas, Assistant Professor at the School of Transborder Studies, Arizona State University. Vargas' funded re-

search looks into the health of Latino children and the spillover effects of anti-immigration laws.

"We want people to come away from this forum with a deeper understanding of what's stake with healthcare

reform," said Danielle Lemi, LCLD -Tower Center post-doctoral fellow.

Vargas will be joined at the forum by The Honorable, Jeffrey Sanchez, a State Representative from Massachusetts.

Eighth Annual Royal Fall Ball is scheduled for Oct. 28

Progressive Initiatives, Inc. is hosting the 8th Annual Royal Fall Ball to raise funds for the Progressive Initiatives Scholarship Fund. This fund will provide scholarship money for qualified graduating Dallas

metropolitan area high school seniors, in the spring of 2018. The 8th Annual Royal Fall Ball is being held on October 28, 2017 at the Hilton Lincoln Centre Hotel near the Galleria in Dallas, TX. This event will

allow us to support the educational dreams and aspirations of young people in the spirit of one of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. national program, Education.

In addition to recognizing and awarding scholarships

to deserving 1st year college students, each year the Ball honors an outstanding African American citizen whose impact has improved or impacted lives in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Previous honorees in-

clude Attorney, Mentor and former Judge H. Ron White, Mrs. Ann Williams, Founder of the Dallas Black Dance Theater, and Yolanda Starks White, producer and executive producer of the nationally syndicated Tom

Joyner Morning Show and former US Trade Ambassador, Secretary of State of Texas and Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk.

For additional information visit, www.progressive-initiatives.org.

House fire in McKinney results in heavy damage

McKinney Fire Department (MFD) responded to a single story residential structure fire Sept. 29 at 3405 Willow Springs Dr. just before 1:30 p.m. The homeowner stated he was standing outside when he noticed smoke coming from a window in the back of the

residence and called 911. Arriving MFD units reported visible smoke and flames coming from the back of the residence and initiated an aggressive exterior fire attack. The fire was quickly brought under control and extinguished. Significant fire, heat and

smoke damage was present throughout the residence.

The Homeowner suffered a cut to his hand, when he attempted to lift the garage door to get his vehicle out. Red Cross was contacted to assist the family.

Approximately 27 MFD personnel, and investigators

from the Fire Marshal's Office responded to the fire. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

For additional information on fire prevention, fire and life safety tips and smoke alarms, visit www.mckinneyfire.org or call 972-547-2862.



Community symposium set Oct. 6 for suicide prevention

VA North Texas Health Care System in partnership with Texas Association of Addiction Professionals will bring a comprehensive public approach to build a suicide prevention commu-

nity practice. Community partners, providers and mental health professionals will discuss physical and emotional conditions of suicide, identifying those at risk and evidence-based

treatment approaches.

Among the 20 Veterans who take their own lives every day, 14 never used VA health care services.

VA realizes combatting suicide and preventing sui-

cide attempts must be a community effort – one person lost to suicide is too many.

Speakers include internationally recognized suicidologists Dr. David Jobes of

Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and Dr. Stephanie Gamble VA Center of Excellence for Suicide Prevention in New York/New Jersey.

The event is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Meadows Foundation Conference Center located at 2900 Live Oak St. in Dallas.

KENNEDY, continued from Page 2

sexual assault and kidnapping by his employer, a white socialite.

The panel was moderated by Tomiko Brown-Nagin, Daniel P.S. Paul Professor of Constitutional Law, director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race & Justice, and professor of history in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and Kenneth Mack, the Lawrence D. Biele Professor of Law.

When the panelists were asked to talk about Marshall's personality, they shared smiles of recognition, and went on to tell tales about his larger-than-life presence, his impish sense of humor, and his masterful storytelling abilities.

Minow recalled that when

she went for her job interview with Marshall, she was fighting a cold and feeling sick. Marshall recommended that she follow his father's home remedy. "He said to me, 'You take quinine and whiskey, and you leave out the quinine,'" said Minow, to laughter in the room.

"He was a formidable person in all respects," recalled another former clerk, William Fisher, WilmerHale Professor of Intellectual Property Law and faculty director of the Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society. "He was big, gruff, and impatient with pretense. If we ever got a little bit too forthright, he'd point to the wall and say, 'I don't see

your name up there signed by the president of the United States?' He kept us in check."

Marshall regularly regaled clerks with stories of his life growing up in Baltimore, of his dangerous journeys to the South working for the NAACP, and his tenure on the Supreme Court. Tushnet recalled a story Marshall told in which he said he narrowly escaped being lynched in Tennessee by breathing into a judge's face to prove he was not drunk. "The judge released him, and he left town," said Tushnet. "And Marshall, as he tells the story, says, 'I wasn't drunk then, but let me tell you, an hour later ...'"

As much as the clerks said they relished listening to his

spellbinding stories, they treasured the lessons they learned while working in his chambers.

Carol Steiker, Henry J. Friendly Professor of Law and Special Adviser for Public Service, said she developed a lifelong interest in death penalty law during her clerkship with Marshall.

"The death penalty was a big deal in his chambers," she recalled. "He would tell us stories about early in his career when he represented defendants at trial as well as on appeal in death penalty cases. Mostly they were black men accused of crimes against white victims in the South. And one thing he said often is that he always knew when he had an innocent client because that's when the jury would sentence him

to life imprisonment instead of death. And that really stuck in my head."

All of the panelists highlighted Marshall's legacy of advancing the Civil Rights Movement through the law, most prominently in the historic school desegregation case *Brown v. Board of Education*, in his 1967–1991 term on the Supreme Court, and in his extraordinary and courageous earlier career as a lawyer fighting for racial and social justice in a violent era. Supreme Court Associate Justice Elena Kagan, who clerked for Marshall in 1987–1988, has called him the greatest lawyer of the 20th century.

When HLS student Leighton Watson asked the former clerks whether they thought Marshall would still

believe that the legal system, as opposed to activism or politics, was the most effective route to achieving social justice, it was Minow who replied.

"I think that today, the courts are one tool, but they're very limited for mass social change, for redistributing resources, for changing hearts and minds," she said. "Thurgood Marshall was strategic, but he was very pragmatic. He would use the tools that would work. He'd use social science if that worked, he'd use experts if that worked, he'd use the media if that worked. That's what I would recommend, along with his advice, 'Choose your battles.' That was his advice, and I think about that every day."

University partnership gives aspiring Richardson teachers an edge

A new University of Texas at Dallas partnership creates a path for Richardson Independent School District (RISD) students to become teachers in the district after they finish college.

The Teacher Development Center in UT Dallas' School of Interdisciplinary Studies created the program with RISD and the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD). Graduates will receive priority for teaching jobs in the highly competitive district.

