



North Dallas Gazette

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Arnold reclaims District 4 seat on Dallas City Council

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

The residents of District 4 will now have representation on the Dallas City Council again, and with a familiar face. Carolyn King Arnold won her runoff against Keyaira D. Saunders on Tuesday to retake her old seat at the horseshoe.

"I was very committed to bringing to the table the experience, knowledge and relationships needed for our district," Arnold said of the race. "I will continue to improve and stress the need for communication between the city council and the community and how things work, to insure services are delivered by the design of the city."

Preliminary results from Dallas County Elections show Arnold taking the contest with 1,529 votes (59.06 percent) to Saunders' 1,060 (40.94 percent). The Dec. 11 runoff election was held as the two were the surviving pair from an original field of a dozen candidates in a special election. The district was without representation since Dwaine Caraway pled guilty to corruption charges stemming from contracts with the now-defunct Dallas County Schools.

The circumstances which required the election to take place left a sour taste in the mouths of District 4 residents, and the influence of money in



Carolyn King Arnold, shown here at the African American Museum at Fair Park, has won the special runoff election to replace Dwaine Caraway in the District 4 seat of the Dallas City Council. (Photo: Facebook)

South Dallas politics was brought up in more than one forum held for the candidates. Arnold, Saunders and the other candidates who first filed for the office all voiced the need for District 4 to move past the dark clouds that had formed in the midst of the controversy.

Arnold served on the city council when Caraway returned from a term limit hiatus and reclaimed his old seat in the 2017 election, removing Arnold in the election. He resigned from his position on the council on Aug. 9, setting up the need for a special election to replace him.

The call for a special election brought out 13 candidates willing to take the plunge and campaign for the

vacant spot. Arnold and Saunders were the top two candidates in the initial ballot with 3,688 and 2,445 votes respectively. Arnold was not able to stave off a runoff after the Nov. 6 election as she received only 25.8 percent of the votes cast.

This was not the first time the two faced each other in an election. Saunders ran for the same city council seat in 2015, when Arnold was elected for the first time. In that election, she came in fifth place out of eight running. Arnold was able to sew up the election without a runoff, winning 51.5 percent (1,552) of the vote and winning outright.

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More green space can be a boost to health

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Local university culls valuable data on abuse

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READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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People In The News...



Ryan Gosling



Victor Johnson

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



Ryan Gosling

Ryan Gosling shared his personal experiences from the front lines of Congo's struggle for human rights in a discussion at UCLA on Dec. 10.

The Academy Award-nominated actor appeared at an event sponsored by UCLA School of Law's Promise Institute for Human Rights to mark International Human Rights Day and promote a new book, "Congo Stories: Battling Five Centuries of Exploitation and Greed," which features photographs he took there.

At the Fowler Museum at



UCLA, Gosling joined the book's authors, Fidel Bafilemba and John Prendergast, and contributor Chouchou Namegabe to discuss the devastating impact of global superpowers' ongoing activities in the

central African nation.

Gosling said his lens caught people demonstrating what he called "small but really clear expressions of hope."

"A girl getting dressed and walking to school. Or a kid dressing up like Spider-Man. Or a woman bringing home newborn twins," he said. "Even a young man sort of cleaning his white sneakers before going out to hang out with his friends. There was this theme of hope ... this refusal to be broken."

Prendergast, the founding director of the nonprofit Enough Project, explained that the nation has been

devastated by an array of internal and external forces.

"Human traffickers, kings, colonists, presidents, tycoons, bankers, mining magnates, arms dealers, mineral smugglers, elephant poachers — all have colluded with certain leaders in the Congo, the Benedict Arnolds of the Congo, if you will, to loot the people and the natural resources of this incredibly rich country," he said.

But he stressed that the people of the nation are "battling back," a fact that he observed on trips to the region with people including Gosling.

Namegabe, a journalist

who founded the grassroots initiative Anzafrika to empower women in places where they are most threatened, recounted the horrors that she witnessed in her home country. But she also shared her reasons for optimism, including the fact that fellow Congolese activist Denis Mukwege had been awarded a share of the Nobel Peace Prize earlier in the day.

Bafilemba encouraged the audience members to join him in his work to improve the lives of the people in the region — some of whom, he said, work at gunpoint to mine minerals that are used in electronic

devices purchased by American consumers.

Promise Institute executive director Kate Mackintosh led the panel discussion, and Dr. Eric Esrailian, a faculty member of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA who is also a filmmaker and human rights activist, delivered opening remarks.

Gosling is a Canadian actor and musician. He began his career as a child star on the Disney Channel's "The Mickey Mouse Club" (1993–1995), he also appeared in "Remember the Titans" with Denzel Washington.

Victor Johnson

Victor Vonico Johnson, a resident of Carrollton, Texas, is a husband, father, and motivational mentor to many. He is also a real estate investor with more than \$1,000,000 in single-family rental properties throughout Texas, Kansas and Georgia. Johnson wears even more hats; he is a published author and the Senior Managing Partner of 555 Equity, LLC, and a real estate investing and property management company.

Johnson's new non-fiction/self-help book is entitled, *Proven Pathways To Wealth & Happiness*. His ob-



jective is to help others overcome the burden of debt and bad money management.

"This book outlines my personal journey of how I was able to change my mindset about my personal fi-

nances, and improve my credit score from 550 to a consistent 750+," Johnson shared.

In the *Forward*, Johnson points out that, "by planting specific thoughts and visions into your mind, you have the ability to bring those thoughts into being." Using positive affirmations, having them in places where he can frequently see them is one of the tools that helped Johnson to reset his mindset.

"As the great Buddha once stated, "What we think, we become." Day in and day out, we must train our subconscious mind to direct our thoughts towards our desires," Johnson wrote.

In addition to *Mindset Change*, the chapter on the Law of Attraction is in alignment with the first topic. Johnson reminds the reader that what you spend your time thinking about ultimately shapes and controls your life. Focus on negative, you attract negative energy, but the good news is the fact the reverse is true. He encourages readers to focus more on putting together the best plan for your goals, maintain a positive spirit and allow the universe to worry about the details of how it will ultimately work out.

The book is available on Amazon or at nicodonprojects.com.

Writing is not Johnson's first creative professional pursuit. He also was the manager for the R&B Soul-singing duo, Slick & Rose. He served as the Executive Producer for their debut album, "Objects in the Mirror" released in 2003, while also hosting radio shows, open mics, talent events and community showcase television shows in his colorful career.

In his corporate life, Johnson has served as a general manager and director of call centers. Through his positions in corporate America, Johnson mentored dozens within working professionals in the areas of collections,

providing quality customer service and those who focused on compliance. His career, which began in Georgia and now is based in Texas, has spanned across 21 years.

Johnson aspires to continue motivating and mentoring people from all walks of life. He wants to encourage them to discover ways to overcome adversity, tackle their debts, and increase their earnings. Freeing themselves from the shackles of debt, gaining more confidence in their talent and abilities he believes will help them to live a life of true happiness, by achieving good health and financial freedom.

NDG Readers Sound Off...

Ed Gray, NDG Senior Columnist: A look at the legacy of George Herbert Walker Bush

My thoughts as written in my last column in the @NDGEditor #Newspaper on the #BushFuneral & #Bush41Legacy Bob calls it right thank u sir

- Ed Gray via Twitter

Thanks Ed. You have a new follower!

-- @BobMarsdale via Twitter

Yes! Let it begin with me.



-- @SandraMuscle via Twitter

Other Tweets: @edgray1906

#SundayMorning at

Grayhaven, reading my latest @NDGEditor article on Trump bashing #blackgirlmagic, in defense of #blackwomen that #Trump regularly insults @Yamiche@AprilDRyan @abbydphillip the attack on #blackwomen in the media we assert #Press-Freedom

@TxOHC - Executive Director Beth Stewart, has written a Guest Op-ed for the *North Dallas Gazette*, "Do Dallas Residents Need Community Water Fluoridation? Yes, and Here's Why" <https://northdallasgazette.com/2018/01/17/>

guest-op-ed-do-dallas-residents-need-community-water-fluoridation-yes-and-heres-why/#.WmDtK-FjvIbE.twitter ... via @NDGEditor

@JohnsonForTexas

Read my op-ed in the @NDGEditor to learn why counterfactual textbooks hurt Texas students. "It is detrimental to the future of our state to teach children an incorrect version of history." #txed #txlege

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The growing and disproportionate imprisonment of Black women in America

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Correspondent

Missy Venable (not her real name) said she has trouble sleeping at night.

It's not the typical case of insomnia. It's the after effects of spending more than 7 years in prison – which, incidentally, is where her fellow inmates began calling her "Missy," and the name just stuck.

She made up her last name for this article, choosing to hide her identity because her children are both of school age and Venable said she doesn't want their classmates teasing them.

