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For Starbucks COO, her own experience was her guide

By Jennifer Warnick
Special Contributor

ATLANTA —As Rosalind Gates Brewer approached the podium at Spelman College’s graduation ceremony on May 20, she was walking the last few steps of a full circle 34 years in the making.

Before she began the most dear-to-her speech she’s ever given, she took a deep breath and smiled at the sea of black and brown faces in caps and gowns. In 1984, she was one of those faces – a driven, hopeful young woman about to earn a degree in chemistry. This time around, she was the commencement speaker, and one of the most accomplished businesswomen in the United States.

“Spelman women, you are today at an intersection between who you have been, and who you must become – full of hope and knowledge, staring down the face of a daunting challenge. Stronger than you have ever been, and also learning with every breath,” Brewer told the graduates. “The generation of Spelman women who came before me were all first-of-a-kinds. The first black woman to... the first black leader to... the first black judge to... the first black surgeon to... a generation of way makers. My generation is what one might call ‘Generation P,’



Starbucks Chief Operating Officer Rosalind Gates Brewer had plenty of experience dealing with preconceptions in her own life before having to address a whirlwind of public outrage when two Black men were arrested at a Starbucks in Philadelphia. (Courtesy photo)

and that P is for perseverance—we’ve had the job of keeping the fires that our grandmothers and mothers fought for, lived for, died for – alive.”

The following morning, Brewer spoke to a room full of new Starbucks vice presidents. Brewer spent nearly an hour taking questions from the new vice presidents, ticking off operations numbers from memory and sharing business insights from her first seven months with Starbucks – the importance of investing in partners (employees), digital and growth; the importance

of getting to know customers and their changing routines; the challenges and opportunities of being a worldwide “third place,” or popular community gathering spot between work and home.

Brewer also spoke about something on the minds of almost everyone at Starbucks: Philadelphia. It’s a topic weighing heavily on the hearts of Brewer and her fellow executives, so much so that Brewer was planning to discuss it in her commencement speech the next

See STARBUCKS, Page 6



The Common Denominator

-See Page 3



Mental health issues common

-See Page 4



Off The Bone celebrates ten years in Dallas

-See Page 5



Students lauded for musicals

-See Page 6



Do Memorial Day outdoor cooking right

-See Page 9



AT&T Byron Nelson breaks in new ground

-See Page 10



Boseman gives address at Howard

-See Page 10



Sister Tarpley: Calling By Name

-See Page 15

INSIDE...

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| People In The News | 2 |
| Op/Ed | 3 |
| Health | 4 |
| Community | 5 |
| Education | 6 |
| General Motors | 7 |
| Community Briefs | 8 |
| Entertainment | 9-11 |
| Marketplace | 12-13 |
| Church Directory | 14-15 |
| General Motors | 16 |

People In The News...

See Page 2



Carl Gayden Lewis



Dr. Reggie Smith III

READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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

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Carl Gayden Lewis

BILOXI, MS (BlackNews.com) -- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 12 million U.S. children are obese. This accounts for nearly one in six school-aged children. From music to video games, living in the digital age comes with its pros and cons. One former hip-hop producer and industry veteran seeks to use fitness conscious music to get kids active.

Made for children ages four to 11, Carl Gayden Lewis, veteran music producer, has created Fitness



Fun to inspire, motivate, entertain, and inform kids through music and exercise. The songs are about the importance of daily physical activity, good nutrition, bullying and more.

"I've been in the music

industry for more than 20 years," said Lewis, producer, Fitness Fun and creator, Positive Kids Songs. "In 2014, I transitioned to children's media and was truly bothered by what I saw. Kids didn't have enough positive influences in entertainment. Fitness Fun is my response to that. I created a source for positivity and delivered it through music kids can really enjoy."

According to the CDC, obese children have an increased risk of developing a range of health problems, including high blood pressure and high cholesterol, which are both risk factors

for heart disease. Research also shows that obese children are at increased risk of being bullied and suffering from depression. A physical activity lifestyle coupled with a healthy diet can promote and lead to healthier living.

Mississippi has had a long-standing place at the top of the list in the United States when it comes to childhood and adult obesity. Although the rate has declined over the past decade, the obesity rate is still high. With nearly 40 percent of students in K-5th grade being overweight or obese, that is still a 13 percent decrease since 2015.

A Mississippi native, Lewis has dedicated years to improving the quality of living for children in his area. From back to school backpack drives to holiday toy drives and free music campaigns, Lewis has worked with organizations to help them use positive music and entertainment to engage children and help them live a healthier, more active lifestyle.

Children are exposed to thousands of messages on a daily basis. Recognized by Parents' Choice Awards as a Parents' Choice Approved resource, Fitness Fun is a healthy and positive alternative. To learn more about

Fitness Fun or to purchase a CD, please visit www.positivekidsongs.com

Started by former music producer Carl Lewis, Positive Kids Songs was created in 2013. As an Internet-based company, Positive Kids Songs, was created to inspire and engage children to get active and build a strong sense of self-esteem. Having partnered with the Gulf Coast Community Action Agency and Five County Child Development Program, Inc., Fitness Fun was created to support former First Lady Michelle Obama's fight against childhood obesity.

Dr. Reggie Smith III

(BlackNews.com) -- The United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA) Board of Directors named Dr. Reggie Smith III as its new CEO/Executive Director effective July 1, 2018, making him the first African American to lead the organization in its history.

Smith replaces Dr. John Flores, who announced his retirement as CEO / Executive Director effective July 1, 2018 at its recent annual national conference in Indianapolis, IN. A transition support team has been established since the USDLA



headquarters will move from Boston to Washington, D.C. as part of the leadership transition.

"It is an honor to follow in the footsteps of Dr. Flores," said Dr. Smith about

his predecessor. "He is a legend in the field and I plan to leverage the tremendous work he has done to continuously expand USDLA globally."

Flores, who had served in the post for more than 20 years, had been the heart and soul of USDLA and had positioned the organization to become globally recognized as a voice and force supporting all aspects of the distance learning industry. His tenure was marked with outstanding success through steady membership enrollment, sponsorship growth, and revenue generation.

"It is with mixed feelings

I announce my retirement, but I look forward to the next chapter in my life," Flores said. "It has been a wonderful journey with USDLA and I have met hundreds of terrific colleagues. I want to especially thank all USDLA Boards of Directors I have worked with over the years. It has truly been my honor to have served the Association."

"I've known both Dr. Flores and Dr. Smith for over a decade and I'm certain the transition will be seamless," said Pat Cassella, USDLA President. "I am working with Reggie daily to move USDLA along and the

board is confident in his abilities as we continue to grow it as a premier organization for the entire distance / online learning profession globally."

"I am excited that Dr. Smith will be succeeding me," Flores said. "He has been a longtime friend and colleague and I am sure he will continue to maintain and lead the Association in a most positive and productive way."

Prior to his appointment, Smith served as Chair Emeritus of the USDLA Board of Directors providing board leadership to the association, members, and

partners. In 2009 and 2010 respectively, Smith was elected as the association's first African-American president and then chairman.

Over the years, Smith, who is a recognized authority on media and telecommunications issues has served as presenter, keynote or judge at various events and conferences worldwide and has been recognized for his distinguished service in supporting distance learning, including the USDLA Hall of Fame Award, Black Engineer of the Year Award

See SMITH, Page 12

NDG Readers Sound Off...

Tips for Finding the Right School for Your Child

These are some great tips for finding a school for my kids. I like how you said that after you make a list of requirements, you can start visiting schools themselves. Meeting teachers and administrators in person is the best way I see to find the right education program.

- Ridley Fitzgerald

Counterfactual textbooks hurt Texas students

There he goes again trying to teach how slavery was all bad when TX text-



books clearly disagree @JohnsonForTexas

-- @DavidTaffet via Twitter

(Editor's Note: He did confirm this was a tongue in cheek comment in a later tweet)

FTR, I'm a hard pass on using tax-payer money to publish lies. In fact, it infuriates me. The textbooks need to be accurate. Lying about slavery is disgusting. So is lying about cancer. We need to fix this non-

sense, it hurts everybody.

Yep It's hard to unring a bell Our students deserve accurate books.

& thx Eric for speaking out & bringing this to our attn

-- @dj_ewi via Twitter

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The Common Denominator



I can recall observing some loyal Dallas Cowboys fans at a football game versus the New Orleans Saints. Most fans were outfitted in their game jerseys, t-shirts and hats displaying their commitment to the Cowboys. Now my thoughts were even more curious as I begin to explore some possibilities.

Let's focus on 100 Cowboys fan for example. I feel it is safe to say all 100 fans were hoping for a Cowboys win.

Out of 100 Cowboys fans:

- Maybe 33 believe in corporal punishment in public schools.
- Maybe 38 support the right to abort an unborn child.
- Maybe 41 are Republicans, 40 are Democrats, and 19 are Independent.
- Maybe 20 favors jazz, 20 prefer R&B, 20 favors rap, 20 sides with country and 20 desires gospel music.
- Maybe 63 believe in gun control.
- Maybe 28 are smokers.
- Maybe 51 drinks alcohol.

My point is simple, regardless of opposing point of views and opinions, all 100 of the Cowboys fans were pulling for a victory. All are hoping for the defense, offense and special teams to perform well

enough to overcome the opponent.

Given the numbers from the examples above, they were on the same page when it came to rooting for the Cowboys. Therefore, the Cowboys are the Common Denominator. Their differences do not come into play when it boils down to cheering for a football team, neither should it matter when it comes to doing the right thing. If sports brings us together, then doing what's right should do the same.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said it the best: "The time is always right to do what is right."