"We're excited to work with Richardson schools and the Dallas County Community College District to offer this avenue for Richardson students to become Richardson teachers," said Laurie Pollock, assistant director, advising and recruiting in the Teacher Development Center. "This program paves an excellent and affordable route for students to progress from high



Sam Weiger, geospatial information sciences senior, talks to Richardson High School students about life as a Comet. UT Dallas' Teacher Development Center has partnered with the Richardson Independent School District and the Dallas County Community College District on a program to train RISD students to become future teachers in the district.

school to a career in a top school district where they can make a difference in students' lives."

Students can earn teaching certificates as part of a four-year college plan.

"We are confident that this new partnership with the Richardson Independent School District and Dallas County Community College District will encourage

more RISD students to pursue careers in education," said Dr. George Fair, vice president for diversity and community engagement and dean of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies. "We are proud to be part of this program to train talented, effective teachers who want to give back to the district."

The program enhances

RISD's Grow Your Own teaching program in the district's Career Technical Education (CTE) curriculum that introduces students to the profession. The district enrolls about 115 students in the program, said Sandra Moore, RISD's executive director of recruiting, mentorship and retention.

"Our goal is to proactively encourage high school students in the program to become acquainted with the many services available to UT Dallas students and customize a progression model that will show students — and their parents — that UT Dallas is a great choice," Moore said.

Once they graduate from UT Dallas and earn their teacher certification, the students will be eligible for an open contract of employment with RISD, she said.

Students are encouraged to enroll in the Dallas County Community College District as part of the

program.

"This unique program will provide students who are interested in the teaching profession with tremendous insights into the educational career field while still attending high school," said Donna Walker, associate vice president of enrollment management at Richland College in the DCCCD. "It's a great opportunity for high school students to get a head start on their four-year degree."

Richland College and RISD are working to develop dual-credit courses that would allow students in the program to earn college credit during high school.

Students with 42 hours of college credits and a GPA of at least 3.0 can automatically transfer to UT Dallas, where they can complete their degree, certification and have the opportunity to complete their field experience and student teaching in the RISD.

"Many of RISD's top teachers attended RISD schools as students and have returned to the district to serve the community," Moore said. "We value Grow Your Own in partnership with UT Dallas and offering this path for our talented students to become talented educators."

Richardson High School students in the teaching internship program visited campus to learn about UT Dallas and the admissions process.

"It's a really helpful program," said Faiza Zaman, who graduated from Richardson High and enrolled in UT Dallas this fall. She is considering majoring in psychology.

The Teacher Development Center offers education courses, field experience, clinical teaching and preparation for teacher certification exams that can be completed as part of a four-year degree plan.

UTA to receive Minority Access' Diversity Institution Award

The University of Texas at Arlington's relentless pursuit of excellence, diversity and inclusion is being recognized on the national stage. The non-profit Minority Access will present UTA with its Diversity Institution Award at the National Role Models Conference in Washington, D.C. on September 29. The organization's mission is to assist colleges, universities, the federal government and

corporations recruit, enhance and retain underserved and underrepresented populations as employees and consumers of goods and services across the nation.

UTA is one of just 35 institutions selected to receive the 2017 Diversity Institution Award and joins a prestigious list of previously honored colleges and universities including Georgetown, Harvard, Johns Hop-

kins, Northwestern, Pomona, Rice, and Wake Forest.

"At the University of Texas at Arlington, we have an unwavering commitment to excellence and access. We believe diversity of thought, beliefs and backgrounds is essential to providing an education of the highest quality," said Troy Johnson, Vice President of Enrollment Management at UTA.

"We are proud that our

constant efforts to attract highly motivated and diverse students and faculty are being recognized."

U.S. News & World Report has consistently ranked UTA among the most ethnically diverse institutions in the nation. The magazine's "Best Colleges 2018" list gives UTA a diversity index of .71, the fifth highest in the nation, based on its multi-cultural undergraduate student body. The maga-

zine also ranked UTA as the top national public university for graduating students with the lowest average student debt in the U.S.

Diverse: Issues in Higher Education's 2017 Top 100 Degrees Conferred list named UTA one of the top universities in the nation for conferring degrees to minority students. UTA is No. 1 in Texas for awarding bachelor's and master's degrees to African-American

students, No. 1 in North Texas for awarding master's degrees to all minority students, and No. 21 in the U.S. for bachelor's and master's degrees conferred to all minority students.

Minority Access has received national acclaim for its successful track record of implementing programs that advance educational, research and employment opportunities for underserved groups.

Mundo Latino at the State Fair



The Women's Museum at the State Fair houses an exhibit and showcase dedicated to the Mexican State of Guerrero (left). On the second floor (right) is a tribute to Texas military personnel who have lost their lives in service of the nation. Both exhibits were open for a sneak preview on Sept. 28 and both run the length of the fair. (Photos: David Wilfong)



ARLINGTON, Va. - United States Marine Corps (USMC) veteran and Carrollton, Texas, resident Mario Alcala was named a recipient of The Vigiano Family Hope and Courage award at the eighth annual Hope For The Warriors' Got Heart Give Hope Gala in Arlington, Va., on Wednesday night. One of five award recipients, Alcala was recognized for his role as a veteran and volunteer with Hope For The Warriors. Named in honor of the Vigiano family, who lost both of their sons in the September 11th attacks, the Hope and Courage awards are presented to service members and military family members who have demonstrated both hope and courage in the



"It's an honor and a privilege to be here with all of the veterans, the active duty service members, and supporters of Hope," said Alcalá. "I really don't feel that I did anything extraordinary to be deserving of this award, but it's such a great

A football player at Southern Oregon University, Al-

Alcala was medically retired from the USMC after

To learn more about Hope For The Warriors or find out how you can get involved, visit HopeForTheWarriors.org.

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City Briefs

Allen

Blue House Too is presenting **photography by David J. Stana** Friday, Oct. 6 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 934 Watters Creek Blvd. Stana's collection contains images of all of America's National Parks through a variety of mediums. More information can be found by calling 972-948-6711.

Carrollton

The Carrollton Police Officers Association is hosting a **Mother/Son Monster Mash** event at Creekview High School at 3201 Old Denton Road, Carrollton on Saturday, Oct. 21 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The event will feature a kid-friendly haunted house, a bounce house, dancing, games, snacks, and a chance to meet real SWAT Team members and firefighters. Tickets are \$10 per person in advance/\$15 at the door. More information can be found here.

Dallas

The **Park Cities/Central Dallas Democrats** are hosting a meeting Saturday, Oct. 7 at the University Park Public Library at 8383 Preston Center Plaza, Suite

200, University Park. The event begins at 10:30 a.m. and will feature Director Zachary Thompson and Medical Director Christopher Perkins from Dallas County Health and Human Services. They will be discussing public health issues. More information can be found here.

Farmers Branch

The **Bloomin' Bluegrass Festival & Chili Cook-Off** will be taking place Friday, Oct. 20 from 4:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Farmers Branch Historical Park at 2540 Farmers Branch Lane, Farmers Branch. The event will feature live entertainment, an arts & crafts marketplace, a kid zone, food, and the Saturday-only Chili Cook-Off competition. More information can be found here.

