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Reality TV — the respectable and the ratchet

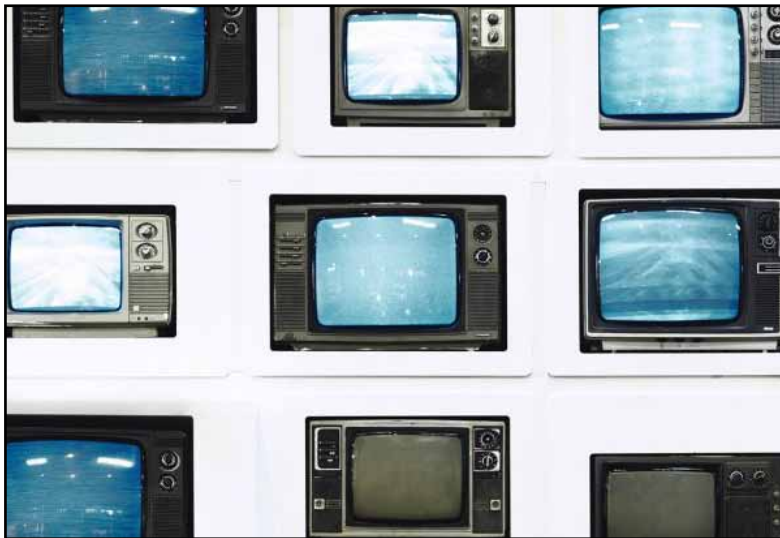
By Nsenga K. Burton, Ph.D.
NNPA Entertainment and
Culture Editor

Much to the chagrin of some media critics, scholars and television fans, reality television is here to stay. Colloquially referred to as "ratchet tv," reality television is loved and loathed often by the same fan base who like or detest the genre for the same reasons.

Some of the reality shows, particularly those with all-women and all-black casts, have become synonymous with promoting the worst of women's behavior with constant bickering, physical fighting, back stabbing, pettiness, anger and mean-spiritedness put on full display.

Many believe the shows highlight the most stereotypical behavior of women in general and black women in particular. Others enjoy the genre as an escape from the reality of their everyday lives and appreciate the entrepreneurial endeavors of the women on the shows, sometimes resulting in spin-offs like Vanderpump Rules and retail businesses owned by members of the casts of RHOA, RHONY, RHOP and Love and Hip-Hop Atlanta.

Married to Medicine's programming day has been changed mul-



Whether network or cable television programs, reality television shows garner some of the highest ratings in broadcast and cable television. (Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA)

tiples; yet and still their fans continue to find them and bring new fans with them along the way.

There's an old adage that says you should never discuss politics or religion in polite company. Perhaps another category should be added? Reality television.

If you want to hear a heated debate, then bring up reality television in any number of settings and a range of responses and emotions will surface. Some live for the genre, while others despise the television category which is broad enough to include Cops, The Bachelor, The Masked Singer, Dog The Bounty Hunter, 90 Day Fiancé,

Say Yes to the Dress, House Hunters, RHOA, Chopped and a host of other reality shows.

Reality shows continuously rank high on ratings lists; reality shows featuring women casts and all black casts continuously rank high on cable ratings lists.

Not only are the shows popular on television, they spawn other streams of revenue for reality show stars. Cookbooks, restaurants, clothing stores, fitness videos, weight-loss products, ear buds and the like are being hawked by cast members of these shows.

In fact, reality television shows,

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Journalists slam FB CEO

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Parkland honors first responders

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Best ways to celebrate Veterans Day

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DISD student lauded as top entrepreneur

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READERS SOUND OFF!!!

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Gwen Ifill



Willis Johnson

People In The News...

NDG Quote of the Week: "There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure."

- Gen. Colin Powell

Gwen Ifill

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Correspondent

The 43rd stamp in the United States Postal Service's Black Heritage series honors Gwen Ifill, one of America's most esteemed journalists.

The stamp features a photo of Ifill taken in 2008 by photographer Robert Severi and designed by Derry Noyes, according to the Postal Service.

Among the first African Americans to hold prominent positions in both broadcast and print journalism, Ifill was a trailblazer in the profession.



Ifill was born on September 29, 1955, in New York.

Her father, O. Urcille Ifill, Sr., served as an African Methodist Episcopal minister who hailed from Panama.

Her mother, Eleanor

Husbands, was from Barbados.

According to Ifill's 2012 biography and interview with The HistoryMakers, her father's ministry required the family to live in several cities in different church parsonages throughout New England.

Those stops also included Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and New York, where the family resided in federally subsidized housing.

Ifill's interest in journalism was rooted in her parents' insistence that their children gather nightly in front of the television to watch the national news, according to The History-

Makers.

In 1973, Ifill graduated from Classical High School in Springfield, Massachusetts. Four years later, she received her B.A. degree in communications from Simmons College in Boston.

"During her senior year, she interned at the Boston Herald American newspaper," the biography reads.

She later worked at the *Baltimore Evening Sun*, the *Washington Post*, and the *New York Times* before moving over to NBC News.

In a bio following her passing, Eric Deggans shared the fact that one day at work, she discovered a note on her desk during the internship that read,

"N* & @# go home." After showing the note to editors at the newspaper, who "were horrified", they offered her a job when she graduated from college in 1977.

Ifill's close friend Michele Norris said that Ifill "said that was really unfortunate, but I have work to do and that's how — that's how she got the job. She didn't get the job out of sympathy. She got the job because she didn't let that slow her down."

In 1999, Ifill became the first African American woman to host a prominent political talk show on national television when she became moderator and

managing editor of PBS's Washington Week and senior political correspondent for The PBS NewsHour.

Ifill died at the age of 61 on November 14, 2016.

"She was the most American of success stories," Sherrilyn Ifill, a law professor, director of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, and Gwen Ifill's cousin told NBC News. "Her life and her work made this country better."

In addition to being close with her large extended family, she socialized with Washington luminaries as well as colleagues and was noted to have supported and mentored young journalists.

Willis Johnson

Willis Johnson, veteran broadcaster at KKDA-AM joined 20 people who were inducted in the 2019 Texas Radio Hall of Fame on Saturday, November 2 at the Texas Museum of Broadcasting in Kilgore.

"When you take a look at that man's track record, as a Dallas-Fort Worth radio entertainer and more importantly the man's community outreach, its immeasurable," said Josh Holstead, Texas Radio Hall of Fame owner and operations manager.

"It was a special day for me to be inducted into the



Texas Radio Hall of Fame and I am so grateful for my family to be with me as well as Mayor Mike Rawlings, Developer Jack Matthews and Linda/Mitch Hart. It's quite an honor," said Johnson.

"I do not know any other jock — and I grew up in the Dallas-Fort Worth area in the radio business — and believe me, his name was one that I certainly recognized and knew and a lot of other people did too, Holstead stated. "He's helped a lot of people, a lot of organizations."

A native of Gladewater, Johnson started at KKDA in 1975. His show's line up which included community affairs, politics and music were an instant hit and he became the voice in the community until his retirement. "Radio is a service that I loved... I did it for 36 years," said Johnson. "I

feel we touched communities because radio is a connection to the community it serves."

He was program director, executive producer and on-air personality during his career and won numerous broadcast awards including the Silver Beaver Award, the Juanita Craft NAACP Award and the Urban League of Greater Dallas President's Award.

"I wanted this to be a family business," Johnson shared. "I feel that African Americans need to do a better job of passing on their legacy and businesses to their family by grooming their sons and daughters

to continue on the family business."

Congratulations and accolades from friends and former listeners continue to flood Johnson's social media. "Congratulations to a wonderful civic leader," said Pete Schenkel was one of many acknowledgements.

Willis is also the Founder/CEO of JBJ Management. Business development is a part of the everyday operation of JBJ. A key capability JBJ provides is organizing and facilitating meetings with key stakeholders essential to the finished product of

the client. Both public and private projects have been delivered with intimate knowledge of the geographical area and the business climate and culture taken into consideration.

Other inductees include Glenn Hicks, Linda Austin Ware, Jimmy Aiken, Lee Randall, George Gimarc, Dave Rios, Billy Thorman, Johnny Goyen, Ben Downs, Steve Lamb, John Mitton, Redbeard, Bob Hathaway, Michael Harris, Scott Sparks; Posthumously Inducted Individuals Jim WW Travis, Dick Wheeler, George Erwin, Harwell Shepard.

NDG Readers Sound Off...

NDG honored by Garland NAACP

Thanks so much for your dedication through the years.

- Ester Davis

Dallas Cowboys expect Michael Bennett to immediately fill a void

No. I wish he was not on the team. Why was the Patriots got rid of him so easily?

- Keith Meshell

Keith Meshell I'm with you bro but while he's

with us I hope he brings smoke

- Tim Mathis

Another African American victim killed by a cop in their home in DFW

This senseless murder highlights the police in this country in a way that calls for national changes. The police need to be trained in a different way. Currently, it is evident that they shoot first — all too often. Over a thousand people are killed by police every year in this country. About 1/3 of these deaths are of people who are un-

armed.

And the question of race and preconceived/subconscious notions by police about who deserves to be shot needs to be considered. I very rarely hear about flagrant citizen murders carried out by anyone BUT white police.

We pay the salaries of the police through our tax dollars. We deserve better protection. They are supposed to SERVE and PROTECT US....not murder us in front of our relatives. Atrocities like that in the case of Botham Jean and Atatia Jefferson

need never happen again!

- Anonymous

One-on-One with Judge Tammy Kemp The Truth, The Whole Truth, and Nothing but the Truth

She's a disgrace. Christianity has debilitated black people. She is what the slave masters envisioned completely.

Pathetic

- Mohammed Massaquoi

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Journalists Blast Facebook's Zuckerberg for 'Free Expression' Speech

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior Correspondent

Approximately 7,200 jobs in the news industry were lost in the past year.

