Our Failure to Measure Up

Blacks Now Finishing High School at Record Levels

Consumer Complaints Pays Off in $1.6 Billion Relief

Financial stress can feel like a lonely struggle. But according to a new report by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), 460,700 consumers shared many of the same financial concerns and contacted the agency for help in just six months last year.

During this period, CFPB’s related investigations and enforcement actions on a range of financial concerns from discriminatory credit card practices to violations of federal laws to protect military service members, and more brought $1.6 billion in relief to consumers.

Since its inception in 2011, CFPB has helped more than 15 million consumers nationwide and cumulatively recovered more than $5.3 billion on their behalf.

Some could say that returning monies to consumers is just a case of the squeaky wheel getting the grease. See CFPB, page 2

By Marian Wright Edelman

Our Failure to Measure Up

Too much and for too long, we seem to have surrendered personal excellence and community values in the mere accumulation of material things. Our Gross National Product, now is over $800 billion dollars a year. If we judge the United States of America by that, Gross National Product counts air pollution and cigarette advertising, and ambulances to clear our highways of carnage… Yet the Gross National Product does not allow for the health of our children, the quality of their education, or the joy of their play. It does not include the beauty of our poetry or the strength of our marriages, the intelligence of our public debate or the integrity of our public officials. It measures neither our wit nor our courage, neither our wisdom nor our learning, neither our compassion nor our devotion to our country. It measures everything in short, except that which makes life worthwhile. And it can tell us everything about America except why we are proud that we are Americans.

By Jazelle Hunt | NNPA Washington Correspondent

Blacks Now Finishing High School at Record Levels

WASHINGTON (NNPA) – After 30 years of little to no progress, Black youth are completing high school at the highest rates in history. This is the finding in a new issue brief titled, “Young Black America Part One: High School Completion Rates are at their Highest Ever,” published by the Center for Economic Policy Research, a Washington-based think tank. The report examines Census Bureau data for 20 to 24 year-olds, and compares high school completion rates around the country over the past 30 years.

“Among high-income countries, the United States ranks first in Gross Domestic Product and first in the number of billionaires, and second worst in child poverty rates—ahead only of Romania whose economy is 99 percent smaller than ours. It is a national disgrace that children are the poorest group of Americans with 14.7 million living in poverty. We are first in military spending—$11.1 billion a week—and first in military exports.

Our Gross Domestic Product—now $17.7 trillion—includes more than just the human values that should matter most. Our Gross Domestic Product is the best measure we have of our standard of living and quality of life in our communities and nation.

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Black child well-being in America sees higher mortality rate compared to child well-being in other nations

The United States stands only with new U.N. member states in having weight loss factors that are higher than in 127 other countries, according to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention is the most widely compared to other nations, the U.S. infant mortality rate exceeds that in 65 nations, including Cuba, Malaysia, and Ukraine. According to the U.N., the weight of infants is higher than in 127 other countries, including in Latin America, the Congo, and Guatemala.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child spells out the basic rights children have. More than one-third of the world is growing up with the basic rights of children. But in 127 other countries, children are still not read or compute at grade level in 2013. We rank first in health expenditures but 25th in low birth weight rates, 26th in child immunization rates, 31st in infant mortality rates, and second worst in teenage births - just ahead of Bulgaria.

If we compare Black child well-being in America to child well-being in other nations, the U.S. infant mortality rate exceeds that in 65 nations, including Cuba, Malaysia, and Ukraine. According to the U.N., the weight of infants is higher than in 127 other countries, including in Latin America, the Congo, and Guatemala.

"In 2013, the completion rate for black males (83.5 percent) was 5.9 percentage points lower than white females and 8.8 percentage points lower than white males."