Garland

The 2nd Annual **Firewheelz BIG Car Show** will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 5840 N Garland Ave, Garland. The event will feature food, fun, games, raffle, and trophies

and awards for those who enter their vehicles to be judged. Entry fee is \$20 per category, while entrance for attendees is free. More information can be found here.

McKinney

The **McKinney Wine & Music Festival** is taking place Saturday, Oct. 21 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 6633 Virginia Parkway, McKinney. This is the first year this event will be taking place. It will feature a dozen of the best wineries from around North Texas, shopping, live music, a grape stomp, a kid zone, and much more. Entrance to the event is free. More information can be found here.

Plano

Calloway's Nursery will host its renowned **Fall Festival** on Saturday, Oct. 7 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 1621 Custer Rd., Plano. The event is kid-friendly and free! Some of the festival activities will include: pumpkin decorating, candy corn bowling, creating balloon art, giveaways, and much more. More information can be found here.

Best Day Ever is one of the best books of the fall

By Ruth Ferguson
Editor

Sometimes marriages can lose the flames of passion as the couple settles into the everyday routine of work and kids. The latest book by Kaira Rouda is the definition of a page-turner as Paul Strom and his beautiful wife Mia set out to rekindle the fire in *Best Day Ever*. Their scenic drive to the lake is the setting of the hottest psychological thriller of the fall reading must-read lists.

Strom has worked very hard to create the perfect life with the picture perfect spouse, kids, home and career. But is everything really as Instagram worthy as he wants everyone to believe? Readers get a peek at how much he does not like any

deviation from his perfect plan real quick as he and Mia set off for a weekend alone at their lake house on a lovely autumn day.

What makes this book so enjoyable is the way Rouda drops subtle hints along the way that hit you and stop you in your track. The reader finds themselves thinking, "wait a minute, did he just" And just because Paul thinks he knows Mia so well, the reader should not make any assumptions.

When I spoke to Kaira Rouda at the Book Expo America in New York City last spring, she shared what inspired Paul – or rather who inspired Paul.

"He came from a long list of bad bosses," Rouda admitted. "He has the type of personality who wants to be



turns, but unlike other attempts at being clever, the twists never fill forced. This comes as a result of effort Rouda put in planning and mapping out the reader's journey. She kept a chart to make sure revelations were not shared too soon.

Dallas fans have an op-
See BEST, Page 10

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Can the Cowboys regroup after breakdowns on both sides of the ball

By Dwain Price
NDG Sports Special
Contributor

There was plenty of blame to go around as the Dallas Cowboys exhibited a case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde while inexplicably dropping a 35-30 decision to the Los Angeles Rams this past Sunday at AT&T Stadium.

For starters, quarterback Dak Prescott misfired on way too many passes when he had receivers open. And the receivers dropped more than their fair share of passes, or simply ran poor routes.

Defensively, linebacker Sean Lee – the heart and soul of the Cowboys’ defense – didn’t play due to a hamstring injury. His absence severely exposed Dallas’ defense, which was neutralized when the Rams often double-teamed and sometimes triple-teamed defensive end juggernaut DeMarcus Lawrence.

And then there was Ryan Switzer.

With the Cowboys nursing a 17-6 lead, Switzer fielded a punt in a crowd – a punt he should have signaled for a fair catch – and promptly muffed it. The Rams recovered the ball at the Dallas 18, and five plays later quarterback Jared Goff fired an easy 7-yard touchdown to Cooper Kupp, slicing the Cowboys’ lead to 17-13 with 6:38 remaining in the first half.

“It was obviously a big play in the game, and you certainly don’t want to do that,” coach Jason Garret said of the muff by Switzer. “One of his strengths as a punt returner and kickoff returner is his ability to catch the ball. He catches with great confidence and handles those situations extremely well.

“Obviously that was a big play. When those things



Dak Prescott and the Dallas Cowboys fell flat on offense, defense and special teams (some might say coaching too) in the lost to the Rams. (Image via Twitter)

happen it becomes a 50-, 60-yard play. It gave them an opportunity to change field position and get down in there for another scoring opportunity.”

While Switzer’s faux pas was crucial, so were the odd ebbs and flows of the Cowboys’ offense. In the first half, the Cowboys tallied 24 points while scoring on all four possessions they had the ball in the opening two quarters.

Yet in the second half the Cowboys (2-2) could muster just one touchdown in their six possessions. Owner Jerry Jones credits his team’s offensive woes to the terrific halftime adjustments made by Rams defensive coordinator Wade Phillips, who was the Cowboys’ head coach from 2007-’10.

“They came in and made good adjustments at halftime, but I particularly want to remind everyone that Wade Phillips is a hell of a coach and they did a good job against what we think is a good offensive group,” Jones said. “Wade Phillips was the difference out here (Sunday) — he did an outstanding job.

“I want to give Wade Phillips his due. This is a big win for the Los Angeles Rams. This is a hurtful loss

for us.”

A hurtful loss because the tea leaves were falling in the Cowboys’ favor in the first half when they led 24-16 and accumulated 287 yards and 14 first downs. But everything fell completely apart in the second half when the Cowboys could net just six points, 153 yards and eight first downs.

“I think it was just us not converting (in the second half),” Prescott said. “I think we need to find a better consistency in our offense, in running the ball and throwing the ball.

“Me and my accuracy, we’ve got to be consistent throughout the whole game. We come out, we’re on fire and we’re feeling good, then we go into halftime and come back and it is not the same. It’s frustrating, but it is about finding what it is.”

Prescott completed 11-of-15 passes for 155 yards and a pair of touchdowns in the first half, but was only 9-of-21 for 97 yards and a touchdown in the second half.

Running back Ezekiel Elliott also turned in yet another strange game. Elliott rushed 14 times for 56 yards in the first half, but gained only 29 yards on seven carries in the second

half.

“We always say when we come out in the second half that it’s zero (to) zero,” Elliott said. “We’ve got to come out there like it’s a new game and we’ve got to get a fast start.

“We just didn’t come out and execute. They did a good job on defense stopping us and their offense did a good job having long drives and running the time out.”

While the Rams bottled

up the Cowboys on defense, offensively the Rams just kept ramming it down Dallas’ throat. In all, the Rams scored on nine of their 11 possessions, including five of the six times they had the

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2018 auto lineup unveiled for the Texas Auto Show at the State Fair

Start your engines for the 2017 Texas Auto show. The State Fair of Texas is shifting gears and moving its beloved auto show into a whole new level of fun, presentation, and innovation. The auto show has always been an important part of the Fair, and the Fair is proud to continually provide an engaging environment where automobile manufacturers can interact with consumers through automotive displays and experiences. This year, the auto show was introduced in its newly rebranded name, the Texas Auto Show. Held on September 28, Texas Auto Show Media Day included big announcements from a long list of manufacturers, ranging from unveilings of all-new models to upgrades and new features added to the current lineups. Highlights from each manufacturer press conference can be found below.