Journalism in America is facing an existential threat from the monopolistic control of tech giants like Google, Facebook, and Apple.

A growing group of publishers, news gatherers, journalists, photographers, and other professionals, the Save Journalism Project's is to educate and activate journalists across the country to tell the story of big tech's threat to journalism.

The leadership at the Save Journalism Project scoffed at Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg's recent Georgetown University speech, where he touted his popular social media site as a "champion of free expression."

"Given the sensitivity around political ads, I've considered whether we should stop allowing them altogether," Zuckerberg stated in defending Facebook's decision to allow misinformation in political advertising.

"But political ads are an important part of voice – especially for local candidates, up-and-coming challengers and advocacy groups that may not get much media attention otherwise. Banning political ads favors incumbents and whoever the media covers," Zuckerberg stated.

He reportedly invoked Frederick Douglass, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Black Lives Matter as a means of positioning Facebook as a champion for freedom of speech.

"The Facebook news tab is a shiny new object to distract from the damage Zuckerberg has done to journalism and a ploy to steal journalists' content without compensating us," said Laura Bassett, the co-founder of the Save Journalism Project and the former senior politics editor for *HuffPost*.

"This initiative will only further his agenda to derail the journalism industry so that Facebook can be the bearer of all the news, stated Bassett, who was laid off from her *HuffPost* position in January.

John Stanton, another co-

founder of the Save Journalism Project and a former fellow of Georgetown University, called Zuckerberg's speech "a joke."

"Mark Zuckerberg is the antithesis of free expression," stated Stanton, who until January worked as *BuzzFeed's* DC Bureau Chief.

"He's thrown pennies at programs to 'help' journalists that, in actuality, are little more than PR stunts intended to provide cover as he puts countless journalists out of work, strips the industry to the bone, and reaps billions in ad revenue. He's thrown free speech, public education, and democracy to the waste side in his quenchless thirst for power and profit," Stanton noted.

He added:

"Instead of providing a platform for Zuckerberg propaganda, how about we rein in this monopoly and save journalism?"

Efforts by NNPA NewsWire to reach officials at Facebook for a response were unsuccessful.

Facebook's version of free expression has also hurt minority-owned newspapers and media outlets, stated

Nick Charles of the Save Journalism Project.

"Local, regional, ethnic, and specifically, African American news media, have always had thin margins and been under threat from majority media consolidation, diminishing ad revenue, and the hemorrhaging of newsroom resources. If small businesses in African American communities decide to advertise with monopolists such as Google and Facebook online, that impacts legacy media, which in turn now have less revenue for journalistic pursuits, like informing their communities and holding elected and public officials to account," Charles stated.

To that end, African American media needs to stand with the Save Journalism Project and others who have been sounding the alarm around platform domination and advertising monopoly, he added.

"Big Tech needs to be checked, and the corrosive way they utilize content addressed. Editorializing and reaching out to local, state, and federal officials who should be looking at these issues is a start," Charles said.

The ongoing problem of student debt

By Dr. James Finck

One of the big issues in politics right now is cost of college and student debt. Among the Democrats running for president, some are calling for free college and others are looking to pay off student loans. There is some history on this subject, but there is also some personal history. Loans are something I know too well.

One of the problems I see today is the need to attend large state universities. I understand the appeal. I earned my Master's and Ph.D. from such schools and I loved the atmosphere of these schools, especially during football season. Yet when I hear complaints about the cost of schools, I question why students are not looking at other options.

When it comes to gov-

ernment interference with college, I am of two minds. Free college does not seem fiscally possible for the government. As for loans, when the borrowers took them, they knew they had to pay them back, just like any other transaction. Yet now that I have a senior in high school, I am starting to see the college experience in a different light.

My senior has done everything that could be expected of him, even with difficulties. He has a 4.2 GPA, is a standout on the academic team, takes A.P. and college classes, and is even an Eagle Scout. I felt we were covered for a smaller regional school like the one in Utah. Yet what I found out is that scholarships are rewarded based solely on his GPA (they only accept up to 4.0) and the dreaded

ACT. Again, my son put in due diligence on this test. He took a prep class, had some private tutoring, and did all the online practicing, yet all three times he took the test he did not score high enough. His individual subject scores went up and down, but when he went up in one area, he went down in another. If they took the top scores from each subject (which they don't), he would receive a full scholarship, but as it stands right now he only qualifies for in-state tuition. He has done everything in his power, everything that can be expected of him. But because of one test, academic scholarships are off the table.

This is not meant to be a sob story; my life is no different than most out there who work hard and try to do what's best for our kids.

What it does tell me is that some change is needed. Not sure what those are, but we have to stop weighing down our kids with a financial burden of debt just as they are preparing to start their lives.

Historically speaking, there are times the government has stepped in to assist or regulate. Maybe now is another time, like the 1940s and 1960s, we can reemphasize the need for education and make some changes.

Dr. James Finck is an Associate Professor of History at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma and Chair of the Oklahoma Civil War Symposium. Follow *Historically Speaking* at www.Historicallyspeaking.blog or Facebook at @jamesWfinck.

Medicare's open enrollment period especially important for seniors

(BlackNews.com) -- Changes in Medicare that begin January 1, 2020 add special significance to this year's Medicare Open Enrollment for area seniors. Open Enrollment begins on Tuesday, October 15 and runs through Friday, December 7. During this time millions of seniors are given an opportunity to reassess their coverage and consider options for the coming year.

"This is one of the most consequential Medicare Open Enrollment periods because of changes enacted by Congress that will impact many seniors already on Medicare," explains Nichelle Jones, RHU an independent agent and agency owner of Jones Health and Benefits, LLC located in Atlanta, GA.

"In 2015, Congress passed a number of changes to Medicare that re-

ceived little notice at the time," shares Jesse Slome, director of the American Association for Medicare Supplement Insurance, a national trade organization. "There's now a limited time left to get information, make a choice and act."

Among the changes are the elimination of Medigap Plans C and F, two of the more popular options among seniors. The Medicare prescription drug

program created in 2003 will also be impacted with the closing of the infamous Medicare Donut Hole.

"It's important to act sooner rather than later because there's no flexibility in the government's deadline," recommends Jones.

To schedule a no-cost review and comparison of Medicare plans available, contact Jones at 770-668-0797.



Nichelle Jones, RHU an independent agent and agency owner of Jones Health and Benefits, LLC located in Atlanta, GA. (Courtesy photo)

Parkland honors first responders, trauma staff who cared for patients

On Nov. 2, Parkland Health & Hospital System and Parkland Foundation hosted the inaugural 'Evening for Heroes,' a special event at which stories were shared of Parkland patients through powerful videos and then honored the full team who cared for each patient – from first responders to nurses and doctors to rehabilitation therapists.

"First responders and caregivers do not always hear how their patients fared after their care and learn about the impact they make on the lives of these patients and countless others," said Fred Cerise, MD, MPH, Parkland's President, and CEO. "An Evening for Heroes was created as a way to honor first responders who work beyond the walls of our trauma center to save lives as well the dedicated trauma experts who work within The Rees-



In 2016, Paula Hernandez was involved in a terrible car wreck in which her arm was crushed. Her injury was grave but ultimately her arm was saved thanks to first responders on the scene and her care team at Parkland. Today, Paula is back to a healthy, active life.

Jones Trauma Center at Parkland."

Two patient stories were featured to illustrate the lifesaving care, expertise and ongoing therapies and the impact these heroes have on the patients whom they care for and serve.

In 2016, Paula Hernandez was riding in a car with a family member when they were involved in a ter-

rible car wreck in which Paula's arm was crushed. The first responders arrived to get her safely from the car and to the trauma center. They brought her to the Rees-Jones Trauma Center at Parkland where the team immediately focused on responding to her emergent needs as well as her long road of recovery. Her injury was grave but ultimately her arm was saved.

Through the care, support, and encouragement of many providers, Paula is back to a healthy, active life.

In 2017, Margaret Rowland was visiting family in Dawson, Texas when the house suddenly exploded. Many first responders from the region helped care for Margaret and her family at the scene. She was brought by air ambulance to Parkland where the trauma team began lifesaving critical work. Margaret lost part of a leg, but through the treatment and support of her care team, she is back to a normal, active life.

"This event, made possible by our generous sponsors, gave patients the chance to thank their caregivers and also for those heroes to learn what an impact they made on someone's life," said Michael A.

Horne, EdD, president, and CEO of Parkland Foundation.

More than 60 heroes were honored at 'An Evening for Heroes.' Complicated trauma cases involve many professionals with different expertise who collaborate for the common goal of helping a patient in need of critical care. Together, these responding agencies and healthcare providers create the North Texas trauma system.

"We partner closely with first responder agencies across the region to be sure that we are prepared to care for anyone who is in need of critical care at any time," said Jorie Klein, RN, Parkland's Senior Director of Trauma, Emergency Department and Disaster Management. "The staff of the Rees-Jones Trauma

Center at Parkland stands ready 24/7 to treat patients who are transported via ground and air ambulance with potentially life-threatening injuries."

To earn and retain the Level I designation, Parkland provides total care for every aspect of the injured patient from the initial medical treatment through rehabilitation as well as prevention. Additional capabilities required of a Level I trauma center include public education, research, registry and participation in regional and state system programs.

To view the patient stories, visit <https://www.parklandhospital.com/heroes>. To learn more about The Rees-Jones Trauma Center and Level I trauma care visit www.parklandhospital.com/trauma

Can exercise ward off cold and flu symptoms?

As cold and flu season approaches, so does the season of illness prevention.

From getting flu shots to adding a little extra Vitamin C to our diets, prevention often becomes a focus for those concerned with getting sick, missing work and/or school, and optimizing the joy of their upcoming Holiday Seasons.

It's based on this mindset that medical professionals like Allen physical therapist Heather Rochelle are most likely to get some version of the question: Can exercise boost my immune system?

According to Rochelle, the answer is broader than the question itself.