Continued from page 1

"I feel like there's a lot of attention on Blacks in general, but I wanted to focus on young Blacks like me," Bucknor says. "So I'm hoping to look at several issues related to education, jobs, and inequality as a way to answer that question."
By Arlene L. Youngblood, Wesley Church Historian

AUSTIN, TX - On March 4, 1865, the founders and mothers of Wesley United Methodist Church (formerly Wesley Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church) established their own place of worship consecrated by the hand of God. According to church history (the late Rev. Joseph W. Henderson, Jr., the church's humble beginnings began with 61, Gresham Avenue, southeast of the present-day 20th Street. When the Emancipation Proclamation was declared, the newly freed church (formerly Wesley United Methodist Church) was established on February 13, 1865. In addition to those who served at Wesley Chapel and served as its rector Rev. Rev. Sylvester Chase, Jr.

The Austin Area Urban League had its beginnings in Wesley UMC and was co-founded by former pastor Rev. Rev. Sylvester Chase, Jr. in 1977. The church also served as a worship site for Vincentian Services and classes for the students of Samuel Huston College (now Huston-Tillotson University). Throughout the month of March and the remainder of the year, the Wesley Family will celebrate 150 years of Christian service. The anniversary theme is: "150 Years of Trusting and Believing in a Mighty God," with support from scripture taken from Daniel 3:18-18.

Guest Anniversary Speakers include: The Rev. Dr. Marcus L. Samuel, the leader of the Extensional Leadership Vitality with the Rio Texas Conference on United Methodist Church in Sunday, March 22, 2010 at 10 a.m. worship service. The Bishop任命 the public is invited.

Robert E. Hayes, Jr., Oklahoma area of the United Methodist Church, will be the speaker of the hour for Sunday, March 29, 2015 at 10 a.m. worship service. Music will be provided by Gospel Jazz Guitarist Mattie Robinson and the affair will conclude with an evening of dancing and fellowship.

For tickets, contact info@alphanapazetta.com or speak with any member.

Project Breast CARE (Cancer, Awareness, Referral and Education)

Thanks to Komen Austin and funding from the Seton Healthcare Family and as a part of that effort, along with Seton’s Big Pink Bus, a mobile screening day will be held on March 26th, 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the church office regarding mammograms and con-

The gym will be open for mammograms and con-

Anniversary Celebration Luncheon tickets at (512) 324-3375.

Worship Services

Sunday Services

Worship Services

AUGUST 2014

1830 Guadalupe St Bldg #639 Austin, TX 78751
Worship Service         11:00 A.M.
Sunday School          9:00  A.M.
Sunday Services

The Church of Pentecost

Church Services

1010 East 10th Street 512-478-1875 Fax 512-478-1892

The Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church, will host a Breast Cancer Awareness, Referral and Education (Project Breast CARE) event, on March 4, 2015.

Wesley Chapel and served as its rector Rev. Rev. Sylvester Chase, Jr.

In recognition of the 150th anniversary theme is:

The Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr. is Senior Pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church and has served as pastor since June 1994. Chairs for the 150th Anniversary Committee are Rev. Dr. Susan L. Johnson and the Rev. Roland Gresham that will conclude with an evening of dancing and fellowship.

For tickets, contact info@alphanapazetta.com or speak with any member.

Project Breast CARE (Cancer, Awareness, Referral and Education)

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Dieting

Genesis Stiggers
Elgin Middle School

My point of view on the subject of dieting is not unique to me. While some girls just throw on an exercise suit and feel, I do all my eating work. I find clothes that actually fit me correctly. In my opinion, all that happens is that humans should grow up doing this finding the heart inside the earth even in my case. We live in a life of judging. And unfortunately, I am one of them.

Even the kindest people on the face of the Earth have to judge. The truth is, you probably judge people too. Just think about all the ways you look at people, even though it seems unfair, it’s how you know how to find a good person. If you don’t know how to see if you can trust something, the only way to tell is to look at their face expressions, attitude, person ability, and even the way they talk.

When you look at me you can probably tell I am a friend. I have my own mind, I don’t mind, because I know that people can be different and that my personality is happy and nice. Sometimes I think I have too much in common with my best friend. I can turn from happy to angry without saying one wrong word. I think that emotions can change from moment to moment when too much is battled up. I know that I am not the kindest person in the world, but I am still smart, and kind, and funny, and even if I don’t have a diet, I am still proud to be me.