David Wilfong / NDG

Model year 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the first production **Chevrolet** truck. To celebrate the Chevy Trucks Centennial, the brand is honoring the benchmark with a 100-day celebration featuring two new Special Edition trucks, the national rollout of the Truck Legends customer loyalty program, and more. International technology company, **Continental** introduced new innovations to enhance comfort, convenience, and peace of

mind for pick-up truck and trailer operators at the 2017 Texas Auto Show Media Day. For the first time, Continental's Interior division will be in the Truck Zone demonstrating three unique technologies, Passive Start and Entry (PASE) for pick-up trucks; Intelligent PASE integration of the powered tailgate; and an innovative trailer module.

The **FIAT** brand continues to showcase the multiple personalities of the FIAT lineup with two new

models, the 2017 Fiat 500X Urbana Edition and the new 2018 Fiat 500L.

Ford pulled off the wraps of a new F-Series Super Duty Limited that sets new luxury standards for high-end heavy-duty trucks. The F-450 Limited delivers technology and comfort previously reserved only in premium flagship sedans, and it's capable enough to tow more than 30,000 lbs.

Nissan unveiled the new 2018 Armada Platinum Reserve, the most luxurious version of Nissan's flagship full-sized Armada SUV ever. The new Armada Platinum Reserve takes the fully equipped Armada Platinum grade to the next level with a Dark Chrome

exterior trim and 20-inch Dark Chrome wheels.

Ram will pack its indoor and outdoor display areas with a broad lineup of new-for-2018 models, features, and trims that make their first auto show appearance at the State Fair of Texas. Truck enthusiasts will want to get a close-up look at the new 2018 Ram Harvest Edition.

For the first time on Texas soil, **Toyota** will exhibit the Texas-built 2018 Tundra TRD Sport and 2018 Sequoia TRD Sport. The centerpiece will be the all-new 2018 Toyota Camry, coming to the Texas Auto Show with new jaw-dropping styling and exciting performance.

Fairgoers will have the opportunity to see **Volkswagen's** newest models including the 2018 Atlas and the 2018 Tiguan. The seven-passenger, Chattanooga-built Volkswagen Atlas is the biggest and boldest Volkswagen vehicle ever to be built in the United States.

Ideal for fairgoers looking to purchase a new car or simply learn more about today's available options, the Texas Auto Show is full of experts from each of the manufacturing companies, ready to help you with any questions you may have. Whether you're a diehard car fanatic or you just like to look around at the newest models, this event is the ul-

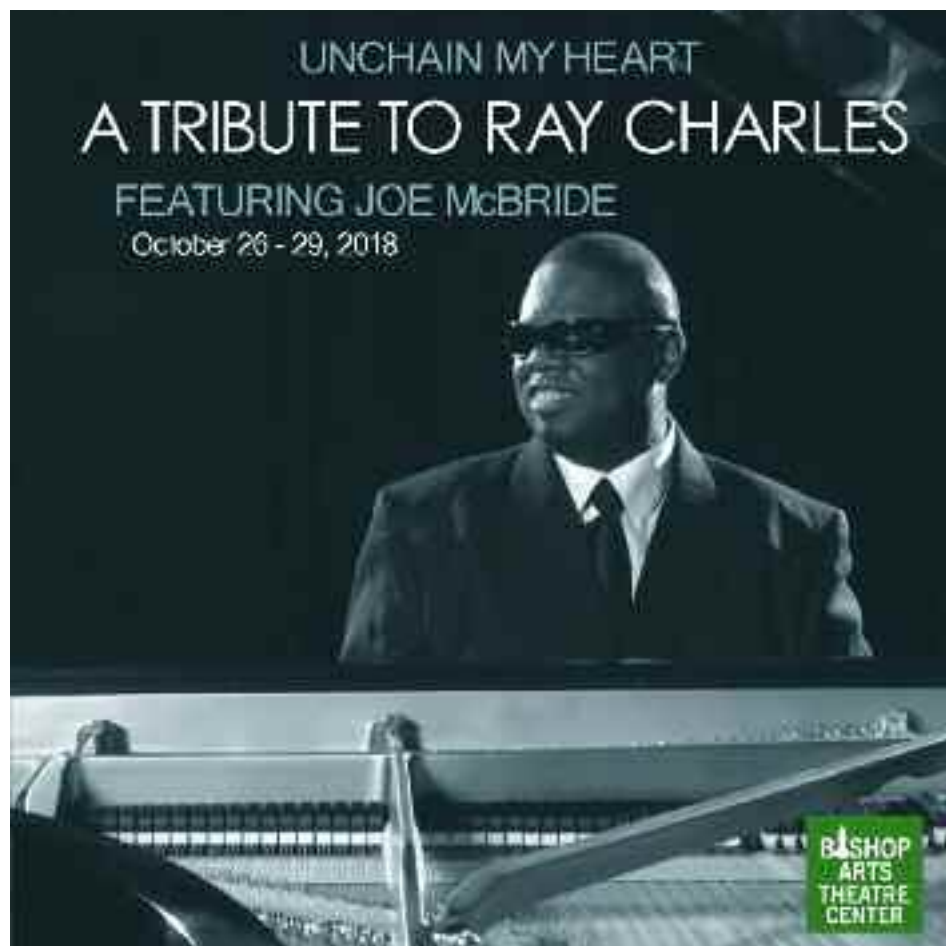
BEST, continued from Page 8

portunity to meet the charming author at the hottest new bookstore Interabang on Thursday, Oct. 5 at 7 p.m. The store opened at Royal and Preston and has hit the ground running with authors

such as Harlan Corben, Attica Lockie and Ken Follett just within the last month.

For Rouda this is book was a departure as the USA Today bestselling author is well known for contempo-

rary fiction as well as modern romances. Best Day Ever is an entertaining book that will grab your attention from page one. Just don't make plans for a couple of hours, because you will want to finish it as soon as possible.





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Top 10 business law mistakes (and how to avoid them)

Part 1: Protecting Yourself

By Chris Parvin

Recently, I had the opportunity to speak in front of business owners at a conference in North Texas. As I prepared, I began to think about the different business law cases I've handled and some of the most common mistakes I've seen from business owners during my career. Many, many times, I've seen unnecessary litigation or problems because a business owner either didn't plan for the future or didn't consider all their options as they made those plans.

Below are the Top 10 business law mistakes I see on a routine basis and my suggestions on how to avoid them. Part 1 of this two-part article will focus on how to protect yourself as an owner; Part 2 will focus on protecting your business. I hope by the end of this series you'll have a better idea of how you can protect your business for years to come.

Top 10 Business Law Mistakes:

1. Failing to Correctly Set Up Your Business Structure

Almost every business needs some type of legal entity. Whether you choose to

incorporate (C Corp or S Corp), create a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC), or even a partnership, any limited liability entity is a better choice than simply operating as a sole proprietorship. Whichever you choose, you need to consider the potential tax benefits and liability protection.