So what are you waiting on? This appeal is no attempt to legislate anyone's behavior, but I am promoting conscious positive

thoughts. This suggestion provides an excellent opportunity to empower your mental ability to many aspects of your life.

The Common Denominator is a feature shared by all members of a group. With us, doing what is right should be the common denominator. On the surface, this sounds like an easy adjustment. However, old habits are hard to break. We are not naturally wired to put self aside and think as a team and as a community. It will take practice, an open mind, a willing attitude and discipline to accomplish this worthy endeavor. We will never agree on all things, but concentrating on doing what is right will always establish the appropriate end goal.

Graduation is just the first hurdle

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

Marvel's "Black Panther," Chadwick Boseman, graduated from Howard University with a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts (BFA) in 2000.

On May 12, Boseman returned to his alma mater to address the Class of 2018, while receiving an honorary degree.

The Howard University graduation is one of more than 100 Historically Black College and University graduations and one of more than 4,000 general graduations across the country.

On May 5, White House Correspondent April Ryan, brought down the house at Bennett College in North Carolina.

In Arkansas on the same day, journalist and political commentator Sophia Nelson, made lasting remarks during the Philander Smith College commencement exercise.

All across the nation, families are gathering, people are celebrating and graduations are being hailed as an occasion of joy.

However, despite these many festivities, if you are a Black American who graduated from the University of Florida (UF), your achievements may have been marred

by the horrible memory of faculty marshals physically pushing you off of the stage, after you decided to celebrate your Black Greek (fraternity) pride, with the execution of a few "steps."

More than 20 students were assaulted by the unidentified faculty member (although some say he is a chemistry lecturer), who is now on paid leave.

Why would the university continue to pay someone who seems to have differentially attacked Black students, as apparently no White students were assaulted or pushed off of the stage?

According to *The New York Times*, UF President W. Kent Fuchs apologized to the affected students and left a personal message of apology on Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity member Oliver Telusma's voicemail, due to the incident.

However, from where I sit, President Fuchs should track that student down along with all of the others and visit them face-to-face.

The UF incident reminds Black students that graduation is but one of the many hurdles they must clear.

Every day, every single day, they face the possibility of pernicious racism, differential treatment, and the

threat of law enforcement to compel compliance with the most foolish of laws and norms, spoken or unspoken.

That's why the police were called on three Black women (and a White man), because they failed to wave or smile when they exited an Airbnb in Rialto, California, and were detained for 45 minutes despite possessing proof that they had reserved their space.

That's why the police wrestled a 25-year-old Black woman to the ground (exposing her bare breasts) in an Alabama Waffle House, after she asked for plastic cutlery and an ignorant employee reportedly said "she did not know her place," and the beat goes on and on and on.

The police are too often called to put Black people in their place, to force them to comply, to reinforce the tenet of White supremacy; the notion that when we see a White person, we must shuck and jive and smile.

I want the graduates to know that their place is everywhere.

Class of 2018, your place is in that Starbucks at the table, order or not. Your place is in that Waffle House, getting the utensils you requested. Your place is at the lake in Oakland, burning those bones on your grill.

Your place is on that stage at UF.

Resistance has a high price. Who wants to go to jail and end up, like Sandra Bland, whose mysterious death in Texas still has not been solved? Who wants to be handcuffed, humiliated, exposed, and maligned, just for asking a simple question?

Starbucks will close thousands of stores to the tune of millions of dollars for unconscious bias training. But who will train these biased police officers and the racists who call them, because their feelings are bruised when no one waves at them?

The Class of 2018 will learn, as have millions of other Black Americans, that racism is alive and well.

They've cleared a hurdle with graduation, but even as some cross the stage, they are being reminded that there are many more hurdles to clear, to survive in our unfortunately racist nation.

Perhaps in the process of clearing other hurdles (graduate and professional school, marriage and children, artificial intelligence and gentrification), they will also find the wherewithal to eliminate racial barriers to success.

Julianne Malveaux can be reached at www.julianne-malveaux.com.

Parkland experts say mental illnesses are common, treatable

Nearly one in five adults in Texas experiences mental illness each year and more than 20 percent of Texas children ages 9-17 have a diagnosed mental illness. In Dallas County in 2016 there were nearly 427,000 behavior health visits by patients with mental health or substance abuse issues, according to the DFW Hospital Council Foundation. Mental health experts at Parkland Health & Hospital System say that many mental illnesses, like physical health problems, are common, treatable and even preventable.

Recognizing the link between mental and physical health is crucial to overall wellness, a message mental health professionals are emphasizing during May, National Mental Health Awareness Month. The advocacy group Mental Health America selected this year's theme Fitness#4Mind4Body to focus on what individuals can do to improve their fitness by making small changes, physically and mentally, to improve overall health.

"Taking good care of your body is part of an evidence-



Earvin Corona / Flickr

based approach to mental health. We know that people living with serious mental illness face an increased risk of having chronic health conditions and that a healthy lifestyle can help to prevent the onset or worsening of many mental health problems like depression and anxiety, as well as heart disease, diabetes and other chronic health problems," said Pedro Fernandez, MD, Medical Director of Consult-Liaison Psychiatry at Parkland and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, UT Southwestern Medical Center.

"Much of what we do physically impacts us mentally, so it's important to view mental health as a component of overall health and well-being. Eating healthy

foods, managing stress, exercising and getting enough sleep can go a long way in improving your mental health as well as your physical fitness," Dr. Fernandez said.

Research shows that people who are chronically stressed or depressed have a greater risk of physical illness. Exercise and good nutrition can have a significant impact on overall health and stress reduction by improving immunity, lowering blood pressure, preventing or aiding in management of diabetes and heart disease and boosting endorphins for improved mood and overall mental health.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), adults with serious

mental illness die on average 25 years earlier than others, largely due to treatable medical conditions. Serious mental illness costs America \$193.2 billion in lost earnings per year, the organization reports. In addition, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the U.S. and the second leading cause of death for people aged 15-24. More than 90 percent of children who die by suicide have a mental health condition.

In 2015, Parkland became the first health system in the nation to administer a universal suicide screening program to identify persons at risk and help save lives through early intervention. The program was designed to screen not only adults but also youth, ages 12 to 17, regardless of their reason for seeking care. Since initiating the program, more than 2 million suicide risk screenings have been completed. In March, Parkland expanded the screenings to include patients age 10 and older. Parkland expects to complete more than 11,000 screenings for children ages 10 to 12 annually.

"We recognize that we have the opportunity to iden-

tify children and young adults coming to Parkland for other health services who may also need mental health services. By asking a few questions of every patient, regardless of why they come in for medical care, we can determine if there are reasons for concern and take steps to help," said Kimberly Roaten, PhD, Director of Quality for Safety, Education and Implementation, Department of Psychiatry at Parkland and Associate Professor of Psychiatry at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Diabetes and other chronic diseases can lead to serious depression in some patients, setting up a vicious cycle between mental and physical problems, said Luigi Meneghini, MD, MBA, Executive Director of the Global Diabetes Program at Parkland and Professor of Internal Medicine at UT Southwestern Medical Center. "It's known that when people are depressed, they might exercise less, make less healthy food choices and engage in less healthy behaviors which can lead to weight gain, increase the risk of developing chronic conditions or worsen

control of existing ones. For people with diabetes, depression may make it more challenging to stick to a diabetes management plan which includes eating a healthy diet, exercising, monitoring blood glucose and taking medications. Effectively addressing depression can improve both mood and diabetes control."

Mental illness should not be stigmatized, any more than a physical ailment, Dr. Fernandez emphasized. "There are many taboos and myths still surrounding mental illness, but through education we can erase the feelings of shame and fear that prevent many from seeking treatment. If you have a mental health condition, you're not alone. As with other illnesses, mental illness is not your fault. With proper treatment, symptoms can be dramatically reduced and many people with mental health conditions can and do succeed in leading active, fulfilling lives."

To learn more about mental illness, visit www.nami.org. To learn more about services at Parkland hospital, visit www.parklandhospital.com.

Don't minimize the importance of Hepatitis C screening

By Dr. Sarah E. Laibstain

May is Hepatitis Awareness Month, a time when we shed light on this common liver infection by raising awareness and encouraging testing. Your liver has many important functions, and keeping it in good health is vital to your body. Hepatitis means inflammation of the liver and presents in types A, B, and C. Hepatitis C is caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV) with about 4 million people in the United

States believed to be infected. However, many who have the illness can go years without knowing they carry the virus. Because this infection is usually asymptomatic, it is critical to understand why screening for hepatitis C is so important and to understand risk factors to avoid in keeping good liver health.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention strongly recommend those born between the years 1945 and 1965 (the baby boomer

generation) visit their physician for an HCV blood test. The first blood test will screen for antibodies that point to the presence of the hepatitis C virus in your bloodstream. If this first test is negative, no additional testing is needed. If this test returns positive, then your physician may recommend additional testing to check if the virus is still present in your blood. Additional blood tests can help your physician plan for the best course of treatment.

While there are vaccines available to prevent hepatitis A and B, there is not a vaccine for hepatitis C. Because of this, it is important to understand risk factors that can lower your chance of catching this virus. Hepatitis C most commonly spreads when blood from an infected person is exposed to someone who is not infected, so avoid sharing needles, syringes, or any other equipment. Prior to 1992, the blood supply was not screened as it is today and

hepatitis C was spread through blood transfusions and organ transplants. This is one of the ways in which baby boomers could have been exposed HCV.