It's a similar story to that shared by her friend, Tina Blackman – also a fictitious name.

Blackman, who said she's in her mid-40s, spent nearly 9 years in prison. "When I went in, I left behind two teenagers and one child that was 8 years-old and autistic and another child that was 2," Blackman told NNPA Newswire.

While Venable was imprisoned for insurance fraud, Blackman was sentenced on drug charges.

After hearing their stories, one might wonder, why so much time?

Venable said she thought she was referring people to get legitimate assistance with old, broken down vehicles and didn't know the auto shop's owner, who was once one of her closest friends, was committing insurance fraud.

Blackman said her ex-boyfriend always denied being a drug dealer and she

could find no evidence that he was. No bankroll, no fancy car and certainly not a stack of cash, because she was often late on rent and utility payments.

"Every day, I'd take mail to his friend's because his friend didn't have a reliable mailbox," Blackman explained. "They all looked just like regular mail, letters and stuff," she said.

However, one of the envelopes contained drugs and she was charged for selling narcotics.

Blackman and Venable are part of an alarming trend: The growing and disproportionate imprisonment of Black women in America.

A recent NAACP Criminal Justice Fact Sheet noted that between 1980 and 2015, the number of people incarcerated in America increased from roughly 500,000 to over 2.2 million.

Today, the United States makes up about 5 percent of the world's population and has 21 percent of the world's prisoners.

Also, according to the Fact Sheet, 1 in every 37 adults in the United States, or 2.7 percent of the adult population, is under some form of correctional supervision.

Further in 2014, African Americans constituted 2.3 million, or 34 percent, of the 6.8 million correctional population total and Black people are incarcerated at more than 5 times the rate of whites.

The imprisonment rate for African American women is twice that of white women.

"The Status of Black Women in the United States,

(SOBW)" was released in June 2017 and coauthored by the Institute for Women's Policy Research in Washington and the National Domestic Workers Alliance in New York.

That report revealed that Black women are more prone to being jailed than White women, and that tendency starts in school.

Racial disparities in discipline exist throughout the nation's education system, the SOBW researchers said.

Black girls between 2011 and 2012 accounted for 45 percent of all girls suspended from K-12 public schools nationally, and they represented 42 percent of all girls expelled. They were suspended and expelled at higher rates than Black boys, according to the SOBW as reported by New American Media which also noted that the "nation's Black women are jailed at unfair rates."

Disciplining of Black girls appears to be influenced by school administrators' stereotypes and racial biases, the SOBW researchers said.

Black girls are more likely to be seen as disruptive or loud, compared with other students. They're more often punished for dress-code violations, talking back to teachers and "defiance" than other girls.

What's worse, Black girls with disabilities are more prone to being suspended from school than other Black girls.

A June 2018 report from the Center for American Progress (CAP) noted that infant mortality and mass incarceration are major issues

affecting the Black community. But while they are often thought of and dealt with on separate tracks, structural racism firmly connects these critical issues.

Structural racism exposes Black women to distinct stressors – such as contact with the criminal justice system – that ultimately undermine their health and the health of their children, according to the CAP report.

The number of incarcerated U.S. women overall has increased dramatically in recent decades – from just 26,000 in 1980 to 219,000 in 2017.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the spike in female incarceration has disproportionately affected Black women, especially young Black women.

While Black women overall are twice as likely to be imprisoned as their white counterparts, Black women ages 18 to 19 are three times more likely to be imprisoned than their white counterparts, the CAP report noted.

Alarming, the report concluded that if current incarceration trends continue, 1 in 18 Black women will be imprisoned at some point in their lifetime.

One of the many detrimental effects of incarceration is that it's associated with higher odds of low birth weight, preterm birth, and infant mortality.

Mass incarceration has exposed millions of black women to dangerous stressors that threaten their health and the lives of their offspring, CAP officials said, while noting that lawmakers must act to put an end to this persistent form of structural racism.

Promoting poor nutrition

By Congresswoman
Eddie Bernice Johnson

A recent decision by the United States Agriculture Department to lower nutritional standards in foods that are served to public school children is unfortunate, unwise and could lead to additional children in our country becoming victims of life-threatening health challenges such as obesity, and diabetes.

The policy is an affront to those of us that worked to pass the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Acts of 2010 which was signed into law by President Barack Obama, who, with his wife, Michelle, advocated for higher nutritional standards for school children.

The legislation was designed to increase the daily nutritional intake of low-income children in our nation's schools. The school

meals that many of these children receive are the only nutritious ones that they receive during the day. Sociologists and health experts have found links between proper foods and the ability to learn.

The welfare of poor children does not seem to be the concern of the Trump administration and its agriculture secretary, Sonny Perdue, a trained veterinarian who had been in his posi-

tion since the spring of 2017.

Proper child nutrition for our nation's school children began in 1966 when President Lyndon Baines Johnson, who had been an educator before going into politics, signed into law the Child Nutrition Act which, among other things, made school lunches available to children from low-income households.

Tips for staying healthy while traveling during the holidays

The holiday season is one of the most popular times to travel, and chances are you and your family may be preparing for holiday travel now. While vacations are a great way to relax, travel can also take a toll on your health. When traveling there are many obstacles to making healthy decisions, but following a few tips and recommendations can help your family have a healthy yet fun holiday season.

Whether you are traveling by plane or car, getting enough sleep the night be-

fore is essential to starting off your trip right. Research has proven that fatigue can lower the immune system causing you to be more susceptible to catching a virus. Thus, begin packing early so you and your family are well rested for the day of driving or air travel. Since air travel increases the risk of catching the cold or flu, we recommend increasing water consumption to stay hydrated during your trip as well as packing bacterial wipes in your carry on luggage. Using a bacterial wipe to clean im-

mediate surrounding objects such as your headrest, armrest, and tray table is a simple way to eliminate germs that can be contracted on an airplane. Also, check with your family physician for suggested multivitamins that would be most beneficial to you. This will ensure you get the best vitamins for your specific immune system.

These prevention tips can help decrease the chances of your catching a virus, but managing your food intake is important as well. As you pack for your trip, plan to a

pack a small meal or snack for the drive or flight. Gas stations and airports do not always offer the healthiest of options. Packing a few healthy snacks such as fruit, nuts or protein bars can help you steer away from unhealthy decisions.

When you and your family reach your destination, continuing to exercise and maintain healthy food selections is key. Vacations can offer a variety of family fitness activities; you just may have to get creative. If you are in a cooler climate, ice-

skating can be a great fitness option. If you are in a warmer climate, snorkeling could be a fun and fit option. The holiday season is a time filled with unhealthy foods, especially when on vacation. While indulging in a few of your favorite treats during the holiday season isn't detrimental, we recommend following the 80/20 rule. This "rule" allows for 80 percent of your food intake to be healthy foods with 20 percent being everything else. This gives you the flexibility to still enjoy the foods

you love but maintain healthy portions.

The holidays are a time for joy and celebrations. We hope following these tips and recommendations allows you and your family to enjoy a healthy holiday season.

Dr. Sarah E. Laibstain is a general family medicine practitioner at Family Medicine Associates of Texas in Carrollton. She thoroughly enjoys improving the health and lives of individuals ranging from young children to adulthood.

Neighborhoods with more green space may mean less heart disease

(Journal of the American Heart Association) People who live in leafy, green neighborhoods may have a lower risk of developing heart disease and strokes, according to new research published in the Journal of the American Heart Association, the Open Access Journal of the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.

In this study, the first of its kind, researchers from the University of Louisville investigated the impact of neighborhood greenspaces on individual-level markers of stress and cardiovascular disease risk.

Over five-years, blood and urine samples were collected from 408 people of varying ages, ethnicities and socioeconomic levels,



American Heart Association

then assessed for biomarkers of blood vessel injury and the risk of having cardiovascular disease. Risk was calculated using biomarkers measured from blood and urine samples. The participants were recruited from the University of Louisville's outpatient cardiology clinic and were largely at elevated risk for

developing cardiovascular diseases.

The density of the greenspaces near the participants' residences were measured using the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), a tool that indicates levels of vegetation density created from satellite imagery collected by NASA and USGS. Air pol-

lution levels were also assessed using particulate matter from the EPA and roadway exposure measurements.

Researchers found living in areas with more green vegetation was associated with:

- lower urinary levels of epinephrine, indicating lower levels of stress;
- lower urinary levels of F2-isoprostane, indicating better health (less oxidative stress);
- higher capacity to repair blood vessels.

They also found that associations with epinephrine were stronger among women, study participants not taking beta-blockers -- which reduce the heart's workload and lower blood pressure -- and people who

had not previously had a heart attack.