"In general, healthy living is the true key to building and maintaining a strong immune system, and regular exercise is definitely an important component of this," said Rochelle, of Allen Sports & SpineCare.

"Some studies have shown that exercise on its own can play a role in reducing the length and intensity of colds and flu," Rochelle added. "But, you can't discount the long-lasting, immune-boosting ben-

efits of other habits like eating right, staying hydrated, getting plenty of sleep, and reducing stress."

Research supporting exercise as an immune booster often points to many of the benefits inherent in regular fitness routines as factors that also help ward off illness: weight management, lower blood pressure, reduction in stress, and improved circulation.

At the same time, some studies have concluded that regular, mild-intensity exercise can help reduce illness, while prolonged, high-

intensity exercise can have the opposite effect by making one more susceptible to catching a bug.

"I tell people that if they feel they may be catching something – a cold, a flu or whatever may be going around – they should pull back on the length and intensity of their exercise routine just to be on the safe side," Rochelle said. "Keep getting your exercise, but also take greater care to make sure you're staying hydrated, eating well and

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Veterans Day celebrations to attend in DFW this week

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Texas National Cemetery Foundation (TNCF) invite the public to attend a **Veterans Day Ceremony at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery** at 11 a.m. US Army Maj. Gen. Jeffery D. Broadwater, Commanding General, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas, will give keynote remarks.

Ceremony highlights include U.S. Army 1st Cavalry Division Band, Midlothian High School Choir, NAS Fort Worth JRB Joint Color Guard & Rifle Salute and flyover by the 457th Squadron, US Air Force.



The Friends of the Texas Vietnam Memorial and the Vietnam Vets/Legacy Vets

Motorcycle Club invite guests to the **31st annual "Texas Run to the Wall"**

on Nov. 9. The 30-minute motorcycle ride will start at noon at Globe Life Park

in Arlington and end at the Texas Vietnam Veterans Memorial inside Fair Park. At the end of the ride, there will be a brief ceremony held to honor the 30th anniversary of the Texas Vietnam

Congressman Colin Allred (TX-32) will host a Veterans Day town hall event for veterans and military families in the 32nd District of Texas at the Richardson ISD Academy in Dallas. The event will be a forum where veterans are invited to share stories of their service and non-veterans are invited to attend, listen and learn. Allred will also be giving an

update on his work around veterans and military issues in Congress. It is scheduled for 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Richardson ISD Academy at 13630 Coit Rd., in Dallas.

323d Army Band "Ft. Sam's Own" Concert Band is performing at the **Dallas Arboretum on Veterans Day** from 2- 4 p.m. While picnicking on the lawn guests are invited to enjoy another live musical performance from the 323d Army Bands' full concert band.

Mounted soldiers will proudly ride down Main

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Bishop Arts Theatre Center 1 of 20 arts organizations selected to participate in Catalyzing Creative Aging Program

Bishop Arts Theatre Center has been selected as one of twenty nonprofit arts education organizations from across the United States to participate in the third cohort of the National Guild for Community Arts Education's Catalyzing Creative Aging Program. This multi-phase program is provided in partnership with Lifetime Arts, a nationally recognized leader in designing and disseminating model creative aging programs for active older adults, with support from Aroha Philanthropies, St. David's Foundation, and other generous supporters.

The initiative is designed to support the establishment of high-quality and effective arts education programs for older adults that increase social engagement and mastery of one or more art forms. Research shows



Courtesy photo

that professionally led, participatory arts education for older adults fosters positive aging and healthier lives.

"We are excited to continue our partnership with Lifetime Arts and Aroha Philanthropies on this important initiative," said Jonathan Herman, CEO of the National Guild. "With each

new cohort of Catalyzing Creative Aging, our nation gains a group of organizations committed to combating ageism and promoting the well-being of our older generations."

The program will provide training and coaching for eight months (Nov. 2019–June 2020) via a series of

workshops, webinars, and video consultations. Participating organizations will play an integral role in developing arts education for older adults at the intersection of health, senior services, community arts, and social change. They will also be part of a growing, intentional shift away from the passive entertainment traditionally offered to older adults, and towards programs that inspire vital creative practices. 10 of the participating organizations will be selected through a separate competitive ap-

plication process to receive seed grants of up to \$7,000 to implement new creative aging programs in fall 2020.

"We are thrilled to welcome this new cohort of Creative Aging Guild members who represent a wide variety of disciplines, organizational structures and sizes—as well as diverse regions of the country," said Maura O'Malley, CEO of Lifetime Arts. "The Lifetime Arts team is looking forward to working with each of these important community organizations to help align their work

with best practices in Creative Aging. As always, we're proud to partner with the Guild and Aroha Philanthropies to advance this work."

The goals of the Catalyzing Creative Aging Program are to:

- Increase capacity to serve older adults through skill-based, participatory arts programs
- Provide models of high-quality creative aging programs to the field
- Raise public awareness about the benefits of creative aging programs

'Actual Innocence' declared for Dallas man after serving 15 years for death of teen

An official ruling of "Actual Innocence" by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals was made final today, for 39-year-old Quintin Lee Alonzo. On May 30, 2018, Alonzo was declared actually innocent of murder and aggravated assault charges by the trial court and set free on bond

upon the agreement of the Conviction Integrity Unit of the Criminal District Attorney's Office. Today's ruling by the State's highest criminal court will allow him to begin taking steps to clear his name and receive the compensation due to him for his wrongful conviction.

In February 2003, Alonzo was convicted of murder and two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. He was sentenced to life in prison for the 2001 slaying of 18-year-old Santos Gauna and fifteen years' in prison for the shooting of

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LEGAL NOTICE TEXAS LOTTERY

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

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
2142	Triple Your Cash - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.92	\$1	11/15/19	5/13/20
2137	Ruby 7s - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.89	\$10	11/21/19	5/19/20
2135	Million Dollar Loteria - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.31	\$20	11/23/19	5/21/20
2107	200X - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.44	\$20	11/28/19	5/26/20
2171	Hit \$250,000 - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.16	\$5	11/30/19	5/28/20
2114	300X - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.86	\$30	12/11/19	6/8/20
2068	Weekly Half Grand - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.62	\$1	12/25/19	6/22/20
2149	Fireball 5s - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.70	\$1	12/25/19	6/22/20
2079	Blackout Bingo - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.41	\$2	12/25/19	6/22/20
2080	Break the Bank - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.80	\$2	12/25/19	6/22/20
2134	\$500 Frenzy - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.34	\$5	12/25/19	6/22/20
2132	Topaz 7s - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.75	\$1	1/1/20	6/29/20
2089	Block-O - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.88	\$3	1/1/20	6/29/20
2136	Emerald 7s - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.96	\$5	1/1/20	6/29/20
2138	Diamond 7s - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.36	\$20	1/1/20	6/29/20
2077	Millionaire Club - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.39	\$20	1/8/20	7/6/20

Telottery.org is the official source for all pertinent game information. Game closing procedures may be initiated for documented business reasons. These games may have prizes unclaimed, including top prizes. In addition, game closing procedures will be initiated when all top prizes have been claimed. During closing, games may be sold even after all top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. For help with a gambling problem, ncpgambling.org. © 2019 Texas Lottery Commission. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.

Christ Church Irving pledges \$256,000 to Irving Schools Foundation to address hunger among its students

As part of its mission to seek out opportunities to serve, Christ Church Irving has pledged \$256,000 to the Irving Schools Foundation "Food for Thought" program, which aims to ensure that Irving Independent School District (ISD) students are equipped for success with consistent access to safe, nutritious food. As a result of its commitment to fight hunger among the students of Irving ISD, Christ Church has delayed a previously announced plan to construct a 1,000-seat auditorium that will provide expanded space to serve



At the Irving School Foundation's Gala on Friday, Nov. 1 they spotlighted the food bag which contains a basic combination of snacks and meals to feed one person for a few days at the cost of \$5 per student. (Image via Irving Schools Foundation website)

children's ministries.

Currently, in the eighth month of a three-year capi-

tal campaign to build the new auditorium, Christ Church will postpone that

initiative until May 2020 to address the more immediate need of child hunger.

Irving Schools Foundation develop a program to address the hunger of the students

Food for Thought is the newest initiative of the Irving Schools Foundation (ISF), aimed at ending hunger in Irving ISD by providing students with weekend and holiday food bags. Established in 1985, ISF provides financial resources to maximize educational opportunities for both teachers and students by funding programs, scholarships and

activities that enhance creativity, leadership, and academic success.

"Nutrition was not originally part of our mission," said Crystal Scanio, CEO of Irving Schools Foundation and the visionary behind Food for Thought. "But how can a student learn when she is hungry? We had to expand our mission to meet the basic needs of students. Our board was eager to do so," continued Scanio. "The first week we gave out food bags in March of 2018, we fed 150 kids! That was manageable!" said Scanio. "When the program grew

to 400 students a week, we were hanging on. But now as it swells to nearly 1,000 kids per week, we urgently need financial support to sustain our efforts." "Irving ISD counselors are projecting the need to grow to as many as 3500 kids per week and we need to find new ways to meet that need."

Each food bag contains a basic combination of snacks and meals to feed one person for a few days," said Scanio. "It's about \$5 to fill a bag for one child each week. That's about \$5,000

See HUNGER, Page 16

Dallas ISD graduate wins national entrepreneurship competition in NYC

As she won a national entrepreneurship competition in New York City last month at the age of 18, Jasmine Benton—a recent graduate of Dallas ISD's Innovation, Design, Entrepreneurship Academy (IDEA) at James W. Fannin—thought of those who helped set her on her path.

At age 11, Benton started her business—Precious Designs—that today refurbishes and reupholsters housewares. In addition to the strong influence of her grandmother and mother, Benton credits her educa-



Jasmine Benton launched her first business when she was only 11-years-old. (Image courtesy of Dallas ISD)

tion at IDEA for helping set her on the path toward becoming a successful entrepreneur.