If untreated, hepatitis C can lead to serious complications such as cirrhosis or liver cancer. This year, National Hepatitis Testing Day falls on May 19th, so consider visiting your physician for screening and educate others on why they should be screened as well. HCV screening is not only impor-

tant to your own health but benefits the health of others around you. While many people live without knowing they carry the virus, they can still spread the infection to others even when they have no symptoms. Consult your physician for more information on screening for hepatitis and for additional ways to promote good liver health.

Dr. Sarah E. Laibstain is a general family medicine practitioner at Family Medicine Associates of Texas in Carrollton.

TxDOT launches 'Click It or Ticket' campaign to reduce unbelted injuries, fatalities

AUSTIN – Statewide seat belt use continues to increase, reaching nearly 92 percent for 2017, yet 929 unbuckled Texans still died in traffic crashes last year. TxDOT's "Click It or Ticket" campaign reminds drivers and passengers that

wearing a seat belt is the single most effective step they can take to protect themselves in a crash. Wearing a seat belt reduces the risk of dying in a crash by 45 percent. That number jumps to 60 percent for pickup trucks.

While daytime seat belt usage continues to increase, nighttime use remains lower, leading to a higher rate of fatalities. Last year, the Texas A&M Transportation Institute found the number of drivers and front seat passengers ob-

served in 18 cities not wearing seat belts increased by almost 50 percent from day to night.

Texas law requires everyone in a vehicle to be properly buckled up or face fines and court costs up to \$200. Children younger than 8 must be

in a child safety seat or booster seat unless they're taller than 4 feet 9 inches. If they aren't properly restrained, the driver faces fines of up to \$250, plus court costs.

As part of the "Click It or Ticket" campaign, Texas law

enforcement officers will step up their enforcement of the state's seat belt laws from May 21 to June 3, including the Memorial Day weekend.

To learn more about "Click It or Ticket," visit texasclickitorticket.com.

Ten years ago Off the Bone Barbeque owners took a leap of faith

Ten years ago, Off the Bone Barbeque Owners Dwight Harvey and Rose Broussard didn't just stick their toe in to test the water. They jumped in with both feet. After retiring from corporate positions, they decided to pursue a dream of independence and opportunity. Off the Bone Barbeque was created to offer their guests what Dwight and Rose already shared with family and friends -- mouthwatering barbeque in a warm, family atmosphere.

In 2010, phase one of expansion took place when they enclosed the outdoor patio. In 2015-16, phase



Off the Bone Owner Dwight Harvey (at left) celebrates the occasion with his son Steve. (Courtesy photo)

two of their expansion doubled their seating space and also provided a private dining area for parties up to twenty. They also expanded the size of the kitchen,

which allowed them to provide catering services for 20 to 500 people for corporate meetings and events.

As entrepreneurs, the Off the Bone Barbeque team actively participates in opportunities to give back to the community and encourages others who may be taking the same leap of faith in starting their own business. In addition to serving on the board of directors for the Greater Dallas Restaurant Association, Rose focuses her community support on organizations that empower women and provide assistance for their children, like the Dallas Women's Foun-

ation, where she has served for over 10 years.

"We are so excited to be celebrating our 10-year anniversary. We have had the opportunity to serve and work with an outstanding group of people," stated co-owner and Pitmaster, Dwight Harvey.

"Rose and I want to invite our guests and the community to join us in celebrating on June 13th as we say thank you for ten amazing years -- and this is just the beginning."

Off the Bone Barbeque held a 'Thank You' celebration with their staff, friends and family who supported

the opening of the restaurant ten years ago. They plan to celebrate their 10-year anniversary with the public on June 13, 2018 with cake from 11am to 4pm at their 1734 South Lamar Street, Dallas, location. All meals will be 10% off on June 13th in honor of the anniversary celebration.

Over the past ten years, Off the Bone Barbeque has served numerous celebrities, athletes and politicians. Visit their location and enjoy all the pictures documenting their guests over the years. For more information, visit www.offthebonebarbeque.com.

More than 670 Mercedes-Benz Financial Services volunteers support 13 local non-profits

Nearly 700 Mercedes-Benz Financial Services' North Texas employees stepped away from their daily routines to lend their time, expertise and labor to 13 nonprofits working to improve the quality of life for underprivileged individuals, families and children during the company's sixth-annual Week of Caring. Throughout the week, staff members contributed more than 5,000 hours engaging with local students through interactive educational programs, creating immersive learning tools, stocking food and preparing meals for hungry individuals, families and their pets, and designing welcoming and comforting environments for women and families seeking shelter.

"Mercedes-Benz Financial Services is dedicated to so much more than conducting business in North Texas. Our employees and cus-



tomers live and work in this region, and we are committed to doing our part to have a positive community impact," said Peter Zieringer, President and CEO of Mercedes-Benz Financial Services USA LLC. "Our Week of Caring is just one of the many ways that we are engaged with groups that are making a difference in our communities."

The 13 North Texas nonprofits benefiting from this year's Week of Caring in-

clude:

ACH Child and Family Services

Volunteers rolled-up their sleeves and worked hard to clean the campus and beautify its gardens by spreading mulch and planting flowers.

Community Food Bank

Aiming to fight hunger for North Texas families, volunteers spent two days organizing, sorting and distributing nearly 17,000 pounds of food (equivalent to 11,500 meals) to help those in need.

Community Storehouse

More than 90 volunteers updated the Upscale Resale Store. This included applying more than 18 gallons of paint to the interior walls as well sorting and shelving donated food and clothing to assist families facing difficult challenges.

Don't Forget to Feed Me

Volunteers helped sort, package and distribute 8,200 pounds of food (or 10,933 meals) for pets in Tarrant County for the only social service agency in the Dallas-Fort Worth area focused solely on assisting pet owners who are unable to afford pet food.

Dwell with Dignity?

Thrift Studio

Teaming up with well-known, local nonprofit Dwell with Dignity, volunteers painted, reorganized furniture and prepared the open-to-the-public Thrift Studio, a pop-up shop

fundraiser created to financially support Dwell with Dignity by selling deeply discounted, high-end finds.

Hubbard Heights

Elementary

Through a long-standing relationship with the school's principal, volunteers brought to life six educational, custom-designed murals for students of the elementary to learn from and enjoy.

Junior Achievement (JA) of the Chisholm Trail

Through interactive, hands-on, age-appropriate lessons, volunteers engaged with 250 kindergarten through second grade students at Caprock Elementary School and 60 ninth grade students at Eaton High School to explain the basics of money, the value of savings and how money flows in an economy.

Kids Against Hunger

More than 80 volunteers

worked together to package 39,097 meals to provide nourishment for families across North Texas and Mexico.

Meals on Wheels of

Tarrant County

Volunteers worked together to package more than 2,300 pieces of bread for the elderly living in Tarrant County, and also applied some elbow grease to clean the facility.

REAL School Gardens

Working together alongside students and teachers from Oakmont Elementary School, more than 100 volunteers installed a 20,875 square foot immersive educational garden. Among many wonderful features including a labyrinth, water feature and two instructional seating areas, the garden includes 117 plants and trees, 615 vegetables and herbs

See MERCEDES, Page 7

City of Dallas receives award for water conservation efforts

The city of Dallas, Texas, was named one of five national winners in the 7th Annual Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation by pledging to reduce their water use by 62.1 million gallons of water over the next year. The annual month-long public awareness campaign to promote drought resiliency and water quality ended on April 30 with may-

ors from 35 states vying to see whose city could be the nation's most "water wise."

In addition to Dallas, the cities with the highest percentage of residents making pledges during the campaign included Gallup, New Mexico; Westminster, California; Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Tucson, Arizona. Overall, residents around the nation, from Anchorage to the

Florida Keys, made 618,444 pledges to change behaviors ranging from fixing home leaks to reducing harmful runoff into local rivers and streams.

The challenge, presented by the Wyland Foundation and Toyota, with support from the U.S EPA, National League of Cities, The Toro Company, Earth Friendly Products -- maker of ECOS,

and Conserva Irrigation, addresses the growing importance of educating consumers about the many ways they use water.

"The challenge is a serious reminder to everyone about the importance of water to our cities and our country," said marine life artist Wyland, who founded the Wyland Foundation in 1993. "This year we encouraged people to

think about their consumption practices and see if they could find new ways to reduce pollution runoff and limit waste."

Residents from winning cities will now be entered into a drawing for thousands of dollars in water-saving or eco-friendly prizes, including \$5,000 toward their annual home utility bill, "Greening Your Home" cleaning kits

from Earth Friendly Products (ECOS), and home irrigation equipment from The Toro Company. A \$500 home improvement store shopping spree will also be chosen from among the entire pool of U.S. participants. Additionally, participating residents were asked to nominate a deserving charity in their community to receive a 2018 Toyota RAV4 Hybrid.

Irving ISD names new Director of Special Education

Michelle Edwards-Scott, Ph.D., a committed educator with more than 20 years of experience, joins Irving ISD as the new director of special education. She begins her new role July 1.

Her more than two decades of experience include roles as a coordinator, diagnostician and supervisor, including a

stint at the university level. Dr. Edwards-Scott is currently the special program coordinator at Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD, a position she's held since 2014. Prior to EMS ISD, she worked as a special education coordinator for Ector County ISD and as an educational diagnostician/district transition specialist for

Hurst-Eules-Bedford ISD. She began her career in Fort Worth ISD as an educator and later served as an educational diagnostician supervisor before serving as a university supervisor at Walden University.

"I am so excited and honored to join Irving ISD as the director of special education,"

says Dr. Edwards-Scott. "I will give 110 percent of my efforts to provide the best customer service to students, parents, staff and community stakeholders. I will strive to support a culture that creates learning opportunities for all students."