Take Bob, for example. Bob starts a company out of his garage making small hard candies. Because he's so small and just starting up, he doesn't take the time to set up his legal entity. One day, someone with a severe food allergy eats one of Bob's candies and dies. Because Bob failed to put an ingredient list on the packaging, he'll likely be held legally liable. Now, he'll risk losing his personal assets if there's a judgment against him.

Bottom line: Get a limited liability entity for your business, regardless of your business size. Talk to a lawyer so you pick the right one.

2. Mixing Your Personal Assets with Business Assets

Ever heard the phrase, "It's not personal, it's business"? That's not just about how we treat people; it also goes for your assets – bank accounts, credit cards, vehicles, etc. Another big mistake you can make as a business owner is thinking all

assets are the same: yours to do with what you want. When your company owns assets, you must keep them separated from your personal assets. You can't merely use your company credit card or checking account to pay your personal bills. If you choose to mix your personal assets with company assets (called "commingling") or if you use your company funds for personal expenses, you risk a court disregarding your limited liability status.

One time, an attorney hired me to sue someone over a bad floor a contractor put in the attorney's house. The attorney then paid me with a corporate check. See an issue there? To maintain the limited liability wall between your business and you:

- Don't mix personal assets and business assets.
- Don't use the business checking account as "yours" and vice versa.

Bottom line: Keep separate books, separate assets, and generally respect the fact that you and the business are two separate legal persons.

3. Ignoring the Need for Key Agreements

In addition to being a board-certified, practicing attorney, I'm an adjunct faculty member at Texas A&M University School of Law in

Fort Worth. Each term, I tell my students they have to protect themselves against people on their own team just as much as opposing parties. This goes for partners, employees, and even vendors. It may sound harsh, but it's a fact of life. Most business relationships should be clearly defined in writing.

Over the years, I've had clients hire me to sue wayward employees for stealing confidential information or for trying to lure away other key employees, vendors, or clients. I've had cases where a client sued a business partner for misappropriation of funds or for trying to freeze my client out of their own company. I've even had a client sue a spouse's business partners because that spouse had passed away and control over the business wasn't clear.

In most cases, an absence of contracts caused confusion, misunderstanding, and bitterness, and put personal and business futures at risk. The key to protecting your interest and thus your family's welfare is to have solid contractual agreements. For partners, that means agreements specifying what part of the business each partner controls, what happens if one of them dies or becomes incapacitated, and what is

the business worth and when if a partner decides to get out of the business altogether. For key employees, you need an agreement that spells out non-compete expectations or non-solicitation of other employees and/or vendors. And for vendors, you'll want a contract that specifies the terms of your relationship.

Bottom line: Put everything important to your business in writing so you and others have a clear understanding of what's expected.

4. Drafting Contracts on Your Own (Or Going Without)

People hate paying lawyers for doing paperwork. I get it. But don't think of your business attorney as a glorified assistant, typing contracts and making copies. He or she is committed to drafting the right contract for you and you are paying for their knowledge, expertise, and ability to distinguish between a "bad" contract and a "good" contract.

A "good" contract includes clear, concise language; provisions that clearly provide what each party's obligations and benefits are; and provisions that are specific -- especially those that involve timeframes and amounts of

money to be paid. These contracts will also include provisions that you may not care about until you have a problem, things like what state's laws are to be used to interpret the contract; where any lawsuit is to be brought; and whether you can utilize Alternative Dispute Resolution methods like mediation to resolve the problem. There's little guarantee the simple contract you slap together or "have used for years" will hold up should litigation arise.

Bottom line: You know you need a contract, so hire a business lawyer and make sure it's a "good" contract.

So, there are the first four of my Top 10 business law mistakes, focusing mostly on how to protect yourself. I'll be back with Part 2, where we'll look at how you can protect your business. In the meantime, if you've got questions or need to explore adding a business lawyer to your team, give me a call at (214) 974-8940.

Attorney Chris Parvin, managing partner of Parvin Law Group, is board certified in estate planning and probate law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. His firm specializes in estate planning, probate, business law and family law. Learn more at www.parvinlaw.com.

COWBOYS, continued from Page 9

ball in the second half. With Lee unavailable to keep things under control, the Cowboys' defense was like a ship without a rudder.

"Everyone knows what Sean brings to the table, so if you don't have that, it's a loss, but there's no excuses," linebacker Jaylon Smith said. "I think in the second half we did a poor job of getting off the field in critical situations, so we have to be better."

"This league is so great and if you can't get off the field, bad things happen."

Entering the game, the

Cowboys were already bemoaning the fact that the Rams had more days between Games 3 and 4 than Dallas. Prior to playing the Cowboys, the Rams last played on Sept. 21, while the Cowboys had a Sept. 25 contest in Arizona.

Unfortunately for the Cowboys, they'll be under similar circumstances on Sunday when they host a Green Bay Packer squad that hasn't played since Sept. 28. But in rehashing the loss to the Rams, cornerback Anthony Brown said: "They didn't beat us.

The Cowboys beat The Cowboys.

"It's tough, but we've got to keep pushing and moving forward. We'll go to the film room, see what we can correct, and move on from there."

From here, the Cowboys will face a Packer squad that eliminated them in the second-round of the playoffs last season. And the Cowboys in general – and Lawrence in particular will get some help.

Defensive end David Irving will be back on the field after the NFL suspended him from the first four games for violating its sub-

stance abuse policy. Irving recorded a sack and forced three fumbles in a regular season game against the Packers last year.

Irving's presence should give a boost to Lawrence, who has seven-and-a-half sacks this season.

"That boy has been balling, man," said Irving, referring to Lawrence. "I see that they're starting to double-team him, triple-team him."

"Hopefully I can come and help relieve him of that and he'll be able to make more plays, or I'll be able to make more plays. They can't block all of us."

Paid Internship opportunity for writers, college students in the Dallas Area

The North Dallas Gazette 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 up to 20 hours a week at \$8.00 per hour. Applicants must have reliable transportation.

Send resume and writing samples to: businessoffice@northdallasgazette.com



DCCCD electrical engineering tech students will graduate with jobs

Clint Day is one of those students who hopes to walk out of Richland College with an associate degree and straight into a full-time job.

He has one foot pointed in that direction, and it only took him 18 years to get there.

"I was a professional student," said Day, who has done stints at several colleges, including Texas Christian University and Texas Tech University. At 36, he is pursuing an associate degree in the Dallas County Community College District's electrical engineering technology program.

"Things look promising, and I really like what I'm doing," said Day. "Electrical engineering technology is practical. You're applying electronics and mechanical principals plus math and science. You're doing a lot of hands-on work."

He enrolled in the program because he liked the on-the-job training made possible by Richland and its corporate partner, Texas Instruments Incorporated. Students go through a rigorous and competitive interview process to qualify for the internship program. Students work and train in one of TI's manufacturing facilities, where they learn to make sure that equipment such as thermostats are working properly.

Creating a new pathway

In 2015, TI partnered with DCCCD to drum up interest after the district considered discontinuing the program because too few students were enrolled, said Dr. Kory Goldammer, who heads EET at Richland.