"My teachers at IDEA invested in me and made sure I was able to learn on an entrepreneurial level," Ben-

ton said. "It's great to have teachers who care. They helped me understand what it takes to grow my business."

Benton won the 2019 Business Venture of the Year at the NFTE National Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge, earning her \$7,500 and an investor to help grow her business. When she isn't running her business or turning heads as an entrepreneur, Benton is enrolled as a freshman at Oklahoma Christian University.

Benton comes from several generations of female

entrepreneurs. Her grandmother instilled in her a love of design and gave her the mindset that she can do anything.

"Design is what fuels my business," Benton said. "It fuels my drive and energy to keep going."

IDEA at Fanin is one of more than 60 choice schools that will be at the Discover Dallas ISD School Expo, which will connect students with their best-fit schools. IDEA Principal Nakimia Foster said she looks forward to meeting potential students at Discover Dallas

ISD with bright futures like Benton.

"Entrepreneurship education serves as a foundation for instilling the creative and innovative skills needed for students to succeed in the 21st century. It provides the opportunity for educators to help students tap into unrealized talents that are outside of the typical high school course of study," Foster said. "We are so proud of Jasmine's accomplishments and cannot wait to see more from this talented CEO, designer, and social entrepreneur."

Richland College offering tuition-free continuing ed classes on storm recovery for affected community members

Richland College is offering tuition-free continuing education classes on storm recovery in response to the Oct. 20 tornadoes and resulting damage that has impacted employees, students, and the local com-

munity.

These free sessions will be offered from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, and Saturday, Nov. 16.

All classes will be located at Richland College in Sabine Hall, room SH118.

Attendees may sign up for single sessions, multi-sessions, a half-day or a full day.

Interested participants are encouraged to RSVP at www.richlandcollege.edu/storm-relief.

Classes Offered

- **DIY Home Repairs After a Tornado:** When to do it yourself and save money, and when you should hire a professional. This class will be offered in partnership with Home Depot and

reputable local contractors.

- **Protect Yourself AFTER the Storm:** Home repair scams can cost you. Learn some tips to protect yourself from repair scams by learning how to spot home repair fraud. This

class will be offered in partnership with local insurance personnel experienced in personal property and casualty insurance and by the Richardson Police

See STORM, Page 12

FLU, from Page 4

giving your body time to recover."

If you do get sick? According to advice from the Mayo Clinic, that doesn't necessarily mean you can't continue to exercise. They offer the following two

rules of thumb:

The Neck Rule

If you catch a cold and find that all the symptoms are concentrated above the neck (i.e., nasal congestion, runny nose, sneezing and/or a minor sore throat), it's

typically OK to exercise. Simply reduce your intensity. Instead of going for a jog, for instance, opt to go for a walk.

In contrast, if you find that you're experiencing symptoms below the neck — things like a congested chest, a hacking cough or an

upset stomach — it's best to not exercise at all.

The Fever Rule

Also, if you have a fever or are experiencing muscle aches and fatigue throughout your body, take a break from exercising. Instead, get some rest, stay hydrated and, if things don't improve

over a couple of days, visit your doctor.

"It's always your best bet to listen to your body," Rochelle said. "Just don't overdo it. Pushing your body too hard when it's fighting an illness can do you more harm than good."

Megan McNeal, LAT,

ATC, CKTP is the Sports Medicine Outreach Coordinator, she can be reached at mmcneal@vistarehab.com. Vista Rehab Partners is an independent, therapist-owned network of 21 outpatient orthopedic physical therapy clinics located in the North Texas Area.

Carrollton plans ribbon-cutting ceremony for adaptive playground

The City of Carrollton in partnership with The Rotary Club of Carrollton-Farmers Branch will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday, November 9 at 10 a.m. for a newly renovated adaptive playground adjacent to Rosemeade Recreation Center (1334 E. Rosemeade Parkway).

“Carrollton is proud to upgrade this outdoor amenity for preschool children, tweens, teens, and individuals with special needs,” Carrollton Parks & Recreation Director Scott Whitaker said. “Playgrounds should go beyond simple accessi-



City of Carrollton

bility and be fully inclusive so that children of all abilities can play together.”

The collaboration is three times the size of the original Rosemeade Park Playground dedicated in June

2007 and was made possible by funds supplied by Carrollton Parks & Recreation and donations made to The Rotary Club of Carrollton-Farmers Branch.

The play structure is

retrofit with additional elements that stay within the goal of being an inclusive playground including new wheelchair accessible ramps that traverse multiple levels of play, an interactive music station, a We-Go-Round that allows kids in wheelchairs the ability to smoothly roll onto the deck, a Friendship Swing, and a small Loft House for children ages 2-5 years old.

“Adaptive playgrounds like this continue the City of Carrollton’s efforts to better support special populations, promote inclusiveness, and further the City’s vision to

be the community that families and businesses want to call home,” Mayor Kevin Falconer said. “We appreciate this partnership and thank the Rotary Club for their continued dedication to Carrollton.”

The layout of the playground was designed and installed by Whirlix Design Inc. and the equipment was manufactured by their partner, Landscape Structures, a company which has been at the forefront of innovation for inclusive play since the 1970s with design structures that allow all kids to have fun and grow together.

The installation of the turf was done by SynLawn, one of the largest manufacturer/installers of synthetic grass. No more mowing, watering, fertilizing, and re-sodding needed. The turf utilizes renewable resources for its composition and is virtually maintenance free providing for lower water and utility costs.

All ages are welcome to attend this free event. Following the ribbon cutting, free grilled hot dogs, chips, snacks, and drinks will be available.

For more information, call 972-466-3080.

Text to 9-1-1 for emergencies is now online in the City of Plano

Text to 9-1-1 has been implemented in Plano. The Public Safety Communications Department (Plano 9-1-1) made the announcement during its overview to City Council.

The ability to text messages will assist citizens who are hearing impaired, providing equal access to 9-1-1.

It can also be used in circumstances where it is un-

safe for the caller to physically make a voice call to 9-1-1.

Plano reminds citizens if 9-1-1 is needed, “Call if you can, text if you can’t.”

Text to 9-1-1 is not avail-

able in all cities. If you are in a city that does not accept text messages, you likely will receive a bounce-back message from your carrier, informing you to call 9-1-1.

Here are a few important

tips to remember when texting to 9-1-1:

- SMS does not provide accurate location data. You must provide your location as soon as you text.
- No photos or videos,

only text.

- No emoji’s.
- No abbreviations, spell things out. Be clear.
- Only text to 9-1-1 if you are unable to make a voice call.

REALITY, from Page 1

became so popular with women audiences in the early 2000s, they displaced legendary soap operas like All My Children and One Life to Live, both of which had been on-air for more than forty years each at the time of cancellation (2011).

Reality television mimicked the narrative and stylistic elements of soap operas, but with far less production costs. For example, even though 90 Day Fiancé is a popular reality show on TLC, reportedly, each couple gets \$1000 to \$1500 per episode, with some cast members starting GoFundMe pages to ask for help with bills.

The Bachelorette (ABC) earns \$250,000 per season, while some Teen Mom’s (MTV) like Catelyn Lowell earn \$500,000 per season. As for the Real Housewives franchise (BRAVO), the beginning salary per season started off at \$7,250 for the entire season of season 1 of Real Housewives of New York.

New reports claim Bethany Frankel made upwards

of \$1.5 million per season for her last turn on RHON, while Lisa Vanderpump (The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills) and Nene Leaks (RHOA) make up to \$2.7 million per season. It is estimated that Kim Kardashian rakes in \$7 million per season for Keeping Up the Kardashians.

While it is easy to assume that reality stars are making that kind of money, the vast majority are not, particularly on women cast shows whose re-runs dominate daytime television programming and new episodes strike ratings gold for primetime audiences.

The lower production costs of reality shows including crew and star salaries coupled with the rise of social media giants Facebook and Twitter brought the reign of daytime soap operas to a screeching halt.

While many want to get rid of what some call “Trash TV,” reality television is here to stay, if for nothing else – high return on investment in the form of advertising and viewer-

ship relative to the low cost of production and distribution.

Reality show executive producers Andy Cohen, Mona Scott Young and Carlos King understand the business model and know it is good business to produce problematic reality shows.

Dr. Mark Cunningham, Professor of Black Popular Culture at Austin Community College, thinks the critique is wrapped in respectability politics. “What we see on these shows falls under everything we discuss in other contexts as stereotyping: self-absorption, hypersexuality, over-indulgence, superficiality, hyper masculinity and so forth, he offers. I don’t buy into these critiques of the shows being worthless although I do recognize that there is some truth to the critiques in terms of the stereotypical behaviors of those on the shows. People need to understand this is just one example of black life. This is not all of black life.”

The reality shows with black women casts do represent the worst of what folks have to say about

black people, but they also fill the desire for black people in general and black women specifically to be seen on television.

It is impossible to dismiss the large audiences in general and women of color they draw despite the chorus of naysayers who believe the stereotypes bring more harm than good by playing into the “angry woman” stereotype among others.

Therein lies the rub. Why is it that in a reality genre that is teeming with shows ranging from tow truck operators to police officers to college kids sharing a house together to dance teams and the lives of little people, are so many bothered by the black cast reality shows? It is possible to realize that much of what you are watching is problematic and find some sense of pleasure in the show despite the problematic images? Is Rachel Lindsay, the first black Bachelorette, any worse than the twenty “Bachelorettes” that came before her?

Some television viewers like Donna White, who

rarely watches black cast reality television shows because of the problematic images of black people, understands why people want to see these images and believes the cast members should have the opportunity to use their platform to develop and grow their businesses.

However, White, who jokingly refers to herself as a “bean bag culture critic” is still bothered by the representation of black people on these shows. “Reality shows often perpetuate and reinforce stereotypes about black love, relationships, and how black people act and what is important to us. Black folks are dynamic and multidimensional people, but that is rarely captured on most reality shows,” she says.

