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Sen. Royce West brings together Dallas black pastors to discuss economic development

By Joe Farkus
NDG Contributing Writer

Seven Dallas-area ministers met with Sen. Royce West for a forum on the Black Church and Economic Development at Paul Quinn College Thursday, Nov. 9. The town hall meeting was well-attended by the community and special guests Dr. Zan Wesley Holmes Jr., Tracye McDaniel, and Dallas City Council member Tennell Atkins. The forum's discussion centered around questions of economic justice, gentrification, and ways to innovate and encourage entrepreneurial opportunities in Dallas' black community, specifically in the city's southern sector.

"The black church has always been involved in economic development," said Dr. Zan Wesley Holmes Jr., who once led the African American Pastor's Coalition and was the long-time pastor of St. Luke A.M.E. "We've done it individually in our different churches; the challenge is: how can we do it together?"

A total of seven ministers were included on the panel, including Dr. Michael Bowie, Pastor of St. Luke "Community" UMC, Dr. Jerry Christian, Pastor of Kirkwood CME Church, Dr. Tony Evans, Pastor of Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship, Dr. Fred-



Dr. Zan Wesley Holmes Jr. addressed the panel at the Black Church and Economic Development town hall meeting on Nov. 9 (Photo Credit: Kelvin Bass)

erick D. Haynes III, Pastor of Friendship West Baptist Church, Rev. Lelious Johnson, Pastor of St. Paul Baptist Church, Dr. Ronald Jones, Pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, and Dr. Stephen Nash, Pastor of Mt. Tabor Baptist Church.

One of the most discussed topics during the panel discussion was the acquisition of property by black churches, both to help stem the tide of gentrification encroaching into South Dallas communities as well as

to provide land where black businesses and business ventures can start and grow.

"The land that you own gives you the freedom to determine what you can do with it," said Dr. Tony Evans. "We've accumulated some 150 acres to be able to have that independence."

In addition to sheer land acquisition, Dr. Evans's church has started their own credit union and provides

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READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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Melvin Carter

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Contributor

The blue wave that swept the country last week wasn't just a victory for Democrats, but a resounding win for African American candidates, who defied the odds—and Trumpism—to make history.

In Charlotte, N.C., voters elected the first female African American mayor in the city's history, choosing Democrat Vi Lyles over Republican Kenny Smith.

In St. Paul, Minn., Melvin Carter became that city's



first Black mayor, earning slightly more than 50 percent of the vote in a field that featured 10 candidates and a write-in opponent.

In Virginia, Democrat Justin Fairfax trounced Re-

publican challenger Jill Vogel in the race for lieutenant governor. In January, Fairfax will become only the second African American to hold statewide office in Virginia. Doug Wilder was the first, serving as lieutenant governor from 1986-1990, then as governor from 1990-1994.

Fairfax said his and other Democratic victories could "be the match that sparks the wildfire of progressive" change all across the country.

"All across the world. This is a battle for the nation's soul," Fairfax said. "Since I announced my candidacy, this campaign has been

about the future, about building a Virginia where all of us have the opportunity to rise."

Most saw victories by Democrats as a referendum on President Donald Trump, whose record low job approval rating has shrunk to various reports.

Republicans lost races for governor in Virginia, where Ralph Northam easily beat Trump-backed Ed Gillespie, and in New Jersey, where former U.S. Ambassador to Germany Phil Murphy won election as governor, defeating Republican Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno.

Also, in Virginia, attorney general Mark Herring, a De-

mocrat, won reelection over Republican John Adams while Democrats gained at least 10 seats in the House of Delegates.

The party also won key mayoral races in New York, Charlotte, Stamford, Conn., and St. Petersburg and, in a direct rebuke of Trump and Republicans who have tried to repeal the Affordable Care Act, voters in Maine approved a ballot measure to expand Medicaid under former President Barack Obama's signature health-care law.

On Twitter University of Virginia political scientist Larry Sabato wrote that the results were a "backlash to

Trump and Trumpism, pure and simple."

Results may have been helped by a strong get out to vote campaign launched by the NAACP.

The legendary civil rights organization and its approximately 500,000 adult and youth members around the country were on the frontlines committed to raising awareness for political, educational, social and economic equality of minorities in the electoral process, the organization said in a statement posted on its website.

"The NAACP is actively engaged in increasing the

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Melanie Gamble

(BlackNews.com) Home is where the heart is, but you have to use your head. That's the simple, but sound advice from trailblazing real estate expert and broker Melanie Gamble, whose new book *Unintended Consequences - The Great Recession's Impact on Communities of Color* is packed with powerful tips to help potential homeowners make smart decisions about their greatest asset.

"I wrote this book because I am passionate about educating communities of



color in the areas of real estate and finances. My people perish for lack of knowledge," Gamble says. "I'm not necessarily looking for the dollar today. The real estate business is more than

transactional. It's about having a relationship. I firmly believe that if I help you today then you will remember me for life."

Gamble believes that a home is where people will raise their families, live life and make lasting memories. But she says it is also the place to build equity and wealth for their futures.

Gamble, who shares her trademark real estate secrets in her new book, is regarded as one of the highest-producing agents in the country. Her Re/MAX franchise and 212 Degrees Realty LLC have helped thousands of clients make smart deci-

sions about their homes.

Unintended Consequences is for millennials to senior citizens. The book begins with the chapter, "A Look Back to Move Forward," which explores how the Great Depression adversely affected Americans, particularly the poor and minorities, and the similarities associated with the Great Recession in 2008. Other chapters in the informative 143-page paperback include "Dismantling the Wealth Gap," "The Art of Developing a Millionaire Mindset," "An Investment in Our Communities" and "Shifting from Homeowner

to Investor."

In her book, Gamble also encourages readers to have a diversified investment portfolio, and says homeowners should view their home as an investment, not an emotional attachment. They should know their credit score, salary and how much it costs to live every month.

She comments, "I hope you will consider *Unintended Consequences* and Melanie Gamble for review, interview, or a feature on debut authors. And if you post on social media, please use the hashtag #UnintendedConsequencesTheBook."

For Gamble, helping people own and keep their homes is not only a business endeavor, but also a personal passion and spiritual mission. As a breast cancer survivor, Gamble is acutely aware of how precious life and time are for all of us; she seeks to help others realize their dreams and make the most of what they are given.

Unintended Consequences - The Great Recession's Impact on Communities of Color by Melanie Gamble is published by Urban Rose Publishing and is available for purchase on Amazon.com.

NDG Readers Sound Off...

What is your favorite Christmas song?

For a chance to win tickets to Bishop Arts Theatre's Black Nativity readers were asked to share their favorite Christmas songs. These are their answers received via Facebook. Visit before Nov. 26 for a chance to win!

"Joy to the World"
-- Janica Terrell

Silent Night by the Temptations. I tear up every time he hits those high notes
-- Brandy Johnson

The entire Nat King Cole Christmas Album.....
-- Lena Nanetta

My favorite carol is Silent Night and my favorite song is Emmanuel by Norman Hutchins.
-- Jennifer Jackson

Joy to the World Whitney Houston
-- Janice Jackson-Harris

What are you grateful for?

To win tickets to Texas in Paris at Eisenmann Center readers were invited to share what they are grate-

ful for this holiday season and these are their answers:

I am grateful for my family!
-- @mysticpistol via Facebook

I am grateful for my health, family and friends.
-- @evwilli3 via Instagram

I am grateful for my health and family
-- Trina Joe via Facebook

I'm grateful for my daughter who loves me un-

conditionally.

-- Traci Johnson via Facebook

I'm grateful for life in Christ. I'm grateful for opportunities. I'm grateful for spiritual growth and God not giving up on me.

-- Stefanie Ann via Facebook

I'm grateful for the gift of LIFE!

-- Latwanya Jae via Facebook

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Publisher's Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:marketing@northdallasgazette.com
972-509-9049**Editorial Department:**

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:www.NorthDallasGazette.com
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Web Master

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Ruth Ferguson

Religious/ Marketing EditorShirley Demus Tarpley
“Sister Tarpley”**Senior Columnist**

Ed Gray

Contributing WritersJoe Farkus
Jackie Hardy
Dwain Price
Terri Schlichenmeyer
Nicole Scott
David Wilfong**Production**

David Wilfong



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The Black church and the future of Obamacare

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Newswire Columnist

First of all, despite the Trump Administration's efforts to kill (“repeal and replace”) the Affordable Care Act, it is still the law of the land, and because of the federal mandate everyone is required to have some form of health insurance. However, since “45” and his team have declared it all but dead, they have shortened the enrollment period from three months to a mere six weeks, from November 1-December 15, 2017. Additionally, the United States Department of Health and Human Services has drastically cut the budget for outreach. This time last year, there were television and radio announcements, billboards on buses, and other reminders that people should enroll for healthcare, if they didn't already have healthcare through their jobs.

The Trump Administration hopes that, without outreach, people will not enroll for healthcare, so that they can then crow that people “don't want” healthcare. Some faith leaders, however, have pledged to use their pulpits to remind their congregations to get enrolled for healthcare. Rev. Dr. Barbara Williams Skinner, the first Executive Director of the Congressional Black Caucus and an activist who melds faith with public policy, who is also a spiritual advisor to many Black leaders, has developed a toolkit for communities of faith to help them do the work that our government won't: encouraging people to sign-up for affordable healthcare.

You can follow the faith leaders' conversations about open enrollment and healthcare on social media using the hashtags #SOULSTOENROLL or #SOULS2ENROLL, and by liking the Facebook page, “Facebook.com/FaithinPublicLife”, where you can find the toolkit adopted from the government page, “GetAmericaCovered.org”; instructions for the weekend campaign that will begin November 12, suggestions for faith leaders; a sample bulletin announcement; a PSA; and social media tips. In other words, the faith community is being encouraged to treat healthcare enrollment like any other grassroots organizing campaign and get involved in it.