That idea changed when Dr. Joe May, DCCCD's chancellor, and other district and college officials met with TI to create a new and improved program. To meet the interests and demands of the workforce, a new name was born: "Electrical Engineering Technology – Semiconductor Manufacturing Pathway." In two years, students can be trained to enter a competitive job market in commercial, industrial or electronic technicians.

"EETs typically have a solid background in troubleshooting skills," Goldammer said. "This field



attracts students with sound science and mathematics skills."

The semiconductor program changed from a technician's role in which students learned to make semiconductor chips to electrical engineering technology. That happened because the industry needs workers who know how to maintain and repair automated equipment that is now used to manufacture the chips, Goldammer said.

"There's a little bit of history with this (field). It's different from what it used to be," Goldammer said. "As a result, semiconductor (manufacturing) changed. Previously, the program focused on teaching students to make semiconductor chips, but now machines do that. They need people to maintain and repair the equipment."

Interest in that field of study is growing as students are prepared to enter the job market within two years for careers as technicians. So far, 31 Richland College students have filed degree plans in EET, Goldammer said.

Getting hands-on experience

This past summer, Day completed a three-month TI internship which helps students graduate with the competencies that can make them employable. Day's work was impressive, and his internship was extended to December.

"He is one of our success stories," said Goldammer. "The degree plan has been in place for only four semesters, which means that this is the first semester we should expect EET students to begin receiving their degrees in any significant numbers," said

Goldammer.

So far, 10 Richland students have been hired by TI.

Day hopes to follow in those footsteps. He is doing his dream job, repairing and maintaining machines. And he won the "TI Intern Challenge" academic honor over fellow DCCCD students as well as others from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Georgia Institute of Technology.

"It was fun competing with the four-year schools. For me, it was a pride thing. And it made a good impression on my boss because I was the only person from a community college who was competing. I was a sleeper," Day said.

"It's been a long road of life lessons," added Day, who has worked as a bartender and restaurant manager. He's also a former culinary arts student at El Centro College.

"It's taken me 18 years to get a good career going," he said. "I was searching, and I didn't know what I wanted. But I always had EET in the back of my head. Right now, I'm doing well. I feel like I've taken off."

Blake Glover is another a success story. His internship also was extended at TI while he pursues his EET degree at Richland.

Glover said he was drawn to the program after working several management jobs. He was taking an extended break from college.

"I used to drive by Texas Instruments and look at it and say 'how do you get a job there,'" Glover said.

"I started this program 10 years ago. I was happy where

I was, but I was taking one class at a time. Then I had a daughter. I decided to go back (to school), so I went back full time. I got this internship, and then it was extended," said Glover, who also is angling for a full-time job at TI.

Electrical engineering technicians typically work in manufacturing settings, engineering services, research and development laboratories, or the utilities industries. The median income for EET technicians is \$62,190 per year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Eastfield and Mountain View colleges have other versions of the program.

"Everything we use is automated," said Arch Dye, who teaches electronics technology at Eastfield.

For more information on this program at DCCCD, contact Dr. Kory Goldammer at kgoldammer@dcccd.edu or

at 214-860-3862. Arch Dye at Eastfield can be reached at adye@dcccd.edu or at 972-860-8358.

At Mountain View, contact program coordinator Bafford Howard at 214-860-8686 or at Howard@dcccd.edu.



Eco-Site, Inc. proposes to build a 115-foot Monopole Communications Tower at the approx. vicinity of 921 West Beltline Road, Irving, Dallas County, Texas 75115. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Andrew, a.bray@trileaf.com, 2550 South IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.

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Upcoming DFW area job fairs

Oct. 11

Dallas Job Fair

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Update your resume and bring 15+ copies to be able to offer a resume to every manager you speak with. There might be companies and industries you are not familiar with, but take the time to speak with them.

It might be your dream job. The fair will be held from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel by the Galleria at 4801 Lyndon B. Johnson Freeway, Dallas, TX 75251.

Oct. 12

The Power of Money: Career Fair

The Council for Inclusion in Financial Services continues "The Power of Money" Financial Series with a Career Fair! There will be employers from many sectors of the Financial Services industry! Upload your resume onto www.councilforinclusion.com today! Need help with your resume or tips for a successful interview? Experts will be there to guide you to "Get The Job"! The fair lasts from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and will take place at 8737 King George Drive #200, Dallas 75235.

Oct. 12

Best Hire Career Fairs – Dallas Job Fair

Open the doors of opportunity when you meet and interview with the top hiring companies in Dallas. This career fair will allow you to learn about the businesses that are hiring and what their hiring needs are. Tired of sending your resume over the web to get no responses back? Put a face with a name and make a



great first impression. Register today, and you could get hired live at our next career fair in Dallas. Be prepared to interview with hiring managers and recruiters from the top hiring companies in Dallas. Dress to impress and bring plenty of resumes. The fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel at 2015 Market Center Blvd, Dallas, TX 75207.

Oct. 16

Job Fair Dallas by LocalWork.com

Companies in the Dallas area are hiring for thousands of positions! Finding the right job can be a challenging process. This is why we built a face-to-face event to allow you to interact directly with the hiring company at the Hilton Garden Inn at 1001 W President George Bush Hwy, Richardson from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. We always recommend bringing 10-15 resumes. Employers aren't focused just on what you're wearing as much as they are looking to see how committed you are to doing your best.

Oct. 19

Dallas Career Fair by Choice Career Fairs

Do you have a resume, but aren't getting called for interviews? If so, it means your resume needs improvement to catch the attention of hiring managers. Bring a copy of your resume and receive a 10-minute resume consultation. Find out about small changes that can make a big difference in getting your resume noticed. You'll meet face-to-face with hiring decision-

makers from some of the areas top employers.

Dress professionally and bring plenty of resumes, because they're here to hire. Walk in and start interviewing, it's that simple. Save time, money and effort interviewing with multiple companies in one day at one location. Many of these companies have several openings and are eager to meet with you. You're no longer just a piece of paper. Attend the career fair and get in front of decision makers. The fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Hilton Arlington at 2401 E Lamar Blvd, Arlington, TX 76006.

Oct. 25

The Professional & Diversity Job Fair of Dallas

Our Job Fairs are specifically designed to take the stress out of recruiting and job hunting. Come to our job fairs ready to connect and come ready to make a change. Plan to attend and meet face-to-face with several of the Dallas area's finest employers. All of the companies at our job fairs have open positions they are seeking to fill. Remember, the best way to be considered for a position is to

meet the hiring managers in person. Plan to attend this event! The fair will take place at the Embassy Suites by Hilton – Dallas DFW Airport South at 4650 West Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75062. The event is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pre-register online at: www.catalystcareergroup.com.

Oct. 26

Dallas Career Fair by Choice Career Fairs

You'll meet face-to-face with hiring decision-makers from some of the areas top employers.