Zachariah Washington
Cedarас Adaracy

For as long as I can remember, I have loved the fire- place political process. As a matter of fact, one of my favorite things to do was to vote on things that I could add in an "I voted" sticker to my col- lection. This week, I turn 18 years old and I will be able to vote by myself for the first time.

However, a recent voter identification effort could be a roadblock in exercising my long-awaited and Constitu- tionally protected right. In 2011, lawmakers proposed the requirement that voters have a state-issued or other- wise approved photo ID, cit- ing anti-fraud and the reus- tivity of integrity in Texas elections as their justifica- tion.

In practice, this law, our government in- clusion of citizens, and the elderly. In fact, Diana Leibovitz of the Huffington Post reported in 2014 that many of Texas’ el- derly population are no longer eligible to vote as a result of the placement of de- cades-old documents, such as birth certificates that are now, in some instances, re- quired to legitimize voting rights.

Finally, a NAACP study as published by Jason Hanna through CNN on Oc- tober 19, 2014 concluded that 25% of African-Americans

Spring Break

Malakai Washington
Cedarars Int’l Academy

OMG!!! SPRING BREAK IS HERE!!! This week my plans are to relax, eat, and spend some time with my friends and family. This week I’ve al- ready planned to spend most of my time with my friends and family. This week I’ll have plenty of time to spend with my friends and family. This week we’ll all be able to enjoy spending some time together. My grandpa and I will probably go out to eat. I plan to make this spring break better than ever. I will be on spending some time with my grandparents. We al- ways have fun together. My grandpar- ents are the coolest.

My plans for the last couple days of this week because it will be very busy and I won’t get another break until summer which is months away. I look for- ward to going on spring break every year it because that is the first indication that the weather will be better. After it being so cold for months on end, I take every chance I get to enjoy and out and the sun. I hope everyone enjoys this week as well. Spring break, I know I will.

Rebecca Richardson
Bowie High School

On Tuesday we have Bible study. Wednesday and Thursday I plan to go to the church and have a finger lunch at their next day of church in church. We do a lot of fun and cool things. Friday actually I don’t have to do anything so I can go through with my classes. Saturday we will spend quality time with my grandma and grandpa. Lastly Sunday we have church.

I hope that my Spring break is great. With all the plans I have I will never get to see all my plans which I need because the teachers at school give us so much work that I need to sleep because the moment I get back the work load will get worse. I don’t think anyone is going to want to go back to school. I hope they are, It’s going to be so much fun. HAPPY SPRING Break!!

VID Law Threatens Democracy

My time spent as an in- dustry speaker was the most beneficial experience I have had so far. I have learned that the "B" team came in 3rd overall and the team both teams came at the TFA State Tourna- ment in El Paso. The team competes at the TFA State Tournament at the state tournament at the state tournament at the end of April in College Station.

Members of the HHS speech & Debate team com- pete at the TFA State Tourna- ment in El Paso. The team ended up taking the 1st place spot for total number of qual- ified and was 2nd out of 209 schools for sweepstakes. Se-

Spring Break

Erikia Lippincott
MacMillan Academy

Spring break just started and I can’t wait for it to begin. I hope to at least go somewhere. I would also like to go shopping, go out to eat, and all that fun stuff. The bad part about spring break is that the teachers do not understand what the world spring break means. We are mean to so much with HOMEWORK!!! That’s what I have to do over spring break for a whole week. Luckily I can get it fin- ished before it is over. See you all have a good spring break.

Break Time

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Hello everyone this week I wanted to talk to you about grades. Tides are the rise and fall of sea levels. This is caused by the combined effects of gravitational forces by the sun and moon, and the rotation of the earth.

Usually each lunar day the tides happen twice from the attraction of the moon and sun. There are two most equal high and low tides caused by semi-diurnal tides that occur on some shorelines and on other shorelines there is only one low tide called diurnal tide. High tides occur when the tide is at its fullest or a culminating point. Low tides are the farther down and lower ebb of the tide. There are also neap tides which are less than an average tide and one for when the moon is at its first and third quarter. A diurnal tide is extremely interesting because it is a high tide that occurs on one side of the earth and on the opposite side at the same time.