Back in the day, before social media, we used to talk about “the drum,” how we shared information in the Black community; many of our radio stations, or public broadcast programs, and newspapers were our drums. Now, faith leaders are taking the drum viral to ensure that people who don't get the word, because of lack of government outreach, will get it through churches and through the Internet.

We will rely on these methods of communicating more and more, as this administration attempts to contract, not expand, the information people need to get essential healthcare (and other services). The toolkit and other resources are proof that our community has the ability to out organize the evil that is seeping out of Washington. “Woke” members of Congress are working with Rev. Skinner

and others to get the word out. Congressman Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.) had his PSA up before the enrollment period opened on November 1, and some members of Congress have PSAs posted on their webpages; but everyone won't log on to a congressional website to get access to the PSA. That's where the churches and community organizations come into play.

Once upon a time, we were great at mobilizing. Without any Internet, 250,000 people managed to get to Washington, D.C. for the March on Washington on August 28, 1963. Mimicking that effort, and using both word of mouth and the Internet, more than a million women made it to Washington D.C. for the post-inaugural Women's March. Now we have the opportunity to rally millions to participate in the benefits of the Affordable Care Act.

There are consequences to not enrolling. If you don't enroll by December 15, you may have to wait a whole year before getting access to affordable healthcare and the subsidies available under ACA, and you may have to pay a fine for not enrolling. Some states (California, Washington, Minnesota, Colorado, Massachusetts and Washington, D.C.) will allow enrollment until January, but most will close enrollment on December 15. Even with a longer enrollment period, the best thing to do to ensure that the people who need health insurance get it is to encourage them to enroll early.

Helping people enroll for ACA benefits is not only a

public service, it is also an act of resistance to “45's” pernicious attempts to undermine President Obama's signature piece of legislation. To be sure, the ACA is not perfect, but it is responsible for expanding the base of people who can get affordable health insurance.

This example of Faith in Action may be a template for other ways to use the church to organize resistance. The novelist Dr. Daniel Black (author of “Perfect Peace: A Novel”) recently gave a talk in which he described our churches as the backbone of the Black community. Disagree with your pastor, or with the sermon if you will, he said, but still get to church for the sense of community that can only be found there. While the Black church is less impactful than it was in 1963, when most of us could be reached through church announcements, it is still a place where we gather and share information. If you don't usually go to church on November 12, when the #SOULS2ENROLL weekend campaign kicks off, consider making your way there to check this campaign out. If you do go to church, encourage your pastor to participate.

Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author, and Founder of Economic Education. Her latest book “Are We Better Off: Race, Obama and Public Policy” is available via amazon.com. For booking, wholesale inquiries, or for more info, visit www.julianne-malveaux.com. Follow Dr. Malveaux on Twitter @drjlastword.

Celebrate local businesses on Nov. 25

By Rhea Landholm

Growing up, I would earn a quarter per chore – a quarter each for washing dishes, dusting, sweeping, and more. I pocketed the quarters, hopped on my bike, and rode four blocks to the main thoroughfare in my town of 1,000.

I would peruse toy racks at the pharmacy and hardware store; drool over bulk candy at the grocery store and the

flower shop; and peer at notepads in the glass case at the newspaper office. These locally-owned businesses received all of my hard-earned quarters.

At age 8, I didn't realize I was supporting small businesses or the local economy. I also didn't think to save my quarters for spending at a big box or department store. I only knew how handy it was to be able to shop in my com-

munity.

Main street businesses are an important part of our life in rural America, and Small Business Saturday, on Nov. 25, is the perfect time to celebrate them. Show your support by making purchases, which keep locally-earned dollars in your communities.

In 2015, U.S. small businesses represented 99.7 percent of businesses with paid employees, according to the

U.S. Small Business Administration. When we shop, eat, and have fun at local establishments, we benefit our neighbors.

During this holiday season, and year round, #ShopSmall. Support your community, your friends, and your way of life. When local businesses succeed, we all win.

Rhea Landholm with Center for Rural Affairs can be reached at rheal@cfra.org.

Stressful events can increase women's odds of suffering from obesity

ANAHEIM — Women who experienced one or more traumatic lifetime events or several negative events in recent years had higher odds of being obese than women who didn't report such stress, according to preliminary research presented at the American Heart Association's Scientific Sessions 2017, a premier global exchange of the latest advances in cardiovascular science for researchers and clinicians.

"Little is known about how negative and traumatic life events affect obesity in women. We know that stress affects behavior, including whether people under- or overeat, as well as neuro-hormonal activity by in part increasing cortisol production, which is related to weight gain," said study senior author Michelle A. Albert, M.D., M.P.H., pro-



fessor of medicine, cardiology, and founding director of the Center for the Study of Adversity and Cardiovascular Disease, at University of California, San Francisco.

Obesity, a preventable risk factor for cardiovascular and other diseases, impacts more than one-third of U.S. adults. According to the American Heart Association, nearly 70 percent of American adults are either overweight or obese.

Women tend to live longer than men, putting especially obese, aging women at greater risk for disease, said study author Eva M. Durazo, Ph.D., a post-doctoral scholar at the NURTURE Center, Division of Cardiology, UCSF said.

The researchers studied the relationship between major life events and obesity in a group of 21,904 middle-aged and older women, focusing on women with the highest

obesity prevalence. They defined obesity as having a body mass index (BMI) of 30 kg/m² or higher. And, they measured the impacts of two types of stress: traumatic events, which could occur anytime in a woman's life and includes such things as death of a child or being a victim of a serious physical attack, as well as negative life events that had occurred in the previous five years of a woman's life. Negative events included wanting employment but being unemployed for longer than three months or being burglarized.

They found:

- Nearly a quarter (23 percent) of the women studied were obese.

- Women who reported greater than one traumatic life event versus no traumatic life events had 11 percent increased odds of obe-

sity.

- The higher the number of negative life events reported by women in the last five years, the higher the tendency for increased odds of obesity. Specifically, women who reported four or more negative life events had a 36 percent higher risk of obesity, compared to women who reported no such events.

- Among women who had higher levels of physical activity, there was a stronger association between increasing cumulative/chronic

stress and obesity, though the reason for this finding remains uncertain.

"Our findings suggest that psychological stress in the form of negative and traumatic life events might represent an important risk factor for weight changes and, therefore, we should consider including assessment and treatment of psychosocial stress in approaches to weight management," Albert said.

Because the study looks

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Public Health and Medical Groups Support U.S. Senate and House Bills to Raise Tobacco Age to 21 Nationwide

(Announcement from the American Heart Association)

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Our public health organizations support the legislation introduced this week by U.S. Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI), U.S. Rep. Diana DeGette (D-CO) and their cosponsors that would prohibit the sale of tobacco products to anyone under the age of 21 nationwide. The Tobacco to 21 Act will help reduce tobacco use among young people, save lives and help make the next generation tobacco-free.

The need for bold action to further reduce tobacco use in the United States is clear. While we have made enormous progress, tobacco use remains the leading preventable cause of death in our country, killing more than 480,000 people each year and costing about \$170 billion in health care expenses. According to a 2014 report by the U.S. Surgeon General, if current trends continue, 5.6 million of today's youth will die prematurely from smoking.

Increasing the age of sale for tobacco products to 21

will help reduce tobacco use among youth and young adults — age groups when nearly all tobacco use begins and that are heavily targeted by the tobacco industry. We know that 95 percent of adult smokers began smoking before they turned 21. We also know that tobacco companies spend \$8.9 billion a year — \$1 million every hour — to market their deadly and addictive products, much of it aimed at young people.

Increasing the tobacco sales age to 21 will help counter the industry's relentless efforts to target young people at a critical time when many move from experimenting with tobacco to regular smoking. It will also help keep tobacco out of high schools, where younger teens often obtain tobacco products from older students.

A 2015 report by the National Academy of Medicine (previously called the Institute of Medicine) predicted that increasing the national tobacco sales age to 21 would significantly reduce the number of adolescents and young adults who start

smoking; reduce smoking-caused deaths; and immediately improve the health of adolescents, young adults and young mothers who would be deterred from smoking, as well as their children.

Increasing the tobacco sales age to 21 also has broad public support. A 2015 survey by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that 75 percent of adults — including seven in 10 smokers — support increasing the minimum age for sale of tobacco products to 21.

There is a growing, nationwide movement to raise the tobacco age to 21. Five states have enacted Tobacco 21 laws — California, Hawaii, New Jersey, Maine and Oregon. The District of Columbia and more than 230 localities in an additional 13 states have as well, including New York City, Chicago, Boston, Cleveland, St. Louis and both Kansas Cities.

Until Congress enacts national legislation raising the tobacco sales age to 21, we

urge states and localities to continue taking action.

We applaud Sen. Schatz and Rep. DeGette for their leadership in introducing this legislation to reduce the number of young people who start on a path that too often leads to addiction, disease and premature death.

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Dallas leaders and The Family Place help launch national women's civic initiative

By Carla Meadows
NDG Special Contributor

In the midst of highly publicized domestic violence and sexual harassment charges that often dominate today's news cycle, Dallas recently helped change the narrative by welcoming a dynamic women's civic leadership organization to help empower underserved communities in North Texas.

All In Together (AIT) a nonpartisan nonprofit in partnership with acclaimed journalist and female advocate Gretchen Carlson and her Gift of Courage Fund, launched the Gretchen Carlson Leadership Initiative (GCLI) at The Family Place in on Nov. 4.

Dallas was the first stop on a multi-city tour during a yearlong national campaign



From L to R: Family Place CEO Paige Flink, Dallas County District Attorney Faith Johnson, Dallas Police Chief Renee Hall and Dallas Sheriff Lupe Valdez.

that will bring civic leadership and advocacy training to thousands of underrepresented women across the country. The focus was on empowering women who have experienced gender-based violence, discrimina-

tion or harassment.