Dress professionally and bring plenty of resumes, because they're here to hire. Walk in and start interviewing, it's that simple. Save time, money and effort interviewing with multiple companies in one day at one location. Many of these companies have several openings and are eager to meet with you. You're no longer just a piece of paper. Attend the career fair and get in front of decision makers. The fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Comfort Inn & Suites Plano at 700 East Central Parkway, Plano, TX 75074.

Nov. 1

Arlington Career Fair by National Career Fairs

Ready for a new career? National Career Fairs is under new ownership and we are driving employers and future employees together faster than ever before. We are helping America get back to work! The fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the La Quinta Inn & Suites – Arlington at 825 N. Watson Rd, Arlington, TX 76011.

Nov. 16

Plano Career Fair by National Career Fairs

Are you looking for a job? Are you tired of sending resumes left and right and never getting an answer? If you are, dress in your best professional clothes, bring resumes and visit our

Plano Career Fairs. You will have the opportunity to meet top employers and to interview for several positions during the course of the day, meeting the people who make the hiring decisions. You will save a lot of time since there will be no need to craft a customized personal statement for each company you visit:

You'll be able to tell them why you wish to work for them, and you'll have the chance to sell yourself. Our employers send their managers to carry out onsite interviews. Don't wait for someone to call you for an interview. Sign up for our next career fair and give off a first impression that makes a lasting career. The fair will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Comfort Inn & Suites at 700 Central Parkway East, Plano, TX 75074.



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Church Happenings

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BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP, CARROLLTON (A PLACE TO BELONG)

NOTICE: Pastor Woodson serves the community by providing "Professional Therapy and Counseling Services" on a "Sliding Fee" scale. To schedule an appointment call the Pastoral Counseling Center at 972-526-4525 or email the church at www.bethelbiblefellowship.org

Discover Hope and Help for daily living; and, you don't have to be a member to come. The Connect-2-Reflect (C2R) meetings are held in comfortable and relaxed homes, one in Carrollton and one in Plano, refreshments are served. Call the church for details.

October 8, 9:45 a.m.

You're invited to our Sunday "Prayer and Meditation" at 9:45 am. You will be blessed and inspired. You don't want to miss this! And, join us in our one hour only Sunday's Bible Study at 12 Noon, continuing on the book of Ephesians with other supporting chapters and verses.

October 11, 7 p.m.

Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Pastor Brenda Patterson, Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, Pastor Bernadette and others conducting a new study on the book of Ephesians with supporting chapters and verses. Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you; it's Time to Grow

in the Word of God.

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

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "THE SHIP"

October 8, 8 a.m.

Join us in our Sunday Morning Services as we praise and worship God in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall; followed by our Sunday Worship Services; and bring someone with you, you will be blessed.

October 11

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. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all; be prepared to grow.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D.
Senior Pastor
1609 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
972-379-3287
www.theship3c.org

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

October 6, 7 p.m.

All men are invited to

Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 7 p.m., (IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

October 8, 10 a.m.

You're invited this Sunday as we praise, worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name in songs and the spoken word.

October 9, 7 p.m.

Join us in Monday School as we grow in God's Word and learn what God has to say to us.

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

MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO (MOCOP) (Uniting the Body of Christ Among Nations)

October 8, 10 a.m.

Join us for Morning Worship Service as we praise

and worship God for His Honor and His glory; and don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church.

October 11, 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

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO (WHERE COMMUNITY BECOMES FAMILY)

Come and connect to God through Shiloh; grow in Christ through the study of God's Word; and Serve God

through service to each other and to the world. John 12:26.

October 8, 8 a.m.

And 11 a.m.

Join us for our morning services; you will enjoy the fellowship during our 8 a.m. and in the 11 a.m. Worship Services.

October 11, 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."

October 14, 5:30 p.m. through 8:30 p.m.

Join us for our Fall Family Night. This fun-filled night is for the entire family. There will be something for everybody! Set your calendars for a great night.

Our church ministries offer opportunities for motivation and growth; join us and see. Be blessed of the Lord.

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Church Happenings is a weekly calendar of religious services produced by the North Dallas Gazette.

To make additions or corrections to the calendar, contact: religion@northdallasgazette.com

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- Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm

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God speaks through circumstances



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

"As you do not know the path of the wind, or how the body is formed in a mother's womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things" Ecclesiastes 11:5

God will often use circumstances in our lives to direct us in making and confirming decisions.

The story is told of a man that lunched a magazine designed for Christians in the workplace and he was having lunch with a Christian leader named Larry who headed a ministry that helps

men and women apply biblical principles to managing money.

During their lunch, he explained to Larry that he had noticed that there were many grassroots workplace ministries cropping up all over the country.

He asked Larry if he was familiar with some of the groups since he had taught a course and wrote a book on operating a business on biblical principles.

But Larry said he was not. He then asked, "It would be nice to know what all these groups are doing so we don't duplicate efforts."

Do you think you could invite some of these groups for a roundtable discussion?" Larry told him that he would and he proceeded to invite four main workplace ministries that he had worked with in the past.

Then something unexpected began to happen. The man began to get requests from the ministries all around the country that had heard about the gathering and they were asking if they could attend the roundtable.

By the time the event actually took place, 54 people showed up representing 45 organizations from around the country! Unfortunately, Larry had a last minute conflict and was not able to attend, and he informed me

that he would have to host the meeting himself.

That was the birth of Marketplace Leaders, the ministry he now lead full time. He often joke that God tricked him into starting this ministry because God knows never he would have done that on his own at that time.

God often confirms His direction through circumstances. Be on alert that when God sets up situations that are out of your control - He may be giving you di-

rection through these circumstances.

Dear God, today I lift up all teachers to you. I pray for your anointing upon their lives, their work, their ministry. I pray you will give them wisdom, knowledge, guidance, patience, love, protection, understanding, insight and everything they need to be a positive life-changing influence upon those they teach.

I pray you will keep them safe from all harm and evil. I pray you will bring to their minds the lessons and information they need to teach and the ability and skills to

do what is good, right, and best in every situation.

I pray that each one will not see their profession and standing as just a job, but as an opportunity to make a difference in lives and show your love to others.

May they be salt and light in this world. May they rely on your strength and grace each and every day to accomplish that which you would have them do.

Bless them, father, as your servants and children. And may they be a blessing to others with whom they work and teach. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.



Senior Pastor Terrance & First Lady Ve Woodson, Bethel Bible Fellowship Church in Carrollton; smiles on the news of their first grandchild, it's a boy! And, Happy Birthday First Lady Ve on your birthday today, your first grandchild, Sebastian, was almost born on your birthday only 7 days earlier, wow. Parents are Simeon & Karyne. Photo by Yvonne Brumfield, Photographer

TEA, continued from Page 4

explain the difference between how black tea and green tea change energy metabolism.

Dr. Zhaoping Li, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, chief of the UCLA Division of Clinical Nutrition and the study's senior author, said the findings suggest that the health benefits of both green tea and black tea go beyond their antioxidant benefits, and that both teas have a strong impact on the gut microbiome.

"For black tea lovers, there may be a new reason to keep drinking it," she said.

