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# ARK Group faces more heat from Irving taxpayers and the Honky-Tonk King

By Nakia Magazine NDG Special Contributor

CHARLOTTE, NC-based developer ARK Group's legal battle with Big Beats Dallas owner Billy Bob Barnett regarding the Irving Entertainment Center continues. This time, Irving Taxpayers Matter, an organization accusing ARK Group of fraud and professional misconduct, are demanding the developer be held accountable for what is classified as a commitment of "material violations" of the TIF (Tax Increment Filing). ARK Group is the developer contracted by the city in 2015, to build the \$250 million Toyota Music Factory entertainment facility. This could impact the reimbursement to ARK Group of \$44 million dollars for expenses associated with the project.

The North Dallas Gazette has followed the progress of the Irving Entertainment Center beginning with a look at how the Irving Entertainment Center is essential to the economic development in August 2011. Many anticipated the economic development would begin with opportunities for local minority and women business owners, but as we pointed out in July 2016 Irving's Music Factory Project was already off-key for mi-



Live music every day in Irving was a big part of Big Beat Dallas' plans. File Photo Image from Grand Opening weekend this spring. (Photo: Rachel Hawkins / NDG)

nority businesses. As the construction phase was winding down in October 2017 it was clear the new Irving entertainment complex was falling far short of minority participation goals.

The TIF agreement is the legal document which binds developers to a set of conditions required for reimbursement of building expenses. Irving Taxpayers Matter has hired Dallas-based firm Friedman and Feiger, LLP, which also represents Billy Bob Barnett (owner of Big Beats Dallas). They are seeking to litigate the claim that ARK Group is not entitled to re-

ceive the \$44 million dollars in tax reimbursements submitted to the City of Irving.

Billy Bob Barnett, who many refer to as "the Honky-Tonk King," alleges the ARK Group fell drastically short on building specifications in its development contract and lease agreement. Barnett has accused his landlord-developers of impeding operations to help Big Beats Dallas establishments maximize revenue from afternoon and evening crowds. Also,

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Heat waves can be deadly for seniors

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Irving ISD resolution backs immigrants

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On the GO??? But still need to be in the KNOW!!! Bookmark NorthDallasGazette.com on your phone or mobile device!!!



### Dr. Jaffus Hardrick

(Black PR Wire) Miami Gardens, FL – The Board of Trustees of Florida Memorial University (FMU) has announced the appointment of Dr. Jaffus Hardrick to serve as the University's Interim President. Dr. Hardrick will replace Dr. Castell V. Bryant, who had served in the position. Dr. Hardrick begins his tenure on July 16, 2018.

"We sincerely appreciate the service of Dr. Bryant during her time with us," says FMU Board Chair, JoLinda L. Herring, Esq. "Dr. Jaffus Hardrick is a visionary and transformational leader with 20 years of higher education experience in academic af-



fairs, student services, human resources and diversity and community relations. He has a strong community presence and involvement, and we look forward to his service to our students, faculty, staff and community."

Dr. Hardrick spent 10 years at Florida International University (FIU) where he served in a dual role as Vice Provost for Student Access & Success, and Vice President for Human Resources. While at FIU, Hardrick provided focus and innovative leadership for the university. He is credited for promoting student success and shared governance, providing strategic direction, designing University policy, cultivating donor relations, and developing community relations for one of the nation's twentyfive largest universities. Dr. Hardrick has designed and executed programs to develop, inspire, and engage a workforce of both faculty and

staff.

As an award-winning university executive, Dr. Hardrick has also contributed to educational policy and practices on a national scale and to local communities through his service on the boards or Advisory Committees of the Association of Public & Land-grant Universities, the Florida Education Fund, the College Board, the College & University Professional Association for Human Resources, the Chronicle of Higher Education, the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM), the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, the 100 Black

Men organization, to name a few.

Dr. Jaffus Hardrick received his Ed.D. in Educational Administration from Baylor University; his M.Ed., Education in Counseling, Prairie View A&M University - an HBCU located in Prairie View, Texas; and his B.A. in Sociology from the University of Louisiana, Lafayette. Dr. Hardrick is a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Located in the City of Miami Gardens, Florida Memorial University is a private, historically Black institution offering 28 undergraduate degree programs, nine concentrations, and three master's programs to a culturally

diverse student body. Since its inception in 1879, the University has upheld a commitment to providing a solid foundation for thousands of young people and opening doors to educational opportunities that may have otherwise been closed to them. As South Florida's only Historically Black College or University (HBCU), it is widely recognized for being the birthplace of the Negro National Anthem, "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" and the home of Barrington Irving, Jr., the first and youngest pilot of African descent to fly solo around the world. For more information on FMU. call 305-626-3600 or visit www.fmuniv.edu.

## Jerry Upshaw

Jerry Thornton Upshaw, affectionately called "JT", was born on July 26, 1999 in Plano, Texas. He is the only child of Jerry and Sharon Upshaw. As a little child JT enjoyed playing various sports such as football, soccer, basketball, wrestling, swimming and has a second degree black belt in Tawe Don. His interest includes traveling, watching movies and spending time with family and friends. He attended Polser Elementary School, Creek Valley Middle



School and Hebron High School in the Lewisville I.S.D. Jerry graduated June 10, 2018 and will attend Collin College for a year starting in the fall. He said that he is excited to majoring in Business Management so that one day in the future he can own a business. Entrepreneurship has always been a goal of JT's.

Jerry Upshaw described his Christian walk and how he plans to integrate it with his college goals and professional goals.

As a young man, Jerry accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior; I can honestly say I'm blessed. My walk with Christ has come with its trials and tribulations, but I have never faltered. In the past few years my mind has been clouded with

doubts of failure but I have never doubted that God was there. High School hasn't been the best for me, but I am achieving a successful milestone in June because of God and my family. I will graduate from Hebron High School.

As a young man growing up and as a millennial in this sinful world, I have always known Jesus to by my Shepard and shining light. Throughout my matriculation at Hebron High School and Bethel Bible Fellowship Church, Dr. Terrance Woodson, Senior Pastor, I have learned many life les-

sons that all have shown me that the only way to succeed is through God. My walk with Christ has not always been the easiest, but it has been the most rewarding. My Mom and Dad have always told me that I came into this world with a fighting spirit, and the fight has been endless.

After I graduate from Hebron High School, I plan to attending Collin College for a year and transferring afterwards. I plan to get a degree in business management so that I am able to own my own business in the

future. I have a couple of ideas that I want to major in but I do not have a set decision. However, with God's Will and guidance I know I will soon figure it out and persevere. I am very excited for this new path I am being led upon and I understand that the Lord will still be my guiding light through it all

I understand that I will be busy studying to make good grades and honing in on my social skills to make new connections, but I plan on keeping God dear and near to my heart.

# **NDG** Readers Sound Off...



Newly-Elected Mayor London Breed Makes History in San Francisco

Congratulations Mayor Elect Breed!

- Kevin Rogers

Announcement Rep. Eric Johnson named 'Elected Official of

**the Year'**Could not of happened to a better person.

- Jim Bettone via Facebook

ARK Group Faces More Heat from Irving Taxpayers and the Honky-Tonk King

I am an eternal optimist

and I ask all who will to join me in my prayer for the ARK Group and Billy Bob and the City of Irving to work their matters out without lawsuits against one another. We have fought for 11 years to make the Irving Toyota Music Factory a success and I believe it still will be.

-- Anthony Bond Irving via Facebook

### Dallas Hispanic Chamber giving \$2.5 million to local students

Hello. Thank you for this awesome news. I wish there were scholarships like this at the time I was a

college student. However, being a recent grad I face the real life with the need to pay off my student loan. I didn't quite understand this responsiblity until I graduated and started working full-time. However, when I have urgent financial need I use these easiest installment loans to get. One of my groupmates advised me to turn to them as he often applied for small personal loans when he was in between jobs and they proved to be reliable.

- Julia Summer

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# It's time for Blacks to pull the trigger on politics

By Jeffrey L. Boney NNPA Contributor

How often do we hear messages about the amount of money Black people spend every year as consumers? In a recent report by Nielsen titled, "Black Dollars Matter: The Sales Impact of Black Consumers," the message was once again highlighted: While African Americans make up just 14 percent of the population, they are responsible for some \$1.2 trillion in purchases annually.

It is no secret that a significant amount of money flows through the hands of Black people annually, but what does that mean if Black people aren't using their collective financial strength to change their overall situation in this country, or better yet, control their own destiny?

According to a recent report by the Center for American Progress titled "Systematic Inequality: How America's Structural Racism Helped Create the Black-White Wealth Gap," African Americans have about a tenth of the wealth of White Americans. The report found that in 2016, the median wealth for Blacks was \$17,600, compared to the median wealth of Whites being \$171,000. The report also found that even when Black people take progressive steps such as pursuing higher education, purchasing a home, or getting a good job or a better job, they are still falling way behind their White counterparts. The report found that the wealth gap between Black and White families in America is inextricably linked to America's history of structural racism, and it came to the conclusion that this gap is getting even worse.

Now, while the statistics and information in this report are alarming, there are some things that Black people can focus on to make things better and improve their overall situation. One of the most encouraging parts of the report is that it emphasized the importance of having a focused approach on introducing targeted and necessary legislative policies, that if implemented could ensure that Black families are able to build the same wealth as White families in America.

The report also stated that improved access to higher education alone, while important, will not be enough to create equal opportunity in terms of wealth-building for all, but that broad and persistent policy attention to wealth creation can address this glaring inequity between Blacks and Whites in this country.

