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WHAT'S INSIDE

A moral wrong (Page A-3)

House Republicans, says columnist and social observer William Spriggs, have voted to cut into the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), a major blow to many families in need.



Smoke detector distribution (Page B-1)

Comerica Bank and the Detroit Red Wings have gotten together for the 12th annual Smoke Detector Collection. The detectors will be given to low-income and elderly households. It is a way for the Red Wings and Comerica to give back to the community.

'And justice for all' (Page B-4)

Rev. Wendell Anthony, president of the Detroit Branch NAACP, and many others support the efforts of Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy and the Dearborn Police Department. Charges were filed against Theodore Paul Wafer who fatally shot Renisha McBride.

A special day for giving (Page B-5)

Tuesday, Dec. 3, reports Dr. Glenda D. Price, has been designated as Giving Tuesday. A groundswell of activity is hoped for. There is great need in so many areas.



Talented and versatile (Page D-1)

Taraji P. Henson has been one of the busiest and most accomplished actresses in Hollywood since 1997, and it is believed that the best is yet to come.

Mr. President, time for 'Fix It Panel'

By Bankole Thompson
 CHRONICLE SENIOR EDITOR

First of all, to suggest that the failure of the rollout of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is President Obama's Katrina is a preposterous argument that is baseless at its core because the memory of Hurricane Katrina is a bad memory that would make you feel sick when you think of the woeful incompetence of former president George W. Bush when the levees broke that led to Katrina. Countless numbers of people died in the storm, prisoners drowned in their cells, families became homeless, children could not connect with their parents as many precious lives were shattered in the face of a Bush administration that did not show any sense of urgency in intervening.



Bankole Thompson

The world watched in shock. Nations offered to help but an egotistical administration turned down the offers even as its people continued to suffer and die. Some are still haunted by the trauma of Katrina which chose a mass underclass of Blacks in New Orleans as its victims. So the health law cannot be compared. Katrina is only comparable to the terrorist attacks of September 2001. Out of respect for the victims of Katrina, let's stop the foolish comparative analysis.



President Obama

But the truth is that the Obama administration messed up. President Obama admitted that in his press conference last week during which he shouldered responsibility for the ACA unveiling which turned out to be a blunder. The result has been utter frustration, anxiety, nervousness and confusion among consumers now finding themselves at the mercy of insurers and the news of how high a deductible is going to be.

But what is interesting up to now is that no individual or team has taken full responsibility for what happened, except that Obama has been the one doing most of the apology and promising a new direction.

But who's in charge, Mr. President? Who did you delegate to handle this rollout?

See **FIX IT PANEL** page A-4

Mark Schauer to unseat Rick Snyder?

Democratic nominee for governor unveils minimum wage plan in Detroit

By Bankole Thompson
 CHRONICLE SENIOR EDITOR

The man who wants Gov. Rick Snyder's job has already begun flexing his political muscle by taking on an issue that has long been the bane of the struggle between liberals and conservatives: the minimum wage.

Democrat Mark Schauer, who will be the nominee for governor for Michigan Democrats in 2014, came to Detroit this week to announce a proposal to raise the state's minimum wage from \$7.40 to \$9.25 per hour.

This, according to Schauer, will match the purchasing power of the minimum wage during its peak in 1968.

"This is just common-sense economics. When working families have more to spend on things like gas, groceries and clothes for their kids, it creates demand," Schauer said. "And when demand increases, small businesses grow and hire more workers. Minimum wage workers have waited long enough for a raise. It's time to do what's right for our families, our businesses and our economy by raising the minimum wage."

The Schauer plan would be phased in three years and the minimum wage would increase from the current rate of \$7.40 to \$8.00 in year one, \$8.60 in year two and \$9.25 in year three.

Moving forward, the Democratic flag bearer said the minimum wage would then be tied to inflation, and said the hourly rate should be indexed to the Consumer Price Index, with adjustments taking place every two years.

See **DEMOCRATIC** page A-4



Mark Schauer

World watches Detroit's first Hispanic council member

By Bankole Thompson
 CHRONICLE SENIOR EDITOR

Raquel Castaneda-Lopez is the first Hispanic member of the Detroit City Council representing the newly created District 6. And being first does come with responsibility, especially the expectations of her constituents in Southwest Detroit who are beaming with pride to have someone from the nation's most rapidly growing community to be represented on this legislative body.



Elias Gutierrez



Rev. Frank Emeka Obi

Hispanic following hailed news of Castaneda-Lopez's election as a bright spot for

See **CASTANEDA-LOPEZ** page A-4



RAQUEL CASTANEDA-LOPEZ, Detroit's first Hispanic council member, enters city government at a historic time, when the world is watching the Motor City to see what new political leaders like her can do for America's largest urban center. — Gabriela Santiago Romero photo

Look inside this week's

LIVING WELL Magazine

and discover what people are talking about.



Meet Dr. Stacy Leatherwood, a senior staff physician in the Department of Pediatrics at Henry Ford Health System (HFHS) and leading childhood wellness advocate.



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