The findings build on a 2015 UCLA study that demonstrated that both green tea and black tea helped prevent obesity in mice that consumed a high-fat, high-

sugar diet.

The new study also concluded that both green tea and black tea have different effects on liver metabolism. According to Henning, the molecules in green tea are smaller and can more readily be absorbed into the body and reach the liver directly, while black tea molecules are larger and stay in the intestine rather than being absorbed. When black tea molecules stay in the intestinal tract, they enhance the growth of beneficial bacteria and the formation of microbial metabolites involved in the regulation of energy metabolism.

The study was funded by the National Institutes of Health and the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition.



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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NDG Book Review: Confessions of a Funeral Director

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

It was not the way things were supposed to be.

As a teenager, you'd mapped out your life with a timetable. You'd travel there, visit this, see things you wanted to see and experience that which you desired before resuming your schedule. It would be a meaningful life, filled with adventure. But, as in the new book "Confessions of a Funeral Director" by Caleb Wilde, had you planned for a meaningful ending?

Caleb Wilde was born into death.

His father was a fifth-gen-



eration funeral director; his mother would've been a fourth-generation funeral director. Both sets of grandparents lived in their respective funeral homes and as he grew up, Wilde played near

caskets and enjoyed family dinners in a room that doubled as seating for funerals. Death, for him, was no big deal.

Except that it was.

He couldn't help but think about death, as he lay awake in his bedroom above a funeral home. In his mind, he turned over issues of God and death, hellfire and eternity until he ultimately decided that his "childhood God was a God who was broken apart," and he decided to do something about it. Eschewing the family business, Wilde went instead on a search to "create good" and to "reimagine God to be

different from [a] God who had the power to stop tragedy but chose not to do it."

But death wasn't done. Though pulled toward a faith-based lifestyle, Wilde instead returned to the family business. He'd done so "Somewhat reluctantly," but he'd come to see the possibility of participating in "healing the world" through small acts at a small funeral home — although he still had much to learn.

From a man who seemed to know everybody in their Pennsylvania town, Wilde saw that "anyone can... be a part of the death-care process." At a nursing home,

he participated in a unique method of honoring the dead. From a grieving friend, he learned that there are many ways to worship. And he came to understand that "it's not the ending that defines us, but how we live out our narrative."

Six feet. Or maybe more; at any rate, "Confessions of a Funeral Director" is deep. It's also thoughtful. And refreshing.

Most memoirs by funeral directors take an anecdotal turn at some point, and author Caleb Wilde's book is no exception: he widely sprinkles client stories inside his own but here, each is taken as

a lesson and a reason for introspection. Yes, observant readers may spot an occasional smile, but this is more a memoir for questioners in faith (particularly as related to current events) and for those who have what Wilde calls a "death negative narrative," which is the notion that "all deaths [are] bad."

If you're willing to spend time in thought, you'll find a serene, silent opposite to that here, and maybe some comfort for our times. Not all deaths are bad, and if you need to know it today, then "Confessions of a Funeral Director" is how a meditative book should be.

IRVING, continued from Page 1

meeting minority contract goals on the developer.

"The City of Irving contracted with Ark Group of Irving, Inc., as the developer of the music factory," said Susan Rose, communications director for the City of Irving. "Recruiting and securing M/WBE contractors is an adopted policy of the City of Irving. In our contract with Ark, they have agreed to comply with our Good Faith Effort Program when sourcing contractors. Ark provided the referenced documents to the City."

"Recruiting and securing M/WBE contractors is an adopted policy of the City of Irving. In our contract with Ark, they have agreed to comply with our Good Faith Effort Program when sourcing contractors. Ark provided the referenced documents to the City."

Ark Group of Irving, Inc. contracted with Skanska, an international construction firm with projects spanning the globe, to spearhead the construction of the project. Eric Bunner of Skanska responded to inquiries from the North Dallas Gazette and confirmed that Bond's documentation was accurate. Bunner acknowledged that the minority contracts were running far lower than hoped for, but added that his firm has worked diligently to attract minority businesses to

the project.

"Our team conducted extensive, proactive outreach — including direct solicitation to local M/WBE firms and minority trade organizations to create fair opportunities for all M/WBE firms interested in the project," Bunner said. "This included facilitating opportunities for first- and second-tier M/WBE participation as well as multiple outreach events."

While the construction project's minority participation is currently running at 13 percent, Bunner expects that percentage to rise before the end of his company's role in the process. He admitted it will probably fall short of the 30 percent mark,

but there will also be further opportunities to push that figure higher.

"These efforts are expected to result in 20 percent M/WBE participation by the close of the project: nearly \$19 million in contracts to M/WBE firms," Bunner said.

"Please note, these numbers only include our portion of the project and does not include other components such as tenant build-outs of which we are not under contract to perform."

While there is little doubt the expansive development will be a boon to Irving and its residents, from both a financial and social aspect, Bond is trying to see that commitments to the minority community are kept in

the process. He submitted his first Open Records request on this matter more than a year ago now.

"The City of Irving and countless citizens have spent countless hours and numerous meetings, discussions, council meetings and execu-

tive sessions over the last nine years to get this Irving Music Factory to this point," Bond wrote in a letter to the editor in April 2016. "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 M/WBE Goals for a project such as this, and hopefully exceed them."

As of this point in the process, there is a lot of ground to cover in order to catch up to that commitment.

Contract Number	Total Project Cost	M/WBE Participation	M/WBE Goals
1	\$1,000,000	10%	10%
2	\$2,000,000	10%	10%
3	\$3,000,000	10%	10%
4	\$4,000,000	10%	10%
5	\$5,000,000	10%	10%
6	\$6,000,000	10%	10%
7	\$7,000,000	10%	10%
8	\$8,000,000	10%	10%
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80	\$80,000,000	10%	10%
81	\$81,000,000	10%	10%
82	\$82,000,000	10%	10%
83	\$83,000,000	10%	10%
84	\$84,000,000	10%	10%
85	\$85,000,000	10%	10%
86	\$86,000,000	10%	10%
87	\$87,000,000	10%	10%
88	\$88,000,000	10%	10%
89	\$89,000,000	10%	10%
90	\$90,000,000	10%	10%
91	\$91,000,000	10%	10%
92	\$92,000,000	10%	10%
93	\$93,000,000	10%	10%
94	\$94,000,000	10%	10%
95	\$95,000,000	10%	10%
96	\$96,000,000	10%	10%
97	\$97,000,000	10%	10%
98	\$98,000,000	10%	10%
99	\$99,000,000	10%	10%
100	\$100,000,000	10%	10%

Documents obtained by an open records request show M/WBE participation at only 13 percent for contracts relating to the design and construction of the Toyota Music Factory in Irving.

Columbus Day SALE

EVERYTHING **50% OFF**

Monday, October 9th

TEXAS THRIFT

3113 N. Belt Line rd, Irving Texas - 75062 - (972) 607 - 4411

Some restrictions may apply and may vary by store. Please see manager for exclusions.