"Our study shows that living in a neighborhood dense with trees, bushes and other green vegetation may be good for the health of your heart and blood vessels," said Aruni Bhatnagar, Ph.D., lead study author and professor of medicine and director of the University of Louisville Diabetes and Obesity Center. "Indeed, increasing the amount of vegetation in a neighborhood may be an unrecognized environmental influence on cardiovascular health and a potentially significant public health intervention."

The findings were independent of age, sex, ethnic-

ity, smoking status, neighborhood deprivation, use of statin medications and roadway exposure.

Previous studies have also suggested that neighborhood greenspaces are associated with positive effects on overall physical and psychosocial health and well-being, as well as reduced rates of death from cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, and improved rates of stroke survival, according to Bhatnagar. However, these reports are largely limited by their reliance on self-reported questionnaires and area-level records and evaluations, said Bhatnagar.

Parkland launches Center for Nursing Excellence

Registered nurses are the largest employed group in most healthcare systems and have a significant impact on patient health outcomes. Currently, Parkland Health & Hospital System is home to 4,131 nurses system-wide. Across the nation, the competitive demand for skilled nurses continues to grow. As part of its commitment to recruiting, training and retaining highly-qualified nurses, Parkland recently launched a new Center for Nursing Excellence.

"The Center's mission is to provide our nurses with a wide range of opportunities and services to advance their education, professional development, skills and knowledge in research and integration of evidence based practice," said Karen Watts, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, Executive Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer. "Developing current and future nurses is essential for the continuation of positive patient outcomes and retention of skilled staff."

The Center will provide a

central meeting location for nursing activities where nurses can benefit from career coaching and leadership training; information about mentorship programs and national specialty certification; training in research design and implementation, manuscript and report writing; and more.

"The Center gives us a place to focus on our nursing skills and practice enhancement," said Jomie Rillera, RN. "It's also a place where we can connect with other nurses and learn

about their experiences and journey."

Beyond academic and professional growth, recognition can be a big incentive that may lead to higher morale, overall job satisfaction and nurse retention, Watts added.

"It gives me the feeling that I am valued in this organization," Rillera agreed.

"When we have these programs, nurses are happy and we're more likely to retain them or more likely to be able to recruit good

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University team shares new domestic violence data with task force

The Dallas Police Department receives an average of 42 domestic violence-related 911 calls every day, according to a new report that University of Texas at Dallas researchers wrote for the Dallas Domestic Violence Task Force.

The University's Institute for Urban Policy Research (IUPR) collected and analyzed extensive data on domestic violence for the city for the fourth year in a row, detailing the number of incidents reported to police, lack of shelter space and the outcome of domestic violence cases in the courts as part of a 57-page report.

"The statistics are staggering; the stories behind the numbers are heartbreaking," Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings said at an Oct. 26 break-

By the Numbers

Researchers from the Institute for Urban Policy Research recently completed their annual report on domestic violence in Dallas. The 2017-18 Domestic Violence Task Force Report for the city of Dallas includes the following statistics from June 1, 2017, to May 31, 2018:

- 32 homicides by intimate partners (current or former boyfriend, husband, girlfriend or wife) from 2014 to 2018.
- 75 percent of the homicide victims were killed at their homes.
- 71 percent of the homicide victims were killed with a firearm.
- 15,347 domestic violence-related offenses were reported to the Dallas Police Department.
- 19 domestic violence arrests per day (average)
- 332 victims in emergency shelter each night, up 35 percent from the previous reporting period due to the addition of new shelter beds.
- 13,378 victims were turned away from shelters because of a lack of space.
- 219 protection order violations.
- 140 firearms collected through a Dallas County gun surrender program.

fast event at City Hall, where the report was released. Rawlings said it is an important step toward finding effective solutions.

"You can't change anything if you don't measure it," Rawlings said. "We needed more information and more statistics to really understand what we're dealing

with and where we're coming up short in the process."

Lead researcher Dr. Denise Paquette Boots, professor of public policy and political economy and senior research fellow of the IUPR, presented the report at the Domestic Violence Awareness Month event. Boots worked with two research partners:

Dr. Timothy Bray, director of the institute and clinical assistant professor of criminology at UT Dallas, and Anthony Galvan, IUPR's associate director of research and operations.

"Together these data present a cumulative picture of the systemic response to domestic violence and offer a preliminary glimpse into the year-to-year changes, allowing us to track the same metrics over time," Boots said.

The researchers collected more than 3,000 variables that involved hundreds of hours of data cleaning, coding, interpretation and analysis. The report includes data from shelters, the Dallas Police Department, the Dallas County District Attorney's Office, the Dallas City Attorney's Office, Dallas courts

and an electronic survey of service. It covers the period from June 1, 2017, to May 31, 2018.

The report was funded by gifts from the Communities Foundation of Texas, Dallas Women's Foundation, the Embrey Family Foundation, Mary Kay and Verizon.

Dallas City Council member Jennifer Staubach Gates, who serves as chair of the Domestic Violence Task Force, said the report has helped the group identify solutions, such as holding offenders more accountable and restricting offenders' access to firearms. The report has documented an increase in the number of cases filed that include higher penalties for offenders because of previous or related domestic-violence charges.

"That's why it's so important that we continue to collect and share data from our partners," Gates said.

Paige Flink, CEO of The Family Place, which serves victims of domestic violence, said the report also demonstrates the need for more services to address domestic violence. Shelters turned away 13,378 women, children and men during the reporting period due to lack of space, according to the report.

"The fact that there are 19 arrests for domestic violence per day shows how much more we need in services," Flink said. "Data is key to being able to measure how you're making an impact on an issue. This helps people understand the complexity of domestic violence."

Richardson vision study wrapped up and returned to city council

The Collins/Arapaho Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) and Innovation District Study officially wrapped last week, with a

written report given to the Richardson City Council and a presentation at the City Council work session. Development Services staff

and members of the City's consultant team highlighted the vision, goals and strategies for the 1,200-acre area developed from the nine-

month study, which included extensive input from stakeholders, the City Council, institutional partners (UT Dal-

las, Richland college, DART and the Richardson Chamber) and the public. The results align with and expand

on objectives developed in a 2017 study conducted by the

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Joyce Foreman
Dallas ISD
District 6
Trustee

Jihan Mitchell, visual arts teacher at T. L. Marsalis Elementary, brims with pride at this year's student-led photography exhibit at the Polk-Wisdom branch library. Students were responsible for capturing an aspect of their community in a photo, then their teacher had the photos professionally developed for the students at

no cost. The best photos were selected for the exhibit and revealed at a reception honoring the fifth-grade student photographers. I'm so proud of these young artists and encourage community members to support their work by visiting the Polk-wisdom library where the photos will be on display for the remainder of the school year.

I'm also proud of 12th grade varsity cheerleading captain, Erica Richardson, and cheerleading coach, Lachon Jacobs from Carter High School for putting the

district on the map. The cheerleader-coach duo received an all-expense paid trip to represent Dallas ISD in this year's Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. It's an honor that acknowledges the skillful performance and leadership abilities in District 6.

The families of Jimmie Tyler Brashear Elementary are to be commended for their show of support this month, as they packed out our local Spring Creek Barbecue restaurant. Their Spirit Night participation yielded at \$1,300 donation

to the school. It's amazing to see parents, schools and local businesses partner to support our children's education - especially when good food is involved!

Now is the Time to Apply for a Dallas ISD Choice School

There is an array of choice schools designed to nurture your child's individual interests right here in the district including magnet, Montessori, single-gender schools and collegiate academies. These schools and programs require an application for admission and

have limited seats. Schools in District 6 like D.A. Hulcy "STEAM" Academy, Mark Twain Vanguard, William H. Atwell Law Academy, Justin F. Kimball Early College and David W. Carter Collegiate await your applications. Parents can either learn more from the schools or apply online at dallasisd.org/yourchoices. You can also receive on-site assistance to complete an application at Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Collegiate Academy on Thursday, January 24, 2019 from 6-8 pm. The application deadline is Jan-

uary 31.

It's Been A Good Year

From campus renovations to student achievement, community involvement, stellar teacher performance, effective campus leadership and more - District 6 can confidently boast that it's been a good school year thus far. I'm proud to serve this rich and dynamic community of bright minds and passionate people. And I wish each of you a safe and happy holiday. Here's to more progress and accomplishment in the new year.

Stage set for final round in annual MLK Jr. Oratory Competition

And then there were eight. After the 16 students delivered their speeches during the annual MLK Jr. Oratory Competition Semifinals, the field was narrowed to eight finalists who will vie for the top prize on Jan. 18, 2019, at W.H. Adamson High School.