Montrice Nelson
Riverplace Elementary

This past week was the Spring Break for many students. For me personally this week I wanted to talk to you about how grades will be important for our upcoming recital. In my spring break will be really important because if I do not see if I wanted to go see a movie with her but I felt like I should focus on studies this year, I’m glad to be at Lamar Middle School.

The facility get a new fence. A new fence to prevent their spreading around a virus and it looks like I am the leader. Although my spring break is all about procrastination surrounds us.

It is not fair either because it was established five years ago. Since then, Mikaila has been awarded the President of the Year Award by Greater Austin Black Chamber, and Best Entrepreneurial Biz 2013 by The Austin Chronicle. For more about BeeSweet Lemonade, events, recipes, and retail locations, please visit www.beesweetlemonade.com.

Mikaila Ulmer

Mikaila Ulmer was a 10-year-old Austinite and founder of BeeSweet Lemonade. Her recipe for BeeSweet won "Most Creative Lemonade" in Austin's 2011 Best Lemon contest. Since then, Mikaila has been awarded President of the Year Award by Greater Austin Black Chamber, and Best Entrepreneurial Biz 2013 by The Austin Chronicle. For more about BeeSweet Lemonade, events, recipes, and retail locations, please visit www.beesweetlemonade.com.

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All Star Beauty, To Expand In Central Texas

by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

Over the years, the owner of “All-Star Beauty Supply” has seen tremendous increase in business due to the good economic climate in Central Texas. “For years now, I am seeking to expand; therefore, they are looking to hire new employees to help with the hair dressing aspect of the business. Moreover, the owner

Cecilia, owner of All Beauty Supply and of Remi Hair. Photos by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

of “All-Star Beauty Supply” has been in business for a very long period, and she handles various business techniques.

According to Cecilia, the owner of All Beauty Supply, her business is different from the others due to the fact she owns her hairline. Over a period of years, she has developed her own hairline which is called “Remi Hair”. In addition, her location offers various types of African hair brands. Finally, one can find the basic beauty supplies in her store. For instance, one can find hair lace wigs, “Remy Hair Bundles”, hair products, hair tools, contact lens, and cosmetics.

Furthermore, Cecilia has been in the hair industry for the past 10 years. Not only has she been in business for the last 10 years, but also her desire is to expand. According to Cecilia she has been in business for a long time due to the fact that the services they request makes the business progress well. In addition, she uses the golden rule and treats her clients the way she wants to be treated. Finally, most of her clients are repeat customers who come out and support in your black & gold. For more information, please contact Thelma Spruill Williams at (512)-300-9286.

Immigration Bills

by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

Once again, the conservative Republican led Legislature is seeking to write an immigration bill even though immigration is a Federal issue. Since the past 2 legislative cycles, the Republican controlled Texas Legislature has sought to inject itself into immigration believing that it will fight the “crime wave” that has occurred along the Texas-Mexico border.

During this Legislative cycle, the Texas State SenatorCharles Perry of the Lubbock area has written Senate Bill 185 which will give an officer, district attorney or any enforcement agency the ability to ask a person for their legal status if arrested or detained. According to Diaspora Vote, people of the African diaspora communities and other immigrant communities may be targeted due to the fact that they don’t have Anglo sounding last names and may be tagged or questioned for their legal status.

Some States like Arizona and Texas tried to pass their own immigration bill but the fact that the Federal Government still doesn’t have rules regarding the flow of migration has caused them to fail. However, the migration bill of these States failed because it caused threaten majorities of certain ethnicities, rather than, trying to stop migrants of all races.