Dr. Edwards-Scott earned a doctorate in psychology from

Capella University, a master's degree in interpersonal and public communication from Bowling Green State University in Ohio, and a bachelor's degree in communication from Morris College in South Carolina. She also holds educational diagnostician, Texas Mid-Management and teaching certifications.



Dr. Michelle Edwards-Scott
(Courtesy photo)

7th annual Dallas Summer Musicals celebrates High School Musical Theatre Awards

High school students, parents, friends, arts advocates, celebrities and city officials from all over North Texas celebrated as winners and scholarship recipients were announced on Thursday, May 17 at the 7th Annual Dallas Summer Musicals High School Musical Theatre Awards (DSM HSMTA).

Patterned after Broadway's Tony Awards, DSM HSMTA celebrates the power of the arts and its ability to significantly improve all areas of education and creativity. Best Musical Award went to Plano Senior High School's production of *Jekyll & Hyde* and \$55,000 in scholarships were awarded to deserving students pursuing degrees in both theatre and non-theatre majors.

"DSM looks forward to this event every year because we love acknowledging the passion in these young performers – what a wonderful evening of outstanding talent. We owe a huge thank-you to all of the teachers, students, DSM staff, volunteers, and North Texas arts com-



Performers take to the stage during the opening of the 2018 awards ceremony. (Photo: Chris Waits)

munity for their dedication, passion and support for this program," said Kenneth T. Novice, DSM President.

Fifth-time emcee Ron Corning, WFAA Channel 8 News Anchor, began the show by welcoming everyone and introducing the opening number, specially arranged to showcase each individual category and accompanied by a live professional orchestra conducted by Music Director Mark Brymer. The crowd cheered on their favorite Best Musical nominee performances, while the Best Actor and Best Actress nominees performed medleys choreographed by Penny Ayn Maas and student choreographers Theo Spencer (Frenship HS), Kylie Hilliard (Northwest

HS) and Bryson Jackson (McKinney Boyd HS), who were invited to participate by Tracy Jordan, DSM HSMTA Director based on the excellence of their work in their high school productions. Vocal coach Tina Walsh also helped prepare the students for the evening. Walsh will coach the Best Actor/Actress as they prepare for the Jimmy Awards in New York City, where she'll be the students' chaperone.

The show was topped off with a finale of more than one hundred performers made up of students from each participating high school and a shower of popping streamers.

Through private donations and ticket sales, DSM HSMTA raised \$55,000 to

benefit HSMTA and scholarships. Historically, seven scholarships have been presented to deserving students. This year DSM HSMTA awarded 17 scholarships to continue to foster the great talent North Texas has to offer.

This year's College Scholarship program consisted of ten Ambassador Scholarships at \$1,000 each, five Theater Major Scholarships (in all areas of theater) at \$5,000 each, and two \$10,000 scholarships for the winners in the Best Actor and Best Actress categories. DSM HSMTA is the only program in the nation, other than the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (the Jimmy™ Awards), to offer Best Actor

and Best Actress winners \$10,000 scholarships to continue their education. To date, DSM HSMTA College Scholarship program has awarded \$301,000 in cash scholarships to deserving students.

"It is always a joy to recognize these students who have such dedication to their craft," said Tracy Jordan, DSM HSMTA Director. "DSM is so proud of the young talent coming from North Texas and beyond."

A three-judge panel of entertainment industry professionals and veteran educators visited each high school and judged the performers in 17 categories. Ballots were tabulated by the accounting firm of Grant Thornton – the official ballot professional serv-

ice partner of the 2016 Tony Awards.

Noah Aguilar, Frenship HS, took home the Best Actor Award and Sierra Roberson, Frenship HS, won the Best Actress Award. Aguilar and Roberson will each receive a \$10,000 scholarship and an all-expense paid trip for five days to New York City to represent their high school in the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (the Jimmy™ Awards) on June 25.

"I am so proud that we are able to support these students not only through awards but also through scholarships that will assist them in continuing their education. Every year, the North Texas theatre community really proves how much they encourage and stand behind these students. We want them to know how proud we are of them and how we are all rooting for them on their future endeavors," said Novice.

All winners, participating high schools and their shows can be found on the DSM website.

STARBUCKS, continued from Page 1

week as well.

On April 12, Rashon Nelson and Donte Robinson, both black men, were arrested at a Philadelphia Starbucks after a manager called the police on them for being in the store without ordering anything. The two arrived for an afternoon business meeting, asked for the restroom code, and were told it was for paying customers only. They sat down to wait for their colleague,

and police arrived a few minutes later. The men had been in the store less than 10 minutes when police arrived; they were arrested and led out of the store. The manager is no longer with Starbucks, and the company has since updated its policy to make the café spaces open to all customers – defined as anyone in the store.

"The whole thing made me stop what I'm doing and clutch my chest, especially

as the mother of a 23-year-old, black son," Brewer said. "I've sat with a lot of sadness about what happened over the last few weeks."

When the incident surfaced, Brewer was visiting a friend in San Francisco and immediately boarded a plane for Philadelphia, where she spent the next several days speaking to all involved. She said she believes when people (and companies) make mistakes, and they always will, it's

not the mistake that reveals true character, but what happens next.

"There were some quiet moments as we were working around the clock in Philadelphia when I thought, 'What kind of society do we live in? How has this happened? How did we get here?' In just a few weeks since this happened there have been many similar incidents since in the news. This is not confined to our stores. What we're looking at is a national con-

versation around how people interact with each other," Brewer said.

It's a conversation Starbucks is making significant space for: The company plans to close its U.S. stores on May 29 to offer racial bias education designed by "some truly bright minds" from inside and outside the company, including Sherrilyn Ifill, president of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund.

"I made a very deliberate decision to join Starbucks

roughly seven months ago based on mutual values and I know this is the place where I'm supposed to be, with my head and my heart, having conversations that matter," Brewer said.

She concluded her remarks to the new vice presidents by saying they're going to see Starbucks do things the company has never done before.

"We need to take risks," she said. "We need to be bold. We need to stand out."

Rep. Johnson congratulates students on U.S. service academy appointments

WASHINGTON, D.C. – This week, U.S. Congressman Sam Johnson (TX-03) hosted his final annual Academy Appointee Send-Off Ceremony to congratulate the 26 Collin County students who received appointments to U.S. Service Academies or one of the preparatory schools this fall.



Courtesy photo

“It is my honor to congratulate these young men and women who have been chosen by the prestigious United States Service Academies,” said Johnson. “It is no easy task to receive an Academy appointment – students must excel academically and athletically over the years, and they must also contribute their time, talent, and effort to the

community. The nomination process to even be considered is competitive, and these students’ appointments prove they are the gold standard. Seeing their commitment and love of freedom, liberty, and democracy gives me great hope that America’s best

days are ahead. I thank them for their willingness to serve our Great Nation, and I wish them the best on the endeavor they are about to undertake.”

Congressman Johnson will nominate a final class of students for 2019 Academy appointments in late

fall of 2018.

Students interested in learning more about U.S. Service Academies, military life, and how to apply, are encouraged to:

- 1) Contact Gabriella Pate in Congressman Johnson’s Plano office at (469) 304-0382; and

| U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|---|
| Name | Hometown | School |
| Isaac Cole | McKinney | Trinity Preparatory School of North Texas |
| James D. Field | McKinney | McKinney North High School |
| Blake Gannon | Plano | Plano West Senior High School |
| Rebecca Giv | Plano | Plano West Senior High School |
| Scott Herington | McKinney | McKinney North High School |
| Andrew Larkins | Plano | Trinity Preparatory School |
| Marcelo Pagan | McKinney | McKinney High School |
| Yusuf Zuhairi | Plano | St. Mark's School of Texas |
| Alan Warner | Allen | Allen High School |
| U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY | | |
| Name | Hometown | School |
| Seah Baker | Allen | Trinity Prep School |
| Walker Belmont | Trinity | Trinity Prep School |
| Eugene Brewer | Allen | Allen High School |
| Andrew Cantrell | Plano | Plano Senior High School |
| Joshua Davis | Trinity | Trinity Prep School |
| Tim Mullen | Allen | Allen High School |
| Joshua Patten | Allen | Allen High School |
| U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY | | |
| Name | Hometown | School |
| Stephen Cavonius | McKinney | McKinney North High School |
| Eric Smith | McKinney | McKinney North High School |
| William Hensel | McKinney | McKinney Christian Academy |
| Gregory Hensel | Plano | Trinity Preparatory School of North Texas |
| Scott Hagan | Allen | Allen High School |
| William Kopp | Plano | Trinity Preparatory School of North Texas |
| William Walker | McKinney | Trinity Preparatory School |
| Stephen Walker | Allen | Allen High School |
| U.S. YERGENY MILITARY ACADEMY | | |
| Name | Hometown | School |
| Dylan Myers | Plano | Plano West Senior High School, Plano, Texas |
| Scott Thompson | McKinney | McKinney High School, McKinney, Texas |

- 2) Attend Congressman Johnson’s free Academy Information Session on Saturday, September 29th, 2018, in Frisco. The annual fall

session provides students with an opportunity to learn more about each Academy and speak with each Academy’s respective liaisons.

Irving-based Cognizant Joins the ranks of the Fortune 200

Cognizant announced on May 21 it is 195 on the 2018 Fortune 500, Fortune Magazine’s annual ranking of America’s largest companies. Cognizant first debuted on the list in 2011 at No. 484 and has risen each year.