The finalists are:

- Kaiya Hudson, fifth grade, Charles Rice Learning Center
- Layla James, fifth grade,

Ronald E. McNair Elementary

- Jasira King, fourth grade, William Brown Miller Elementary

- Tynia Matts, fifth grade, John Neely Bryan Elementary

- Presley Rivers, fifth grade, Harry C. Withers Elementary

- Tory Robertson Jr., fifth grade, Clara Oliver Elementary

- Kimberli Rouwtt, fourth

grade, J.P. Starks Math, Science and Technology Vanguard

- Alexandra Torres, fifth grade, Wilmer-Hutchins Elementary

This year's question posed to participants is, What would Dr. Martin Luther King say to the children of today?

Judging is based on the speeches that the students write, memorize and deliver on stage. Campus winners

from the 16 participating schools advanced to the semifinals. The top eight orators in the semifinals advance to the finals.

This is the 27th year for the competition to be conducted in Dallas. Law firm Gardere Wynn Sewell had coordinated the event, but merged with another firm this year, Foley Lardner. The combined firm is known locally as Foley Gardere.



Dallas ISD

Collin College trustees authorize school marshal program

The Collin College Board of Trustees approved a local policy at its Dec. 11 meeting that will authorize the development of an on-campus school marshal program.

First enacted during the 83rd session of the Texas Legislature in 2013, the Texas school marshal program was expanded in 2015 to include public two-year colleges. Collin College is the first community college district in Texas to authorize such a program.

According to the policy adopted by the trustees, school marshals at Collin College will only be authorized to act "to prevent or abate the commission of an offense that threatens seri-

ous bodily injury or death of students, faculty, staff, or visitors on school premises."

Board approval was by a 5-4 margin and came after months of research by the college administration and discussion with the trustees. The board's Organization, Education and Policy Committee reviewed, discussed and revised the proposed policy at three separate meetings this fall before presenting its recommendation to move forward Tuesday night. Discussion of the policy by the full board came after community members had the opportunity to address the trustees during the public comment

section of Tuesday's meeting.

"We understand the concerns expressed by many of our constituents and appreciate the feedback we have received," said Dr. Bob Collins, board chair. "Together with the college administration, the board of trustees have thoroughly studied this issue.

"When Senate Bill 11 was signed into law in 2015, it provided that license holders could carry a concealed handgun on college and university campuses," he said. "That law went into effect for community colleges in 2017. So guns on campus are already a fact of life.

"This policy provides for specialized training for those who are most likely already license holders and who wish to be considered for the program, which we believe will lead to a safer environment on our campuses."

In November the college surveyed students, faculty and staff regarding the school marshal program. A total of 565 responses was received. When asked how they felt about having trained and certified armed employees available to assist college police in the event of a life-threatening situation on campus, 86% of

See **MARSHAL**, Page 12

STUDY, continued from Page 5

Chamber's East Arapaho/Collins task force.

Following are the 10 key strategies proposed for the City to help make the district "the premier tech hub in Texas," supporting innovation and a range of businesses while encouraging the creation of an inviting, green, lively, walkable and bikeable space:

- Manage the experience and marketing of the District
- Support building upgrades and modernization throughout the District
- Allow zoning flexibility in industrial zones
- Encourage vibrancy through placemaking activities in places with a high concentration of worker
- Improve the District's edges and gateways

- Redesign key streets for better mobility

- Create a shared "innovation space" for new businesses

- Strengthen partnerships with universities and colleges for programming and marketing

- Create new open space amenities to attract and retain both new and existing businesses

- Redevelop key opportunity sites to bring new uses and activities to the District

- Development Services plans to refine the strategies and options for implementation utilizing City Council feedback and continued input from institutional partners and the private sector.

Dallas Fort Worth International Airport to add gates

Dallas Fort Worth International Airport plans to add four new gates to Terminal D.

The additional gates will help the airport handle rising passenger traffic, especially from international travelers, according to published reports.

The addition on the southeast corner of Terminal D would increase the terminal's gate count to 32. The terminal is the airport's main hub for international departures and arrivals.

The new gates are ex-



Irving Chamber of Commerce

pected to open in 2022. The airport, owned primarily by the cities of Dallas and Fort Worth, is still in negotiations

with contractors and no final cost has been disclosed.

A \$4.8 million contract with Irving-based APR Avi-

ation Partners to provide pre-construction services was approved by an airport board committee on Tuesday.

Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings on Tuesday discussed the airport's needs to keep pace with surging demand for flights.

"DFW (airport) is a concern," Rawlings said at a state of the city address. "We're running out of gates."

The airport's primary carrier, Fort Worth-based American Airlines, has as-

ured Rawlings that Dallas will continue to be the focus of the airline's growth plans, Rawlings said.

The airport has for years held discussions with American Airlines about building a sixth terminal. The proposed Terminal F could add about 30 gates to the existing 165 gates, airport officials have said.

Passenger counts are expected to surpass 70 million in 2019 at DFW Airport.

The airport plans to open a repurposed Terminal E satellite concourse next year

with 15 gates that will be used by American Airlines for regional flights. Those gates will support up to 100 additional flights a day.

Discussions are also underway between the airport and airlines about long-term capital plans that could include a new Terminal F.

The airport had 8.7 million international passengers in the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, a 2.2 percent increase over the previous year. The airport has international service operating or planned to 59 destinations.

Plano Parks and Libraries offering kid friendly activities during school break

Cure cabin fever with a little impromptu fun at your local library or park. Throughout the city there are five Plano Public library locations and 84 parks to explore with a wide selection of planned activities. Check out these boredom busters.

Create your own schedule with Plano Parks and Recreation:

- Admire festive lights at Haggard Park
- See the Army tank at Liberty Park
- Let your hound clown around at the Dog Park at Jack Carter Park

• Visit the newly renovated Buckhorn or Blue Ridge Parks

- Sign up for a free guided nature walk at Oak Point Park Nature & Retreat Center
- Catch some air (or just watch) at Carpenter Park Skate Park

• Visit the Interurban Railway Museum at Haggard Park (it's free!)

Plano Public Library offers storytimes and other activities. Here are a few family-friendly activities to get you started:

- Friday, Dec. 21, 3-4 p.m. – Circuit Circus is a

come and go event, but arrive 30 minutes early to snag a ticket. Learn about circuits and explore the different ways they work.

- Wednesday, Dec. 26, 3 p.m. – Make It-Take It Movie: Polar Express offers a movie and a craft.
- Thursday, Dec. 27, 3-4

p.m. – Math Mania makes numbers fun using games and activities.

- Friday, Dec. 28, 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. – WeDo Freestyle builds a robot with LEGOs.
- Saturday, Dec. 29, 3 p.m. – Meet Hungry Cater-

See LIBRARY, Page 10





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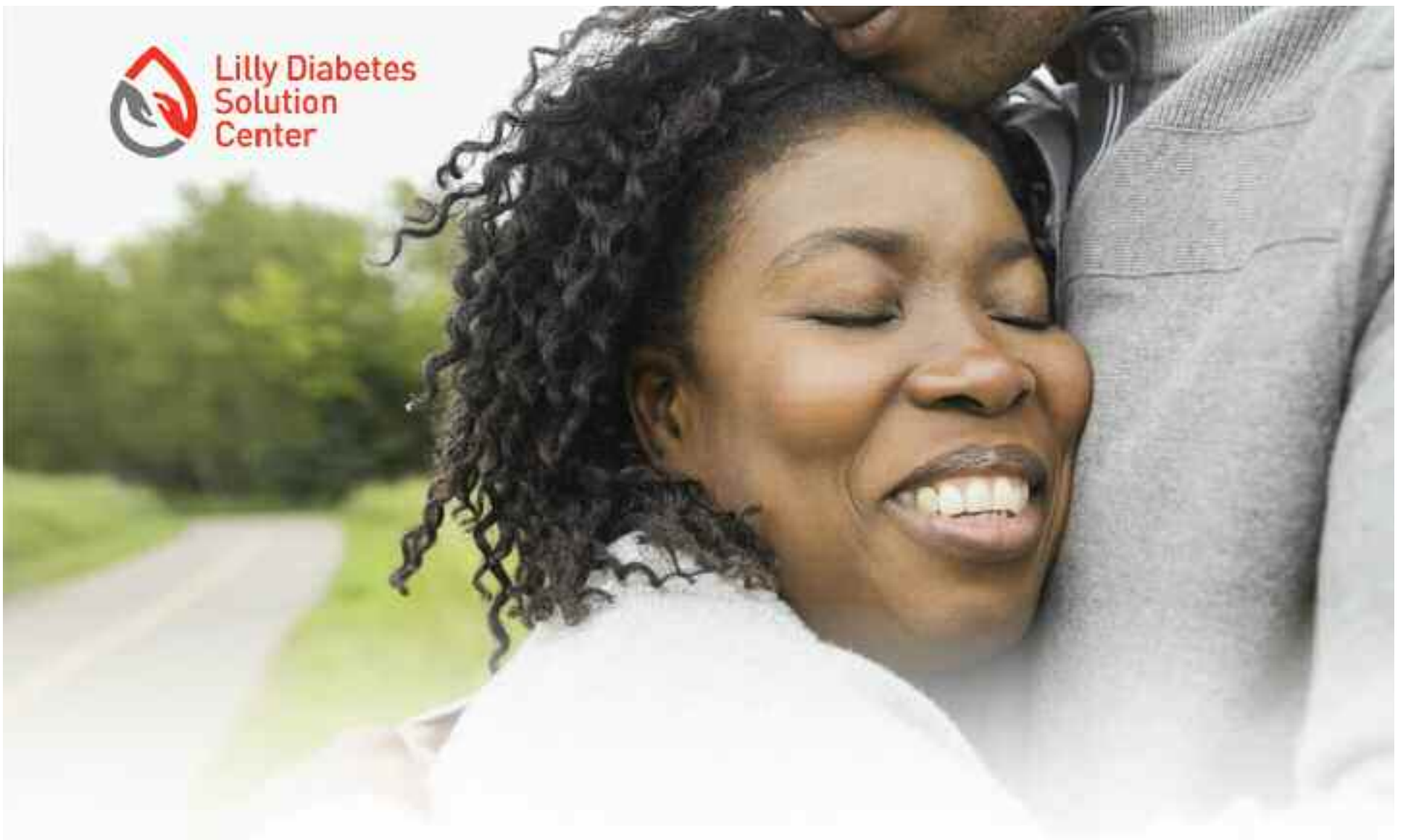
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Win over Eagles makes five straight for Cowboys