GCLI officially kicked off its programming at The Family Place with an inspirational message by Carlson. "We're serving underserved women who have felt that they did not have a

voice on so many issues: domestic violence, sexual harassment, and anything else," Carlson said. "What I've found out is that when you see yourself in those situations, you feel like you don't have a voice on those issues, and I'd like to let women know that your voice matters."

Co-Founder and CEO of the All In Together Campaign, Lauren Leader-Chivée led the workshop by educating attendees on political advocacy, relevant government policies and effective civic participation.

Leader-Chivée explained that nationally, there are huge gaps in the political and civic participation of women. Women who have experienced harassment or violence often stay away from political participation entirely.

These newly-launched workshops help give women the tools, resources and tactics to help them raise their voices and influence political change.

Best of all, the program motivates participants to take action on issues that they care about the most by encouraging women to partner with local advocacy organizations around the nation.

In Dallas, the program kicked off with a powerhouse group of civic leaders moderated by The Family Place CEO Paige Flink featuring Dallas Police Chief of Police Renee Hall, Dallas County District Attorney Faith Johnson, and Dallas Sheriff Lupe Valdez.

The speakers shared stories of perseverance and how they overcame personal challenges in life to

get where they are today. The group agreed that they wanted to help ensure that women in North Texas have access to the tools, resources and education they need to have influence and impact on the policies that affect their lives.

Sheriff Valdez relayed her rise to the top, beginning with her own personal experiences with gender-based discrimination as a young law enforcement officer in the 70's.

"There were many times that I wanted to quit," Valdez said. However, she pressed on and fought her way in a male-dominated profession. Encouraging the women in influencing political change she said, "If you're not at the table, you're on the menu. Get to the table, speak up and use your voice."

Dallas Bar Association hosts faith leaders forum

The public is invited to a Faith Leaders Public Forum. This one-hour event on Wednesday, Nov. 29, will be a conversation with five of the City's dynamic faith leaders:

- Pastor Richie Butler, St.

Paul United Methodist Church

- Pastor Bryan Carter, Concord Church

- Rabbi David Stern, Temple Emanu-El

- Imam Omar Suleiman,

Yaqeen Institute for Islamic Research

- Pastor Jeff Warren, Park Cities Baptist Church

Each of these leaders are not only changing the landscape on race relations in Dal-

las, they are reshaping how local faith institutions interact with one another. The panelists will discuss their efforts, as well as what challenges lay ahead and how lawyers can join forces to unleash the great

potential of our city.

The forum will begin promptly at NOON at the Pavilion at the Belo Mansion, 2101 Ross Avenue in downtown Dallas (garage parking available; enter from Olive

Street). The event is free. An optional \$15 lunch buffet will begin at 11:30 a.m.

Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP to sevens@dallasbar.org so adequate seating is available.

Original Pancake House teams with Mary Kay for Breast Cancer Awareness

The Original Pancake House DFW (OPH-DFW) partnered with Mary Kay Representatives to raise awareness of Breast Cancer. Guests visiting OPH-DFW locations the last weekend of October were given a

fresh flower by Mary Kay Representatives.

During Breast Cancer Awareness Month, OPH-DFW utilized online resources, social media and in-store materials to focus on The American Cancer

Society's message of the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Click here for photos

"It is our desire to bring up the issue and generate awareness of something that affects and touches so many

lives. We want to encourage those battling cancer and cheer them on," commented Jonathan Seyoum, OPH-

DFW Co-Owner.

For more information about the Breast Cancer Research Foundation visit,

www.bcrfcure.org. For more information about The Original Pancake House DFW visit, www.ophdfw.com.

Notice of DART Community Meetings - Cotton Belt Regional Rail Corridor

The public is invited to a community meeting to review the progress of the Cotton Belt Corridor Regional Rail Project. These meetings will include both an open house and presentation with Q&A. DART, in cooperation with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

to assess the impacts and benefits of passenger rail service on the 26-mile long Cotton Belt Corridor from DFW International Airport to Plano. The meeting information will include:

- Project-wide potential impacts and proposed mitigation;

- Station locations;

- Traffic analysis/grade separations.

Community Meetings
Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 7

p.m.

Parkhill Junior High School Cafeteria (16500 Shady Bank Drive, Dallas, TX 75248)

Thursday, Nov. 30 at 6:30 p.m.

Richardson Civic Center (411 West Arapaho Road, Richardson, TX 75080)

Thursday, Dec. 7 at 6:30

p.m.

Addison Conference Centre (15650 Addison Road, Addison, TX 75001)

Register Nov. 20 through Jan. 10. Classes begin Jan. 16.

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DALLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Dallas receives TWC grant for foster youth dropout program

AUSTIN — The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) recently announced the award of \$1.5 million in funding for the Foster Youth Dropout Recovery and High School Completion pilot program to help current and former foster youth ages 16 to 25 earn a high school diploma or its equivalent, and obtain high-demand workforce skills with the goal of ensuring that this vulnerable population has a pathway to postsecondary education or employment in high-demand occupations.

“It is imperative that Texas gives every child the best chance to succeed, and this is especially true for at-risk foster children,” said Governor Greg Abbott. “The Foster Youth Dropout Recovery and High School Completion pilot program is an important collaboration between community and education and workforce agencies to help ensure Texas foster youth have the chance to obtain a postsecondary degree or



NC Nat'l Guard / Flickr

gain workforce skills to ensure that a greater number of Texas foster youth students complete high school and obtain a postsecondary degree. Foster youth can also benefit from free tuition at Texas colleges and universities if enrollment in the state's tuition fee waiver program is completed by age 25.

According to the Texas Education Agency, approximately 27,000 students in foster care attend Texas public schools during the school year. The percentage of students in foster care who drop out is more than three times higher than students who are not in foster care. Through mentoring, career guidance and one-on-one counseling, the goal of the Foster Youth Dropout Prevention pilot program is

to ensure that a greater number of Texas foster youth students complete high school and obtain a postsecondary degree. Foster youth can also benefit from free tuition at Texas colleges and universities if enrollment in the state's tuition fee waiver program is completed by age 25.

This initiative was included among the recommendations of the Tri-Agency Report to the Governor: Prosperity Requires Being Bold: Integrating Education and the Workforce for a Bright Texas Future released in 2016. Commissioners from TWC, the

Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board identified a need to support foster youth among major initiatives included in statewide efforts for the next generation that will make Texas the clear leader in targeted fields and position the state for future economic success.

“These Foster Youth pilots will demonstrate how we can work in partnership to enhance postsecondary outcomes for former foster students by increasing their rates of high school completion, high-demand skills attainment, and postsecondary enrollment,” said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar.

The \$1.5 million will be used to create four 18- to 24-month high school completion pilot programs for current and former foster youth that will support internships, applied learning opportunities, and offer support services for postsecondary education and

training opportunities.

“The pilot program will not only assist foster care youth in becoming independent adults, but will help meet the growing demand for skilled workers and provide an additional talent pipeline for our Texas employers,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughs.

“Foster youth will have an opportunity to gain higher education credentials and workforce skills to assist with transitioning into the Texas workforce,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez.

Texas Child Protective Services staff currently work with local school districts on credit recovery efforts for youth in foster care. The purpose of this project is to greatly enhance and supplement these valuable efforts.

New programs that received funding through the Foster Youth Dropout Prevention and Recovery High

School Completion Pilot Program include Dallas Independent School District receiving \$498,051 for launching and implementing a two-year pilot program with CitySquare's Transition Resource Action Center and Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas.

The grant will enable the district and CitySquare to hire trained personnel to engage in the one-on-one counseling and mentoring students require, provide incentives to students for successful completion of program steps, engage them in job training, and provide \$50,000 to establish paid internships with local employers.

Dallas ISD will work with Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas to develop internship opportunities and job training skills for employment placement.

Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD and San Antonio ISD also received funding.

Service-minded Comets support local nonprofits as Viva Volunteers

Students from The University of Texas at Dallas gained perspective beyond their normal college experience after spending a recent morning packing toothbrushes, deodorant and towels for the homeless.

“I don't think many students have taken the opportunity to visit a homeless shelter. When you create hygiene kits for people, you realize you take things for

granted. It definitely was an eye-opening experience,” said Andrew Shaw, program coordinator for the Student Organization Center.

Shaw participated with a team of six students in a Viva Volunteer project at The Bridge Homeless Recovery Center.

Organized by the Office of Student Volunteerism (OSV), Viva Volunteer drew more than 400 partic-

ipants this year from 29 UT Dallas student organizations and scholarship groups for a day of service at 23 community sites. The project coincided with the national Make a Difference Day on Oct. 28.

Good Deeds Span Across the Community

The volunteers' tasks included assembling furniture at area Habitat for Humanity ReStores, sorting dona-

tions for Goodwill Industries, spreading mulch at the Texas Worm Ranch, hosing down kennels and washing blankets at the Plano Animal Shelter, and planting the first fruit orchard trees on the UT Dallas campus.

The volunteers' combined 2,045 hours of donated labor saved nonprofit organizations more than \$51,000.

“Volunteering helps stu-

dents develop empathy, cultivate community responsibility and become active citizens,” said Mackenzie Hunter, the OSV's interim director. “Besides promoting student development, Viva Volunteer mobilizes volunteer labor and helps community agencies achieve their missions.”

First-time agency participants included The Bridge Homeless Recovery Center,

Equest, Moorland Family YMCA and Legacy Senior Communities.

Shahana Shaikh, a finance senior and a student worker for the Student Organization Center, had never been to The Bridge's facility before.