Companies in the Fortune 500 are ranked by total revenues for their respective fiscal years. Cognizant’s 2017 revenue of \$14.81 bil-

lion was an increase of 9.8% over 2016, moving the company up 10 spots from No. 205 on the 2017 Fortune 500. Since it first appeared on the list, Cognizant has continued its growth, emerging as a leading provider of digital business and technology services to the banking, insurance, healthcare, media and communications, retail, manu-

facturing and other industries.

“Cognizant enters its 25th year in business playing a leading role in building the digital economy,” said Francisco D’Souza, Chief Executive Officer, Cognizant. “Our expertise in applying technology to transform our clients’ enterprises has enabled us to be one of the world’s fastest-growing pro-

fessional services companies. We’re determined to make the benefits of the digital economy accessible to more of the world’s organizations.”

In October 2017, Cognizant was ranked No. 17 on Fortune’s inaugural Fortune Future 50 list, a new forward-looking measure of the top 50 U.S.-listed companies with the best

prospects for breakout growth. In addition to Fortune 500 and Future 50 rankings, Cognizant CEO Francisco D’Souza was No. 10 on the 2017 Fortune Businessperson of the Year list and, for the 10th straight year, Cognizant was also ranked as one of Fortune’s World’s Most Admired Companies. As a result of those rankings, Cognizant

was named one of Fortune’s Blue Ribbon Companies 2017, a list of only 32 companies that appeared on at least four of Fortune’s eight most rigorous annual rankings.

This announcement comes a week ahead of the grand opening of Cognizant’s new Irving, Texas Regional Delivery and Training Center.

A near fatal car crash leads to career as an Emergency Room nurse

July 3, 2012 is a day Savannah Fortner will never forget. But while the head-on car crash nearly killed the then 20-year old, it gave her a new outlook on life. Today she is helping others, just like the nurses at Parkland helped her.

Fortner was scheduled to speak out about these life-changing events as part of National Trauma Survivors Day, May 16 to call attention to the partnership with the American Trauma Society to connect survivors with programs that support patients and their families throughout the recovery process.

“Having access to Level I Trauma Centers is critical

to the treatment of complex injuries,” said Jorie Klein, RN, Director, Rees-Jones Trauma Center.

Driving alone on a two-lane stretch of Highway 78 in Farmersville, Fortner had just reached the top of a hill when she saw a vehicle had crossed the center line and was barreling toward her. She remembers swerving to miss the oncoming car and then waking long enough to see a Farmersville firefighter/paramedic kneeling over her. Nearly a week and a half later she awakened in Parkland’s surgical intensive care unit with multiple internal injuries and broken bones.

“I had a lacerated spleen, broken pelvis, a broken femur – all kinds of injuries. There were stitches galore where the physicians had to zip me up from the various surgeries to repair all the damage,” Fortner said. “The last thing I wanted to do was get up, but I had a great team who worked with me and my first goal in physical therapy was to be able to sit on the side of the bed.”

Those tiny steps became bigger and after about a month in Parkland Fortner was discharged to a rehab facility and then home where she finally got rid of her wheelchair, walker and eventually, her crutches.

But it was those last few days in Parkland that really had an impact on Fortner’s future.

“When you’re in your early 20s it’s all about appearances. I remember having an ‘accident’ and crying because I was so embarrassed,” she recalled. “The nurses held me and were so incredibly kind. They told me, ‘if this is the worst thing that happens today then it’s a great day.’ They made me feel so much better and that’s when I knew that I wanted to be able to make just one person feel as good as they made me feel that day. That’s when I knew I wanted to be a Parkland nurse.”

True to her word, Fortner changed her career path from dental to nursing and today is completing her first year as a registered nurse in Parkland’s Emergency Department with her sights set on becoming a trauma nurse in the Rees-Jones Trauma Center.

Despite the pain she endured Fortner says she’s “lucky to have experienced” the crash because it’s made her a better caregiver. “I think a nurse’s greatest strength is empathy,” she said.

For more information about the Trauma Survivors Network, visit www.traumasurvivorsnetwork.org.

MERCEDES,

continued from Page 5

and 2,105 feet of paving.

SafeHaven of Tarrant County

More than 30 helping hands volunteered to beautify the residential facilities to help create a holistic shelter to provide care for the victims of domestic violence.

SPARK! Dallas

To help ignite the spark of creativity, volunteers transformed the activity space to provide children with a fully immersive learning environment.

Trinity Habitat for Humanity

Volunteers worked together to install windows and siding on a new home for a hardworking, deserving family in North Texas.

Arlington

Arlington Black Chamber May Meet & Greet (Network Your Business) is hosting their event on May 24 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Shell Shack, in Arlington. Hosted by the Arlington Black Chamber of Commerce, this event includes several Purchasing Directors, M/WBE Administrators, & HUB Coordinators. Make sure to bring plenty of business cards.

Carrollton

The City of Carrollton is holding a **Movie on the Square: Despicable Me 3** on May 26 from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Historic Downtown Carrollton. Movie will begin at sunset. Don't forget your lawn chairs and blankets! Coolers are permitted and bug spray is encouraged. Friendly canine companions and service dogs are welcome to join their people at the downtown movies as long as they are on a leash and they're cleaned up after.

Join your neighbors and the Carrollton Police Department for **Coffee with a Cop**. This is a recurring, come-and-go community get together. There are no speeches or agendas, just simply an informal opportunity for citizens and officers to get to know each other better. Join us at C2 Café (1001 S. Broadway Street) on Saturday, May 26 from 9-11 a.m. Coffee with a Cop is a great way to share your ideas, comments, and concerns, or introduce your children to police in a friendly, casual setting.

For more information, visit cityofcarrollton.com/police.

Dallas

Live XXV Entertainment is hosting **The Art & Soul Festival** on May 27 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. at The Dirty 30, in Dallas. There will be FOOD TRUCKS on location serving up fun and delicious dishes + Free "SPARKLING ICE" Flavored Waters, 15 live performers from around the US (music, poetry, art & dance), 30 + vendors & pop-up shops, art exhibits, and network and chill with other creatives and industry professionals. To purchase tickets visit facebook.com/events



SMU was the site for the Dallas Womens Foundation's #BestSelf 2018 for more than 300 middle and high school students on May 5. Their objective is to build future leaders by empowering young girls to be their best selves through programs that teach them (and adults) about themselves, how to build stronger relationships, healthy approaches to conflict, and how to use their voices as they pursue gender equality in school, in life and in society. SHOWN: Kailyn Senters, Kristyn Senters, Morgan Wills, Shawn Wills, Ava Wills (photo credit: Dallas Women's Foundation/JBeck Photography)

formers from around the US (music, poetry, art & dance), 30 + vendors & pop-up shops, art exhibits, and network and chill with other creatives and industry professionals. To purchase tickets visit facebook.com/events

On May 5 at Southern Methodist University, Dal-

las Women's Foundation hosted more than 300 middle school and high school girls at the annual **#BestSelf leadership event**. A program of Dallas Women's Foundation's Leadership Initiative, #BestSelf helped build future leaders by empowering young girls to be their best selves through programs that teach them

(and adults) about themselves, how to build stronger relationships, healthy approaches to conflict, and how to use their voices as they pursue gender equality in school, in life and in society. Throughout the event, girls took leadership roles in making announcements and leading the panel discussions. The Foundation's Leadership Initiative is committed to advancing and increasing the number of women and girls in leadership.

Garland

The Garland City Council proclaimed May as **National Bike Month** at its May 15 meeting.

First established in 1956, National Bike Month is an opportunity to enhance your skills and to celebrate the many reasons we ride. Whether you are biking to work or school, to run errands or simply for exercise along one of Garland's bike trails, biking is a fun and healthy way to get around town.

Grapevine

The **Grapevine Main Street Fest** will return from May 26 to 27 starting at 10 a.m. at Main Street Grapevine. This three-day family-friendly festival coincides with American Craft Brew Week and is one of the longest-running and most exciting annual events in North Texas. Guests can experience more than 75 craft brews from 36 breweries across 15 states, boogie down to live music on three stages, sample delicious festival food and much more.

Irving

Kirk Franklin will present Exodus Music & Arts Festival on May 26 starting at 5:30 p.m. at The Pavilion at Toyota Music Factory. Theater Indoor Show Ages 2 and up require a ticket. Seating is subject to change due to production.

Tickets start off at \$25. For more information and to purchase tickets visit Ticketmaster.com

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|--|--|---|
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|--|--|---|

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Five outdoor entertaining tips for Memorial Day fun

(Family Features) Summer brings plenty of opportunities to enjoy time outdoors entertaining family and friends. The key to a successful summer party is simplicity: keep things easy so you can enjoy the festivities right along with your guests.

Make this season's barbecues, picnics and family gatherings events to remember with these simple summer entertaining tips:

Cook outside

Rather than firing up the oven and heating up the entire house during steamy summer days, turn to outdoor cooking methods like grilling. Be sure to plan



Chinet

ahead with sturdy tableware that stands up to barbecued meats and other robust items fresh off the grill. Also remember that the grill

isn't just for main courses; you can use it to prepare any number of side items, like skewers of garden fresh veggies.

Keep it comfy
With everybody outside, it's important to keep comfort in mind. If you have access to electricity, you might consider an oscillating fan, which can stir up a cool breeze. Additionally, the air movement can help deter flies and other pests that can quickly ruin guests' appetites. Provide ample seating options, including patio furniture, pillows and even blankets on the lawn. Also ensure there are spaces for guests to cool off, whether that's under a shade tree or a portable canopy or umbrella.

Provide sturdy tableware
Some popular cookout

foods can be a greasy nightmare without the right tableware to keep the mess to a minimum. Upgrade your outdoor dining experience with tableware like Chinet Classic White premium-strength plates, platters and napkins so you don't have to worry about spills and leaks. They also make for easy cleanup when the party comes to a close.