By Dwain Price
NDG Sports

ARLINGTON – A gutsy call by coach Jason Garrett was the impetus the Dallas Cowboys used to fight their way to a dramatic 29-23 victory over the Philadelphia Eagles in overtime on Sunday afternoon at AT&T Stadium.

With their fifth straight win, the Cowboys assumed total control of the NFC East with three games remaining. The Cowboys are 8-5, and the Washington Redskins and Eagles are both 6-7.

The next win by the Cowboys -- or a loss each by the Eagles and Redskins -- and the Cowboys will clinch the NFC East title. The Cowboys play at the Indianapolis Colts (7-6) on Sunday at noon, host the Tampa Bay Bucs (5-8) on Dec. 23, and end the regular season on the road against the New York Giants (5-8) on Dec. 30.

However, to get to where they have complete control of their own destiny, the Cowboys had to get themselves of a difficult situation, and do it in a risky manner.

The Cowboys won the overtime coin toss against the Eagles and elected to obviously receive the kick-



Keith Allison / Wikimedia

off, because if they score a touchdown on the opening drive, the game would effectively end. And if they kicked a field goal, the Eagles would have a chance to win the game with a touchdown or tie it with a field goal.

So facing fourth-and-a-1 from the Philadelphia 19, the Cowboys decided to go for the first down, which Ezekiel Elliott made on a 1-yard dash.

“A lot of people get caught up in ‘this coach was aggressive, this coach wasn’t aggressive,’” Garrett said. “That’s really not what it’s about. The decisions are designed to help your team win and put your team in the best position to win.”

“And we just felt in that situation, we felt we could make it. We wanted to end

the game on our terms by scoring a touchdown and our guys responded the right way.”

It was a stunning about-face for Garrett, who was obviously criticized for not going for it on fourth-and-1 in overtime from the Houston 41 back on Oct. 7 in a game the Cowboys eventually lost to the Texans, 19-16.

But this time, three plays after the huge first down, Eagles cornerback Rasul Douglas tipped a Dak Prescott pass into the air and Amari Cooper snatched it at the 7-yard line and waltzed into the end zone to complete the game-deciding 15-yard touchdown.

This was the third TD of the day for Cooper, who caught 10 passes for 217 yards while ripping the Ea-

gles’ defense to shreds. Cooper also caught touchdown passes covering 75 and 28 yards.

“I thought Dak did a really good job getting it to him in critical moments,” Garrett said. “He’s a hard guy to cover.”

“I think if you watch him, week in, week out, you see him catch the ball short, you see him catch the ball medium, you see him catch the ball down the field, you see him make plays after he catches the ball. He’s just a damn good football player. We’re lucky to have him.”

The Cowboys are also fortunate to have Prescott. Although Prescott was heavily criticized for tossing a pair of interceptions and losing a fumble against the Eagles, he also was at his finest when the game was on the line.

In the fourth quarter and overtime session, Prescott completed 17 of 20 passes for 243 yards, three touchdowns and an outstanding passer rating of 156.8. Overall, Prescott produced single-game career numbers for passes completed (42), attempted (54) and passing yards (455) as he did a number the Eagles won’t soon forget.

Also, this is the 13th game-winning drive for Prescott. The most game-

winning drives for any player in NFL history in his first three seasons is 15 by Russell Wilson, while Prescott is tied with Matt Ryan for the second-most.

“I just stay true to myself, stay true to what I was doing and didn’t get down on myself,” Prescott said. “As I said, I credit my teammates and my coaches and everybody just believing in me and letting me know that over on the sideline.”

“Going into that overtime, I told (backup quarterback) Cooper Rush after the game, he said, ‘Don’t blink, you’re the best at it’, and that meant a lot to me in that moment. To go out there with a guy that I compete with for jobs, a guy that we put in a shared commitment, for him to say that meant he’s got my back and this whole team has got my back, and that was special.”

The Cowboys were special throughout the game as they racked up 576 total yards, which is their most since they gained 578 yards during a 1973 game against the St. Louis Cardinals. Elliott got in on the fun, too, as he rushed 28 times for 113 yards and caught 12 passes for 79 yards.

In addition, Brett Maher booted a franchise-record 62-yard field goal, although he also missed a field goal

from 45 yards.

Now it’s on to Indianapolis where the Cowboys can clinch their second NFC East title in the past three years. And that would be a celebratory occasion since just five weeks ago the Cowboys were owners of an embarrassing 3-5 record.

“I’m not really concerned about any streak or anything like that,” Garrett said. “Each and every week you try to go play your best football. You prepare the right way and you try to go play your best ball on Sunday.”

“It was no different last week, it’ll be no different this week. We’ll hopefully build on some of the good things we did (and) we’ll clean up some of the other things.”

Building on some of the good things worked wonders for the Cowboys against the Eagles as they ended up sweeping the two-game season series from the defending Super Bowl champions.

“A lot of different guys contributed to this in all three phases of our team, but it was far, far, far from a perfect effort,” Garrett said. “We have plenty of stuff to clean up.”

“We all recognize that, but the spirit was outstanding.”

Black Nativity returns to Bishop Arts for 15th run on Oak Cliff stage

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

“Black Nativity” is up and running at the Bishop Arts Theatre Center. The holiday gospel celebration by Langston Hughes has become a Christmas staple at the Oak Cliff stage, where it has been running for the past 15 years. The theater itself is celebrating 25 years this season.

The work revolves around a play-within-a-play, and features a church congregation

preparing for its annual Christmas show. As with any tightly-knit group, a church congregation will have issues and conflicts to resolve along the way. Dealing with these issues and making sure the “show will go on” makes up part of the storyline and performance.

The other part is the music, and the choreography. This is not a passive performance. The vocal performing level is up this year, so much so that the standout moments trickled down into the ranks of the

supporting cast members. Jammell Turner, portraying a disgruntled church deacon, and ensemble member Jeffrey Berry both delivered singing performances that brought exceptional appreciation from the audience.

Then there are the central characters. Myiesha J. Duff is an outstanding talent in the role of Dr. Narramore, and Brandon Wilhelm (portraying Narramore’s husband) should be familiar to Bishop Arts crowds as this is his third season doing the production.

The music is great, with familiar tunes incorporated in original arrangements with a healthy dousing of choreography that’s just downright fun. While there are some touchy subjects broached in the piece, it is generally suitable for all audiences. And it has been around at Bishop Arts long enough now to be added to the list of distinctive Dallas holiday traditions. “Black Nativity” continues through Dec. 23 at the Bishop Arts Theatre Center in Oak Cliff.



The rumor mill begins to stir amongst the local congregation as a community church begins preparations for their annual Christmas production. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

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

NDG Entertainment Guide: Local stages are filled with holiday shows

Throughout the Metroplex during the holiday season, there are a myriad of entertainment opportunities to choose from. Musical performances range from traditional to contemporary sounds of the season and theater productions offer reimagining of your favorite Christmas tales to ones local fans love to see year after year.

As David Wilfong, points out in his review of *Black Nativity*, this is the 15th year for the production at Bishop Arts Theatre. Every year, the team provides a new and different experience for faithful fans that consider it a highlight of their family holiday season.