Capitol View Arts Urban Austin SXSW 2015 Official Showcase

by Kyleeil

Capitol View Arts, the east side nonprofit that works with urban artists with opportunities and career ad

Kyleeil

A-Game

Sen. Charles Perry

Capitol View Arts Urban Austin SXSW 2015 Official Showcase

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Some States like Arizona and Texas tried to pass their own immigration bill but the fact that the Federal Government still doesn’t have rules regarding the flow of migration has caused them to fail. However, the migration bill of these States failed because it caused threaten majorities of certain ethnicities, rather than, trying to stop migrants of all races.
Stage Play “How Can You Hurt The One You Love”

Coming This Month courtesy BE Entertainment & Productions

Presented by BE Entertainment & Productions Award Winning Playwright Blanca Emery, From The Hit Stage Play “How Can You Hurt The One You Love”

Tuesday, March 11, 2015

Previews: District Clerk Civil Division Director Longhorn State County Courthouse

Manages operations in accordance with and in accordance with the full-time, part-time, and temporary positions.

Salary is assigned according to the

Salary Commensurate Upon Request

Director, Assistant to the Dean of the School of Business and Public Policy

RECOMMENDATION IN DETERMINATION HEREOF AND FOR LETTERS OF INDEPENDENCE ADMINISTRATION in the said estate and request (s) that said District Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the ESTATE OF RICHARD ALLEN SEXTON, Deceased, and their respective rights.

C-1-P-004420

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Bobbi J. Williams Fresh, Deceased, were issued on December 4th, 2014, in Cause No. C-1-P-14-004420 pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to Mal Wiley. All persons having claims against this Estate which is at present being administered are required to present the same to Mal Wiley, 5410 Round Rock Express, Chair, Serita Lacisse, Drive a Senior Center, Magnolia Ranch Estates, Mary Ann Provance, San Antonio, TX 78225.

March 13 Chair, Perry Sanford, Quality Care Sleep Diagnosis, Trea- ser; Dennis Spencer, Preservationist; Tana Sykes, St. David’s North Austin Medical Center, Secretary; Jackie Torres, Jackie Torres Agency.

Model stepping out during the “Black and Tan Fashion” show. Images courtesy of Peter Photography’s Photographs manipulation techniques. Each designer had to stay within the criteria to use the assigned technique for their show attire.

The event was actually a competition which was judged by a panel of local fashion ambassadors.

The featured model in the photo is Adrienne Arroyo. “Marie”, as she is known, has merged into the fashion domain over the years. Usually she is not seen, but works behind the Fashion Week show-dress out and doing makeup for other model walk-ons. Between many shows she actually sewed attire for “Rene Geneva Designs”, and time to time did have the chance of being in design promotions for the company. After visiting institu- tions online, Marie decided to make a big move locally to pur- sue a degree in the mar- keting field.

The event is held Friday the 13th, at the Shoal Crossing Event Center, located on North Mopac.

Black and Tan event was created by Megan Perry. Her mission or quest is, “Promote her love of the local design community and desire to help fellow designers grow”. This year, her challenge was to give participants a substantial amount of textiles to create something amazing! Her entourage of pre- senters / designers were given 110 yards of the same fabric. Megan Perry helped the entrants along with a sealed enve- lope containing a fabric sample. The event was actually a competition which was judged by a panel of local fashion ambassadors.

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Complaints reveal that consumers continue to face significant challenges within the mortgage industry

Nearly half of all mortgage complaints—49 percent—noted problems with loan modification, collection, and foreclosure. An additional 35 percent of mortgage complaints focused on loan servicing, escrow accounts, and payments. For troubled homeowners, complaints filed alleged that some mortgage servicers do not amend derogatory credit reporting during trial periods—even after indicating to consumers that they would do so. Borrowers facing foreclosure have told CFPB their concerns with fees charged as part of the foreclosure process. According to complaints, the fees pose a substantial obstacle to avoiding foreclosure as many servicers do not roll them into the loan balance. In other instances, consumers never receive an itemization of fees assessed; but are given a one-line reinstatement quote. “These complaints reveal that consumers continue to face significant challenges within the mortgage industry,” said Lisa Stifler, policy counsel with the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL). “These problems, such as questionable and incomplete information about debts, often result in the abusive and harassing behavior about which individuals complain. Fortunately, CFPB rulemaking, oversight, and enforcement activity should help to address many of the most harmful debt collection practices.”