Prepare seasonal sides

Let the grilled fare serve as the star of the show and keep the side dishes simple. Fresh, seasonal fruits and vegetables, and staples like potato or pasta salads and coleslaw, make for a well-rounded meal without a lot

of fuss. Also opt on the lighter side for dessert. Fresh berries over ice cream or a simple white cake can be a hit.

Add lighting

Keep the entertainment alive after sundown by going the extra mile with decorative lighting. Strings of lights in fun shapes or colors can add some vibrant light to seating areas. A fire pit is also an option for adding some ambient light and even a little warmth when the sun goes down and the temperature begins to drop.

Find more ideas for your summer entertaining at MyChinet.com.

Soul Rep and Echo Theatre parenter for the world premiere of *The Monarch*

Soul Rep Theatre Company is collaborating with Echo Theatre in co-producing the world premiere of *THE MONARCH*, written by Soul Rep Co-Founder and area playwright, Anyika McMillan-Herod. The production is co-directed by McMillan-Herod and Tonya Holloway, Soul Rep's Co-Artistic Director and Co-Founder. The production will run June 15 – June 30 at the Bath House Cultural Center, located at 521 E. Lawther Drive, on the east shore of White Rock Lake.



(Left to Right) Christine Sanders (*The Caterpillar*), Monique Ridge-Williams (*The Chrysalis*), Guinea Bennett-Price (*The Monarch*) and Morgana Wilborn (*The Egg*) - the cast of *THE MONARCH*. (Photo: Anyika McMillan-Herod)

With *THE MONARCH*, McMillan-Herod has turned her own personal experience with breast cancer into an inspiring, dark, warm, and sometime humorous exploration of the human spirit. Through this play, she has transformed pain into stirring theater.

"I am so grateful for the opportunity to finally put this production on its feet," explains McMillan-Herod, who will be celebrating 10 years of remission from Stage 3 breast cancer later this month. "This has been my labor of love for the past six years and thanks to the generous support of my Soul Rep family and Echo Theatre, *THE MONARCH* is finally getting its wings!"

THE MONARCH has been through quite a bit of



Artistic directors include: (Left to Right) Terri Ferguson (Echo Theatre), Guinea Bennett-Price (Soul Rep) and Tonya Holloway (Soul Rep). (Photo: Anyika McMillan-Herod)

development, with its first staged reading six years ago at the South Dallas Cultural Center. It was further developed through the Dallas Theater Center's Dallas Playwrights Workshop, led by Will Power, in 2015. Excerpts from the play were featured in Soul Rep's 9th

New Play Festival that same year.

This past March, the latest iteration of *THE MONARCH* was featured in Echo Theatre's ECHO READS SERIES. This beautifully poetic play follows four breast cancer survivors. Each woman has her own

story, her own emotional journey, and her own method of survival. "There was such an amazingly strong reaction to this play, that we decided to give it a full production," says Terri Ferguson, Artistic

Director of Echo Theatre.

THE MONARCH will run at the Bath House Cultural Center June 15-16, June 21-23, and June 28-30. Performances are 8:00 PM each day, with the exception of an ad-

ditional 2:00 PM matinee on Saturday, June 30. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at www.echotheatre.org. For more information, please visit Echo Theatre's website or www.soulrep.org.

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The AT&T Bryon Nelson provides a new experience

By Rachel Hawkins
NDG Staff Writer

This year the annual AT&T Bryon Nelson golf tournament moved to the Trinity Forest Golf Club, in Dallas after its 35-year run at the TPC Four Season Resort Hotel in Las Colinas. Located nine miles south of Downtown Dallas the tournament celebrated its 50th anniversary from May 16 to May 20.

Designed by Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw the new 160 acres within the Great Trinity Forest course is wide open and allows spectators to view several golfers com-



Crenshaw Village, one of the venues at Bryon Nelson, overlooks the newly built golf course layout. (Image: Rachel Hawkins / NDG)

pete simultaneously. But because of the broad views and vast spaces, there was a lack of shaded places on the course for the guests under the hot Texas sun.

Specific locations like the 13th fairway allowed guests to watch holes 5, 6, 15 and 16, and from the 16th Green guests could watch holes 1, 12, 16, and 17. The unique

rectangular layout not only allows guests to watch more golf, but it also places the sponsor suites in the middle of the experience.

Instead of the usual service carts which provide food to various locations, this year they were set explicitly to specific venues each sponsored a charity of their own choice. The new site did offer attendees water misters along the pathway to provide guests a refreshing journey while encouraging to not walk on the grass.

While there were concerns the Bryon Nelson would change completely;

the organizers addressed this by keeping several the fan's favorites elements of the tournament experience. They brought back the Kid Zone, a Fun Zone for adults, the Fan Expo and kid's autograph zones. At the main entrance, guests were greeted at the Pavilion, just as they were for the past 50 years.

The AT&T Bryon Nelson is the primary funding source for the Momentous Institute, an organization impacting 6,000 families yearly. Read more about their efforts in our previous profile on May 3.

The Salesmanship Club

of Dallas has sponsored the Momentous Institute (formerly Salesmanship Club Youth and Family Centers) since 1920. The organization's primary goal is to develop a tailored approach to the specific needs of each child and their family situation. They are also seeking to focus on building and repairing the social-emotional health in hopes of developing kids who become self-regulated, good communicators, problem-solvers, empathetic, grateful, gritty and optimistic.

An estimate of 270,000 guests attended the tournament throughout the week.

Black Panther Chadwick Boseman Salutes Grads at Howard University

By Lauren Poteat
NNPA Contributor

After celebrating the success of back-to-back, global box office hits, Marvel's "Black Panther" actor Chadwick Boseman, returned to his alma mater, Howard University, to deliver the school's 2018 commencement convocation address.

Championing his own personal experiences during his time studying at the prestigious, historically Black university, Boseman urged proud degree recipients, to press forward, to hold up their heads and to never fear rejection.

"I can think of no better



"Black Panther" actor Chadwick Boseman delivered the commencement address during Howard University's 150th Commencement Ceremony in Washington, D.C. (Freddie Allen/AMG/NNPA)

place to be right now, after the 'Black Panther' and 'Avengers' campaigns, then to return and participate in these graduation ceremonies

with you," Boseman told the graduates. "It is a great privilege, graduates, to address you on your day, a day that will be one of the most im-

portant accomplishments of your life to date."

Howard University President Dr. Wayne A. I. Frederick recalled "how Boseman and his classmates advocated

and participated in a three-day protest against the university to dismiss an initiative to transition the College of Fine Arts into the Department of Fine Arts. The protest was

unsuccessful in stopping the transition," a press release about the president's speech said.

With Boseman by his side,

See HOWARD, Page 11

Diehn to replace Lindstrom at DSO

Due to unforeseen circumstances, soprano Lise Lindstrom is unable to perform with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra this weekend.

"We are fortunate that Ellie Dehn is able to appear as our soprano soloist in Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in concerts on May 24, 25 and 26, 2018," the DSO said in a release. "The program and other soloists remain the same."

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra, under the leadership of Music Director Jaap van Zweden, presents the finest in orchestral music at the Morton H. Meyerson



Courtesy photo

Symphony Center, regarded as one of the world's premier concert halls. As the largest performing arts organization in the Southwest, the DSO is committed to in-

spiring the broadest possible audience with distinctive classical programs, inventive pops concerts and innovative multi-media presentations.

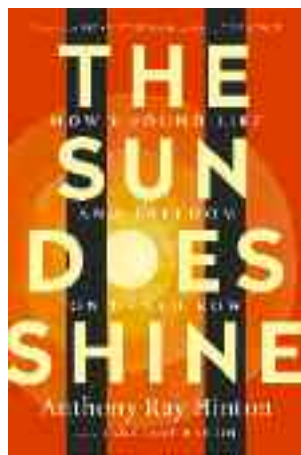
NDG Book Review: *The Sun Does Shine* is impressive

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You always keep your eyes on the prize.

You've given yourself no other options and your steadfastness is your compass. What you believe will happen. What you know is truth. Say it enough, and everybody else will know, too – especially when, as in the new book “The Sun Does Shine” by Anthony Ray Hinton with Lara Love Hardin, the truth is one of innocence.

On a night in the summer of 1985, twenty-nine-year-old Ray Hinton checked in with the security guard at his workplace, just as he'd



been told to always do. He hadn't been at the job long, but that had become his routine every night before getting assignments for his shift, doing work he liked.

Reaching that point had-

n't been easy.

The youngest of ten children, Hinton was his mother's “baby” and he continued to live with her after high school; though he'd thought about college, there was no money or scholarship for it. Instead, he found work at an Alabama coal mine, hating the work, loving the paycheck, still wanting what he couldn't afford.

He took a car he never paid for, and it cost him a few months in jail.

By that evening in the summer of 1985, though, Hinton had resolved to make his Mama proud. He was again employed, sober,

living on the straight-and-narrow, had checked in with the guard as he was told, and worked until it was time to go home.

And that was where he was arrested five days later, accused of a robbery and murder committed while he was at work, miles from the crime scene. His trial was short. The jury was all-white, as were the judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, and a ballistics “expert” that was no expert. During the trial, Hinton “knew” he'd be convicted, knew it in his heart, even though he clearly had an alibi.

He was innocent. And he

was sent to Death Row.

Because there's a book about this, you've probably already figured out that author Anthony Ray Hardin is a free man now. You already know of his innocence. The shocker is that that took thirty years for exoneration, and when you read “The Sun Does Shine” (with Lara Love Hardin), be prepared to be shocked some more.