“The moment that affected me the most was seeing employees of the pro-

See VIVA, Page 8

Baylor announces a 'One Weekend per Month Executive MBA'

WACO — The Baylor University Executive MBA program in Dallas has announced a new format that will allow high-achieving working professionals to attend class one weekend per month and earn an Executive MBA in just 21 months.

The cohort of students entering in fall 2018 will attend classes from 1 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Fridays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays to better accommodate the needs of mid-career execu-

tives, who will be able to balance the demands of working full-time while completing an MBA. It also optimizes the time students spend in the classroom by ensuring that the classroom experience is impactful and interactive.

Classes for the Baylor EMBA - Dallas, which also offers an EMBA in Healthcare, are held at the Cooper Aerobics Center near Preston Road and LBJ (Hwy 635). Courses in the Execu-

tive MBA and Executive MBA Healthcare programs are taught by a combination of Baylor's faculty and industry executives.

“We are facing the most exciting and challenging times in business. The influence of technology will change the way we think about competitiveness and high performance in our organizations,” said Gary Carini, Ph.D., vice provost for graduate professional education at Baylor and

professor of management at the Hankamer School of Business.

“The Baylor EMBA program has already developed content in our courses that will prepare our students to excel and achieve leadership positions in their respective industries. We are privileged to partner with our students along their journeys to attain the highest levels in their careers.”

In addition to its rigorous

and relevant curriculum, the Baylor EMBA - Dallas program features three experiences to supplement the classroom experience: a weeklong residency at Baylor in Waco, Public Policy and International Business in Washington, D.C., and an international trip to study global strategies.

The program also offers a cybersecurity class so that senior executives are able to understand and develop a

cyber-risk mitigation strategy.

The Baylor EMBA program's 64 percent increase in salary ranked No. 1 in Texas and in the top 20 internationally. The program also is No. 2 in Texas for women participating in the program and in the top 15 for U.S.-based programs.

The early deadline for applications is Jan. 31, 2018. Go to www.baylor.edu/DallasEMBA to apply or learn more.

Baby2Baby Network teams up with Drybar for Hope Supply Co. drive

Hope Supply Co., a member of the Baby2Baby National Network, has partnered with Drybar Plano for a holiday drive benefiting homeless children in North Texas. The organizations are currently seeking donations by the community for new toys,



diapers, clothes and baby essentials.

Hope Supply Co. meets the critical needs of homeless

children across North Texas by providing necessities including diapers, wipes, clothing, hygiene products, school supplies and uniforms, toys and programs all year round to enhance their lives. The nonprofit is also the largest diaper bank in Texas and is

the only organization of its kind in North Texas providing these services to the homeless.

“The number of American families struggling to meet their families’ basic needs is alarming,” states Barbara Johnson, president of Hope

Supply Co. “Hope Supply Co. is working to keep up with the demand, to ensure that all children have the basic necessities to thrive and live a productive, joyful life.”

The local holiday drive is now taking place at Drybar Plano and will continue

through Monday, Jan. 8, 2018. Drybar is located at 7300 Lone Star Dr., Plano, TX 75024, at The Shops at Legacy.

For more information on the organizations, please visit hopesupplyco.org and baby2baby.org.

Dive In! Ribbon cutting ceremony held for renovated natatorium

Irving ISD, in partnership with the City of Irving and North Lake College, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the newly renovated natatorium at North Lake College. The event showcased the \$7 million in renovations to the facility, which was built in 1985, and celebrated a partnership between Irving ISD, the city of Irving and North Lake College.

The 50-meter indoor

swimming facility is operated and managed by the City of Irving for joint use by the city and Irving ISD. It is open for year-round classes and swimming activities for the Irving community. The ribbon cutting event, held Monday, featured a warm greeting from Thomas Haley Elementary School students as well as performances by master swimmers from Pirouettes of Texas.

Refreshments were prepared and served by students in the national award-winning hospitality and culinary program at Singley Academy. The ceremony included remarks by Irving ISD Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jose Parra; Irving Mayor Pro Tem Allan E. Meagher and other city officials; and Dr. Christa Slejko and Dr. Eddie Tealer of North Lake College.



Representatives of Irving ISD, City of Irving and North Lake College snip the ribbon, symbolizing the completion of the renovated natatorium at North Lake. The three entities collaborate for joint use of the facility. Pictured are (from left) Irving City Councilman John Danish; Dr. Eddie Tealer, vice president of business services at North Lake College; Dr. Christa Slejko, president of North Lake College; John Watson, facilities services director at North Lake College; Irving ISD Superintendent of Schools Jose L. Parra, Ed.D.; Irving ISD Board Vice President Randy Randle; Irving Mayor Pro Tem Allen Meagher; Irving Councilman Oscar Ward; and students Ethan Garcia and Lateefa Chowdhury.

McKinney PAC wins \$150,000 grant funding with help of residents' votes

McKinney’s Main Street program won \$150,000 in grant funding from the Partners in Preservation: Main Streets campaign to “Polish Our Gem” and help maintain the McKinney Performing Arts Center (MPAC). MPAC was the only building nomi-

nated in Texas and the only courtroom-turned-theater in the running, making this a truly unique opportunity for McKinney. Residents were encouraged to vote daily during a month-long online voting campaign.

Partners in Preservation is

a community-based partnership created by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and American Express to raise awareness of the importance of preserving historic places. McKinney was one of 25 participating Main Street programs, districts,

and communities competing for a grant. More than 920,000 votes were tallied across the nation and the top 10 cities with the most votes were awarded grants.

“Because of the efforts by our community and business partners, we were able to

win these funds for the improvements to the exterior of the McKinney Performing Arts Center. This was an extremely competitive challenge and every vote mattered. We are so grateful to our community for the commitment and devotion to

vote daily,” said Amy Rosenthal, Director of McKinney Main Street. “We look forward to putting the funds to good use and preserving our gem by cleaning the exterior limestone, painting trim and repointing the historic brick.”

WEST, continued from Page 1

opportunities for people to come and earn their G.E.D., get Microsoft certified, and get hired by Dallas companies looking for new employees.

“What we’ve attempted to do at Friendship West has everything to do with, on one level, fighting for economic justice,” Dr. Frederick D. Haynes III told the rest of the panel. “Dallas, like many

cities across this country, is being hit by gentrification – especially on our side of town.”

“As churches, it is in our vested interest to understand our responsibility to get involved in public policy,” Haynes continued. “It’s good to develop...but your development can be sabotaged by economic injustice in the form of gentrification [or]

pay-day predators having their way.”

Dr. Haynes’s church has gained notoriety for its West Wall Street event. The initiative provides an opportunity for black businesses to sell their products to church members between and after services on Sunday before Black Friday, allowing members the chance to get their holiday shopping done while supporting black businesses in the community.

There was also considerable talk amongst the ministers about churches being more selective in who they bank with, only banking with institutions that support the community and line up with the collective interests of black churches. Some even proposed the concept of a Dallas-based “black bank.”

“I believe we can grow financially, fiscally, and spiritually if we have a lending institution that we owned,”

said Dr. Michael Bowie.

The idea gained considerable traction, with a member of the audience urging community leaders to create a black-owned bank during the question and answer portion of the evening.

“As the first and only black liquidator that closed Sunbelt Bank, I am pleading and asking – in the name of God, that we create a black bank now,” said the questioner. “Will the black bank

be a part of the agenda?”

While much of the panel declined to indicate whether they would push for such an idea, there was much agreement on the need to coalesce around a common economic and community vision for the black community in South Dallas. The seven ministers present are expected to formulate a vision and plan to address the issues discussed the forum early next year.

CARTER, continued from Page 2

African American responsiveness of citizens to be fully engaged in the democratic process,” the statement read.

Terry McAuliffe, Virginia’s outgoing Democratic

governor, told reporters that the election night victories were indeed a springboard for future elections, including the 2020 presidential race.

“This was a spark plug,”

McAuliffe said. “This is the revitalization of the Democratic Party in America.”

Former Vice President Joe Biden said voters clearly sent a message to Trump.

“A resounding defeat tonight for President Trump,” Biden tweeted.

“Voters across the country rejected the ugly politics we have seen this past year. Instead, they chose candidates who unite and inspire us.”

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus also engaged voters. Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.), urged every-

one to vote.

“The vote is precious, almost sacred,” Lewis said. “It is the most powerful non-violent tool or instrument in a democratic society [so] use it.”

And, if that admonition wasn’t enough, the leg-

endary civil rights leader reminded voters why participating is so important.

“I was beaten, left bloody and unconscious so that every American has the right to vote,” Lewis said. “Friends of mine gave their lives. Do your part. Vote.”

Dallas

Young Black Professional (YBP) Dallas is hosting a **Fall After Work** event Friday, Nov. 17 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the PRYME BAR at 10333 Technology Blvd, Dallas. The event is organized to provide young black professionals the opportunity to connect with black-owned businesses, professionals, and intellectuals. It will bring together an estimated 300 black professionals and a number of businesses together for an evening of connecting and networking.

The Dallas Peace and Justice Center is hosting the **2017 Annual Peacemaker Awards Dinner** on Thurs-

day, Nov. 30 at 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel at 4099 Valley View Ln., Dallas. A reception will begin at 5:30 p.m., where fair trade and eco-friendly vendors will have booths set up for holiday shopping. A plated dinner will be served at 7 p.m. as the award program begins.

C.U.R.E. is hosting **CURE World AIDS Day: Because I Knew You** Thursday, Nov. 30 from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the George W. Bush Presidential Center at 2943 SMU Blvd, Dallas. The event will provide attendees the opportunity to learn and recognize those who have been lost to AIDS. Proceeds from

the event will benefit C.U.R.E., an organization which provides housing, medical attention, and many other services for those affected.