When asked what it takes for her to watch more black reality shows, White states “I would have to see the formula change. I don’t want to see black women always fighting each other. I don’t want to see black men with problematic lives juggling multiple women,” she says.

When asked what type of show she would like to see, White offers, “I’d like to see something with travel and adventure. What I want to see won’t sell and won’t garner the large audiences,” she says making a sobering observation of the realities of black cast reality television shows.

Is there room for more diverse representations of blacks on reality television shows? More importantly, if the formula changed as White would prefer, will audiences watch these new types of reality shows with the same fervor as “ratchet” reality shows? Does it have to come down to the respectable and the ratchet or is there something in between?

This article was written by Nsenga K. Burton, Ph.D., entertainment and culture editor for NNPA/Black Press USA. Nsenga is also founder & editor-in-chief of the award-winning news blog The Burton Wire, which covers news of the African Diaspora. Follow her on Twitter @Ntellectual.

Dallas

Enjoy **National Pickle Day** at the Dallas Arboretum with Drop Dead Delicious Pickling Company, Pickletopia, T-Rex Pickles at 11 a.m.

Dallas ISD Day Buyer and Vendor Mixer is scheduled for Nov. 13 from Noon to 3 p.m. located at Council Offices - Activity Center, 8828 N. Stemmons

Hungry vets have plenty of options for free meals on Veterans Day in Dallas

If your favorite veteran or active member of the military is hungry, there are plenty of places around town feeding them next week. Below are a few of the restaurants offering free or discounted meals for those who have served our country.

This Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 11, **Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar** will give thanks to America's military heroes. Applebee's invites all veterans and active-duty military across the country to visit their local restaurant on Veterans Day to enjoy

Freeway, Suite 550 in Dallas.

Saint Rocco's New York Italian at Trinity Groves takes its inspiration from the family dinner tables of first-generation Italian Americans. **Nonna's Night** is a three-course family-style dinner taking place once a month, Nov. 10 and again on Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. each time.

a complimentary full-size entrée from an exclusive menu created just for them.

Amberjax is offering a free Crab Cake Minis appetizer. Blue crab is mixed with creole spices and panko bread crumbs and served with remoulade. Served all day at 3011 Gulden Ln, #107 in Dallas.

Boston Market will be celebrating America's heroes with a special BOGO deal on Individual Meals. Buy any Individual Meal and a drink between Nov. 11 – 12, and receive a free Individual Meal with the coupon available at Bos-

tonMarket.com. Visit the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum for family-friendly activities for **American Indian Heritage Month**. All ages are welcome for the activity, but the permanent exhibition is appropriate for ages 12 and up.

Garland

The City of Garland has a new class coming on Thursday, Nov. 14 from 6

off their meal.

Bowl & Barrel will offer a free Bowl & Barrel Burger for all U.S. veterans with military ID on Nov. 11.

Service men and women can get a free pie at **Fire-side Pies** with military ID on Veterans Day.

Fogo de Chão is offering all veterans and active-duty personnel 50 percent off their entire meal on Veteran's Day weekend (Nov. 8-11) at all locations; up to three guests (for each military veteran or personnel) will also receive 10 percent

p.m. - 8 p.m.

It's all about how to prepare the Thanksgiving meal, especially the turkey. What are the best tips for food handling and roasting as you prepare for that once-a-year feast? How do you safely deep fry a turkey? And what happens if there's a grease fire in the kitchen?

Garland's Water and Fire departments are part-

off their meal.

On Nov. 11, America's #1 buffet and grill is inviting all active duty and retired U.S. military personnel to visit their nearest **Golden Corral** to enjoy a free dinner buffet and beverage from 5-9 p.m. Additionally, Golden Corral will raise funds through guest contributions for DAV (Disabled American Veterans) from Nov. 4-11.

On The Border will offer a free combo meal for those with a valid military ID on Nov. 11. Dine-in only.

nering to help make yours the most delicious and safe holiday season ever. Class is free but registration is required.

Richardson

Representatives with the **U.S. Small Business Administration** toured Richardson's tornado-impacted areas this week. Different from FEMA, the SBA de-

termines whether renters, homeowners, businesses, private non-profit organizations and others impacted by the Oct. 20 tornado will be eligible to apply for low-interest, long-term loans for losses not fully covered by insurance or other means.

The SBA is expected to make an announcement on the availability of loan support in the coming week.

Perry's Steakhouse & Grille is offering a complimentary three-course Pork Chop Sunday Supper Special to veterans and active military on Sunday, Nov. 10 from 4-9 p.m. when accompanied by a guest who purchases an entrée or Sunday Supper. This Veterans Day offer will be available at all of Perry's Steakhouse & Grille locations.

On Nov. 11, **Pie Five** will honor active or retired U.S. military and current or past members of the armed forces or Department of Defense with a free personal pizza, with military ID



or proof of service. Offer valid in-store only.

Veterans can stop into their nearest **Shell Shack** location for a hearty bowl of Chicken & Sausage Gumbo or New England Clam Chowder. Available at all locations.

Single sprinkler shuts down grease fire in McKinney apartment

The McKinney Fire Department (MFD) responded to a call Saturday evening about a grease fire in a kitchen at the 1701 at Eldorado apartments. MFD units arrived to find the fire had been extinguished by a single fire sprinkler head placed in the ceiling above the stove that kept damage to a minimum. No one was injured.

"Incidents like this highlight the need for more home fire sprinkler systems," said McKinney Fire Marshal Mike Smith. "Without the fire sprinkler's fast response, those

flames would have spread quickly. That means more costly damage and a longer repair time."

Fire Fact: Only intense heat can activate a fire sprinkler system. Smoke

will not cause water to release from the sprinkler heads

More safety information can be located at www.mckinneyfire.org or www.nfpa.org.

\$6500.00 Cash or Terms



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City of McKinney

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2019 WORKSHOPS 6-8 P.M.		
SCHOOL FOR THE TALENTED AND GIFTED IN PLEASANT GROVE 9610 Bruton Road 75217	D.A. HULCY STEAM MIDDLE SCHOOL 9339 S. Polk Street 75232	HENRY W. LONGFELLOW CAREER EXPLORATION ACADEMY 5314 Boaz Street 75209
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019 WORKSHOPS 6-8 P.M.		
SOLAR PREP FOR BOYS 1802 Moser Avenue 75206	LINUS D. WRIGHT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 9400 N. Central Expressway 75231	JAMES MADISON HIGH SCHOOL 3000 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd 75215
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2019 WORKSHOPS 6-8 P.M.		
GEORGE BANNERMAN DEALEY MONTESSORI ACADEMY 6501 Royal Lane 75230	NEW TECH HIGH SCHOOL AT R.F. DARRELL 4730 S. Lancaster Road 75216	W.E. GREINER EXPLORATORY ARTS ACADEMY 501 S. Edgerfield Avenue 75208

Dallas Cowboys hope to keep momentum going against Vikings

By Dwain Price
NDG Sports

FRISCO – With the second half of the season set to start Sunday night at 7:20 p.m. when they host Minnesota at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, the Dallas Cowboys know they can ill-afford to get off to that same slow start against the Vikings that they did this past Monday against the New York Giants.

And if they do, the end

results may not be to the Cowboys' liking.

On three of their first four possessions against the Giants, the Cowboys had an interception, a missed field goal and lost a fumble. Still, the Cowboys were able to overcome those miscues and run over the Giants, 37-18.

However, the Cowboys (5-3) can't expect to engage in catastrophic turnovers and dethrone a Vikings team that's 6-3 and only

one game behind the first-place Green Bay Packers in the NFC North. Especially since the Cowboys are working on a short week, thanks to playing on Monday Night Football.

"Recovery is the name of the game," linebacker Jaylon Smith said. "So, we've got to focus on getting our bodies back right and preparing mentally – ramping up the mental — because it's going to be less physical this week because it's a

short week.

"But for us, we're all professionals and we hold each other accountable. So, anybody's that's slipping we're going to get them right, especially myself."

The Cowboys fell behind the lowly Giants, 12-3, before staging a comeback that started right after a black cat raced onto the field and interrupted play for about two minutes. Apparently, the black cat put a spell on the Giants.

"The first thing that crossed my mind, no joke, is like they've got bad luck now," defensive end DeMarcus Lawrence said. "It just turned on them."

"If a black cat runs on the field in a Monday Night Football game – a black cat – you might as well call it quits, bro'."

The win over the Giants increased the Cowboys' record to 5-3 at the season's midway point. But tight end Jason Witten knows

they'll probably be calling it quits earlier than expected this season if they don't do something to correct those slow starts.

"You're not going to be able to win games down the stretch with slow starts as you move forward in the second half of the season," Witten said. "So, you certainly have to get cleaned up — you can't ignore that, you can't pretend like it

See COWBOYS, Page 16

Special performance of the DSO at Cedar Valley College

The harmony between the Dallas Symphony Orchestra (DSO) and Cedar Valley College continues – this time with a special live performance by DSO at the school.

A "DSO On the Go" concert takes place Sat., Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Cedar Valley's Performance Hall, 3030 North Dallas Ave. in Lancaster. DSO's new assistant conductor Katharina Wincor will lead renditions of classical selections by Wolfgang Amadeus Mo-

zart, Maurice Ravel, Johann Strauss, and Edvard Grieg among others.

The event is open to the public. General admission tickets are \$19. For students, the discounted cost is \$5 by using the STUDENTGO promo code. Students with a DSO College Card can attend for free.

Dr. Kathryn D. Brown, the music program coordinator for Cedar Valley, said the collaboration between DSO and Cedar Valley has a long and successful his-

tory that dates back about 15 years.

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"The southern Dallas communities do not have opportunities like this – a chance to see the premiere symphony orchestra in the area, in their neighborhood," Brown said.