Or maybe you won't be: at times, Hardin himself seems to expect many of the things that happened to him, which leads to a whole host of emotions for a reader. You shouldn't, in fact, be at all surprised to feel frustra-

tion, sadness, white-hot anger, and crushing despair – sometimes, from the same page. And yet, despite that you'll cringe inside, Hardin also makes readers' souls soar with words that reveal small beauties between horrors, and kindness where you don't expect it. That's like taking an amusement-park ride with no seat belts: hang on tight, because it might hurt.

What's left to say, then, about this book? Nothing, except that you'll like it for everything it wrings from you. “The Sun Does Shine” could be the most impressive book you'll lay eyes on.

1 Million for Work Flexibility Details Strategies to Convert a Traditional Office Job to a Work-from-Home Arrangement

BOULDER, CO, — Telecommuting 100 percent of the time is by far the most desired type of flexible work arrangement among job seekers. However, despite workers being more productive in home offices and the bottom line benefits of remote work to employers, many companies are still hesitant to embrace it. For workers interested in convincing their bosses to let them work remotely, 1 Million for Work Flexibility (1MFWF), the first national initiative creating a collective voice in support of flexible work, has outlined seven unique strategies to approach managers about a remote work arrangement.

“Research continues to confirm that workers without flexible options are less happy and more likely to leave,” said Sara Sutton Fell, Founder of 1 Million for Work Flexibility. “As

employers face a tighter labor market and the potential of losing great workers, they need to recognize what their employees truly value -- such as the opportunity to work flexibly so they can better meet the demands in both their professional and personal lives,” Sutton Fell concluded.

Employees who give a straightforward, fact-based presentation about how working from home will benefit the company, as opposed to requests based on personal issues or needs, have a greater likelihood of having their requests met. Below are seven suggestions to help employees convince their bosses to let them work from home.

Present the data:

Prepare a presentation focused on statistics that prove the business benefits that can come from virtual work. There are numerous studies

and surveys that demonstrate how flexible work benefits the bottom line.

According to a FlexJobs survey of over 5,000 workers:

- 79% said having work flexibility would make them more loyal to their employer
- 98% believe they would be as or more productive working in a home office.
- 70% say they'd be less stressed from commuting, leading to better focus at work.

Suggest a test:

A manager's concerns may be based on his/her unfamiliarity with how remote workers operate. Suggest starting small with a test run. Set up a plan to work from home one or two days a week for a month. Some suggest that Wednesday might be the best work-from-home day for a manager's comfort level. Closely track tasks and pro-

ductivity on those days, communicate regularly throughout the day, and then discuss the results of the test so managers can see the return on investment in a remote work setup.

Provide examples of existing policies:

If the test goes well, take the next step and present managers with some sample work flexibility policies from other companies and organizations. Showcase how other businesses are making these plans work.

Take a working sick day:

If bosses are resistant to a test run, call in sick but say you'd like to get some work done from home. That day, prove efficiency when working from home is higher than working in an office. The next day give specific examples of the efficiencies you experienced and try pitching a short trial run again.

Offer incremental options:

If managers are presented with an all-or-nothing request, they're likely to opt for nothing. To avoid this problem, scale back and ask to work three days in the office and two full-time days at home to start. If productivity is higher on the work from home days, it's more likely the arrangement can convert to working from home, full-time.

Communicate your communication plans:

Managers might be wary of remote work because they are unfamiliar with the communication tools workers use to stay connected virtually to their in-office co-workers. Demonstrate familiarity with communication tools such as Skype, Google Chats, FaceTime and other videoconferencing. Lay out how when, how and how often he or she can

expect to hear from you during the week.

Be patient:

Managers may need time to process something new, so be sensitive to that reality. Keep working toward the goal, but always show patience and be respectful. And look for opportunities to prove your ability to efficiently work from home--during inclement weather, when you need to be home to meet the electrician, or when you take work home to finish at night or on the weekends, for example. The increased flexibility of remote work is worth the wait.

For additional resources to support a remote work request, see 1MFWF's guides on the Business Case for Work Flexibility, the various Types of Work Flexibility, and Work Flexibility Policies around the country.

HOWARD, continued from Page 10

Dr. Frederick, “announced a campaign to re-establish the College of Fine Arts and launch an Endowed College of Fine Arts Award,” the press release said.

Dr. Frederick encouraged the graduates to “take risks”

and “learn how to be wrong.”

“It is the best way to learn and grow,” Dr. Frederick said. “Build a culture of generous listening so that others may be emboldened to take risks, too.”

According to school offi-

cials, during the 2018 commencement convocation, Howard University awarded 2,217 degrees, including 343 master's degrees, and 90 Ph.Ds.

Boseman called Howard University “a magical place” as he recalled the day that he met Muhammad Ali, as he

walked across “The Yard.”

“I remember walking across this yard on what seemed to be a random day, my head down, lost in my own world of issues like many of you do, daily. And I raise my head...Muhammad Ali is walking towards me,” Boseman said. “Time

seemed to slow down, as his eyes locked on mine. He then raised his fist into a quintessential guard and I was game to play along with him, to act as if I was a worthy opponent. What an honor to be challenged by ‘The Greatest of All-Time.’”

Boseman continued: “I

walked away floating like a butterfly. I walked away, at that moment, amused at life, amused that no one would be able to believe that story, but me. That is the magic of this place [Howard University].”

This article was originally published at BlackPressUSA.com.

Federal Lawsuit Challenges HUD to Enforce Fair Housing Rule

By Charlene Crowell

In 1965 and as part of a visionary public policy strategy known as The Great Society, President Lyndon Johnson created a new cabinet level agency, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The agency became responsible for developing programs and crafting policies that would support urban America with decent housing, homeownership opportunities and more. Following enactment of the Fair Housing Act in 1968, HUD was further charged with its enforcement.

But the current HUD Secretary, Dr. Ben Carson, appears to either not know, or willfully ignores the vital mission of the agency he was appointed to lead. From proposing billion-dollar budget reductions, increasing rental fees for public housing, and halting efforts that require local communities receiving HUD funds to address fair housing needs, Secretary Carson's tenure has been troublesome to a growing number of consumers and advocates alike.

Now, his retreat from enforcing fair housing has led to a federal lawsuit filed by housing and civil rights advocates who are calling upon a federal court to reinstate a key rule used to fight segregated housing. On May 8, the National Fair Housing Alliance, Texas

Appleseed, and Texas Low Income Housing Information Service (Texas Housers) jointly asked the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to reinstate a HUD rule that Secretary Carson suspended this past January.

The rule, known as Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH), implemented the legal requirement that federal agencies and federal grantees further the purposes of the Fair Housing Act by dismantling residential segregation. The rule took effect in July 2015, after widespread documentation over several years revealed how many HUD grantees made no discernible effort to end segregated housing in their locales.

In response, the AFFH rule specifically required any organization receiving HUD funds to have a plan and timeline that incorporates community concerns to actively address local housing problems. This planning approach was structured to enable HUD grantees to take meaningful and measurable actions to overcome historic patterns of segregation. Additionally, the rule promotes fair housing choice, and fosters inclusive communities that are free from discrimination.

"Each day HUD holds up requiring jurisdictions to fully comply with the law is another day that millions of

people are being denied fair housing opportunities," said Lisa Rice, President and CEO of the National Fair Housing Alliance. "HUD's action is a clear example of 'justice delayed, justice denied.'"

According to the complaint, HUD suspended the rule on January 5 without providing any prior notice or opportunity to comment. HUD also did not offer any explanation or evidence as to why the agency felt justified in suspending the rule.

Unless the federal court intervenes, the rule suspension will remain in effect until either 2024 or 2025.

Across the country, an estimated \$5.5 billion in HUD funding is awarded each year. Nearly two-thirds of these funds go to approximately 1,210 grantees through HUD's Community Development Block (CDBG) Grant program. With this year's rule suspension and continuing for several years, grant recipients -- largely state and local government jurisdictions -- can obligate their allocations without any concern for compliance with the Fair Housing Act rule.

A permanent rule reversal could also signal a return to the kinds of actions that necessitated the rule.

For example, a 2007

False Claims Act case was brought against Westchester County, New York. Thanks to a whistleblower organization, it was disclosed that the county defrauded the federal government in its use of \$50 million in HUD revenues over several years. This county regularly certified HUD compliance with the Fair Housing Act even though the local jurisdiction was deliberately concentrating affordable housing in a small number of Black and Latino cities. The county also shared its CDBG funds with overwhelmingly white suburbs that refused to allow affordable housing.

In a 2010 report to Congress, the General Accounting Office found many jurisdictions lacked any oversight or accountability with HUD funds. Nearly one-third of local jurisdictions failed to make a minimal effort to write a report known as "Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice"; in housing parlance the report is known as an AI. The GAO found that 29 percent of jurisdictions did not complete this report over a five-year period. Another 11 percent had not done so in a decade. Others could not identify a date of completion or had no AI at all.

In short, HUD did not

meaningfully oversee its grantees in this process. However, after the rule took effect, communities responded with forward strides.

In Philadelphia where widespread evictions in communities of color were cited as a serious barrier to fair housing, the city began an Eviction Prevention Project that included legal assistance for consumers facing unjust evictions.

In other examples, Paramount, California began an initiative to increase access to group home housing for people with disabilities. New Orleans promised to create 140 units of affordable rental housing by 2021.

These and other positive housing developments are now on hold with the rule suspension.

"For Secretary Ben Carson and HUD to wipe away the rule just as it was beginning to take effect is shameful and contradicts what has been a fundamental principle of HUD's mission," said Sherrilyn Ifill, NAACP Legal Defense Fund President and Director-Counsel.