Garland

Rhetta Bowers, Democratic candidate for Texas House District 113, is hosting **Afternoon Coffee with Rhetta** on Saturday, Nov. 18 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at Firewheel Coffee at 3003 N President George Bush Hwy, Garland. The event provides voters of every political stripe the opportunity to meet the candidate and find out more about her campaign while also supporting a local Garland business.

McKinney

540 Mercantile is hosting its **November Trunk Show** on Friday, Nov. 17 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 221 East Louisiana Street, McKinney. The neighborhood marketplace – filled with apparel, artisan handcrafted jewelry, furniture, and home décor – will be unveiling a new necklace design to support the North Texas Food Bank. The event will also feature refreshments, hourly giveaways, and swag bags for attendees.

Plano

The **2nd Annual Pop Up Art Show** will take place Saturday, Nov. 18 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 4549 Old Pond Dr., Plano. The event



The 12th Annual Gobble Hobble will take place Nov. 18 (Photo Credit: Richardson Gobble Hobble/Facebook)

will feature 18 artists of jewelry, pottery, sculpture, painting, leather goods, glass art, mixed media, and more. Local musician Kyle Brooks will be providing live music, Curls Candy and Cake Co. will be providing treats, and Four Corners Brewing Co. will have craft

beer tastings available.

Richardson

The **2017 Gobble Hobble 5K, 10K, and Family Fun Run** will take place Saturday, Nov. 18 from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. beginning at

See BRIEFS, Page 15

VIVA, continued from Page 6

gram who had gone through the program itself,” Shaikh said. “It’s very easy to get stressed out with whatever is going on in your life, but these people taught me to be grateful even in the toughest times.”

Helping Hands Clean Horse Stalls, Build Playground

Lendon Burnett, an accounting and finance junior and an Army veteran, led a team of 10 student-veterans at Equest, the first therapeutic riding center in Texas and one of the largest in the country.

Volunteers mucked 30 horse stalls, “which is about how it sounds,” Burnett

said. “It took us 10 to 15 minutes to clean each stall and put down new bedding. Usually a staff of two handles that task, so we were able to free them up to do



The Oct. 28 Viva Volunteer annual service event drew more than 400 participants including student-athletes, pictured above volunteering at Goodwill Industries. (Photo: UTD)

other things. I would definitely do it again,” said Burnett, who is also a student leader and peer advisor at the University’s Military and Veteran Center.

Vivian Nguyen, a molecular biology sophomore and a student leader at the OSV,

participated with a team of McDermott Scholars and badminton club members who joined other community volunteers in building a playground at the Moorland Family YMCA.

“It was heartwarming to see the whole community

come together for something that will make a difference for generations to come,” Nguyen said.

Sarah Deering, a representative for the City of Richardson Community Services, expressed appreciation for students who

were eager to clean an elderly resident’s backyard.

“What I enjoyed the most was getting to know the students. They were very welcoming and helpful. I never once had to ask them to do something. They jumped right in,” Deering said.

Tales of the high seas...



Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Amber Harned, assigned to USS Constitution, gives a presentation about the history of 'Old Ironsides' at Rosemont Middle School as part of a Fort Worth Navy Week presentation. Navy Weeks focus a variety of assets, equipment and personnel on a single city for a weeklong series of engagements designed to bring America's Navy closer to the people it protects, in cities that don't have a large naval presence (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Casey Scoular/Released)



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Loss of Elliott was just one of the problems for the Cowboys

By Dwain Price
NDG Sports Special
Contributor

Update: Ezekiel Elliott withdrew his appeal to the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Wednesday for a potential preliminary injunction. A hearing had been scheduled for Dec. 1 for that preliminary injunction, which could have halted Elliott's suspension after he sat out four games.

However, Elliott will now serve his entire six-game suspension and will not play again until the Cowboys host the Seattle Seahawks on Dec. 24.

Entering this past Sunday's road game against the Atlanta Falcons, the loss of running back Ezekiel Elliott to an NFL-mandated six-game suspension appeared to be the Dallas Cowboys' biggest problem. However, after further review, the absence of perennial Pro Bowl offensive left tackle Tyron Smith was actually the team's biggest problem.

With Smith unavailable to play due to a groin injury, the Falcons took advantage of his backups and went on to bash the Cowboys, 27-7. And if the Cowboys don't find a way to better protect quarterback Dak Prescott by the time they host the high-flying Philadelphia Eagles on Sunday night at 7:30 at AT&T Stadium, they could very well wind up on the wrong end of that score, too.

In one of the worst performances by an offensive lineman in NFL history, Cowboys backup left tackle Chaz Green allowed unheralded Falcons defensive end Adrian Clayborn to sack Prescott an unprecedented five times. Clayborn added another sack against Byron Bell, and also forced two fumbles and recovered one fumble.

Clayborn entered the game with just two sacks on the season. And the Cowboys prestigious offensive line had previously allowed only 10 sacks in their first eight



Pro Bowl Offensive Left Tackle Tyron Smith By Jeffrey Beall / Wikimedia

games this season. However, Prescott spent Sunday running for his life all day against the Falcons and wound up getting buried by the Falcons, who sacked him eight times. In the aftermath, since the Cowboys coaches made no major adjustments to protect Prescott against the Falcons, that obviously has to change against the Eagles.

If it doesn't, the Cowboys won't have a chance to win the NFC East and will instead spend the rest of this season chasing one of the NFC's two wild-card playoff berths.

Cowboys coach Jason Garrett tried to explain why he stuck with Green so long before finally replacing him in the third quarter with Bell.

"For the most part (Green) didn't do a good enough job," Garrett said. "Again, we're down 10-7 at the half and I wanted to give him another shot coming out in the second half, and then ultimately we made that change."

Green was very apologetic after the game, saying it was "unfortunate" that his hap-hazard play against the Falcons played a large role in the Cowboys falling to 5-4 on the season.

"It just hurts because I feel I let the team down," Green said. "You have some good days, you have some bad days."

"This obviously wasn't my best day at all. I'll take this on my shoulders, I'm going to look myself in the mirror and

I'll just fix the things that I need to fix. I'm going to get it fixed."

While it may be difficult for Smith to play against the Eagles and then turn right around and play four days later in the Thanksgiving Day home game against the Los Angeles Chargers, the Cowboys know they'll be without Elliott for at least three more contests. Elliott is slated to have a hearing on his domestic violence case on Dec. 1, in which he hopes the final two games of his six-game suspension will be thrown out.

Meanwhile, on the defensive side of the ball, linebacker Sean Lee went out in the first quarter of the loss to Atlanta with a strained hamstring and could miss several games. In all, Lee has missed 41 of the 123 games he could have played in during his career due to injuries.

"We don't anticipate him practicing, certainly immediately, this week," Garrett said. "It might be some time."

"We simply have to play better when he's not in there."

Linebacker Anthony Hitchens hopes the Cowboys can step up their productivity on defense to compensate for the loss of Lee.

"It's not as much as what more I can do," Hitchens said. "I just got to do it consistently and keep that up."

"That's a start for our defense, and as long as I'm playing good ball that's all I can control. Throughout the week I just got to work with

Sean – if he's not playing – and just ask him what does he see on this play or this formation."

The Cowboys are 0-3 this season in the games Lee hasn't played in, or when he left the game early for good, as was the case against the Falcons.

"I'm going to be the guy making the (defensive) calls if he's not (playing)," Hitchens said. "So I'm just trying my best to imitate him and to get everyone lined up."

"He's going to help me throughout the week."

A win over the Eagles would be a big boost for the Cowboys. After all, the Eagles have the best record in the NFL at 8-1, are three

games ahead of the Cowboys in the NFC East race, and have shown no visible signs of slowing down.

"As you know it's a rivalry game (and) they're big and physical," defensive end David Irving said. "It starts with us up front."

"We've got to control the game. It's simple as that."

Led by quarterback Carson Wentz and running back Jay Ajayi, the Eagles are fourth in the NFL in total yards (377 per game), fifth in rushing yards (1,232) and 15th in passing (2,162 yards). That one-two punch has been the hallmark of Philadelphia's success.

"He's balling, it's evident," Irving said of Wentz. "That's

tough when you've got a team that can run and pass, and he's a good quarterback."

"In order to have success we're going to have to try to make them one-dimensional. If they can run and pass on us it's going to be a pretty hard day."

A "pretty hard day" the Cowboys hope will end in their favor.

"It's a big game for us coming after that loss," Hitchens said. "I think overall we just need to focus on what we can do, and that's just getting better as a defense and getting better as a team."

And also focus on finding a way to better protect Dak Prescott.

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Novitiate delivers a gripping look into the hidden world of the religious life

By Joe Farkus
NDG Contributing Writer

Of the more than 1.2 billion Catholics in the world, only 50,000 are living lives as nuns in convents, monasteries, and abbeys all over the world. That's a 72% decrease from 1965 when that number totaled 180,000. What's changed since 1965? Novitiate successfully captures both the earth-shaking changes to the Catholic Church that occurred as a result of Vatican II, a council called by Pope John XXIII which many view as the signature event that modernized



Novitiate opens in select Dallas theaters Friday, Nov. 10 (Courtesy Photo)

the centuries-old Christian institution and its traditions, and the intense and often cruelly isolated life religious women seek in devotion to Jesus Christ.

Starring the compelling

Margaret Qualley as the teenage devotee Cathleen, the film tells the story of her entrance into a convent as she pursues a calling to the holy sisterhood. Shocking and worrying her mother

(Julianne Nicholson), Cathleen undergoes a dramatic transformation as she witnesses the ironically unfor-giving Reverend Mother's (Melissa Leo) attempts at preserving the traditions and harsh life of her convent and church.

Qualley delivers an under-stated, yet riveting, performance as the film's protagonist. Director Margaret Betts somehow captures the mys-tery of faith and the fervent religiosity of a select group of young women who feel called to a life of uncommon silence and isolation in order to please God. Betts cleverly

keeps the story contained in-side the walls of the convent, rarely peeking out beyond its stone-cold walls to witness the world changing rapidly around the Sisters.