The importance of Black people using their collective financial strength to influence politics, while ensuring that necessary legislative policies are passed and implemented, is more important in 2018 than it has ever been. However, Blacks must understand the power they truly possess, as well as the opportunity they have to make a difference in 2018 and beyond.

In "The Godfather Part III," which is the third installment of the classic trilogy, there was a powerful scene in it that every Black person should pay close attention to, in which young Vincent Mancini-Corleone, played by actor Andy Garcia, becomes the mentee of aging mafia Don Michael Corleone, played by veteran screen legend and Academy Award winner Al Pacino.

In that scene, Vincent (Garcia), who is unfamiliar with politics, has a powerful exchange with an Italian mafia kingpin name Don Lucchesi, played by Italian actor Enzo Robutti, about politics and money. The exchange goes:

Vincent Mancini: Don Lucchesi, you are a man of finance and politics. These things I don't understand.

Don Lucchesi: You understand guns?

Vincent Mancini: Yes.

Don Lucchesi: Finance is a gun. Politics is knowing when to pull the trigger.

In 2018, Black people have their hands on the money, but need to start using their resources to pull the trigger politically, by funding qualified political candidates, financing voter registration initiatives, creating political action committees, hosting political forums, challenging incumbents who don't have their best interests at heart, and even running for political office themselves.

The National Newspaper **Publishers** Association (NNPA), a trade group that represents over 200 Blackowned media companies across the U.S., has a focus, in 2018, to register 5 million new, Black voters before the midterm elections with the hopes of ensuring that candidates are elected in November and beyond who want to introduce legislation that would effectively close the wealth gap between Blacks and Whites and improve the quality of life for Blacks overall.

There is much work to be done, but in order to see that type of change take place, Black people must get engaged in the political process, because everything that has positively and/or negatively impacted them in this country has been as a result of politics and legis-

All one has to do is re-

view American history to see how Black people have consistently been systematically oppressed, and have been on the wrong side of legislative decisions since this country's inception. Going as far back as the Constitution of the United States, which includes the "Three-Fifths Compromise," one is able to see how Black people have been negatively impacted by laws that they did not originate and that have disenfranchised them. Also, if you look at federal, state and local legislation such as the Emancipation Proclamation; the Thirteenth Amendment; the Dred Scott Decision; the Brown v. Board of Education; Plessy v. Ferguson; the Jim Crow laws; lynching; sharecropping; literacy tests, poll taxes and other segregationist policies; Civil Rights Act of 1964; Voting Rights Act of 1965; the 'War on Drugs'; the 'Three Strikes Rule'; mandatory minimum sentencing; 'Stand Your Ground' laws; and the voter disenfranchisement changes that have come as a result of the Supreme Court decision in the Shelby v. Holder case, you will see an alltoo-common thread of public policy introductions and legal actions that have either positively or negatively impacted Black people in this country.

It is time for Black people to stop treating politics like a taboo subject, and start treating politics like the primary solution it is. It is time for Black people to pull the trigger on politics.

Jeffrey L. Boney serves as Associate Editor and is an award-winning journalist for the Houston Forward Times newspaper. Jeffrey can be reached at jboney1@forwardtimes.com or on Twitter @jboneyspeaks.

# Heat waves can kill seniors who don't take precautions

WASHINGTON, DC -All the indicators suggest that we are in for a long, hot summer and that's not good news for seniors.

"What could be better than a sunny summer day, with gentle breezes keeping temperatures smack-dab in the middle of your comfort zone? But, the number of heat waves we can expect in much of the U.S. this summer is anticipated to be greater than usual, as projected by several authoritative sources. And the older you are, the more important it is that you keep cool because heat waves can be deadly," says Dan Weber,



president of the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC].

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Weather Service and even the Farmer's

Almanac predict well above average warmth in the coming months.

"The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that during an average summer about 175 people die from the heat. But when things heat up above the norm, the numbers of such deaths can skyrocket. In 1995, for example, more than 1,000 people died during what was one of the worst heat waves ever experienced in modern times. Chicago was hardest hit with 739 fatalities, mostly among the elderly," according to Weber.

You can tell if the heat is getting the best of you when you experience symptoms such as muscle cramping, fatigue headache, nausea, vomiting, dizziness or faint-

There's not much you can

do about the weather, but you can take some precautions when temperatures start to climb. Drink water or fruit juice and avoid caffeinated drinks such as coffee or tea [caffeine is dehydrating]. Find a cool spot, such as a room with good ventilation or, better yet, a room that is air-conditioned. If you find yourself out of doors, stay in the shade as much as possible and don't forget to wear a hat. Choose the clothes you wear carefully. Make sure your clothing is lightweight and light-colored and that it isn't constraining.

AMAC also suggests that

you keep tabs on elderly relatives and neighbors when it is hot and humid. Be aware that the humidity can prevent sweat from evaporating, in turn reducing its normal cooling effect. So Look in on them from time to time during long stretches of hot weather.

"Bear in mind that many seniors suffer from poor circulation and may feel too 'cold' to sit tight in an airconditioned room. The medications they take, likewise, can affect blood pressure and respiration, particularly during times of extreme heat," says Weber.

# Tough guys' need doctors, too

Garland residents Andres Estrada, 72, and Ronald Hunt, 65, have a few things in common – they both describe themselves as 'tough guys' and, in the past, avoided doctors at all costs. But it was different circumstances and health conditions that led them to Parkland Health & Hospital Sys-

In 2004 after an emergency hospitalization, months of dialysis and a kidney transplant, Estrada came to a painful realization. "I should have visited the doctor more often before I became seriously ill. I'm a stubborn man," he laughed.

tem in search of help.

In 2008, Hunt came to a similar conclusion. He too ended up in Parkland's emergency department where doctors detected a hernia, kidney issues and, later, glaucoma. "I kept fighting it all," he said.

For most men, a tough exterior and a macho attitude may cause more harm than good when it comes to their health. According to physiology researchers at Rutgers University, men who hold traditional beliefs about masculinity (i.e., associating masculinity with being tough, brave and self-reliant) are more likely to ignore medical problems. National Men's Health Month is observed each June and

encourage men to take steps to be healthier.

"It's a great time to remind the men in your life to visit their doctor," said Yair Lotan, MD, Medical Director of the Urology Clinic at Parkland and Professor of Urology at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

The most common health issues experienced by men include heart disease, cancer, unintentional injuries (such as road traffic injuries, poisoning, falls, fire and burn injuries, and drowning), chronic lower respiratory diseases, stroke and di-

Parkland providers want to abetes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC estimates heart disease kills an average of 321,000 men each year, the equivalent of one in every four male deaths.

The second leading cause of death among men is cancer. According to Dr. Lotan, aside from non-melanoma skin cancer, prostate cancer is the most common cancer among men in the United States, killing 28,343 men each year. "We want our patients to seek information about this form of cancer and the importance of screenings that could help save their lives. The good news is that most men who are appropriately screened are diagnosed with curable disease. Also, some men are found to have non-aggressive disease and don't need

treatment and can just be monitored."

"Many of these conditions can be avoided," said Noel O. Santini, MD, Senior Medical Director of Ambulatory Services at Parkland. "Prevention is a very

important aspect of care. Men should be aware of symptoms of potentially serious conditions."

Some of the symptoms men should not ignore in-

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These Texas Lottery Commission scratch ticket games will be closing soon:

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2024	Wild 9's Overall Odds are 1 in 4.91	\$1	8/22/18	2/18/19
2020	Money Overall Odds are 1 in 3.90	\$5	8/22/18	2/18/19

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### HERitage Giving Fund at Dallas Women's Foundation hosts powerful philanthropy discussion

Earlier this month, Heritage Giving Fund at Dallas Women's Foundation hosted an intriguing panel discussion featuring remarks from Representative Helen Giddings, Zenetta Drew of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre, and Greer L. Christian of Wells Fargo, as well as moderator Dr. Halima Leak Francis. The topic was "Giving Back: Our Legacy of Leadership in Philanthropy," which focused on the historical contributions black women have made to North Texas philanthropy.

HERitage Giving Fund is one of the giving circles at the Dallas Women's Foundation - others include The Village Giving Circle and



HERitage Giving Fund members (Photo: Dallas Women's Foundation)

the Orchid Giving Circle. The Founding Officers of HERitage Giving Fund are Akilah S. Wallace, Chair: Halima Leak Francis, Co-Chair; and Dr. Froswa' Booker-Drew, Grants Committee Chair.

Wallace said, "These powerful women shared how important it is for us to continue the work of HERitage: combine our gifts and give to organizations that use innovative approaches to serve African-American women and girls, so that they can achieve success. We invite others who share our passion to join us so that we can support our commu-

Founded August 2017 during Black Philanthropy Month, HERitage Giving Fund at Dallas Women's Foundation encourages philanthropy in the African-American/Black community by contributing in a strategic and meaningful way and by bringing a new source of funding to nonprofit organizations serving African-American women and girls throughout the North Texas area. The circle provides an opportunity to learn about issues and organizations that affect and impact the African-American/Black community. Additionally, HERitage Giving Fund provides members and donors with opportuni-

ties for philanthropy empowerment and member socials.

Shawn Wills, Dallas Women's Foundation senior vice president of development, said, "Dallas Women's Foundation is proud to support HERitage Giving Fund. Giving circles, such as HERitage Giving Fund, are a way for women of similar cultures to collectively raise funds and to distribute them to organizations that are making our community better."