"Having the DSO perform on campus takes us beyond the early teaching to experience high-level performing in a new way for our campus and communities. This can

be a transformational event," Brown said. "Orchestral music is for everyone."

Earlier this year, DSO formed a partnership with elementary-age students in southern Dallas as part of its Young Musicians Conservatory – an outreach program that brought free instruments and music lessons to youngsters attending DSO's Saturday workshops at Cedar Valley.

To purchase tickets from the DSO website, visit <http://www.mydso.com>.



Katharina Wincor, assistant conductor of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra will lead the special performance (Courtesy photo)

NDG Entertainment: CATS, holiday shopping and tacos on the Dallas weekend calendar

By Madison Dolo
NDG Entertainment

Ready to do a bit of holiday shopping, raise money for a good cause, enjoy some tacos or see a play? Throughout Dallas/Fort Worth this weekend you have plenty of choices spotlighted on our calendar.

Yes, everyone is excited to see the upcoming movie, but first enjoy the thrill of live theater when **CATS** is presented by the Dallas Summer Musicals and Broadway across America. The beloved play kicked off this week at the Music Hall at Fair Park and runs through Nov. 17.



Get the weekend started right with **Snoop Dogg** Master P, Goodie Mob, Slim Thug, Paul Wall, Twista, Z-Ro, Crucial Conflict, Mike Jones, and Shannna at Dos Equis Pavilion on Saturday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. Tickets still avail-

able at LiveNation.com.

The **Deep Ellum Creative Market** is perfect for any art lover. Grab new art pieces from 50 local artists and enjoy a live DJ while taking care of early Christmas shopping. The whole family is welcome Nov. 9-10 at 1 p.m. each day at 100 N. Trunk Avenue in Dallas.

First of all in Dallas, we love to eat. So of course, a **Dallas Taco and Margarita Festival** is a guaranteed crowd pleaser. Sample delicious tacos and refreshing margaritas this weekend at this event made for local foodies on Nov. 9 at Fer-

ris Wheelers backyard and BBQ from Noon – 6 p.m. Purchase your tickets on Eventbrite.

Rock your underpants in the **2019 DFW Undy RunWalk**. The goal of the Colorectal Cancer Alliance is to raise money and awareness to fight colon cancer, so come on out to run for a good cause on Nov. 9 at 9 a.m. at the Levittown Pavilion for the Performing Arts in Arlington. Details at ccalliance.org.

Watch the classic tale of **The Hunchback of Notre Dame** told with through amazing song and dance.

A show to delight the entire family on stage Nov. 7-9 at the Artisan Center Theater. Showtimes and ticket info at artisanct.com.

Dallas' own Leon Bridges is one of the performers scheduled to appear at **The Texas Monthly Festival** Nov. 8-10. It will be a weekend filled with live music and folks who are making waves in Texas and beyond. More details via their Facebook event.

If you have any other suggestions for upcoming entertainment, email editor@northdallasgazette.com.

VETS, from Page 5

Street on Monday, November 11 as part of the annual Tarrant County Veterans Day Parade.

The famed Horse Cavalry Detachment of the 1st Cavalry Division, based at Fort Hood, near Killeen, Texas, is one of seven mounted cavalry units on active duty in the United States Army, and they bring to life the spirit of the equestrian soldier wherever they perform. The Centennial Celebration parade steps off from the Tarrant County Courthouse about 10:45 a.m., down Main Street, with the opening ceremony in Sundance Square at 11 a.m.

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!!!!

Gregg A. Smith gives audiences 'The Real Deal'

By David Wilfong
NDG Contributing Writer

You might say Gregg A. Smith began his musical journey as a dancer. At the age of 3, he manned the jukebox at his mother's cafe just outside of Honey Grove, Texas. Customers would toss change for his dancing performances, and it was enough to get him hooked on the power of sound.

His life's journey took him to New Mexico, the Pacific Northwest. Along the way, he picked up instruments like the harmonica and trumpet and picked up some All-State honors for singing as well.

After graduation, he followed a friend to Chicago. There, Smith was immersed in the world of some of the best Blues musicians in the country.

"It was the highlight of



Above, Mr. Charles White (at left) and NDG Publisher Thurman Jones (right) visited with Mr. Gregg A. Smith backstage to share a few memories and congratulations. Below, Gregg A. Smith (at right) is joined by Angela Buffington (left) of the Trinity River Blues Society, which named "The Real Deal" as the best new Blues album coming out of North Texas this year. (Photos: David Wilfong / NDG)

my life at the time," Smith said, adding that his stay in Chicago was cut short by the need to return home to Portland to attend school because of draft status (the Vietnam War was still going on at the time). While attending college, Smith continued to push his musical boundaries with other



musicians in the Oregon and Washington areas.

In 1983 he returned

home to Texas. He met up with Eric Scortia — then a student at North Texas State University (now University of North Texas) — which ended up starting both a lifelong friendship. Their musical partnership has taken them around the country, and in fact, the world.

On Nov. 2, Smith debuted his 18th album — titled "The Real Deal" — with a release party held at Six Springs Tavern in Richardson. The show was opened by Shake Anderson, who has a long list of musical accomplishments of his own. Listen to NDG's interview with Smith and see clips of his performance from Nov. 2 at NDG's YouTube page.

With more than 100 of his biggest fans and closest friends, he introduced a whole new slate of tunes. The album runs the gamut

of original songs recalling his childhood ("Jumpin' at the Juke Joint") to a personal arrangement of Gregory Arnold Smith's "Living On The Dark Side of Love." Plus, there is a lot more in between.

The music features the well-seasoned vocals of Smith and the thick texture of instruments behind him, a fact that was pivotal to the artist in the recording process of the album.

"Thanks to a lot of great support from my band members, as well as a great studio called the Kitchen Studios, and a gentleman by the name of J.P. Painter; worked very, very hard as well to give us the best quality of sound from the studio," Smith said. "I produced the album, Eric Scortia is the co-producer on the album. He and I also wrote three songs from the album.

"I covered some great,

great songs on this album, some cover songs that I always wanted to record myself. Overall, I'm more satisfied with this production of an album than all the other 17, simply because I feel like I really got a chance to do it in a way I have always wanted to do an album."

"The Real Deal" is now available for download online, and Smith is gearing up to perform the new material wherever he gets a chance. To that end, Angela Buffington from the Trinity River Blues Society was also on hand at the release party. She shared with the crowd her organization had named the new album as the best released in North Texas this year. With that honor, Smith will go on to put his latest release up against Blues music being produced all over the world in later competitions.

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The U.S. Census Bureau is hiring in advance of 2020 population count

It's time for that once-every-10-years job opportunity! If you are looking to earn extra income for your household, you may want to consider becoming a U.S. Census worker. To prepare for the 2020 census, the U.S. Census Bureau is hiring thousands of recruits to work temporary jobs across the nation.

Working for the census will allow you to help out your community and earn money at the same time.



The Census is recruiting now due to the process of getting future employees through training and other screening processes. (Photo: NNPA)

The U.S. Census helps determine each state's representation in Congress, how

funds are spent for schools, hospitals, and roads, and provides information to guide many decisions made by government agencies, private businesses and institutions.

Jobs within the census vary from working in the field canvassing, updating maps, doing follow-up interviews with citizens in your community, or working in an office as a clerk doing administrative tasks or office operation supervi-

sor who oversees the field staff.

The Census is recruiting now due to the process of getting future employees through training and other screening processes. The majority of these jobs begin on April 1, 2020 and end in December of 2020.

To be able to work for the census you must:

- Be 18 years old
- Have a valid Social Security number
- Be a U.S. Citizen

• Complete an application and answer assessment questions

• Register with the Selective Service System

• Pass a Census-performed criminal background check

• Commit to completing training

• Be available to work flexible hours

Many older Americans take on Census jobs after formal retirement from a full-time career.

But if you already have a job, you can still work for the Census. Your current job cannot clash with the hours you work for the Census or create any conflicts of interest. If you're a veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. military, you may be eligible for veterans' preference.

Get more information about becoming a census worker, or apply at 2020census.gov.

FREED, from Page 5

Gauna's parents.

Gauna was gunned down, and his parents injured, after a fight broke out on June 9, 2001, at a party to celebrate his high school graduation and enlistment into the United States Marine Corps. Police originally suspected another man, Licho Escamilla, as the shooter; but a witness identified Alonzo as the killer from a photo lineup.

Escamilla absconded from the country after the shooting and remained free. However, he returned to Dallas and struck again

in November 2001, when he killed 26-year-old Michael Torres in West Dallas. In addition—several weeks later, he murdered 34-year-old Dallas Police Officer Christopher Kevin James who was working an off-duty security job at a local nightclub.

Licho Escamilla was eventually charged with the capital murder of Officer James and sentenced to death.

"The day before Escamilla's execution in 2015, he confessed to the Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU) of

the Criminal District Attorney's Office to murdering Santos Gauna and shooting his parents. The CIU independently set out on an exhaustive investigation to corroborate his confession," said CIU Chief Cynthia Garza.

This is the first major actual innocence exoneration case for the CIU in Dallas County, and Criminal District Attorney John Creuzot, since that of Steven Mark Chaney who was free after serving 25 years for a conviction based on a bite mark evidence.

"I am extremely proud of the work the CIU is doing

and when another individual is exonerated like this, it means we are doing the right thing in pursuing justice for everyone, including

rectifying wrongful convictions," said Creuzot.