For Michael Allen, a partner in the civil rights law firm Relman, Dane & Colfax, the suspension crossed an important line.

"Flouting the rule of law," noted Allen, "HUD's action signals to every jurisdiction in the country that there will be no consequence for civil rights violations, and that HUD has no interest in helping cities, counties and states to expand housing opportunities for their residents."

SMITH, continued from Page 2

for Community Service, Federal Government Distance Learning Association's (FGDLA) Hall of Fame Award, FGDLA Pillar Award, Virtual World Association's Excellence Award among others.

"Distance learning is about using available technologies and technology infrastructures to make more effective learning opportunities accessible to all learners, whatever their age, location, or reason for learn-

ing from anywhere, at any time, and at any pace, in accordance with the individual needs of each student," Smith said. "It is critical to competitiveness in today's fast-paced global, economic environment, which requires constant innovation, upskilling, and reskilling for lifelong learning, and distance learning is the only efficient, scalable, sustainable way to build and protect the value of our current and future workforce."

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Upcoming DFW area job fairs

Application deadlines approaching Firefighters

The City of Garland Fire Department is recruiting candidates interested in a career as a firefighter and/or paramedic. Deadline for applications ends on June 1 at 5 p.m. Recruits must be responsible for performing a variety of technical tasks in fire suppression, rescue, emergency medical services, prevention, investigation, administrative and other special assignments. After one year, Firefighters may be eligible to receive longevity, additional education and assignment compensation, as provided by State Statute and City of Garland Civil Service Rules and Regulations. For more information visit the Cityof-Garland.com/employment

Police Officers

The City of Garland is looking for newly appointed Police Officer Recruits. The application deadline is June 29 by 5 p.m. Lateral Transfer program is available to qualifying current or prior police officers. Officers must be willing to respond to citizen calls for service, enforce criminal and traffic laws, reduce crime and fear of crime within the City of Garland. For more information visit the CityofGarland.com/employment

May 25 Growler USA job fair

Growler USA job fair is to hold their job fair on May 25 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 6520 Cascades Court, Suite 200, in The Colony. They are looking for Servers, beer-tenders & cooks for their newest hotspot in The Colony. Make sure to dress professional and bring resumes.

May 25 Starbucks Job Fair

Starbucks is holding a job fair on May 25 starting at 9 a.m. at 5456 E Mockingbird Ln, in Dallas. They are



opening a brand new restaurant and hiring between 55-60 new employees. They are looking for cooks, prep cook, assembly cook, fry cook, grill cook and cashiers.

May 29 RN Virtual Job Fair

The Oncology Registered Nurse (RN) Virtual Job Fair will be held on May 29. You will be able to explore everything Medical City Dallas Hospital has to offer, and chat one-on-one with our recruiters from your smartphone, computer, or tablet, during whichever time works best for you! Medical City Dallas is looking for amazing nurses who feel called to take care of cancer patients in a world-class setting. You must have

oncology: 1 year (Preferred), and a registered nurse (RN) license or certification. For more information visit www.medicalcity-hospital.com.

May 30 Oak Cliff Community Job and Resource Fair

DCT Live Well and Transformers will hold the Oak Cliff Community Job and Resource Fair on May 30 and May 31 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Highlands Hills Auditorium/DPL, in Dallas. This free fair is open to the public and candidates of all ages, experience levels, and industries are encouraged to

attend. The companies will be looking to fill part and full time positions. Make sure to dress professional and bring plenty of resumes.

May 31 Huge Job Fair!

Stride Staffing is hosting a job fair on May 31 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 1825 W. Belt Line Rd, in Carrollton. They will have over 25 jobs available in departments ranging from industrial sewers, to foaming department, and box spring department. Pay is anywhere from \$10 to \$13 per hour plus production bonuses. For more information con-

tact 214-377-9505.

May 31 Job Fair/Hiring Event

Diverse Facility Solutions will hold their hiring event on May 31 starting at 11 a.m. at 5005 W. Royal

Ln Suite 156, in Irving.

They are looking for custodian positions and new workers will receive \$100 bonus after 100 days of employment. Applicants MUST be able to pass a Federal Background check.

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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.

May 27, 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.

May 30, 7 p.m.

Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, Pastor Bernadette, and others conducting a new book study with "The Red Sea Rules" by Robert J. Morgan, 10 God-Given Strategies for Difficult Times, 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"

May 27, 9 a.m.

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

you, you will be blessed. It's for our Friends and Family. You are special to us.

May 30

Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study class 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.

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May 25, 7 p.m.

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

May 27, 10 a.m.

Every 4th Sunday is youth Sunday, all youth's are encouraged to join us and meet God in these exciting services. And, you are invited to our Baby Christening Service.

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May 28, 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
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972-372-4262
www.Ibocchurch.org

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

May 27, 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.

May 30, 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.
Dr. Sam Fenceroy, PhD
Senior Pastor and
Pastor Gloria Fenceroy

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www.mocop.org

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH (Abiding in Christ)

May 27, 7 a.m.

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

May 30, 7 p.m.

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
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nmzbcofdallas@aol.com

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See CHURCH, Page 15



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"These were the chiefs among Esau's descendants: The sons of Eliphaz the firstborn of Esau: Chiefs Teman, Omar, Zepho and Kenaz."

- Genesis 36:15

God was big on giving meaning to names. Names often were specific indicators of God's plans and purposes for that individual. A young boy grew up as Moses' servant. His Hebrew name, Hoshea, means

"salvation." As the lad grew, Moses could see that he had a "different spirit" from the rest of the Hebrew men. He was selected to be one of the 12 men whom Moses chose to spy out the land of Canaan.

Before the expedition, Hoshea was given a new name by Moses - Joshua, which means "the Lord saves." Joshua became the new leader of Israel who would lead them into the Promised Land. He would, in fact, save an entire nation.

A story is told of a man whose journey in life, he learned that God gave him a name that had something to do with his future call from

Him. He was 44 years old and had just gone through two of the most difficult years of his life. During that time, God brought a man into his life who disciple him in areas where he had never been trained. He discovered many new spiritual truths about himself and other Christians in his workplace.

He came to identify with the struggles of Esau and Joseph in their desire to un-

derstand their own birthrights. He began to write about these discoveries to help other workplace believers understand their own callings through business. One morning on a weekend getaway in the mountains, his friend looked at him and said, "Do you know the meaning of 'Omar'?"

Omar was his first name. His real name was Omar Smallwood Hillman III. Dr.

Smallwood had delivered his grandfather. No one, not even his mother, knew the origin of "Omar." They had put the "O" and the "S" together to call him "Os." "You need to know the meaning of 'Omar,' he said. It has something to do with your future," his friend told him.

Startled by his assertion, that night he looked up the name of "Omar" on a computer program. Here is what he found:

In fact, he was shocked that he had just completed 300 pages of material on the

relationship of Christian businessmen to the life of Esau. His friend quickly concluded that God had called him to free Christian businessmen and women from the "Esau life." And He had allowed him to receive a name that related to the person of Esau. He said that it was the closest thing to a burning bush experience he had ever had received. He wondered if God could be that personal with us. Matthew 10:30 tells us God knows the very hairs of our head. What is the meaning of your name?

CHURCH, continued from Page 14

May 27, 8 and 11 a.m.
Worship Services

Ladies and gentlemen, mark your calendars, our annual Women's Day Celebration will be during Worship Services. This year's theme is "Under Construction... God at Work".

May 30, 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."

June 4th - 8th

You are invited to our Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is "Jesus the Kingdom Builder". VBS is open to ages 3 - Adult. You can register online or in person. Ask an usher for details or call the church at 972-423-6695.

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
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org



Dallas Baptist University 2018 graduate Kiersten Darlene Goff with uncle and aunt, James and Betsy Goff Power from North Carolina on May 11th.

Inspiring Body of Christ
Pastor Rickie G. Bush

7701 S. Walnut Road #115
Dallas, TX 75227
972-794-1888 (IBC)
www.ibcdallas.org

Sunday Service 10:00am
Worship School 7pm & Men's Fellowship 7:00pm

MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO
300 Chisholm Pl. Plano, TX 75075 972-633-5511

Answers you need, Hope for today is waiting for you...

- Sunday School for all ages 8:30 am
- Sunday Morning Prayer 9:30 am
- Sunday Service 10:00 am
- Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm

Pastor Sam Fenceroy

Pastor Gloria Fenceroy

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www.mocop.org

Radio Programs

"Vision & Truth Live"
Call Pastor Sam
Every Sun. 9:00pm-10:00pm
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"Truth Made Simple"
Listen to Pastor Sam
Mon.-Fri. 5:25pm- 5:30pm
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Pastor

SMBC: A church Focused on Excellence while Teaching the Word, Preaching the Gospel, Reaching the World

Worship Times: 8 and 11 a.m.
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.
AWANA: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Contact Information: 972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org

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

LIFE

Sundays | 10:30 AM

302 Centennial Blvd
Richardson, TX 75081



CHEVROLET AND NNPA JOIN TOGETHER TO OFFER HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS A \$15K FELLOWSHIP!

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) is excited to partner with the all-new 2018 Chevrolet Equinox to present Discover the Unexpected (DTU) – an amazing journalism fellowship.

Selected DTU Fellows from Historically Black Colleges and Universities earn a \$10,000 scholarship, \$5,000 stipend and an exciting summer road trip in the all-new 2018 Chevrolet Equinox.

Join our DTU Fellows on this multi-city journey as they discover unsung heroes and share stories from African-American communities that will surprise and inspire. DTU is back and better than ever! Are you ready to ride?

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