For more information about HERitage Giving Fund, visit https://www.dallaswomensfdn.org/heritagegivingfund or email HeritageGivingFund@gmail.co

# Dallas Housing Authority introduces 'Opportunity Rising Foundation'

After 20-years of service to the community, the Dallas Housing Authority (DHA) relaunches its education foundation as Opportunity Rising. Formerly the Phoenix Foundation, Opportunity Rising provides access to resources and experiences that empower people from low-income households to seek better career opportunities and improve their quality of life. Since 1997, the foundation has granted more than 1,000 scholarships to high school graduates and returning college students, amounting to nearly \$1.5 million. Based on a recent survey of our legacy scholars, we learned the true impact of their edu-

71% are first-generation college students

76% no longer receive government assistance

52% earned their bachelor's or master's degree

73% have applied their scholarships towards their undergraduate studies

"The Dallas Housing Authority encourages academic excellence, high selfesteem, positive self-image, leadership and community involvement among our students, and residents. Many of our residents need assistance in continuing their pursuit of a higher education, and through the Foundation we have helped thousands attend college, gain internships and propel themselves on the road towards success and self-suf- DHA. "Last year, we cele- our move towards Opportuficiency," said Troy Brous-

brated the 20th anniversary sard, president and CEO of of our foundation and with

See DHA, Page 10

# TOUGH, continued from Page 4

Chest pain – a symptom of a heart attack that can also indicate other problems such as angina, pneumonia, pulmonary embolism or

Shortness of breath could signal heart disease or lung disease. This symptom is also common with diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), chronic bronchitis, emphysema or pulmonary hypertension.

Fatigue – can result from physical exertion, lack of sleep or stress, but it can also indicate more serious physical health conditions, including congestive heart failure, diabetes, arthritis,

infections or cancer, as well as kidney or liver disease.

Blood in urine – may be a sign of bladder, prostate or kidney problems.

Excessive thirst – can be a prominent symptom of diabetes.

Vision problems – are not always related to aging; they can indicate other problems such as glaucoma, cataracts, diabetic retinopathy or macular degeneration.

Dr. Santini said men should establish a relationship with a primary care provider and visit their healthcare provider regularly, even if they feel healthy. Those visits should include risk assessments for future medical problems,

screenings for cancer, (including testicular, colon, prostate, skin and other cancers), vaccination updates and conversations about healthy diet/lifestyle choices. In addition, medical experts suggest men of all ages should get to know their numbers for blood pressure, body mass index, triglycerides, cholesterol and blood glucose and have them checked regularly.

Now, Estrada and Hunt have another thing in common; they understand the value of preventive and proactive medical care.

"I didn't like going to doctors and I don't accept help very often. But that time I did and I'm grateful for the medical care I received," Hunt said.



# Irving ISD resolution creates some hope for immigrants' future

By: Rachel Hawkins NDG Staff Writer

Trustee A.D. Jenkins addressed the topic of immigration and the fear it creates on June 18 during an Irving ISD school board work session meeting. Resolution: 17-18-22: To express support for immigrant students and parents was approved during the Irving ISD school board meeting the following Monday on June 25.

"This is something that is near and dear to my heart," Jenkins said. "I know for a fact that this is something that the board does not have jurisdiction over or something that can be guaranteed at all, I understand that. But me personally, I feel that this resolution written is a reso-



lution of comfort to others, a resolution of solidarity, and it's a resolution of 'hey I got your back'."

Irving ISD stated in the resolution their goals are to recognize and celebrate the rich diversity of students, staff and families within the ISD Community, including many who are foreign-born and recent immigrants to the United States.

"I think that this is the minimal thing we can do as a board," Jenkins said. "I know that for a fact that our board does care about our students. Just as my three boys know that I love them, but there are times when you have to tell them personally that you do love them. What I'm hearing all the time is people saying why no one is talking about it, but there is a

lot of talk about it. But this is a time as a board member that feel like I should say something and I should step up."

"People are going around in fear," Jenkins said. "You may not hear it but just pay attention and observe what is happening."

In their resolution they also said, "The Board of Trustees of the Irving Independent School District hereby expresses its support of members of the IISD Community who are negatively impacted and reaffirms its commitment to strive to be an education-focused environment, free of insecurity and fear, for all its students."

Dr. Wanda Zamorano, a retired educator voiced her

emotions and agreement for the resolution.

"I really appreciate the fact when Jenkins presented the resolution, I'm glad he used the words comfort, solidarity, and the board has their back."

In the 3rd whereas section Zamorano was glad he interjected the word 'value'.

"A few months ago there was a safe resolution that was not passed. You would think it would have been unanimous," Zamorano said.

Nell Anne Hunt, trustee for District 2, brought a similar proposal forward during the beginning of the school year.

"I agree with Mr. Jenkins, we find ourselves in situations where some of the students are documented and some are not. As a school we are to educate all students. This is a show of good faith, and let the kids know that they can come to school and learn."

In 1970 Zamorano started the Migrant Education Program.

"I have seen first-hand the Hispanic population, I know of the respect they have for the education system, and I have visited their homes," Zamorano said. I think because I have witness things in the 70s, it has brought me to where today that we need to reassure all students. Students need to feel a part of the system, and we want to see them be the most and the best they can be. Once an educator always an educator."

# Rep. Johnson responds to SC decision regarding gerrymandered maps

AUSTIN – In a 5-4 decision, the United States Supreme Court has overturned a federal district court's ruling that the Texas Legislature intentionally discriminated against minority voters when drawing some of the current Texas House and Congressional districts. The only district the Court has ruled needs to be redrawn is Texas House District 90, a Tarrant County based district.

Texas State Representative Eric Johnson (D-Dallas), the Vice Chair of the Texas House Redistricting Committee, has released the following statement in response to the release of the Supreme Court's deci-

"The stakes for this upcoming midterm election and the

2020 election just got a lot higher thanks to the United States Supreme Court, a fact that will not be lost on minority voters. While this was by no means a good decision for the minority voters of Texas, it should serve as a very loud wake up call as to exactly what's on the line in these next two general elections," stated Representative Johnson.

# How a Stanford neurobiologist balances science and faith

By Nathan Collins Stanford University News

To some, William Newsome might seem a tad unusual. He is not only a worldclass scientist who has made extensive contributions to the study of vision and the neurobiological underpinnings of choice but is also a churchgoing Christian.

Newsome, the Harman Family Provostial Professor and the Vincent V. C. Woo Director of the Stanford Neurosciences Institute, leads an institute devoted to understanding how the human brain gives rise to mental life and shapes who we are. He talked to Stanford News about growing up the son and grandson of Baptist ministers, the wonders contained in a single drop of water and how he bridges the worlds of science and religion.

### Did you feel any pressure from your family not to pursue science growing up?

My father and mother were what I would call orthodox Christian believers, but they never created any barriers between my interest in science and the Christian faith that they wanted to raise me in. I remember hunting for fossils with my father when I was a kid, and my father was particularly interested in new paleontological discoveries on hominid origins, things like that. So I had a healthy interest in both science and in matters of religious faith in my background. I've always been grateful for that.

### Was there a moment when you knew you wanted to actually pursue a career in science?

I got really interested in biology early on. I had a great course from a great teacher in the ninth grade. I remember the first time I looked at an apparently, to my naked eye, clear drop of water - looked at it under the microscope and saw all these little bugs swimming and moving around in a clear drop of water. I was just enthralled by that and made up my mind right then and there I really wanted to be a biologist when I grew up.

## What tensions do you see between science and faith?

There are two ways in which one could find tension. One, which I think is a red herring, is saying that the discoveries of science make religious faith untenable.

I actually think that most of the discoveries of science are open to a religious worldview. I think that the discovery of the big bang, for example, shows that our universe has not been in existence forever, that there was a moment where it started, and that's very consistent with the notion of creation in early Genesis stories.

The theory of evolution has been a flash point obviously. People have said that religious faith requires purposeful creation and evolution depends on random mutations and random events, so how can anything that depends on randomness be purposeful? That's a red herring. Scientists, including my own laboratory, use random events to purposeful ends all the time. That's why people who create good random

number generators are so valued in science.

### What is the real tension?

Where the real tensions exist are the habits of mind in science and the habits of mind in religion. In science, we want everything to be objective, so if I do an experiment properly in my lab it can be replicated anywhere in the world given the adequate conceptual background and technical expertise. In religion, we're searching for meaning and trying to construct and perceive patterns of meaning in our lives. There's some objectivity in that, but it's much more reliant on intuition, much more reliant on gut-level feelings.

You've said that science is good for answering some questions, while faith or something like it is good for other questions, like whether to get married.

This is a favorite example, because when you marry someone you're really making a commitment. It's a declaration of hope, and yet there's no scientific experiment you can do that proves

that this is the right person to marry. If you wait for scientific proof, you'll be waiting an awfully long time.

Now that doesn't mean that you check your brain at the door. You think really hard, but in the end you don't have proof and you have to take a step of faith.

And yet scientists have tried to figure out what makes marriages work. Are there areas of overlap between science and religion?

I think that there are definitely areas of overlap where you want to bring both kinds of evidence to bear. When I speak to religious communities of students at colleges or other events, I always tell them that your faith should be informed by science. It should not be replaced by science. Science can't bear that weight. It can't give you the things that you need from faith or well-reasoned philosophy. But your faith should always be informed by science.

It sounds like in your faith community there's a

lot of room for exploring different perspectives and challenging each other. There's something similar in how you've constructed the Neurosciences Institute – there's an interest in building community and merging different viewpoints. Is there a parallel?

You know, I like science and I like running a lab, but the things that I like most are the personal relationships of trying to figure things out in a lab

Deep down, I'm finding that I am like my father in important ways. I may be a pastor at heart. Community means a lot to me, and mentoring means a lot to me, and the personal relationships within science mean a lot to me. The politics, on the other hand, I frequently find offputting. My father really liked the personal aspects of ministry, but disliked the political aspect of church life. Amusingly, perhaps, I'm coming back around toward home after 50 years, realizing that I'm more like my father than I ever believed.