Some of Novitiate's strongest and most emotion-ally-charged moments come as a result of Dianna Agron's performance as Sister Mary Grace, a calm and empa-thetic nun who displays the kind of compassion seem-ingly unknown to the con-vent's leadership. Her inabil-ity to come to terms with the older Reverend Mother's often sadistic punishments accurately reflects the wider

conflicts within the church at-large during Vatican II and the surrounding years.

For better or worse, the ev-idence has proven a gentler, less insular Catholicism emerged from the ashes of the pre-Vatican II church. What Betts' film does better than anything is showcase the change through a deeply personal and moving narra-tive delivered with an excel-lent screenplay and superb performances.

Novitiate was released in select Dallas theaters Friday, Nov. 10. The film is rated R and intended for mature au-diences only.

NDG readers can win tickets to 70s Soul Jam featuring The Whispers, Delfonics and Chi-Lites

The nonprofit AT&T Per-forming Arts Center and MEG Present the 70s Soul Jam featuring The Whis-pers, Delfonics and Chi-Lites at 8 p.m. Saturday,

Nov. 25 at the Majestic Theatre in downtown Dal-las. North Dallas Gazette readers can win tickets to the show. Visit our Face-book and Instagram pages

for more details.

One of R&B music's most beloved and consis-tently popular vocal groups, The Whispers, began their legendary and timeless ca-

reer in 1963. Twin brothers Walter and Wallace Scott joined with friends Nicholas Caldwell, Marcus Hutson, and Gordy Harmon



The legendary Whispers (Courtesy Photo)

See SOUL, Page 12

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Developers break ground on new Redbird development Starbucks

City and community leaders gathered on Tuesday to break ground for one of the only Starbucks in southern Dallas and to launch the construction phase of the redevelopment of Southwest Center Mall under the brand Reimagine RedBird.

“The construction of a Starbucks represents the first step in the redevelopment of RedBird into a center of quality. For too long, southern Dallas has been underserved and underestimated,” said Peter Brodsky, Southwest Center Mall owner and developer. “My hat is off to Starbucks for recognizing the untapped market for their products



and for entering this market in a way that lifts the community up.”

“Starbucks is emblematic of the ethos of Reimagine RedBird—to provide the community with quality amenities while ensuring that the whole community benefits from the redevelopment,” Brodsky added.

The new Starbucks, which is scheduled to open in spring 2018, represents the company’s commitment

to expanding into underserved areas with untapped economic potential and a move towards revitalization.

It is one of 15 similar stores the company is opening across the country. The RedBird Starbucks is expected to add economic opportunities by hiring locally, providing in-store job skills training for youth and working with local minority-owned businesses in the

RedBird area.

“This is a historic moment for us in Dallas as we continue to work with the city’s business and civic leadership to create opportunities for all,” said Traci York, regional vice president for Starbucks south central operations.

“From our efforts to connect youth to jobs at the Dallas Opportunity Fair in May, to today’s groundbreaking event for our upcoming RedBird store, we want to show that with meaningful investment and a creative business model that reflects the needs of the community, we can create the kinds of economic op-

portunities that have the potential to generate long-term impact. This is both an opportunity to grow our business in Dallas by reaching new customers, and to be part of a local solution for social change.”

Starbucks will be at home among the new retail, office space, apartments, hotel and green areas that are part of “Reimagine RedBird,” a vision for the revitalization and expansion of what is now Southwest Center Mall into a high-quality complex where people in southern Dallas can work, dine, and shop without leaving their community.

The development is lo-

cated at 3662 W. Camp Wisdom Road, in the intersection of U.S. Highway 67 and Interstate 20.

“This is a very exciting time for southern Dallas as new opportunities and economic development like Reimagine RedBird begin to flourish,” said Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings.

“The revitalization of RedBird Mall and the construction of this new Starbucks are examples of how businesses are recognizing the untapped potential of southern Dallas by committing to the area and its residents with offerings that are commonplace in other parts of the city.”

El Centro College receives \$126,000 job-training grant

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has awarded El Centro College a \$126,000 Self Sufficiency Fund training grant to help 60 individuals transition into the workforce. The grant will help provide job training skills for occupations such as licensed insurance sales producers. Grant funding from the Self Sufficiency Fund will assist in developing the technical education and learning environment that will lead to industry recognized certificates and credentials.

“This Self Sufficiency

Fund grant will help provide training that benefits both the local community and its workforce,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez. “Ensuring that employees have access to education that enhances their skillsets is key to Texas maintaining a talented labor force. This grant will help with the state’s workforce endeavors.”

The Self Sufficiency Fund provides funding to eligible training providers including nonprofit 501(c)(3) community-based organizations, Texas public community or

technical colleges or the Texas Engineering Extension Service. The Self Sufficiency Fund pays for curriculum development, instructor fees and certifications, training materials, certain work-related expenses for trainees and some training equipment for targeted industry clusters. In fiscal year 2017, the Self Sufficiency Fund grant program awarded over \$2.1 million dollars to train 1,127 Texans.

A team of experts from TWC’s Office of Employer Initiatives provides technical assistance at no charge to

help streamline Self Sufficiency Fund project development.

For more information,

contact the Outreach and Project Development Consultants at 877-463-1777, customizedtraining.solutions@twc.state.tx.us or locate resources on the TWC’s Self Sufficiency Fund webpage.

STRESS, continued from Page 4

at the association between stressful events and obesity in a snapshot of time, future studies should look at the relationship longitudinally, following people for weight gain over time after life events have occurred, according to Albert.

“This is important work because women are living longer and are more at risk for chronic illnesses, such as cardiovascular disease. The potential public health impact is large, as obesity is related to increased risks of heart attack, stroke, diabetes and cancer, and contributes

to spiraling healthcare costs,” Albert said.

Co-authors are Fumika Matsushita, M.P.H.; Alan M. Zaslavsky, Ph.D.; Tiffany Powell-Wiley, M.D., M.P.H.; Natalie Slopen, Sc.D. and Julie E. Buring, Sc.D. Author disclosures are on the abstract.

The National Institute on Aging, National Cancer Institute and National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute funded the study.

The American Heart Association is devoted to saving people from heart disease and stroke – the two

leading causes of death in the world.

We team with millions of volunteers to fund innovative research, fight for stronger public health policies and provide lifesaving tools and information to prevent and treat these diseases.

The Dallas-based association is the nation’s oldest and largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. To learn more or to get involved, call 1-800-AHA-USA1, visit heart.org or call any of our offices around the country. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

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Companies compete at 2017 Fall Fit Company Challenge

(EINPresswire.com) On October 21, 2017 participants from companies located in the Dallas area took part in the Fit Company Challenge, a corporate wellness event hosted by the Fit Company Institute. The challenge provided area companies an opportunity to come together as a team and spend an evening exercising, pushing their physical and mental limits and showing the importance of living a healthy lifestyle. Companies split their team

into squads of 3 to 4 people who worked together to complete a variety of fitness stations to challenge their fitness level and earn points for their company. Teams chose what level to go through each course which allowed participants of all fitness levels to push their physical fitness without going too far out of their comfort zone.

On event date, volunteers assisted the contenders through the courses from FITNZ 360

(www.FITNZ360.com). Participants challenged their strength, conditioning, power, agility, and ended with a test of endurance to show their companies and colleagues that they practice what they preach.

The challenge was held at Flag Pole Hill Park, located a short drive from downtown Dallas.

Top Companies by Division

Medium Division

- 1) General Datatech LP

- 2) Niagara Conservation
 - 3) Amino Transport
- #### Small Division
- 1) Kapstone Paper
 - 2) Chapman, Hext & Co., P.C.

The Fit Company Institute is based in Austin, Texas and is dedicated to help companies thrive through wellness. The Fit Company Challenge helps companies be their best by creating the most productive, focused, energetic, happiest, and cohesive teams possible.



General Datatech LP took the top honors in the medium company division for the Fit Company Challenge. (Courtesy photo)

Frost Bank recognized for \$8.8 million to affordable housing

Frost Bank, a member of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas (FHLB Dallas), was recently honored with FHLB Dallas' 2017 CARE Award. An acronym that stands for "Community Area Revitalization Efforts," the CARE Award recognizes Frost Bank's affordable housing achieve-

ments over the past 20 years.

"Frost Bank is committed to making a positive impact on the community through revitalization and partnerships with those who share in our mission," said Donna Normandin, senior vice president and CRA officer at Frost Bank. "Giving back

is important to us. It's part of who we are as a company."

In conjunction with the award, FHLB Dallas contributed \$7,500 to a community-based organization of Frost Bank's choice. After working with Houston-based nonprofit, Change Happens, for the

last eight years, Frost Bank selected the organization to receive the funds because of its Hurricane Harvey relief efforts in the community.

Established in 1989, Change Happens is a 501(c)(3) that provides outreach services to Harris County. Since the inception of the partnership with

Change Happens, Frost Bank has donated almost \$80,000 and many volunteer hours in support of the nonprofit's mission.

Change Happens CEO and Founder, the Rev. Leslie Smith, said he was thrilled to learn of the unexpected funding, which will be used to further the orga-

nization's mission.

"At Change Happens, we work tirelessly to provide services to adults and at-risk youth in Houston with the goal of empowering those individuals to become positive and productive contributors to the community,"

See FROST, Page 14

SOUL, continued from Page 10

to form a local singing group.

The Delfonics were one of the first groups to sing in the sleek, soulful style that became popularized as the "Philadelphia sound." A vocal trio made up of brothers William and Wilbert Hart and high school friend Randy Cain, the Delfonics roots go back to doo-wop singing at school dances in

the early '60s.