“The music is great, with familiar tunes incorporated in original arrangements with a healthy dousing of choreography that’s just downright fun. While there are some touchy subjects broached in the piece, it is generally suitable for all audiences,” Wilfong points out.

For times and ticket prices visit bishopartstheatre.org.

Children and their parents have two options at the Dallas Children Theatre with *The Snowy Day and Other Stories* by Ezra Jack Keats, which will run until January 20, 2019 (following a holiday



The annual holiday production of *Black Nativity* is filled with strong music performances, upbeat choreography and a reverence for Black gospel tradition. (Photo: David Wilfong / NDG)

break from Christmas Eve until January 3, 2019). With the possibility of snow in Dallas this week, it is a perfect time to discover how much Peter and his friends

delight in seeing snow. This production is collaboration with Soul Rep Theatre.

For something with more of a holiday theme, fans of the Magic Tree House chap-

ter book series will be happy to see Jack and Annie journey back to the foggy streets of Victorian England in *A Ghost Tale for Mr. Dickens*. This production ends on Dec. 23.

Tickets and show times for both productions are available at dct.org.

Other local theater productions include:

- The Dallas Theater Center’s annual production of *A Christmas Carol* is a holiday must see every year. It is on stage at the Wylie Theatre until Dec. 30.

- You have watched *A*

Christmas Story flick on TV for years, now enjoy the fun of the show in person at the Winspear Opera House. This is the final weekend for the production.

- The Grinch goes grunge in *How The Grunge Stole Christmas* at the House of Blues on Dec. 27. Fans of Pearl Jam, Nirvana and Soundgarden can leave their ugly Christmas sweaters in the closet and come out wearing their favorite 90s grunge look.

For more entertainment news this week visit NorthDallasGazette.com.



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LIBRARY,
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pillar during a storytime with activities.

- Sunday, Dec. 30, 2 p.m. – Newton’s Laws unlocks Isaac Newton’s Laws of Motion to develop an understanding of the laws.

- Monday, Dec. 31, noon – Noon-Year’s Eve is a fun celebration of the New Year centered on crafts and our very own countdown.

- Saturday, Jan. 5, 3 p.m. – Landon Stark’s Magic is an action-packed show featuring the well-known comedian and magician.

- Sunday, Jan. 6, 2 p.m. – Origami Hour explores the history of the Japanese art of paper folding.

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Don't let small dollar loans ruin your holidays

By Charlene Crowell

In this wonderful time of the year when family and friends gather in good cheer to celebrate the holidays, nearly everyone has a number of lists. From greeting cards to shopping for gifts, decorations and more, lists are made and reviewed to keep pace with the barrage of seasonal activities.

But if holiday lists seem bigger than budgets, turning to a high-interest, "small dollar" loan can turn joy and merriment into a financial quagmire. The good news is that holiday financial hangers that predatory lenders give, do not need to be a part

of your celebrations.

Just keep walk or drive past the brightly-colored signs advertising high-interest, small dollar loans. Both payday and car title loans can provide quick cash; but the harms these loans create will likely linger well past the winter's cold. In truth, these predatory loans often lead to consumers paying more in interest and fees than for the money borrowed.

Research by the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) has found that predatory payday loans drain \$4.1 billion in fees from consumers annually -- borrowers who typically are unable to fully

repay the original loan, usually in two weeks' time. With average annual interest rates averaging 391 percent, 75 percent of all payday loans go to borrowers with more than 10 loans a year.

Like payday loans, car title loans are often marketed as an easy way to get cash without a credit check -- but with interest rates that tend to be 20-30 times higher than that of credit cards. The average car title loan of about \$1,000 can only be secured by signing a personally-owned car as collateral. Further, the loan may only be a fraction of the marketable value of the vehicle. While the lender holds on to a car

title, the borrower is faced with triple-digit interest and, in one of five cases, a whopping 20 percent, the loss of personal transportation.

As harmful as payday and car title loans are, other seemingly harmful small dollar transactions can also cause financial havoc.

If you believe pre-paid cards will always avoid financial rip-offs, think again.

Before paying cash for this convenient form of plastic, read all of the fine print that explains the terms and fees that come with its usage. Terms and options can and do vary significantly. Many include a range of fees from activation, to learning your

current balances, reloading monies and in some cases fees for inactivity. By the time all applicable fees are assessed, the amount of money actually available on that prepaid card can shrink and shortchange how far it can help on purchases.

Similarly, the convenience of debit cards can easily trigger overdraft charges for consumers with slim or no checking account cushions. CRL research has shown that although overdraft fees vary by institution, the average \$35 overdraft fee on a debit card is double the amount of the overdraft itself. Banks engage in a range of unfair and deceptive tac-

tics to maximize these fees, which can amount to hundreds of dollars over the course of just a day or two--talk about a holiday damper. Too many overdrafts can lead to involuntary account closures.

This holiday season try adding a full measure of practical sense to help your dollars preserve the spirit and joy of the season -- it only comes once a year!

Charlene Crowell is the Communications Deputy Director with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at: Charlene.crowell@responsible-lending.org.

Mall for Africa sells U.S. cars to customers in Nigeria

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Correspondent

Mall for Africa, an award-winning patented e-commerce platform, announced that it will add cars from the United States the long list of items that it sells.

The company said it will sell American made cars to its customers in Nigeria, effective immediately, with plans to expand to 16 additional countries over the next year.

"Over the years, we have received tremendous interest from customers who have wanted to purchase

cars," Chris Folayan, CEO of Mall for Africa, said in a news release.

"As a company we always strive to be the best and offer our customers items that would otherwise be unavailable. We are proud to say that our customers in Nigeria can now purchase cars, in any color, with any feature they desire," Folayan said.

Mall for Africa, also known as Africa's largest online mall, currently offers millions of products from more than 250 leading retailers in the United States, United Kingdom and China.

It handles every aspect of the order and return cycle, providing customers and retailers with an effortless, secure and accessible solution to online shopping. With a few simple clicks, customers can pick out their dream car and request a quote from a reputable dealer in the United States.

Both standard and luxury cars will be available, including all makes and models from 2008 to present.

The customer simply has to fill out a form with feature preferences and one of Mall for Africa's USA-based expert car consultants will reply within one to two

business days with a quote.

In a 2015 profile on Folayan by CNN, it was noted that Africa's population has steadily gained in financial affluence, with numbers of multimillionaires predicted to rise by 59 percent over the next decade. In spite of this news, many U.S. retailers don't ship their wares to the continent, fearing fraud or cumbersome import procedures.

That gave Folayan the idea to start Mall for Africa, an online platform through which shoppers in Nigeria and Kenya can buy products from America, Britain and, now, China.

"The main problem is that many western companies don't have much knowledge about Africa," Folayan said. "When I talk to companies I tell them Africa is a huge market -- they are probably not tapping into billions in profit. And Nigeria is Africa's biggest economy," he said, something a delegation from the National Newspaper Publishers Association reported on during a recent pilgrimage to the African nation.

Folayan, the U.S.-based entrepreneur, said he would regularly travel to his native

Nigeria carrying several suitcases stuffed with American-branded clothes, sunglasses and makeup his friends and family asked him to bring. But it was when he wasn't allowed to check in for a flight with 10 tightly packed bags, even while paying for the extra weight, that he knew he was onto a business idea.

"That was a turning point. I realized that people knew exactly what they wanted, they could see a product online and had the money to buy it, but there was no one who would ship it to Nigeria," Folayan said.

PARKLAND, continued from Page 4

nurses," said Jakki Opollo, PhD, RN, MSN, MPH, NEA-BC, Director of Professional Practice & Nursing Research. "When you give meaningful recognition to nurses for asking questions and improving their practice, they feel autonomous, empowered, and they feel their voices are heard."

Watts concurred. "We want to recruit and keep the very best nurses. We also want to be trailblazers when it comes to showcasing Parkland's excellence of

nursing practice," she said.

In June, Parkland achieved a four-year Pathway to Excellence designation by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association. The Pathway to Excellence designation identifies the elements of inter-professional work environments where nurses can flourish and feel empowered. The designation substantiates nursing job satisfaction at Parkland and identifies it as one of the

best places to work.

"Nurses at Parkland have a commitment to nursing excellence and a passion for serving the diverse patient population of Dallas County," said Lauren Tuohy, RN, Associate Unit Manager at the Rees-Jones Trauma Center at Parkland. "The Center for Nursing Excellence will help nurses advance the profession to continue to provide the highest quality and safest patient care possible."

In addition, Parkland nursing staff is working to achieve Magnet status. Magnet is an award given

by the ANCC to hospitals that satisfy a set of criteria designed to measure the strength and quality of their nursing.

"The Pathway to Excellence designation, the Center for Nursing Excellence and our journey to achieve Magnet status symbolize the commitment of the health system to advance professional nursing practice which is essential for short and long term nurse and patient success," said Donna Richardson, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, Senior Vice President and Associate Chief Nursing Officer.