# Let's Play Irving: Two input meetings scheduled for July

There is no doubt: Irving's parks and trails, pools, recreation centers and sporting venues are popular. From swimming to soccer, running to family picnicking, Irving residents play and learn in these city-owned facilities. Recognizing the need to ensure Irving's facilities remain relevant, safe and ready to serve the city's future gener-

ations, Halff Associates has been engaged to conduct an extensive evaluation and to develop a Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Residents are invited to provide input for the development of the Master Plan at Public Meetings scheduled this summer:

6 to 8 p.m., July 10, Lee Park Recreation Center,

3000 Pamela Drive

6 to 8 p.m., July 12, Cimarron Park Recreation Center, 201 Red River Trail

In addition, an online survey is available to residents to provide feedback. The survey is 19 questions long and should take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

Once completed, the Halff team and city staff will eval-

uate the feedback and data gathered to build a forward-looking, prioritized master plan. The plan will include identified funding options and recommended programming, and will establish operational and staffing needs. The master plan will include a five-year implementation period, with a 10-year horizon outline.



City of

# Carrollton public library's summer reading program continues

Rock out with the Carrollton Public Library by joining this year's Summer Reading Program: Libraries Rock, offering online access through READsquared. Age-specific programs are available for listeners (0-4), kids (5-9), tweens (10-13), teens (14-18), and adults (19+).

Track your reading hours online, earn points, and progress levels. Points can be used to buy raffle tickets for prize packs, including items such as signed books, gift cards, and educational toys for listeners and kids; Amazon gift cards, backpacks, school supplies, VR headsets

and controllers for tweens and teens; and signed books, an Amazon gift card, a Kindle Fire 7, and a Google Chromecast for adults. Visit the store on READsquared to see a complete list of prize packs and items included. Winners are drawn at the exclusive End of Summer Pool Party on

Friday, August 17 and posted online the following day.

Prizes are also earned for each level attained. Move up a level for every one hour of reading for listeners; two hours of reading for kids, tweens, and teens; or five hours of reading for adults. Level 10 completes the program, but keep reading to reach super levels and earn more points.

Register for the Summer Reading Program at carrolltonlibrary.READsquared.co m. Usernames from last year are still valid. Physical reading logs to keep track of books and minutes are also available at both Libraries for those without internet access. The program runs through Thursday, August 16 and is sponsored by the Friends of the Carrollton Public Library. For more information, visit cityofcarrollton.com/library or call 972-466-4800 for registration assistance.

# **Nancy Lieberman Charities donates dream court to Plano**

Nancy Lieberman Charities has teamed with the Ira Kravitz Family to donate to Plano, TX a brand new Kids & Cops Dream Court. The new Dream Court will be located at 3380 Sherwood Dr.

"I'm excited to have an-

other Dream Court in the Plano Community. I have lived here for almost 10 years and the children are so vital to our growth. We're proud to be able to give them a safe play space. I want to thank my friend Ira Kravitz for be-

lieving in our dream to unite communities with local law enforcement with our Dream Courts. Basketball Hall of Famer, Nancy Lieberman said.

"Plano once again is fortunate to have Nancy Lieberman Charities open another Dream Court. These courts offer a kid friendly place to exercise, have fun, and benefit from the life lessons of basketball," said Plano Police Chief Greg Rushin.

The Dream Court is 45-by-

75 feet with two brand new basketball goals, and features a high-performance PowerGame™ surface from Sport Court® in signature Kids & Cops dark blue and steel blue colors. Its centerpiece is the Dream Courts logo, flanked

by the brands of all four supporting organizations.

Over two million youth play on Dream Courts in the U.S. and Sport Court has been the partner to Nancy

See COURT. Page 15

### ARK, continued from Page 1

that the ARK Group failed to construct a canopy for the building altogether.

Attorney Larry Friedman, of Friedman and Feiger, LLP, spoke this week with the North Dallas Gazette by phone. Friedman shed light on the degree to which he says ARK Group failed to honor its contract. According to him, in addition to ARK Group "shortchanging Barnett's establishments for 500 parking spaces," ARK Group violated several other building code specifications for the Toyota Music Factory.

"ARK Group signed a contract to build 50,000 square feet of mixed-use space. Instead, they built 27,000 square feet of mixed-use space. This is a shortfall of 23,000 square feet of entertainment space which constitutes a material violation on the part of ARK

Group," Friedman stated.

He went on to allege other potentially eye-raising violations.

"We have substantial evidence that suggests that ARK Group played a shell game as it relates to obtaining occupancy certification from the City of Irving. It is well documented that ARK Group installed lighting fixtures and furnishings necessary to pass the City's inspection and then removed them shortly thereafter," according to Friedman.

Included in the lease agreement between ARK Group and Big Beats Dallas, is a clause allowing the City of Irving to step in as the landlord if the tenant establishes a breach of lease terms occurred

In his argument, Friedman also refers to operating practices which ARK Group included in its lease with Barnett that he says impaired Big Beat Dallas establishments from moving afternoon patrons out before the evening crowd.

"We believe that ARK Group impeded operations in a way that made it impossible for my client to manage shift changes effectively," he stated. Barnett's claim includes a significant dollar amount associated with lost revenues allegedly caused by ARK Group's obstruction.

### Irving City Taxpayers Join the Suit Against ARK Group

The legal battle between ARK Group and Barnett has gained even more force as local taxpayers in Irving have formed an advocacy group to dispute tax reimbursements due to ARK Group for construction expenses. Friedman, who also represents the Irving Taxpayers Matter, emphasized the developers must follow

the stipulations in the TIF contract to received reimbursement.

"The TIF contract states that if the developer commits any materials violations, reimbursement payments may be withheld," Friedman stated.

Taxpayers are demanding the City withhold TIF payments based on material building code specifications not met. Reportedly the ARK Group has received approval on an audit report submitted to the City. This audit was to substantiate the Group incurred expenses greater than \$160 million. However, \$44 million in reimbursement payments may be withheld based on violations identified by Barnett according to his legal team.

### Sentiments from the Irving Community and Minority Contractors

Members of the Irving community are strong supporters of their Honky-Tonk King in his battle against out-of-state developers.

"I've known Billy Bob Barnett for many years," said, Reverend Peter Johnson, a leader in the Irving community. "I grew up here during the Civil Rights movement, and I must say, Billy Bob embraces all people. I believe in his vision. I think what he is doing over there is wonderful; and, I wish the City would support him."

Other comments from the community which have come on the heels of this raging legal battle are from advocates aligned with the M/WBE (Minority and Women's Business Enterprise Program). The M/WBE program sets forth performance goals which urge Texas localities to fill City development contracts with minority and women contractors.

Charles Jackson, a local Chamber of Commerce Member and M/WBE consultant, who is an advocate for contractors participating in the program stated that on average, "Minority contractors get less than 5 percent of city contracts."

Jackson mentioned the performance goal for most areas in the state is 30 percent.

"I must say the M/WBE Advisor for the City of Irving is great, but they still need to make developers accountable over there for meeting the 30 percent recruitment goal," according to Jackson.

Irving's NAACP Chapter President, Tony Grimes, was complimentary of the City of Irving as it relates to publishing bids and making application information accessible to M/WBE Program participants. However, Grimes was candid about his desire to see more M/WBE contractors obtain proposals.

**City Briefs** www.NorthDallasGazette.com

### Addison

The Addison Kaboom Town! will be held on June 3 from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. at 4970 Addison Circle Dr., in Addison.

One of the country's most lauded and unique Independence Day celebrations is in Addison, Texas each year on July 3. Addison Kaboom Town!® powered by Stream, is a city-wide celebration, with a fantastic party in the 12-acre Addison Circle Park. Enjoy the event in the park or at many of Addison's 180+ restaurants and area hotels.

A complete list of watch parties will be available on the event website soon. The incredible Addison Airport Air Show can be seen from anywhere in town! The 30minute long fireworks show is presented by Methodist Hospital for Surgery.

Concessions are available in the park. Guests are encouraged to leave coolers and bags at home to expedite entry into the park. Those choosing to bring coolers must limit the size no larger than 16"X20"X12".

Absolutely no alcohol can be brought into or out of Addison Circle Park. Tickets are not required to attend the party in Addison Circle Park but admission is first-



come, first-served and admission is limited. For more information visit www.AddisonKaboomTown.com.

#### **Dallas**

Red, White and Boom on the Bridge will take place on July 3 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Continental Avenue Pedestrian Bridge, in Dallas. This event will have music, the food, and the live fireworks. The free event has one of the finest views in Texas. For more information visit Face-

Fair Park Fourth will take place on July 4 starting at 3 p.m. at the Fair Park in Dallas. Fireworks will start

book.com/events.

around 9:37 p.m. The State Fair of Texas Midway will open at noon featuring several rides, games, and concession stands. Admission tickets to the Midway can be purchased at the entrance gates for \$8, or online for \$5 by visiting BigTex.com. Parking for the general public is \$10 per car at Fair Park Gates 5 and 6. Beginning at 3pm, other (FREE) attractions will open up including water inflatables, games, a zipline on the Esplanade, rides, face painters and more! Starting at 6 p.m. guests should be sure to head to the Lagoon for live entertainment. Anchors Cynthia Izaguirre and Joe Trahan will host the pro-

gram from the Cotton Bowl. The prime-time television show will begin at 9 p.m. and is scheduled to feature special musical performances by recent "American Idol" contestant, Harper Grace and noted jazz trumpeter, Freddie Jones, as well as a few local stories produced specifically for the television program. For more information on Fair Park festivities, including museum information, visit ₹ FairPark.org.