The Chi-Lites were originally formed as the Hi-Lites at Hyde Park High School in Chicago in the late 1950s as the Chanteurs (Eugene Record, Robert "Squirrel" Lester, and Clarence Johnson).

They later teamed up with Marshall Thompson and Creadel "Red" Jones of the Desideros to form the

Hi-Lites. Noting that the name Hi-Lites was already in use, and wishing to add a tribute to their hometown of Chicago, they changed their name to "The Chi-Lites" in 1964.

If you do not win your tickets, the prices for 70s Soul Jam featuring The Whispers, Delfonics and Chi-Lites range from \$99 – \$49 and can be purchased, at www.attpac.org, 214-880-0202 or in person at the

AT&T Performing Arts Center Winspear Opera House Box Office at 2403

Flora Street. The Box Office will open 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through

Friday and before performances – closed Saturdays and Sundays.

Workers Defense hires political team to Win for Texas Families in 2018

Workers Defense Action Fund (WDAF) announced recently new staff hires to its political team to win for working families in 2018.

"In 2017, Texas families were a political punching bag for Governor Abbott and others. We've vowed to fight for Texas families at the ballot box and that was not an idle threat," said Jose P. Garza, executive director of Workers Defense Action Fund. "As we look towards 2018, we will work to ensure working families continue to build power in all corners of this state."

WDAF welcomes long

time Houstonian, Tyler James, in his new role as Political Director. In his previous role, James served as a Political Advisor to Mostyn Law Firm. James has worked on creating access and power for working people on the issues that affect their lives. He has worked on state and local races around Texas, most notably on the Harris County Project and the Sylvia Garcia for Texas Senate Campaign.

"Every Texan deserves a fair shot to get ahead. Whether the issue is wages, paid sick, or student loans. Texans deserve to be able to take care of themselves and

their families," said Tyler James, political director of Workers Defense Action Fund. "2018 is our opportunity to change the power dynamics in Texas."

WDAF's former Dallas Campaign Manager Diana Ramirez is moving into a new role as Deputy Political Director. Diana grew up in North Texas and has spent her career fighting for immigrant families and working families. Last election cycle, Diana led Workers Defense's efforts in HD 107 and run other successful voter engagement programs in the Dallas area.



Do you want a career that provides health, vision, and dental insurance on your first day? How about a pension plan?

Martin Marietta is now accepting applications in multiple locations for the following positions:

Mixer Driver Concrete (Req ID 2017-3315 and 2017-3314) – operates concrete mixer truck between plant locations delivering concrete to various job sites. Must have a valid class A or B driver's license. Prefer 1 year of experience driving a Mixer, Tanker, or Rock Truck. Must have a good driving record and pass DOT drug screen and physical.

Mobile Mechanics (Req ID 2017-3259 and 2017-3406) – Performs all top-level truck repairs on mobile equipment to include: Ready Mix trucks, Aggregate trucks, and Tankers. Minimum of 2 years' experience maintaining diesel engines required.

Tanker/Aggregate Hauler (Req ID 2017-3129) – Operate aggregate truck for Ready Mix in a safe and efficient manner adhering to DOT rules and regulations. Must have a valid class A driver's license. Prefer 1 year of experience operating diesel tandem truck and/or Ready Mix truck. Must have a good driving record and pass DOT drug screen and physical.

Please apply on the Careers page at www.martinmarietta.com and enter the corresponding Req ID in the Search box.

We pay top dollar. Join the safe driving team at Martin Marietta today!

We are an equal opportunity employer. Women, minorities, veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Upcoming DFW area job fairs

Nov. 16 The Colony Career Fair

This event is designed to get you in front of hiring managers looking to fill sales positions in varying capacities. This is not a cattle call career fair with hundreds of other candidates and lines out the door. We will have multiple companies in attendance ranging from fortune 500 businesses to local organizations. Please plan on arriving a few minutes early with 15 printed copies of your resume, come dressed for a professional interview, and feel free to bring a friend. This fair will take place at 6 p.m. at the Fairfield Inn & Cascades Events Center at 5909 Stone Creek Dr., The Colony, TX 75056.

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.

Nov. 20 Career Job Fair for Customer Service Representatives

We are having a Open House Job Fair! Please join us to learn more about the positions that we have to offer. We have multiple locations to staff in the Dallas- Ft. Worth Metroplex area. Register to RSVP a spot. Please feel free to call if you have any questions- 972-891-9975. The fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 13154 Coit Rd, Suite 209, Dallas, TX 75240.

Nov. 30 Arlington Job Fair

By attending a JobNewsUSA.com Job Fair you will find opportunities to: Build your professional network. Meet one on one with recruiters & hiring managers from top employers who are now hiring for immediate openings in your local area. Find out about an employer's upcoming opportunities that may not be advertised to the general public. Some employers will offer on the spot interviews and job offers, this is a unique opportunity to get guaranteed face time and make personal connections. Pre-register now to attend. You will receive a reminder email two days prior to the event. Job seekers are encouraged to dress professionally and bring resumes or work history with them to the event. This fair will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hilton Arlington at 2401 East Lamar Boulevard, Arlington, TX 76006.

Dec. 6 Dallas Job Fair

Come meet with hiring managers from local, national, and Fortune 500 companies for free at our Dallas Job Fair. You will be meeting with decision makers face to face, so wear a suit and dress for success. 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 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel by the Galleria at 4801 Lyndon B. Johnson Freeway, Dallas, TX 75251.

Dec. 7 Dallas Career Fair

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 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel at 2015 Market Center Blvd, Dallas, TX 75207.

Dec. 13 Job Fair of Dallas

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! Positions in the following areas are typically available: Sales, Customer Service, Call Center, Management, General Business, Marketing, etc. The fair will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Embassy Suites by Hilton at Dallas DFW Airport South at 4650 West Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75062.

Dallas Career Fair

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. Now Is The Time, Start or Advance Your Career Today! WE ARE HELPING AMERICA GET

BACK TO WORK! The fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton Dallas – Love Field at 3300 W Mockingbird Ln, Dallas, TX 75325.

Dec. 14 Dallas Job Fair

Organized to assist those looking for careers in outside sales, inside sales, entry, mid, and senior level sales positions. Multiple companies will be hiring at this event. Registration is not required. All who attend are encouraged to come early to make time for multiple interviews. Professional attire is expected and attendees are asked to bring more than 10 copies of their resume to the event. Hiring managers from different companies will all want a copy. This fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Embassy Suites – Dallas Market Center at 2727 N. Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, TX 75207.



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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

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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.

November 19, 9:45 a.m.
You're invited to our "Prayer and Meditation" at 9:45 am. You will be blessed and inspired. You don't want to miss this as we celebrate service to God, our community and all mankind.

November 22, 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"

November 19, 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.

November 22
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
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Plano, TX 75074
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Plano, TX 75074
972-379-3287

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

November 17, 7 p.m.
All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 7 p.m., (IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

November 19, 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.

November 20, 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)

November 19, 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.

November 22, 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

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH (Abiding in Christ)

November 19, 7 a.m.
Join us for our Early Service or our Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God, you will be blessed.

November 22
Join us at our Wednesday's Intercessory as we pray to God for others.

Call the church for details for details.

Dr. Tommy L. Brown, Ed. D. Senior Pastor
9550 Shepherd Road
Dallas, TX 75243
214-341-6459
nmzbcofdallas@aol.com

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.

November 19, 8 a.m. & 11 a.m.
You are welcome to join us for our Morning Services; you will enjoy the fellowship during our 8 a.m. and in the 11 a.m. Worship Services. We would love to have you.

November 22, 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 10
Mark your calendars for our Annual Christmas Banquet at the Embassy Suites in Frisco, Texas. Call the church for details.

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

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr. Senior Pastor
920 E. 14th Street
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972-509-9049



FROST, continued from Page 12

said Rev. Smith. "The funds from Frost Bank help us further our mission, and we couldn't be more thankful."

Since 1998, Frost Bank has invested more than \$8.8 million in Texas communities using FHLB Dallas' Affordable Housing Program (AHP), which assists in the purchase, construction and/or rehabilitation of owner-occupied, rental and transitional housing, as well as other grant programs offered by FHLB Dallas. These programs focus on promoting and strengthen-

ing relationships between community-based organizations, small business development, home rehab for special-needs and elderly residents and down payment and closing cost assistance for first-time homebuyers.

"Frost Bank has been a strong contributor to many of the affordable housing and economic development projects in Texas," said Sanjay K. Bhasin, president and CEO of FHLB Dallas. "Congratulations to everyone at Frost Bank on this

well-deserved award. It is our distinct honor to partner with them to serve Texans in need."

FHLB Dallas provides members with grant pro-



At left: Frost Bank Senior EVP Bill Sirakos, Frost Bank Senior VP and CRA Officer Donna Normandin, FHLB Dallas First VP and Director of Community Investment Greg Hettrick, Frost Bank VP Jacob Cavazos and FHLB Dallas President and CEO Sanjay Bhasin.

grams targeted specifically to the needs of low- to moderate-income communities in addition to favorably priced advances (loans) and other banking services.

The ultimate performance review



Sister Tarpley

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

"If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward"

(1 Corinthisan 3:14).

Have you ever had a job performance review? If you are in the workplace, you will likely have had one.

Employers want to see if you have done what was desired of you and whether you have done it in the prescribed way that has produced results.

If you do well, you will be affirmed and may even get a pay raise. If you fail to live up to expectations, you could even get fired.

Eternal life is what the reward in Heaven is for all Christians as they get their

performance review.

The Bible has its own performance review. It is called the Judgment Seat, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad" (2 Corinthians 5:10).

The generation that came out of Egypt with Moses is going to have a bad day at the Judgment Seat because we already know God's view on the matter.