Alonzo's case also marks

the 41st exoneration for the Dallas County Criminal District Attorney's Office since 2001.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to build a 39 ft small cell monopole Communications Tower. Anticipated lighting application is medium intensity dual red/white strobes. The Site location is 8281 Douglas Avenue, Dallas, Dallas County, TX, 75225, Lat: [32-51-47.938], Long: [-96-48-31.412]. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Antenna Structure Registration (ASR, Form 854) filing number is A1147143.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS – Interested persons may review the application (www.fcc.gov/asr/applications) by entering the filing number. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review (www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest) and online filings are strongly encouraged. The mailing address to file a paper copy is: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. **HISTORIC PROPERTIES EFFECTS** – Public comments regarding potential effects on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Alicia, a.santucci@trileaf.com, 2550 S. IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.*



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YOUR HOLIDAY DESTINATION IS DARTable

Once homeless herself, this entrepreneur has helped more than 600 families become homeowners

(BlackNews.com) - Eight years ago, Princess Butler was homeless and struggling with debt, but now she is the CEO & founder of Financial Advantage Solutions which has helped more than 600 families around the country become - not just homeowners - but also debt-free.

Princess was raised by her grandparents who adopted

her from a hospital when she was just 2-days old. Sadly though, by January 2013, both of her grandparents had died, and she became homeless. Her credit score was in the low 300s, and she kept getting denied for home loans. Even worse, she was a single mother who suffered from ovarian cancer. So, she ended up sleeping in her car for two years, but

she remained determined to have a better future.

Later in life, she got a break and was able to turn everything around. Not only did she figure out how to repair her own credit so that she could buy a home, she also decided to launch her own company, Financial Advantage Solutions, so that she can help others do the same.

"There are a lot of people in the world that are struggling with debt and want to be financially free," she comments. "It's a passion of mine to be able to help individuals and guide them to a successful, debt-free and happy life. I always give the best advice when it comes to financial freedom. We have several programs to ensure individuals will get the help

they need."

Her company's program is truly designed to make a difference in local communities and around the nation, and her own personal life story is proof that the program works.

For more details about Financial Advantage Solutions, visit <https://myfss.co> or follow her company on Facebook.



Princess Butler was homeless herself, giving her a special insight into dealing with issues her clients face. (Courtesy photo)

STORM, from Page 6

Department.

- Navigating the Insurance Process After a Tornado: What are personal property and casual insurance? Learn more about creating a home inventory, filing insurance claims and preparing for home insurance reviews. This class will be offered by local insurance personnel experienced in personal property and casualty insurance.

- Basic Home Safety: Make a plan and review your emergency sheltering, family communication, homeland security, and ba-

sic home safety plans. This class will be offered by a certified homeland security instructor, firefighters, paramedics, and Richland college staff.

- Disaster Planning for Small Business: Review your plan and learn the steps to take to rebuild after a significant loss of property and resources. This class will be offered in partnership with the Small Business Development Council and the Garland Chamber of Commerce.

- Community Resources in a Time of Crisis: Learn

what local help is available to support you through this difficult time. Local companies, businesses, and organizations have opened their doors to provide assistance with showers, food, hydration, mobile storage units, transportation, co-working spaces, legal aid, housing assistance, and other support. This class will be presented by the Network of Community Ministries staff and Richland College staff.

- Emotional Support After a Natural Disaster: Meet with trained counseling staff to discuss ways to cope with emotions related to loss after a natural disaster.

Get referrals to other agencies and support services that might be needed at this time. This class will be offered by Richland College Counseling Services staff.

In addition to offering the tuition-free storm recovery classes, Richland College has also compiled a list of resources for those affected by the storms, available at <http://rlc5.dcccd.edu/media/north-texas-storm-damage-update>.



Representatives from FEMA, along with state, county and Richardson emergency management teams, toured tornado-damaged areas. In Richardson, the tornado damaged or destroyed 30 traffic signals and more than 300 street signs and some park facilities. A portion of the cost for debris removal in impacted neighborhoods could also be eligible for reimbursement. (Image: City of Richardson)

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) is proposing to construct several small cell monopole communications towers in the vicinity of Dallas, Dallas County, TX. The heights and locations for the proposed installations are as follows: 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 1993 Jackson St., 75201, Lat: [32-46-48.58], Long: [-96-47-38.27]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 557 South Harwood St., 75201, Lat: [32-46-43.37], Long: [-96-47-32.68]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 158 South Saint Paul St., 75201, Lat: [32-46-51.55], Long: [-96-47-43.91]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 132 South Griffin St., 75202, Lat: [32-46-46.27], Long: [-96-48-09.86]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 447 South Ervay St., 75201, Lat: [32-46-42.46], Long: [-96-47-47.32]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 703 Wood St., 75202, Lat: [32-46-37.47], Long: [-96-48-19.09]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 1678 Pacific Ave., 75208, Lat: [32-46-56.73], Long: [-96-47-52.62]; 39-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 407 N. St. Paul St., 75201, Lat: [32-47-2.47], Long: [-96-47-52.45]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 398 N. Akard St., 75201, Lat: [32-46-58.63], Long: [-96-48-00.63]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 543 N. Akard St., 75201, Lat: [32-47-3.6], Long: [-96-48-2.67]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 105 S. Harwood St., 75201, Lat: [32-46-53.46], Long: [-96-47-39.08]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 1603 Jackson St., 75201, Lat: [32-46-46.32], Long: [-96-47-50.59]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 892 Olive St., 75201, Lat: [32-47-15.33], Long: [-96-47-53.12]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 2796 North Houston St., 75201, Lat: [32-47-32.81], Long: [-96-48-39.61]; 36-foot tower located at the approx. vicinity of 496 S Houston St., 75202, Lat: [32-46-33.75], Long: [-96-48-24.88]; Public comments regarding potential effects from these sites on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Andrew, a.bray@trileaf.com, 2550 S. IH-35, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78704, 512-519-9388.*

Investors Liquidation Sale: Laurel Land Cemetery Burial Plot For Sale (one space) Section # 3, Space # 15, Lot # 20



Sunny Ripert / Flickr

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Jobs in science, intelligence, combat, aviation, engineering, law and more. Contact 214-406 - 3737

Prerequisites:

- GED/High School Diploma
- Between the ages of 17-34
- No felonies
- No major medical issues
- U.S. Citizen or permanent resident

Ongoing Census Bureau

The Census Bureau conducts continuous surveys to supply the nation with important statistics on people, places and our economy. Local field workers know their communities best, and are instrumental in conducting surveys with residents on a variety of topics. Visit census.gov to apply.

Ongoing City of Dallas

The City of Dallas' HR Dept is currently accepting apps for the Budget and Contract Administrator position. Bachelor's degree in a business/public administration, human resources or healthcare administration field, plus 7 yrs exp.

For more info and to apply, visit: <http://bit.ly/2NcCfVP>.

Ongoing House of Blues

Want a cool job in live music? House of Blues Dallas is hiring! Spruce up your resume and join us on Monday, August 26th for a Job Fair in our Cambridge Room from 1-5PM. All de-



partments are hiring. View job openings at <http://livenationentertainment.com/careers>.

On-going First Fridays Virtual Job Fair

Every month computer professionals can participate in the monthly job fair in the comfort of your PJs. Job Seekers must complete profile on https://tao.ai/p/fff/_dfw

#FirstFridayFair (#FFF) is estimated to be largest attended career fair with around 8,000 professionals and 500 recruiting companies. The data science and software development focussed career fair is delivered right at your desktop. No need to travel anywhere, just signup and wait for TAO.ai to organize your interactions.

Through Nov. 8 Seeking movie lovers

Alamo Drafthouse Las Colinas Job Fair movie lovers are invited to come and meet the Alamo Drafthouse Las Colinas management team and possibly walk away with a brand new job at the Las Colinas Job Fair.

There's no need to fill out an application before you arrive, just show up between Noon and 4 p.m. every Monday and Friday through Nov. 8 to chat with one of the Las Colinas managers. Dress is casual and you just need to bring a passion for film, food, people and beer. The address is 320 W Las Colinas Blvd. Building A2, in Irving.

Nov. 14 Dallas ISD is hiring!

The Dallas Independent School District is hosting a fall Teacher Job Fair on Thursday, Nov. 14 at Emmett J. Conrad High School from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

If you are interested in gaining a teaching position

for the 2019-2020 school year, Dallas ISD encourages you to attend. Come and experience the opportunity to interview with their campus principals and leaders.

If attending, please ensure to register prior to the event in order to receive job fair updates and information.

Teacher openings available in all levels. If you require special accommodations, please notify the recruitment team at futureteacher@dallasisd.org.

Nov. 21 Vets @ Jerry's World

RecruitMilitary.com is hosting their next Dallas area job fair at the AT&T Stadium on Nov. 21 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The job fair will take place in the AT&T Endzone West, please enter the stadium through Entry "J." Parking is free in Lot 10.

Event Success Tips

- Review the exhibitor list and conduct research to help you engage effectively.
- Visit every exhibitor -

find the hidden opportunity that might be perfect for you.

- Take a moment to practice your 30-second elevator pitch.

- Make eye contact and confidently greet each recruiter with a smile and firm handshake.

- Deliver your elevator

pitch and engage in conversation.

- Get the recruiter's contact information and ask about the best way to follow-up.

- Within 24 hours, follow-up with every company that interests you.

More details and registration at recruitmilitary.com.



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- **Laborers (Structures, Underground, Paving)**
- **Excavator Operator (Earthwork)**

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November 10, 9:45 am
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.

November 13, 7 pm
You are invited to join us for Wednesday's Prayer and Bible Study Class with Senior Pastor Woodson, Pastor Larry Gardner, Pastor Bernadette and others as we study a new book, Immerse, The Bible Reading, Poets, with supporting chapters and verses. Spiritual maturity is God's desire for you; it's Time to Grow in the Word of God.

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November 10, 9:30 am
You are invited to 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 glo-

ry and honor.

November 13
Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study class and/or our Wednesday Night Live, Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all; be prepared to grow.

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"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there

may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there will not be room to receive." - Malachi 3:8-10

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

November 10, 10 a.m.
Please join us for our Morning Service; and don't forget to invite family and friends to join us as we celebrate our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

November 11, 7 p.m.
You are invited to Monday School to see what God has to say to us in His Holy Word.

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November 13, 7 pm
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.