### Garland

The STAR-SPANGLED SPECTACULAR 2018 will be held on July 4 from 4 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at Firewheel Town Center, in Garland. Don't forget your sunscreen and chairs/blankets. Patrons should carpool and plan to arrive early as onsite parking is limited. DART transportation will be available.

Family Fun Activities: 4 PM - 8 PM. Main Stage Entertainment with Hi-Defintion Band: 7 PM - 9 PM. Fireworks display begins at 9:15 PM

### **Irving**

The Independence Day Fireworks Show will take place on July 4 from 6 p.m. ro 10 p.m. at Lake Carolyn, in Irving. Scenic Lake Carolyn is the site for the evening festivities. Located along the south side of Lake Carolyn, the Fireworks Show offers a fantastic way to finish your Independence Day. Entry is free, but parking garages are \$10. Be sure to bring your own blankets, lawn chairs, and umbrellas. well-behaved Leashed. dogs are permitted at the festival, but must be removed prior to the fireworks display for safety. Attendees also are encouraged to ride the DART Orange Line to the Las Colinas Urban Center Station. A free shuttle service will transport attendees between the station and the event. For more information visit the Irving website.

### Lewisville

Sounds of Red, White & Lewisville will be held on July 3 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Wayne Ferguson Plaza, in Lewisville. The City of Lewisville will hold a special multi-act concert event and fireworks show as part of Sounds of Lewisville - Sounds of Red, White and Lewisville Presented by Topgolf. The event and activities are free to the public. Fireworks will begin around 9:30 p.m. Best viewing areas for the fireworks show are Wayne Fer-

guson Plaza and the surrounding areas in Old Town Lewisville. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs for their comfort. Well-behaved pets on a leash are allowed. Parking will be limited in Old Town. Attendees are encouraged to take the FREE shuttle from Lone Star Toyota of Lewisville Rail Road Park or Lowe's Home Improvement at Valley Parkway and I-35. Shuttle runs 5-11 p.m. Per shuttle policy, no pets or weapons allowed on shuttle buses. For more information call 972.219.3401 or visit SoundsofLewisville.com.

#### Richardson

The Family 4th Celebration will be held on July 4 starting at 6:15 at Breckinridge Park, in Richardson. This traditional, patriotic salute is free and open to the entire community. Attendees are encouraged to bring picnics, blankets and/or lawn chairs and enjoy the evening under the stars! All grills brought to the park must remain on a hard surface, not turf! There will be bounce houses, a climbing wall, and other patriotic activities for the kids! For more information visit cor.net.com.

# Texas Capital Bank donates fleet vehicle to the American Red Cross

Texas Capital Bank generously donated a 2018 Dodge Promaster City Van to the American Red Cross North Texas Region to support biomedical services.

The Red Cross Dallas office is home to the North Texas blood processing center. After a donor gives blood, the donation is transported to the lab for processing and testing. Once the blood is ready for distribution, the new vehicle will deliver the blood to hospitals and, in turn, patients in need.

"Texas Capital Bank is proud to provide the Red Cross a vehicle to move their mission forward as they provide lifesaving resources to people in need,"



(Left to right) Michelle George, assistant vice president & community relations manager, Texas Capital Bank, and Ronald Baker, executive vice president and manager, Texas Capital Bank, and American Red Cross Dallas board member, present the new vehicle to Diane Stephenson, senior officer - Corporate Partnerships, American Red Cross North Texas Region and Keith Rhodes, regional chief executive officer, American Red Cross North Texas Region. (Photo: Ilijah Mora / American Red Cross)

said Effie Dennison, Senior Responsibility, Texas Capi- appreciate all that Red Cross Vice President and Director of Community Development and Corporate Social

tal Bank. "We are glad to be a Ready365 partner helping when disasters strike and

does to provide emergency services throughout the year."

The American Red Cross has a constant need to add to and update its fleet of disaster and biomedical services vehicles in order to carry out its lifesaving mission of helping those in need. On average, the Red Cross responds to nearly 64,000 disasters a year and these vehicles are used to transport both people and material assets where they are needed

"We are grateful for our partnership with Texas Capital Bank and their willingness to help fill this critical need." said Keith Rhodes, CEO, American Red Cross North Texas Region. "Whether during a largescale disaster or amid an everyday demand, like the

constant need for blood, it is the generosity of our partners that enables the Red Cross to serve those in need."

The new biomedical services vehicle donation coincides with the June 11 launch of the American Red Cross Missing Types campaign encouraging first-time donors and lapsed donors to give blood. As part of the campaign, the letters A, B, and O - letters used to identify blood types – are disappearing from brands, social media pages, signs and websites to illustrate the critical role every blood donor plays. Learn more about the Missing Types campaign or visit redcrossblood.org to find a blood drive near you.

# Plans announced for the annual Fair Park Fourth celebration

The City of Dallas, Friends of Fair Park, the State Fair of Texas, and WFAA-TV (Channel 8) invite everyone in DFW to celebrate America with a day of family fun and fireworks at Fair Park Fourth.

Starting at 12 p.m. on Wednesday, July 4, guests can enjoy live music and access to rides, games, and concessions within the State Fair of Texas Midway. Combining traditional jazz with New Orleans street marching style, the celebratory Razzmajazz Dixieland Band will be strolling the Midway from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Taking the stage under the "saddle" from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Bamboo Boat Band will put on an islandthemed concert near the fireworks-viewing area and the Top o' Texas Tower on



the Midway.

Admission tickets to the Midway can be purchased at the entrance gates for \$8, or online for \$5 by visiting BigTex.com. Approximately 35 rides and 12 games will be available on the Midway, as well as 14

concession stands including Fletcher's Corny Dogs and Stiffler's Mom's Cookie Factory. Costs for rides, games, and concessions will vary. During the Fair Park Fourth event, all proceeds from the Midway will be donated to the State Fair of Texas Scholarship Program. For more information about the State Fair of Texas, visit BigTex.com.

Free and open to the public, Fair Park Fourth will feature patriotic performances, entertainment, and concession stands, plus a spectacular firework show at approximately 9:30 p.m. On the Fair Park grounds, other attractions are available, including water inflatables, midway games, a zipline on the Esplanade, rides, face painters and more! Access to the Swan Boatsand additional concession stands will be available in Cotton Bowl Plaza starting at 12 p.m. and along Grand Avenue starting at 3 p.m. Starting at 6 p.m. guests should be sure to head to the Lagoon for live entertainment. Followed by

the National Anthem at approximately 6:45 p.m. and a performance from the Dallas Winds at 7 p.m.

In addition to enjoying the Independence Day activities, attendees are invited to check out the variety of attractions housed in Fair Park year-round. Texas Discovery Gardens will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Admission is priced at \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors 60 and older, and \$5 for children age 3-11 – children 2 and under are free. Visitors can stop by and enjoy the blooming gardens, butterfly sanctuary, and nature exhibits all day long. The Children's Aquarium at Fair Park will be open from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Admission is priced at \$8 for adults and \$6 for children age 3 to 11 and seniors age 65 and

older, with free admission for children age 2 and under. Starting at 4:30 p.m., guests can purchase tickets for a discounted price of \$4. The Old Mill Inn restaurant and patio will be open from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. The African American Museum will be open and offering free admission from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Hall of State will be open and offering free admission from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Guests can view the fireworks show, sponsored by Oncor, from inside Cotton Bowl Stadium, the State Fair of Texas Midway, or various other locations throughout the Fair Park grounds. For more information on Fair Park festivities, including museum informa-

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**Enter to Win!** Ticket Giveaway

NDG Entertainment Ticket Giveaway!!! Visit us on Facebook to win tickets to the the hottest events in Dallas/Fort Worth!!!!

# Film Review: Fans of the franchise will love *Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom*

By Dwight Brown NNPA Film Critic

Lions and tigers and bears, oh my. Tyrannosaurus, velociraptors and brachiosaurus—run for your lives. The cloned dinosaurs from the theme park Jurassic World are in trouble on the volcanic isle of Isla Nublar, which is erupting, spewing hot lava and emitting a deadly ash cloud. If they aren't rescued, they will die. That's the premise in this sequel to "Jurassic World" (\$1.7B at the box office). The question is this: Will this follow-up to the wildly successful "Jurassic World" be enough to hook action/adventure/sci-fi fans and reel them into the the-

Colin Trevorrow, the director of Jurassic World, passes on direction duties to Spanish filmmaker J.A. Bayona ("Orphanage," "The Impossible"), and the difference in style is negligible. Trevorrow writes the script with Derek Connolly ("Jurassic World," "Kong: Skull Island"). Editor Bernat Vilaplana worked with Bay-



Bryce Dallas Howard (left) and Chris Platt star in "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom." (Universal Pictures)

ona on "The Impossible," as did cinematographer Oscar Faura. Composer Michael Giacchino won an Oscar for his original score for the animated feature "Up". Add in creature sculptor Wayne Anderson ("Underworld: Blood Wars") and it's no wonder that the footage rips along at a breakneck pace, with wondrous views of a paradise island being ravaged by 700degree orange liquid rock and ancient beast clones running rampant. Everything is neatly coordinated-right down to the last scream for

Three years have passed. Isla Nublar, an isle 120 miles west of Costa Rica that housed the now abandoned

reptile theme park, is desolate except for lush green vegetation and gigantic beasts. The Dinosaur Protection Group, run by former theme park manager Claire Dearing (Bryce Dallas Howard, "Jurassic World," "The Help"), is out to save the gigantic animals. They aren't as aggressive as PETA, but they're dedicated.