"That is why I was angry with that generation, and I said, 'Their hearts are always going astray, and they have not known My ways'" (Hebrews 3:10).

The Bible says there is a way that seems right to a man, but the end is death (Proverbs 14:12).

There is a way that God wants Christians to operate on the earth. He has given us His Word, The Holy Bible, our instruction man-

ual, in order to know His ways of doing things.

How well do you know

the instruction manual? Have you read only a few parts here and there, or do

you read it every day?

Are you well versed on the intricacies of His ways so that you will be able to have a glorious "performance review" when the time comes?

Take time every day to get your instructions for His ways of living your life. Your reward will be great.

Ask God for His wisdom, knowledge, guidance, patience, love, protection, understanding, insight and for everything you need to be a positive life-changing influence on people you met each day.

Pray that God will keep

everyone safe from all harm and evil. Pray that each one will see their life as an opportunity to make a difference in other lives and to show their love to others.

Pray that they be salt and light in this world. Pray that they may rely on God's strength and grace each and every day to accomplish that which God would have them do.

Ask God to bless them as His servants and children. And may they be a blessing to others with whom they meet, this is your reasonable service. In Jesus' name, always pray, amen.



These cute young misses are (L to R) Jazlyn, and, Noelani and Oliana Stafford, they were in attendance at the great play "Feel Good Gos\$pel" at the Addison Theatre Center in Addison, Texas, 11-11-2017, the opening act was John III with two great rap songs. The two far right girl's parents are Musie and Tyran Jr. of God's Ink. He is the playwright of the play. When appearing in the Metroplex again, it will be worth your time and money to attend, I promise you.

BRIEFS, continued from Page 8

2351 Performance Dr., Richardson. The event is celebrating its 12th year. The event started as a result of a grassroots effort and has become a Richardson Thanksgiving tradition. The race will have three options for participants: the Fun Run at 8 a.m., the 5k which begins at 8:30 a.m., and the

10k which also begins at 8:30 a.m.

In-person registration will be on Thursday, Nov. 16 or Friday, Nov. 17 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 101 S. Coit Rd, Richardson. Awards will be given to the overall male and female winners in the 5k/10k race(s).

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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Pastor Gloria Fenceroy

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"Truth Made Simple" Listen to Pastor Sam Mon.-Fri. 5:25pm- 5:30pm KQGR 1040 AM

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Worship School 7pm & Afro Fellowship 7:00pm

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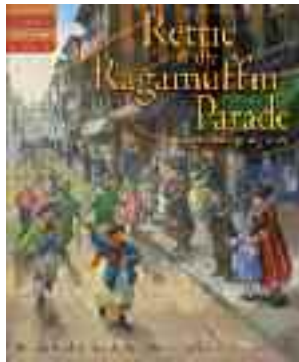
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Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Mid-week: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Youth Church: Every 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sunday at 10:45 a.m.
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NDG Book Review: *Rettie and the Ragamuffin Parade* illustrates courage

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The big, booming drums are your favorites. Oh, but you also like flag-wavers and the majorette with her whirling batons. And you can't forget the gigantic balloons or, of course, the floats with people waving hello. A lot of things go into making a great parade, but as you'll see in the new book *Rettie and the Ragamuffin Parade* by Trinka Hakes Noble, illustrated by David C. Gardner, all it used to take were a few pennies.

Everyone in Rettie Stanowski's neighborhood was excited for the Raga-



muffin Parade. It would happen Thanksgiving morning, and it was so much fun: all the kids in the Lower East Side tenements dressed up in old raggedy clothes and they'd walk down Broadway with their hands open. "Fancy uptown people" then

gave them pennies, and on the street corners, pennies were tossed in the air!

It was 1918 and a penny stretched a very long way – just not far enough. Because Mama was sick with consumption and Papa was away at war, nine-year-old Rettie had taken odd jobs and was earning as much as possible to feed her sisters and brother. She simply had to do more if they were to have a good Thanksgiving.

Times were "rough," though, and things were hard. Everyone was sick, or so it seemed. Lots of children had become orphans and were living on the

streets, quarantine signs were everywhere, and schools had closed early. Food was sometimes hard to find, and it was expensive. What if they cancelled the Ragamuffin Parade, too?

When a nurse showed up to check on Mama, Rettie fretted more: if Mama didn't get better, Rettie and her siblings would be sent to an orphanage, which couldn't happen. She just wouldn't allow it, so while Mama rested, Rettie got up early each morning to clean their building and mop the stoop, saving her pay for her family's Thanksgiving meal. Thoughts of the Ragamuffin

Parade were never far away, though. Would there be enough money to make it a happy celebration?

Based loosely on several real events, *Rettie and the Ragamuffin Parade* may come as a nice surprise to both you and your child: who knew that Thanksgiving and Halloween once went hand-in-hand? It's true, and at the end of her story, author Trinka Hakes Noble explains how it all came about. Noble puts a human face on tragedy and poverty, and it's one that kids will relate to, since the young heroine here is at about the age

of the target audience.

While kids will love the tale and you can explain the history behind it, the illustrations by David Gardner will keep them coming back to this book. Gardner's artwork subtly shows the right amount of bleakness inside this story, quietly growing warm toward the (happy) ending.

Kids ages 6-to-9 will love this unique story but beware that, for them, this is absolutely a read-aloud. Despite some big words and big concepts here, *Rettie and the Ragamuffin Parade* is a book to march out and get.

What makes the perfect road trip for African American families?

In time for holiday travel, Chevrolet and Harris Poll asked parents about road trips and what makes them great. The holiday season can be stressful – celebrations and parties, cooking, gift shopping and much, much more. Getting there does not have to be the worst part.

"The vehicle is the new family dinner table, where memories are created and bonds grow strong," said Steve Majoros, director of marketing, Chevrolet Cars and Crossovers. "As families prepare to hit the road this holiday, to spend time with friends and family, they can depend on crossovers like the 2018 Chevrolet Traverse and Equinox to meet their needs - from storage space to USB outlets, available 4G LTE Wi-Fi and Apple CarPlay and Android Auto compatibility."

The Harris Poll uncovered various preferences of African American parents as it relates to road trips including the ideal length, favorite ways to pass time, and choice of vehicles.

Ninety-nine percent of African American parents surveyed said they enjoy road trips. But what is it about road trips they love? Almost all who took road trips growing up said they have many fond memories



Chevrolet

from childhood that took place on a road trip. Continuing this tradition for families can be a great way for parents to spend time with, connect and enjoy the holidays with their children, they said.

Is there a "perfect" road trip length?

The survey showed African American parents believe six hours is the perfect road trip length. Whether taking a winter vacation or traveling to visit families, 86% of parents said their favorite way to pass time during the trip is by listening to music as a family, followed by talking (81%) and watching or listening to a movie or TV show (52%). With the amount of technology and infotainment within vehicles today, both parents and children have plenty to do, which allows for longer road trips.

A look at the love for the family road trip

Chevrolet wanted to know: what are parents' favorite part of holiday road trips? Almost all those surveyed said their favorite part is spending time with family (92%). Other favorites were exploring and stopping at interesting locations and destinations and unplugging from everyday life. Outside of the day-to-day, it is important for families to unplug and spend time with one another and as indicated, this happens when families take road trips.

What kind of vehicles are best?

When asked what made the ideal road trip vehicle, the majority of respondents indicated they would prefer an SUV over any other vehicle, followed by a large SUV with three rows. Vehicles like the Chevrolet Tra-

verse and Equinox allow for comfortability when taking road trips with children and also incorporate advanced technology and infotainment within the vehicle to make the drive enjoyable along those six hours.

Technology and its impact

Chevrolet asked respondents what is on their wish-list for better road trips and as traffic levels are projected to increase during the upcoming Thanksgiving travel week, African American parents indicated that in-vehicle technologies can improve the family road trip experience. Parents said that in-car Wi-Fi and internet connectivity would make holiday road trips more enjoyable for the family. Technology offered in vehicles like the all-new Chevrolet Traverse can give parents added peace of mind when hitting the road.

Chevrolet vehicles provide families a home away from home where they can make special memories on the road. Chevrolet was the first automaker to offer 4G LTE Wi-Fi on its cars, trucks, and crossovers, and has offered Android Auto and Apple CarPlay compatibility in most of its line-up since 2015 - helping families stay connected on the road.

Along with available safety features such as the Lane Change Alert with Side Blind Zone Alert, Surround Vision and Lane Keep Assist with Lane Departure Warning, Chevrolet aims to help loved ones stay safe, comfortable and connected on long trips.

Other available technology and safety features include:

- Rear Cross Traffic Alert
- Rear Park Assist
- Forward Collision Alert
- Low Speed Forward Automatic Braking
- Rear Seat Reminder

Additional road trip insights

As it relates to all families, Chevrolet heard back from both moms and dads on a number of different topics and found many interesting points about what today's road trip looks like including stressors, numbers of devices brought, etc.:

- Mom's Biggest Stress: Moms are more likely than dads to say keeping the kids entertained is the most stressful part of family road trips.

- Dads Do Most of the Driving: 75% of dads say they do most of the driving during family road trips, versus 31% of moms

- Number of Devices: Families today bring an average of 6.6 devices on family road trips.

- Kids Like Spending Time on the Road: 90% of parents who take road trips say their kids enjoy road trips too.

- Nostalgic Memories: 86% of American parents who took road trips when they were growing up say that they have "a lot of fond memories" from childhood that took place on family road trips.

- Children are involved in planning: 67% of parents involve their children in family road trip planning.

Survey Methodology

This survey was conducted online within the United States by Harris Poll on behalf of Chevrolet between October 19 and October 27, 2017, among 1,063 adults ages 18+ who are the parent or legal guardian of a child/children under the age of 18 residing in their household ("parents").