"Parkland nurses are exceptional and we want them to live up to their fullest potential," Dr. Opollo said. "The Parkland Center for Nursing Excellence will help us achieve that target."

A record number of registered nurses at Parkland -- a total of 45 -- were named winners of the 2017 D Magazine Excellence in Nursing Awards, which are designed to shine a spotlight on the unsung heroes of health-care. Fifteen registered nurses at Parkland were among those honored as 2018 Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses.

"I am so proud to be a Parkland nurse," Tuohy said.

The Parkland Center for Nursing Excellence is located on the second floor of Parkland Memorial Hospital, 5200 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas. The Center is open from 8 a.m. -- 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

To learn more about how you can become a member of Parkland's team, please visit www.parklandcareers.com. For more information about Parkland services, please visit www.parklandhospital.com.

Minority business development agency awards nearly \$2 million to HBCUs

WASHINGTON -- This week, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), announced grant awards of nearly \$2 million to four Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). In June 2018, MBDA invited HBCUs to propose projects that will achieve one or more of the following objectives: increase their ability to compete for and receive Federal research and development funds; establish partnerships with Federal laboratories and

other technology resources; increase Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) entrepreneurship; and compete for Federal contracts.

"Historically Black Colleges and Universities served as the catalyst to creating the black middle class in America and will continue to be the incubator for minority business talent, innovation, and leadership. These important schools generate billions in economic impact annually and are engines for job creation in their local economies

across the United States," said MBDA National Director Henry Childs II. "These grant awards will provide seed money for these institutions to pursue innovative projects and to build more revenue-generating infrastructures to better serve our nation's future entrepreneurs and workforce."

The HBCUs that received grant awards include:

- Clark Atlanta University (\$499,497) to develop a STEM entrepreneurship curriculum that increases student interest in the innovation

economy at three Atlanta University Center Consortium campuses.

- Howard University (\$359,891) to design a technical support model for 11 HBCUs in the mid-Atlantic region to compete for Federal research and development funds and leverage partnerships with Federal laboratories.

- South Carolina State University (\$404,992) to launch regional training sessions for HBCUs to compete for Federal research and development funds.

• Tougaloo College (\$695,412) to establish a partnership among multiple HBCUs, private companies, federal labs, and research institutions to increase capacity for HBCUs to participate in federal research and contracting opportunities.

These programs are part of the 2018 MBDA Broad Agency Announcement, a new initiative this year. More than \$13 million was awarded for 13 projects focused on Department of Commerce and MBDA priorities.

MARSHAL, continued from Page 4

students and 69% of faculty expressed their support.

District President Dr. Neil Matkin said he intends to have ongoing conversations with K-12 and university colleagues to reinforce the college's goal of providing a safe and secure environment on its campuses. "We are all working for the safety of our students and look forward to sharing the details of the program with our education partners," he said.

In presenting the recommendation to the board, Trustee Mac Hendricks, who chairs the Organization, Education and Policy Committee, pointed out that 170 public school districts in the state have already authorized the school marshal

program. "This will train someone to take action during that window of opportunity to possibly save a lot of lives," he said.

Trustee Jim Orr said that although school marshals will be unidentified to the public and the general population of the college, they will be known to local law enforcement through an integrated training component of the required training regimen. "This is a huge bonus," he said.

Hendricks called the policy recommendation a first step and said that implementation of the school marshal program will take several months if not a full year, thereby giving the board ample opportunity for further discussion and fine

tuning of the program.

The planning and development process will provide for board involvement at various stages, including policy review and revisions, budget authorization, and appointment of individuals designated as school marshals.

Applicants for the school marshal program will be required to have a current License to Carry (LTC) from the state and meet Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) requirements including psychological and extensive background checks. Candidates must also complete a training course of at least 80 hours, although Trustee Hendricks said his committee would recommend even more contact hours than required by the state.

When fully implemented, Collin College's school marshal program will train full-time employees who have been vetted and approved by the board to be able to respond in the event of an active shooter or other life-threatening incident occurring on college property.

As a result of the board's approval of the local policy at Tuesday's meeting, Collin College will seek approval from TCOLE to conduct school marshal training at the new Public Safety Training Center in McKinney. Home of the college's law enforcement and fire academies, the facility opened in August and has already been utilized by the FBI, the Texas Rangers, and numerous local law enforcement agencies for officer training.

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

The *North Dallas Gazette* has an internship position available. The goal is to provide students and aspiring writers an opportunity to gain published clips, experience and professional feedback.



The position is for up to 20 hours a week at \$8.00 per hour. Applicants must have reliable transportation.

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

Crown Castle is proposing to install antennas at a centerline height of 65 feet with a proposed tower extension to an overall height of 77 feet on an existing monopole, and install two (2) cabinets within a new 10-foot by 10-foot lease area within a storage unit at the following site: 1225 West Trinity Mills Road, Carrollton, Dallas County, TX 75006; 32° 58' 52.50" N, 96° 55' 0.10" 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@CrownCastle.com, 724-416-2516* within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Crown Castle is proposing to collocate six (6) antennas and associated RRUs at a centerline height of 89 feet on an existing 108.67-foot monopole telecommunications tower and the addition of one (1) new equipment cabinet within a 15-foot by 20-foot lease area expansion along the southern boundary of the existing tower compound at the following site: 501 South Plano Road, Richardson, Dallas County, Texas 75081. 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@CrownCastle.com, 724-416-2516* within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Telecommunications Facility

Eco-Site, Inc. has submitted a request to the FCC to register an approx. 60' tall monopole telecommunications tower with no marking or lighting system to be located at 2215 Canada Drive in Dallas, TX 75212; coordinates of 32-47-35.83 N, 96-51-27.62 W. Interested parties may review the application by going to the FCC's Antennae Structure Registration (ASR) website and entering the ASR application # A1121553. Members of the public may raise environmental concerns about the proposed structure by filing a Request for Environmental Review with the FCC. The FCC strongly encourages interested parties to file such requests online and instructions to do so can be found on the FCC's Environmental Request page (<http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest>) or send to: Ramon Williams, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. Requests should also be sent to: FDH Infrastructure Services, ATTN: Richard Brainerd, 6521 Meridien Drive, Raleigh, NC 27616. In order for your comments to receive full and timely consideration, they should be received at the addresses above within 30 days of the date of this notice and reference FCC ASR file # A1121553.

Upcoming DFW area job fairs

Dec. 14 2018 Military Hire Resource & Career Fair

The 2018 Military Hire Resource & Career Fair will be held on Friday, Dec. 14 at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Crown Plaza - Dallas Market Center located on 7050 N Stemmons Freeway in Dallas.

They are inviting veterans, transitioning military personnel, college students, and spouses to attend. Employers expected to participate include Marriott, Hotel Staffing Solutions, United Parcel Services, Crown Foods Packaging, United Rentals, Academy Bus Charter, Goodwill Temps, Northwood University, Tenet Health and Richland College.

For more information or to pre-register call 619-277-9099.

Dec. 15 Valet Bell and Cashier Hiring Event Downtown Dallas

The Valet Bell and Cashier Hiring Event Downtown Dallas will be hosted on Dec. 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Sheraton Hotel, in Dallas. They will be hiring for hiring for valet drivers, bell attendants and cashiers for the grand re-opening of the Sheraton Hotel in Downtown Dallas! We have many opportunities available and offer flexible schedules, full time & part time positions, opportunity for career growth & potential for cash tips!

Dec. 15 Sheraton Job Fair

Sheraton Dallas Hotel (400 N Olive St, Dallas, TX 75201, Pearl 4 Ballroom - Second Floor) is hosting a Job Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The focus of this hiring event will be Culinary, Front Office, Housekeeping, Laundry, Loss Prevention, and Restaurant & Bars.

To apply, please visit <http://bit.ly/SheratonDallasHotel>.



Dec. 17 Job Corps Program

The Job Corps Program is a career training program funded through the Department of Labor. The North Texas Jobs Corp Information Session is scheduled for Dec. 17 from 11 a.m. to Noon. The program is designed for low income participants that are 16-24 years of age. Our participants have the option to pursue their High School Diploma, GED, and train in their trade of choice.

Job Corps staff work with each student to develop individualized personal and career development plans that put and keep students on track to success. The most successful students stay in the program between

1 and 2 years.

The event will be held at 1341 W. Mockingbird Lane, Ste. 201E in Dallas.

Dec. 20 Route Delivery Driver Job Fair

The Route Delivery Driver Job Fair will be held on Dec. 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Nestle Waters North America, in Dallas. Start time is between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., Monday through Friday flexible to work Saturdays as needed throughout the year and with the schedule as needed.