Claire is approached by the duplicitous Eli Mills ("Rafe Spall,"" Life of Pi," "The Big Short"), who has a plan to relocate the behemoths to a sanctuary, but not out of the kindness of his heart. Dearing is pulled into the mission. She enlists her ex-boyfriend Owen (Chris Platt), who trained some of the less hostile and very intelligent velociraptors. A techy/hacker, Franklin Webb ("Justice Smith," "The Get Down"), and an equally young paleo/veterinarian, Zia Rodriguez (Danielle Pineda, TV's "The Detour"), become part of the A-team. Of course, nothing goes as planned.

The simple premise hovers around animal rescue. Working within that blueprint, the film moves quickly to add in a chain of action scenes, daring escapes, fist fights, dinosaur wrestling matches and some graphic violence (a man gets torn apart, so be wary of bringing really young kids to this movie) as it builds into several crescendos. Just as you think there can't possibly be more mayhem or another challenge, there is; not ad nauseum, but it's enough to make you shell-shocked.

The bad guys want to use the behemoths for an evil purpose that involves weapons of destruction. All of the subterfuge, angst and cause célèbre animal rights activism is a ploy to whip the audience's emotions into a frenzy. On some levels it works. But most astute viewers will understand that there is no moral theme of any consequence in this reptiles gone wild orgy.

The relationship between Claire and Owen is fun, until they do stupid things like kissing in the middle of an action scene. The two leads have charisma and you like them regardless. Spall as Mills gives you a fitting antagonist to hate, and you hope he gets his just rewards. Ditto for Toby Jones who plays Mr. Eversol, a trafficker, and Ted Levine, as Ken Wheatley, the vile man who heads the rescue and misleads Claire. Smith provides some comic relief as Webb the nerd who hates to get his feet dirty. And, Pineada shows spunk as the brainy and fearless Rodriguez.

It's obvious the dinosaurs aren't real, but thanks to the special effects and photography, with a gigantic assist from the sound effects department (Marti Albert sound effects editor), your nerves will get frayed. You'll jump out of your seat or sit

with dread as you watch gnashing teeth bear down on human flesh. Also, a shout out to the vivid images of the volcano and the gorgeous shots of the island which perfectly set up the atmosphere for a verdant paradise gone wrong.

The 128 minutes roll by and you'll feel like you just got back from a tour of duty in the war-torn jungles of some tropical island nation. Your adrenalin will be high. Your thoughts will race. You will not feel like you just watched the most innovative action/adventure/sci-fi film in the world ("Avatar"), but you'll have to admit that "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom" worked its magic in its own way, even if its aura doesn't have a longlasting effect.

Dwight Brown is a film critic and travel writer. As a film critic, he regularly attends international film festivals including Cannes, Sundance, Toronto and the American Black Film Festival. Read more movie reviews by Dwight Brown here and at DwightBrown-Ink.com.

# **DHA** continued from Page 5

nity Rising, we are strengthening our focus on higher education for the benefit of DHA residents, families and our broader North Texas community."

### Vision

Opportunity Rising has a vision that includes an audience that is much larger than DHA and its students. In fact, the vision extends to include all of us who are affected by poverty. The vision statement explains that Opportunity Rising is founded in the belief that education is a key to ending poverty and that everyone deserves an opportunity to pursue a higher education and lifelong learning. The foundation invests in education and learning opportunities so that everyone has access to the necessary resources for academic and professional success, leading to an improved quality of life.

The core values of the foundation include the importance of collaboration, hope, inspiration, learning, and motivation. As a group, the collaborative effort of Opportunity Rising's leadership, donors, and former and future scholars provides the opportunity for success and thus, the elimination of poverty. Further, it is with hope and inspiration that students and supporters can truly believe in the future that we can believe in the



reality of powering success through education. At the center of these values is the belief in the power of education and the strength to persevere.

Opportunity Rising Awards

In 2018, Opportunity Rising assisted nearly 2,000 students - all of whom are Dallas Housing Authority residents - with scholarships, internships, mentorships, and other learning opportunities. On Thursday,

June 14, the DHA awarded 37 of those students with nearly \$70,000 in scholar-ships at their Opportunity Rising Foundation Scholar-ship Awards Banquet (previously the Crystal Awards Dinner). The awardees were

from 10 North Texas school districts and five charter schools. The top scholar-ship awards are:

The Albert C. Black, Jr. Scholarship Award, which honors a deserving high school graduate who has demonstrated academic excellence, high self-esteem, outstanding leadership, community responsibility and who will be attending a four-year institution.

The Troy Broussard Leadership Award, which honors two (2) deserving students (one male and one female) who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in their community and school. The recipients of this award will attend a four-year institution of higher learning.

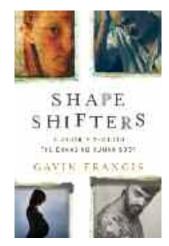
# NDG Book Review: Shapeshifters: A Journey Through the Changing Human Body

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Change, they say, is good. It's the opportunity for growth. It's a chance to take a breath, reassess, reconfigure. It makes the landscape look fresh; it also muddies the waters. And yet, you bounce back and, as you'll see in "Shapeshifters" by Gavin Francis, so does your body.

Summer, spring, fall, and winter. Whether by looking through your window or through your newspaper, you know that seasons come, change happens, and each new thing is connected to all others somehow.

Ever since medical school, Gavin Francis has found



such connections – especially those within the human body – to be things of "reverence, the unfolding of a kind of joy..."

Take, for instance, our

very beginnings, and birth.

On a mother's part, says Francis, pregnancy is proof that we aren't in charge of our own bodies, and it's physically hard on the woman who endures predictable, but sometimes unpleasant, changes. Of course, a fetus isn't exactly having fun during pregnancy, either, and in between the two. there's puberty, which is infamously difficult. When that hits, says Francis, puberty wreaks drastic changes in a teen's body and in his mind, and those changes can extend well into a person's twenties.

Speaking of age, no matter how many skin-care prod-

ucts you use, darn it, your skin will never be restored to that of your youth. There's an explanation for the old "hair turned white overnight" myth. And because there are different kinds of memory, there are different ways of remembering.

Natural change is one thing, but Francis also touches upon change we cause ourselves: we can ensure that our genders match our brains, for example. We can sleep, or not, or need more if we fly across time zones. We can diet, take drugs, and work around lack of limb. We can laugh; "...most cultures," Francis says, "have stories of mus-

cle-bound strongmen"; and one in four Americans has a tattoo. And just so you know (because about a quarter of all tattooed folks regret their ink), the removal of said ink hurts way more than it did when you got the tat to begin with...

Don't let the contemplative tone of "Shapeshifters" fool you. Don't let it lull you into believing that this book is like a meditation. Really, it's more like being at a fireworks extravaganza: every few minutes, there's a chance to say "Wow!"

Now, admittedly, author Gavin Francis writes with a pronounced sense of serenity, and a feeling of reverence that he admits to, early in this book. That belies its liveliness: here, you'll read topical philosophy and history before you meet pseudonymous patients who must learn how the human body deals with various kinds of physical and mental changes, welcomed or not. It's in the ensuing and inevitable facts and observations, as Francis shares them, that you'll have abundant chance to be genuinely amazed.

We humans, as you'll see in "Shapeshifters," are predictable, unique, and resilient. We are alike and different and change, as they say, is a good thing.

And so is this book.

# Trump, GOP get failing grades on new tax law

By Frank Clemente

This is the time of year for final report cards, so it's a good time to grade President Trump and Congressional Republicans on their massive tax cuts mostly benefitting the wealthy and corporations. Six months after enactment, their new tax law is seriously underperforming, failing to achieve passing marks in one important subject after another.

Tax Fairness: Once the law is fully phased in, 83% of the benefits will go to the wealthiest 1%. Those one-percenters will get an average tax cut of over \$50,000 this year. Folks making under \$86,000—the bottom three-fifths of the income scale—will get only about a dollar a day.

Increasing Worker Pay: Trump and other Republicans claimed that giving corporations huge tax breaks would help workers, going so far as to guarantee them a \$4,000 pay raise. Unfortunately, only 4% of American workers are getting any kind of payout tied to the corporate tax cuts.

Most of those are one-time bonuses, not permanent wage hikes, and few are anywhere close to \$4,000. Moreover, the government reported last week that average real hourly wages for four out of five workers in the private sector have actually gone down over the past year.

Sharing the Wealth: Only 402 of the nation's six million employers have announced any plans to share their tax cuts with employees through bonuses or wage hikes. The total is estimated at \$7 billion so far. But that pales in comparison to the \$77 billion in tax cuts that just 156 corporations we have estimates for are getting this year.

Meanwhile, since the tax law was enacted, corporations have announced nearly \$500 billion in stock buybacks that principally enrich their CEOs and other wealthy shareholders. So, corporations are spending 69 times more benefitting speculators on Wall Street than they are on bonuses and wage hikes boosting workers on Main Street.

The High Cost: When the tax cuts were signed into law. budget experts figured they would cost \$1.5 trillion over 10 years. That price tag has since ballooned to \$1.9 trillion. That big bill pushes up the deficit, which Trump and congressional Republicans aim to reduce by cutting Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, education, nutrition and other public services vital to working families. What a cruel exchange: cut taxes mostly for the rich and Wall Street, then pay for those tax cuts by cutting health care and retirement for working

**Protecting Health Care:** 

The Trump-GOP tax plan weakens a key part of Affordable Care Act (ACA) and uses the savings to pay for tax cuts that mostly benefit the wealthy and corporations. The result: 13 million Americans will lose health care coverage by 2025, and insurance premiums for ACA health plans will spike by 10%, on average, most years for the next decade.