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Senior Pastor and
Pastor Gloria Fenceroy
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You are invited to our Worship Services as we honor God for His goodness and faithfulness.

**November 11, 7 to 8 pm
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November 13, 7 pm
You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study class; you will learn what God has to say to us. Come and be encouraged by God's plan for your spiritual growth and His glory.

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Learning from God's Creation



Sister Tarpley
NDG
Religion
Editor

"For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities - His eternal power and divine nature - have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse" (Romans 1:19-20).

Have you ever had someone say, "I don't see any evidence of God. How can a person believe in someone you can't see or see any evidence even exists?"

The Bible tells us that God is revealed in His creation every day. Look at the human body and consider the likelihood of how thousands of body parts that must work together. Someone created it to work this well.

If it were a manufactured product, it would be in the repair shop all the time because of all the moving parts required to make it work.

Consider the wonderful order and balance of nature and how the seas know their boundaries, the beauty of the mountains and the balance of rain and oxygen needed to balance the ecosystems. Consider God's signature, the rainbow.

The 12th century Scottish Christian mystic, Richard of St. Victor said, "The whole of this sensible world is like a book written by the finger of God."

Look at nature and won-

der at the creative design of the hundreds of thousands of species of animals like the tiger, the elephant, the great whales and the thousands of species of birds, just to name a few.

Consider the planet we live on. "The Earth is a rough sphere about eight thousand miles in diameter, which means that it's about four thousand miles straight down to the center.

We are accustomed to thinking of it as a ball of rock, but that's not so: the great majority of the Earth is liquid - molten rock called magma swirling, incredible slowly, beneath our feet.

The solid part of the earth that we live on, and in whose hollows the sea sits, is called the crust, and on average it's only a few miles thick - maybe ten miles.

That's like a layer a third of a millimeter thick coating a football. We live on that incredibly fragile, thin layer of plates floating on the subterranean sea of magma."*

God, how many people today are lacking integrity? I can think of so many scandals among business and Christian leaders, as well as everyday people. What a



Lieutenant Commander Andre Barber is in the United States Navy. He is a 2004 graduate of R. L. Turner High School and a 2008 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. He is currently stationed at the Command for Submarine Pacific Force Operations in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. LCDR Barber is the son of Ursula Barber of Carrollton. We appreciate his service as we celebrate Veterans Day, September 11, 2019.

NDG^{tv}

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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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@northdallas-gazette.com

NDG Book Review: *Melania & Michelle: First Ladies in a New Era*

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The chair you now sit in was once occupied by someone else.

You are the second or fifth or forty-fourth to hold the job but get ready: in this position, everything you do is critiqued and measured against your predecessors and there is no playbook. Also know that, like in the new book “*Melania & Michelle*” by Tammy R. Vigil, you have some pretty big pumps to fill.

As in the aftermath of nearly every Presidential election in American history, in January 2017, comparisons were made between the outgoing First



Lady and the incoming one. Fair or unfair, such study happens with every new administration and while everyone knew that Mrs. Obama and Mrs. Trump were different, there were many similarities – more

so, says Vigil, “than their public personas seemed to indicate.”

Both, for example, “were raised in less comfortable environments than their forerunners,” politically and economically. Both women had aspirations beyond politics: Obama, like predecessors Hillary Clinton and Laura Bush, received a college degree; like Nancy Reagan and Betty Ford, Trump worked in “image-oriented industries” and eschewed college. Despite that Obama and Trump had each enjoyed some amount of fame prior to their husbands’ runs for office, both had to learn to manage their new and very

unfamiliar positions.

Of course, both were harshly critiqued for their time as First Ladies, by the public and by the media. Their marriages were scrutinized and their roles as mothers were closely watched. Gaffes were magnified; platforms were ridiculed. Even their choice of fashion was cause for negativity and yet, both were seen as role models for young women and girls both in dress and in the poise they’ve displayed.

As for the next FLOTUS – if there is one – she will likely have the same struggles, scrutiny, and expectations to meet, as has each First Lady for more

than 200 years. This, for a position for which she’ll be required to forge her “own unique path” in a job she didn’t necessarily ask for, and doesn’t get paid.

Apples or oranges? When it comes to First Ladies, it almost seems wrong to compare them since they’re all so very unique. Even so, author Tammy R. Vigil does it in “*Melania & Michelle*,” and the side-by-side is pleasantly surprising.

Indeed, Vigil’s book is one of the more balanced on this topic, examining the work of both Obama and Trump with a non-sensational, nonpartisan voice that remains honest and

doesn’t hide anything, and a willingness to retrieve lessons from past administrations as examples. In detail, Vigil also shows why a thick skin is necessary for the spouse in the White House; and then she flips the script, showing how, if a FLOTUS ever decides to opt out and stay home, she’d have history behind her.

No doubt, “*Melania & Michelle*” is perfect for anyone interested in politics but it will also appeal to the reader who wants a behind-the-scenes of a job that only a select few will ever hold.

Check it out. It’ll keep you in your chair.

COWBOYS, from Page 9

didn’t happen.

“You’ve got to be accountable to it and you’ve got to acknowledge why it’s happening and get it corrected.”

After hosting the Viking, the Cowboys hit the road to play at Detroit (3-4-1) and at New England (8-1) before returning home to host the Buffalo Bills (6-2) on Thanksgiving Day. So, that’s a very tough stretch of games that they know may define their season.

Meanwhile, it wasn’t as if the Cowboys’ offense didn’t have its moments against the Giants. Prescott passed for 257 yards and

threw touchdown passes of 42 yards to Blake Jarwin and 45 yards to Amari Cooper.

And Prescott’s 15-yard scoring strike to Michael Gallup was a thing of beauty.

“It was a running play and we felt like we got them offside, and it became a free play,” coach Jason Garrett said. “They ended up not throwing a flag (for offside), so it was a free play in our mind, but in no one else’s mind.

“Then, Dak made a heckuva throw, and then Gallup obviously finished it off. It was an incredible acrobatic



Dak Prescott, Dallas Cowboys' quarterback, poses with four pregnant Soldiers and pregnant Army spouses who were selected for the Cowboys' "Salute to Service" Baby Shower at The Star in Frisco, Texas, Nov. 2nd. The five women were sent from Fort Hood. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Alisha Edwards; 7th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment) (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Alisha Edwards; 7th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment) (Photo Credit: Pfc. Alisha Edwards)

play that he made. To maintain his balance, to somehow get himself, contour his body to get himself in

the end zone, it was spectacular.”

What also was spectacular was the Cowboys’ defense,

which forced three turnovers, recorded four sacks and saw cornerback Jourdan Lewis return a fumble 63 yards for a touchdown. A lot of the defensive pressure came from newcomer Michael Bennett, who recorded a sack and had four quarterback hurries in his first game with the Cowboys after he was acquired about two weeks ago in a trade with New England.

“Just him being really active,” Garrett said of Bennett. “I thought all our guys did a good job rushing.

“We really wanted to push the pocket and I just felt like they were around the quarterback a lot, af-

fected the quarterback a lot and really had a big impact on this game.”

Going forward, after remaining in first place in the NFC East with a half-a-game lead over Philadelphia (5-4), the Cowboys realize they must raise their game to a higher level in order to get through the rough patches that the second half of the season will present.

“We’re a confident team,” Prescott said. “We’re a team that even when we’re fighting adversity, even when we’re getting in our own way and struggling a little bit, we have confidence and we have faith in what we’re going to do.”

HUNGER, from Page 6

a week at our current rate. As we learn of more needs, that number could grow to more than \$17,000/week, or \$682,000 a school year.”

Change of plans to meet a pressing need

Christ Church Co-Pastor Greg Beauchamp said he was deeply affected when he heard about the food crisis among kids in Irving schools. “When we learned there are so many neighboring children suffering from food insecurity, we felt compelled to act,” said Beauchamp. “Christianity looks out for those who

cannot help themselves, and at the top of that list is a hungry child. It is our duty and our honor to provide the resources that can help students in need.”

Though the reallocation of the church’s budget to Food for Thought will mean postponing a planned capital expansion, Beauchamp said he felt this is the right thing to do. “Our Christian conscience would not allow us to construct a new building when there are children regularly going without food. No one wants the new auditorium more than me,

but the ‘want’ to feed hungry children is even greater.”

“Our vision for the church is to help everyone in our community with their physical, emotional and spiritual needs,” said Christ Church Co-Pastor Keith Luttrell. “We’ve done that in all kinds of ways that led to amazing growth in our church, but this project is greater than anything we’ve done before.”

“One of our food service employees saw a fourth-grader grab an apple core from the trash and eat the remnant,” said Scanio. “The school investigated and re-

alized she wasn’t getting food at home. The more we looked into the problem, the more we realized this was a crisis throughout our district.”

Scanio shared these concerns with Beauchamp and Luttrell, who were moved to act quickly. “When Greg and Keith called to say Christ Church could support all 970 students for the year, I just started crying. It was truly an answer to my prayers,” says Scanio.

Christ Church has a rich legacy dating back 100 years as one of three original churches to receive land grants from the City

of Irving founders. In 2012, nearly 350 members moved to its current location at 1750 E. Airport Freeway, and the church has grown to more than 1,200 members today with over 800 in attendance each week.

“At its core, Christianity is about loving God and loving your neighbor, especially those who are hurting, hungry, homeless or helpless,” said Beauchamp.

“We are a diverse church of young families who want to make our community a better place, and the huge hearts of our members show we stand ready to help in a time of need,” explained

Luttrell. “We’re not the only church in Irving who will do this. We believe the broader Christian community will also step up to expand and sustain this effort.”

“We are offering so much more than seven meals a weekend; we are offering hope,” continued Scanio. “It’s giving our children a chance to simply be kids. Now they show up each day ready to learn without the distraction of an empty belly or the shame of not having food.”

To learn more about the Food for Thought initiative, please visit IrvingSchools-Foundation.org.