Qualifications: You'll need the ability to get a CDL class B license with airbrake endorsement and have a clean driving record, ability to work in all kinds of weather while working out on your own with limited supervision, ability to obtain a DOT medical card for the purpose of working for Nestle Waters, a clean driving record means in the last three years, and must be

21 years of age or older. To apply visit nestlewaterscareers.com.

Jan 8 Hospitality Hiring Event

The Hospitality Hiring Event will be held on Jan 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 3020 N Westmoreland Rd, in Dallas. Goodwill is hosting a hospitality hiring event at Goodwill Industries of Dallas. Charleston and Dallas Methodist Hospital Systems are hiring for hospitality positions: Cooks, food service workers, and general utility worker. For more information, and to register visit Eventbrite.com.

Jan. 9 Dallas Sales Job Fair

The Dallas Sales Job Fair will be held on Jan. 9, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 4099 Valley View Lane, in Dallas. Hosted by HireLive, this is a national career service company specializ-

ing in Sales, Retail and Management Career Fairs, and has more than a decade of experience in connecting job seekers with industry leading companies that are currently hiring. This is your opportunity to inter-

view face to face with 15+ Fortune 500 and Industry Leading companies seeking talented, experienced and enthusiastic sales, retail and management candidates. To learn more visit Eventbrite.com.

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December 01, 2018

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Or email your resume to: careers@edbellconstruction.com

Church Happenings

For non-profit advertising rates, contact NDG Marketing at 972-432-5219

BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP, CARROLLTON (A PLACE TO BELONG)

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

December 16, 9:45 a.m.
Please join us in our quiet time, "Prayer and Meditation" followed by Morning Worship. You will be blessed and inspired as we celebrate service to God, our community and all mankind. Also, you are invited to our Christmas fellowship services and gift exchange party with a "Parade of Salads" (tuna, egg, fruit, chicken, vegetable, etc.) Bethel will provide beverages and water.

December 19, 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 "Boundaries" when to say yes or how to say no by Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend 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"

December 16, 9:45 a.m.
You are invited to join us in our Sunday Morning Services as we praise and wor-

ship 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.

December 19
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

December 14, 8 p.m.
All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 7 p.m., (IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

December 16, 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.

December 17, 7 p.m.
You are invited to Monday School to see what God has to say to us.

December 23, 10 a.m. (Every 4th Sunday)
Please join us for Youth Sunday; this is a time where IBOC's youth and millennials get real about their faith.

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)

December 16, 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.

December 19, 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)

Church Happenings is a weekly calendar of religious services produced by the North Dallas Gazette. To make additions or corrections to the calendar, contact: religion@northdallasgazette.com

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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.

December 16, 10 a.m.
You are invited to join us for our Morning Worship Services in our 8 am and/or our 11 am Worship Services. Sunday School will start at 8:30 a.m. We would love to have you at all our worship services.

Our church ministries offer

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

December 19, 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. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
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Plano, TX 75074
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A cracked pot



Sister Tarpley

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

(Editor's Note: We are sharing with you a holiday column from Sis. Tarpley published December 15, 2016.)

This Holiday Season, if you think that you're not important to God, ponder this:

An elderly woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole, which she carried across her neck.

One pot had a crack in it while the other was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water.

At the end of the walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived half full. For two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water.

The perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it could only do half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the woman. "I'm ashamed of myself; this crack in my side causes water to leak all the way back to your house."

The old woman smiled, "Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side?"

"I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you watered them."

For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to

grace the house."

Each of us has our own unique flaw. But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives interesting and rewarding.

You must take each person for what they are and look for the good in them.

Smell the flowers on your side of the path. Live, Give, Love and Be Thankful!

Stop Making Excuses!

You will give your life for something – the question is what? Sports, a hobby, fame, wealth; these do not bring lasting satisfaction.

Service is the pathway to joy and fulfillment. It's through ministry that we find meaning; life is meant for ministry.

As we serve God's purposes, our lives take on eternal importance. Paul writes, "all this makes you more significant, not less, because of what you are a part of. (1 Corinthians 12:14, 19).

If you aren't involved in something greater than yourself you just exist, God wants you to learn to love and serve others unselfishly.

He wants you to make a difference in His world: What matter is not how long you live, but how effectively

you live! If you're not involved in God's service what's your excuse?

Abraham was old. Jacob was insecure. Leah was unattractive. Joseph was abused. Moses stuttered. Gideon was poor. Samson was co-dependent. Rehab was immoral. David had an

affair resulting in all kinds of family problems. Elijah was suicidal. Jeremiah was depressed. Jonah was reluctant. Naomi was a widow. John the Baptist was eccentric. Peter was impulsive. Martha worried a lot. The Samaritan woman had several failed marriages. Zac-

chaeus was crooked. Thomas had doubts. Paul had poor health and Timothy was timid.

That's quite a variety of misfits, yet God used each of them – and He will use you too, if you stop making excuses.



Philip Lott, the youngest of Sister Tarpley's grandchildren is now in Hebron High School, 2018

NDGtv
North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with **Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley**
Hear what it was like growing up in a very different Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.
Look for NDGTV at NorthDallasGazette.com

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NDG Book Review: *The Noel Stranger* is a great read and share

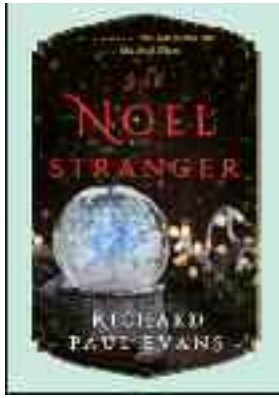
By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You thought you knew what was inside the box.

Though it was wrapped, you could tell what it was. You shook it, upended it, and picked at the tape, absolutely positive that you knew what was inside that colorful paper – but as in the new novel “The Noel Stranger” by Richard Paul Evans, mistakes do happen at Christmastime.

Maggie Walther was sure that everyone in Utah was staring at her.

It was for nothing she did, except to marry Clive all those years ago. Except to stand beside him, sup-



porting him as he dived into politics, throwing fundraisers for him and playing the hostess. Except to be the last to know that her husband had another wife and children in another state.

Stricken and ashamed, Maggie'd been staying

home, away from crowds. She couldn't sleep, couldn't run her business, could barely even get dressed and her assistant, Carina, was worried. Couldn't Maggie at least manage to put up a Christmas tree?

And so, on a freezing pre-Thanksgiving weekend, Maggie went to find a tree. And that's where the holidays turned for her.

He was handsome and funny, and helped her find an easy tree to care for. His name was Andrew, and he offered to deliver the goods when Maggie's car turned out to be too small for tree-hauling. She offered him a cup of coffee. He offered to

help decorate the tree. She made him dinner. They talked and laughed and compared divorce-survivor notes. And in two weeks' time, they fell in love.

It seemed impossible, really, that her heart could leap so quickly after being hurt so much but Maggie was head-over-heels. Andrew was responsible, kind, understanding, he was everything she needed. Carina warned her to slow down, especially after Andrew invited Maggie to Cabo for a week, but Maggie couldn't remember the last time she smiled as much as she did with Andrew around.

Yet, how much did she really know about him?

Not much at all, as it turned out...

First, this: Fans of author Richard Paul Evans. Yes. Go ahead now, get this book. G'wan. Get outta here.

Now. If you're new to Evans' fiction, what you'll get inside “The Noel Stranger” is a decent enough romancy-Christmassy tale in which someone has been hurt somehow, but meets someone else who heals them during the Holidays. As you will inside other Evans holiday books, you'll find extremely well-crafted characters and deep

details that make it all seem more real, plus a snowscape and an argument that throws the novel briefly off-course before Happily-Ever-After. That makes this story formulaic, yes, but it's as traditional and beloved as bulbs on branches and star on treetop, and it's going to put you in a good Christmas mood.

This is a book you can give to your teen and to Grandma without reservation. It's a pretty fast read, and it pairs fairly well with cocoa and a warm blanket on a cold night. For you, or to give, “The Noel Stranger” has it in the box.

ARNOLD, continued from Page 1

Saunders was positive regarding the outcome in social media.

“Mrs. Carolyn King Arnold You and your Team

Ran an Awesome race,” Saunders posted on Facebook after the results became known. “Congratulations on your win! I pray that you are

able to implement your Master Plan for the better of our community because we deserve it! Thank you “

The resolution from this special election will be short-lived. The District 4 seat on

the Dallas City Council will be up for election again in 2019, giving Arnold only seven months in office before vying for the position again.

“There are some basic

quality of life issues we can get started on now,” Arnold said, citing the clean neighborhoods, crime, stray dogs and welfare issues which often came up in forum discussions. “I am committed to

create a master plan, design vision for district 4 that brings together the HOA representation, public safety, business owner; every basic sector of our society will be represented at the table.”



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