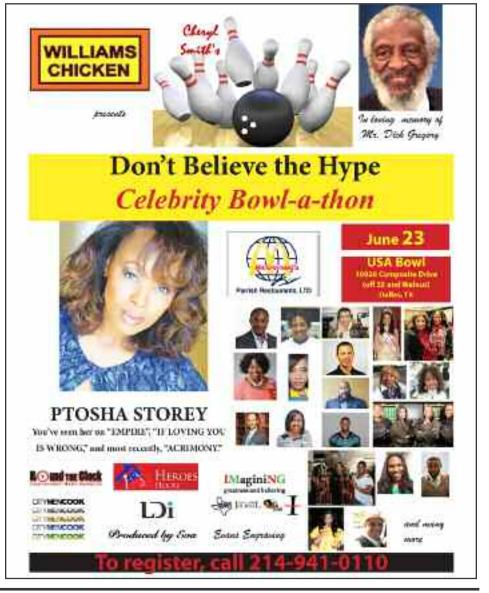
Drug companies, on the other hand, make out like bandits, as they always do. Five pharmaceutical giants will together get an estimated \$6 billion tax cut this year. The industry will save tens of billions more in the future from a hefty U.S. tax discount on their accumulated offshore profits. Big Pharma received this tax handout after recently jacking up the prices to consumers of some of their most widely-prescribed drugs by as much as 14 times the rate of inflation.

**Learning from Mistakes:** Despite these disastrous results, Trump and his GOP allies want to repeat their mistakes by passing a second round of tax cuts, which would once again highly favor the rich. The most frequently suggested form of this "Round 2" tax cut would give over 40% of the benefits to the richest 5% of families. those making over \$290,000 a year. It would cost another \$650 billion, further imperiling important public services. To get passing marks on how well they address the needs of the American people, Trump and his Republican allies need to repeal their tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations. Then we could use that money to fix roads and repair bridges, build schools and make college more affordable, expand broadband and ensure cleaner water, and expand quality health care to all and ensure secure retirements.

But if Republicans refuse

to improve their failing grades on this most basic test of good governance, the American people may decide to expel them from office.

Frank Clemente is executive director of Americans for Tax Fairness.



# Checking the narrative on Black women's leadership: It's not only time to court Black women's votes, but also support them as candidates

By Glynda C. Carr and Kimberly Peeler-Allen

In a recently published Rolling Stone article, recording artist Janelle Monae exposes a disconcerting, yet largely universal awareness shared by Black women seeking to exercise power: when we reveal ourselves to be human and inevitably imperfect, we are too often labeled unworthy and incapable of leading. It's why, Monáe says, she spent the better part of a decade masking herself behind the persona of an android named Cindi Mayweather.

Monáe's unusual response to coping with this awareness may be unique to entertainment, but her acknowledgment speaks broadly to the very harsh, extraneous judgments that women-particularly Black women-face when they attempt to lead. These judgments were on full display in a recent New York Magazine article that ostensibly explored the campaigns of the two women-Stacev Abrams, who is Black, and Stacey Evans, who is White-running to become Georgia's Democratic gubernatorial candidate. What the article manages to offer, however, is litany of demeaning characterization of Abrams, including suggesting that she is "uppity," financially ill-equipped, hard to relate to and unmarriageable. In short, the article is a regurgitation of some of the most demeaning and hostile labels that Black women come up against whenever they attempt to claim seats of power.

Progressives need to pay attention, because these imbalanced judgments are not only unfair, but also defeating in a age when Black women are an indispensible, and perhaps the most critical factor in Democrats prevailing come November. If we don't check and challenge false narratives about the character and viability of Black women candidates seeking to serve at all levels of government in all types of communities, we will no doubt spend the next two years once again analyzing what went wrong.

Politics is inherently a word war between competitors, but the tenor of the criticisms hurled at Abrams reads especially personal and especially coded. Left unchecked, there is a real risk that these immaterial characterizations will overshadow the strength of her qualifications. Abrams, who served eight years in the

state legislature before stepping down to run for governor, is by far the most accomplished of the candidates vying for the top of Georgia's Democratic ticket. As house minority leader, the Ivy League-educated attorney blocked efforts to raise taxes on the poor and working families; protected access to reproductive healthcare; and passed legislation in support of grandparents and other kin raising children. She also started the New Georgia Project, which registered more than 200,000 voters over two years. Her vision for Georgia includes universal pre-K, livingwage jobs and criminal-justice reforms that level the field for all the state's resi-

In short, Abrams has the kind of leadership experience, legislative track record, relatable story and vision for the state that voters across the board should be eager to support. But with the May 22 primary just weeks away, She has had to spend a good deal of time talking about her debta situation wrought largely by her need to support family members in need-instead of her vision for a new Georgia. The distraction is vexing for many reasons,

including that debt is not a disqualifier for holding office. If it were, a majority of our elected officials-most especially our current president-would never have been elected.

The irrelevant scrutiny experienced by Abrams is hardly isolated. Black women candidates and elected officials face a litany of race- and gender-coded criticism about perceived shortcomings that are never mentioned in examining the qualifications of other candidates.

Too often, Black women seeking leadership are labeled with false narratives that paint them as angry instead of impassioned, financially irresponsible instead of willing to stretch their resources to help others, or young and inexperienced instead of ambitious and trailblazing. Recent examples of this are plentiful.

When St. Louis, Missouri, Treasurer Tishuara Jones lost her 2017 bid for mayor by just 888 votes against an establishment candidate with much deeper pockets, the city paper's editorial board wrote that "a dose of humility" might have made voters more supportive of Jones' candidacy. And when Lauren Under-

wood announced her candidacy for the Illinois 14th District U.S. House seat, many in the Democratic power structure were quick to write her off as non viable even though she grew up in the district and previously served as a senior advisor to Department of Health and Human under President Barack Obama. Despite this criticism and a corresponding lack of Democratic establishment support, in March, Underwood took 57 percent of the Democratic Primary vote to beat out her six opponents-all

In November, Underwood, Abrams and hundreds of other Black women running for office across the country will face off against their opponents for local, state and national offices. Many of these women exemplify the kind of promising, proven leadership that progressives say they want. But if we refuse to challenge and correct damaging, false narratives about Black women's leadership abilities-and records-we will ultimately deprive our towns, cities, states and country of the elected officials who are most connected, committed and able to address the inequities and divisions chipping away at our democracy.

There's a lot on the line in 2018. If creating a fair, equitable and tolerant country is truly our goal, then we must make an urgent stand and put our resources behind candidates who embody these principals. That means not only courting Black women's votes, but also supporting them as candidates who eager and ready to provide the kind of strong, effective leadership that can help turn our country around.

Glynda Carr and Kimberly Peeler-Allen are cofounders of Higher Heights for America is a national organization building the collective political power and leadership of Black women from the voting booth to elected office. For additional information visit: http://www.higherheightsforamerica.org.

## FOURTH, continued from Page 9

tion, visit FairPark.org.

For the seventh consecutive year. WFAA will present a one-hour Texas-sized salute to America's birthday from historic Fair Park, Anchors Cynthia Izaguirre and Joe Trahan will host the program from the Cotton Bowl. The primetime television show will begin at 9 p.m. and is scheduled to feature special musical performances by recent "American Idol" contestant, Harper Grace and noted jazz trumpeter, Freddie Jones, as well as local stories produced specifically for the program. The broadcast also features the

evening's annual live fireworks display, backlit by the Dallas city skyline beyond Fair Park.

Parking for the general public is \$10 per car at Fair Park Gates 5 and 6. There will be two entrances to the State Fair of Texas Midway, with one near the Children's Aguarium and the other close to the Fair Park Coliseum. Gate A to the Cotton Bowl will open at 5 p.m., with gates B, D, and M opening closer to the start of the fireworks show. Produced by Pyrotecnico, the fireworks display will begin at approximately 9:30 p.m.

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Crown Castle is proposing to 148-foot self-support telecommunications tower at the following site: 300 N Washington Ave., Dallas, Dallas County, TX 75226; 32° 47′ 17.80″ N 96° 46′ 28.28″ W. Crown Castle invites comments from any interested party on the impact of the proposed action on any districts, sites, buildings, structures or objects significant in American history, archaeology, engineering or culture that are listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and/or specific reason the proposed action may have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Specific information regarding the project is available by calling Monica Gambino, 2000 Corporate Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317, Monica.Gambino@Crown-Castle.com, 724-416-2516 within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Crown Castle is also notifying any interested party that believes the proposed action may have a significant impact on the environment that a Request for Environmental Review (Review) may be submitted to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Such Request may only raise environmental concerns. Information regarding the project may be found under file number A1106323 on the FCC website www.fcc.gov/asr/applications. The Request must be filed with the FCC within 30 days of the notice being posted on the FCC website. The FCC strongly encourages that all Requests be filed electronically at www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest. Requests may also be mailed to: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554, ATTN: Ramon Williams. The Request must also be served upon Crown Castle by mailing a copy to 2000 Corporate Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317 ATTN: Legal Department.'

# **Upcoming DFW area job fairs**

# Application deadlines approaching

### **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.

### June 29

# **Job Fair of Dallas**The Job Fair of Dallas

will be held on June 29 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at pin Embassy Suites by Hilton – Dallas DFW Airport North, in Grapevine. Plan to attend and meet face-to-face with several of the Dallas area's finest employers. All of the companies at our job fairs have open positions they are seeking to fill. Positions in the following areas are typically avail-

able:
Sales, Customer Service,
Call Center, Management,
General Business, Marketing, Retail, Administrative,
Insurance, Banking, Engineering, Accounting, Finance, Education, Law Enforcement, Government,
Military, Hospitality,
Human Resources, Technicians, Telemarketing,
Healthcare, IT, and more.

### July 7 Harley Job Fair

Harley-Davidson of Dallas is hosting a Job Fair on July 7 starting at 8 a.m. at Harley-Davidson of Dallas, in Allen. Are you Awesome? Love Motorcycles? Looking for a lifestyle and not just another 9-5? We got it! Come in and apply! Hiring for all positions! Be sure to bring plenty of resumes and dress professionally.



### July 10 Dallas Job Fair

Dallas Job Fair hosted by JobFairX will be held on July 10 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Sheraton Dallas Hotel by the Galleria, in Dallas. Live interviews in Dallas, TX with AT&T, Lockheed Martin, Starbucks, American Airlines, City of Dallas, Vasayo, Texas Health Resources, Kroger, Maverick Enterprises Inc., T-Mobile, Bank of America and many more! 250 plus jobs available at this event

### July 11 Dallas Job Fair

A Dallas Job Fair will be held on July 11 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Doubletree by Hilton Dallas-Market

Center, in Dallas. It is strongly recommended that attendees arrive at the career fair no later than 11 a.m., wear business professional attire, bring at least 10-15 copies of your updated resume, and display an engaging and motivated attitude. There will be interviews from over 10 companies from companies ranging from small local businesses clear to Fortune 500 corporations. For more information, register at CareerBuilder.com.

### July 12 Holiday Inn Arlington Job Fair

The Holiday Inn Arlington JOB FAIR will take place on July 12 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Holiday Inn Arlington Ne-Rangers Ballpark, In Arlington. They are looking for team members that are driven and will go the extra mile for our guests and co-workers

#### Cooks

- Front Desk
- Engineer
- Houseman
- Servers
- Drivers Laundry Attendant
- Public Area Attendant

Must pass a background check. Full Time and Part Time Available. Apply at careers.hhmhospitality.com.

# July 17 Dallas Career Fair Meet Recruiters

The Dallas Career Fair - Meet Recruiters will take place on July 17 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Embassy Suites, in Dallas. Many of the companies we work with offer some/all of the following:

- Base + Uncapped Commission Pay Structure
- Flexible Work Schedule
- Full Benefits, 401K, Stock Options Company Car or Gas Allowances
- President Club Trips & Other Incentives Opportu-

nity for Immense Growth Be Prepared.

Be sure to dress in business professional attire, bring your updated resume, and have a positive attitude. To register for this event visit https://www.eventbrite.com.

### July 19 YMCA Hiring Fair

The YMCA Hiring Fair will be held on July 19 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Northwest YMCA, in Fort Worth. Imagine going to work knowing that what you do each day positively affects the lives of the people in your community. Working

at the Y, you'll discover more than a job—you'll enjoy a career with a future and the opportunity to make a lasting difference in the lives of those around you.

Join them at their upcoming hiring fair to learn more about the variety of careerstarting opportunities the YMCA of Metropolitan Fort Worth has to offer this fall including:

- Recreational sports
- Lifeguards & swim instructors
- Afterschool child care Find out more information here: https://bit.ly/2yGCWRG

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 85-foot Self-Support Stealth Communications Tower at the approx. vicinity of 3220 Park Row Avenue, Dallas, Dallas County, TX, 75210. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, John, j.huter@trileaf.com, 2550 S. IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.



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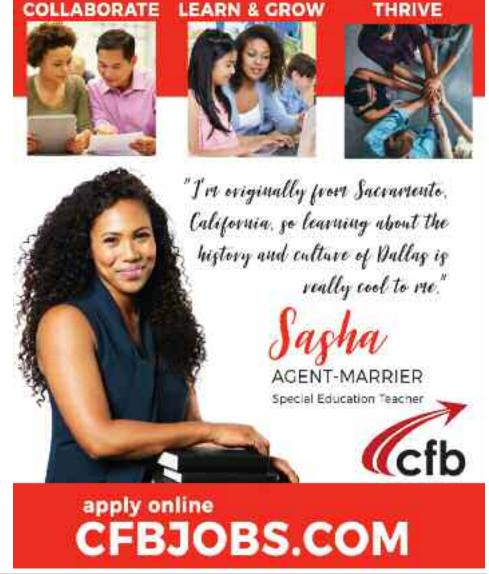
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BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP, CARROLLTON (A PLACE TO BELONG)

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

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

### July 08, 9:45 a.m.

Join us in 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. Also,

hear an inspiring word from God.

### July 11, 7 p.m.

Join us in Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, 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"

### July 08, 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 God's glory and honor.

#### July 11

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.

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed. D. Senior Pastor 2450 K Avenue #300 Plano, TX 75074 972-379-3287 www.theship3c.org

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

### July 06, 7 p.m.

All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 7 p.m.,

(IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

### July 08, 10 a.m.

Don't forget to invite family and friends to join us for our Morning Service as we celebrate our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

### July 09, 7 p.m.

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

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

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

### July 08, 10 a.m.

Join us for Morning Worship Service as we praise and worship God for His Honor and His glory. Don't forget to comeback at 7 p.m. for our Brazilian Church

### July 11, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come to be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

Dr. Sam Fenceroy, PhD Senior Pastor and Pastor Gloria Fenceroy 300 Chisholm Place Plano, TX 75075 972-633-5511 www.mocop.org

### SHILOH MBC IN PLANO (WHERE COMMUNITY BECOMES FAMILY)

Come and connect to God through Shiloh; grow in Christ through the study of God's Word; and Serve God through service to each other and to the world. John 12:26.

### July 08

You are invited to our morning worship at 10 a.m. Sunday School will start at 8:30 a.m. We would love to have you at our services.

### July 11, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's

See CHURCH, Page 15

### Investors Liquidation Sale:

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# **Coming out of Egypt**



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

"But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness."

#### - Romans 6:17-18

Becoming a new person in Christ is part of a lifelong journey that begins at conversion. Before coming to Christ, we were living (in a metaphorical sense) in Egypt, in the land of bondage. Just as the people of Israel toiled as slaves in Egypt, we were slaves to sin and worldly ambition.

Before we came to Christ, we sweated and toiled to build our career

and acquire material possessions. Work was our Greed was our taskmaster. We may have had all the trappings of power in the business world - a corner office, a staff of our own, a key to the executive washroom - but we were living as a slave in the land of Egypt. We didn't run our career; our career

Jesus once said, "No servant can serve two masters You cannot serve both God and money." Luke 16:13. In the original language, the word translated "money" was an Aramaic word, Mammon. This does not refer merely to money as a medium of exchange but also to a demonic spirit designed to promote a mindset of ambition for riches, power and worldly gain. The word is capitalized in the original text because the people of Jesus' day thought of Mammon as a false god. Jesus was saying that those who spend their lives seeking worldly gain are idol-

aters. No one can serve two masters. No one can worship both the true God and a false god.

We cannot experience the grace that God gives to His children because we are too busy striving for riches and enslaved to Mammon. The only way we can be free is to turn away from Mammon and allow the one true God to transform us into a different person.

Ask yourself today if your life is best represented as Egypt or the

Promised Land. Sometimes you just don't know what to say. You may be distraught, distracted, or frustrated, or even doubtful. Maybe you are good at asking, thanking, and seeking forgiveness . . . but there's so much more to prayer, which is simply talking to

There are other ways to approach God and He will give you a journey of discovery that will surprise you. If you are in a prayer rut or drought. Get excited about meeting with God!

You can pray in times of doubt; there are prayers for healing, and warfare prayer. What you may have learn through perhaps a written prayer, in memorization, and more.







# **COURT,** continued from Page 7

Lieberman Charities since the first court installation in 2010. A total of 58 Dream Courts have been built to-date across the nation with each court serving approximately 100 youth per day, helping improve the lives of over 2.1 million kids a year.

A dedication ceremony was held on Monday, June 25 at 3380 Sherwood Dr. Plano, TX 75074. Following the ribbon cutting, children participated in an open-court "shootaround" with Lieberman and members from the Plano Police Department

# CHURCH, continued from Page 14

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."

Our church ministries offer opportunities for motivation

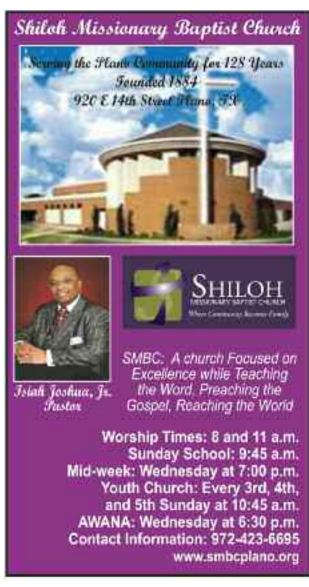
and growth; join us and see. Be blessed of the Lord.

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

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 dif-ferent Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated frm there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.



Mr. Charlie Baker, Sister Tarpley and Mrs. Willie Mae Baker Thomas



Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com





# CONGRATULATIONS! CHEVROLET AND NAPA OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCE OUR 2018 DISCOVER THE UNEXPECTED FELLOWS!

The wait is over! Chevrolet and the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) are proud to announce our six Fellows selected for Discover the Unexpected (DTU) 2018 - a life-changing journalism fellowship.

Chosen from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) nationwide, our DTU 2018 Fellows each receive a \$10,000 scholarship, \$5,000 stipend and a journalism adventure in the 2018 Chevrolet Equinox.

Our DTU 2018 Fellows are geared up and ready to go discover stories of inspiration and innovation in our African American communities. Follow us and show our HBCU students some love along the way. The journey begins!





NNPA.ORG/DTU

#BTU2018, #ChevyEquinox, #Chevy, #NNPA