

North Dallas Gazette



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Sen. Obama Clinches Democratic Nomination

Obama claimed the Democratic presidential nomination Tuesday night in a long-time-coming victory speech that minced no words about his opponent in the fall campaign, Republican John McCain.

(AP Photo/M. Spencer Green)



By Hazel Trice Edney
NNPA Editor-in-Chief

U.S. Sen. Barack Obama has won enough pledged and super delegates and has seized the Democratic presidential nomination. By doing so, he has defeated Sen. Hillary Clinton by becoming the presumptive

Democratic nominee and the first African-American to be nominated for the U. S. presidency by a major party.

"Sixteen months have passed since we first stood together on the steps of the Old State Capitol in Springfield, Illinois.

See OBAMA, Page 15

HIV/AIDS Numbers Decline, Many Not Convinced

By Charlene Muhammad
NNPA

HIV rates are declining in prison, according to the U. S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, but AIDS activists paint a different picture of the disease's prevalence both in and out of prison.

Laura M. Maruschak, a statistician for Bureau, studied statewide HIV rates for 2005 and 2006, and found that the number of HIV positive prisoners decreased by a little more than three percent (from 22,676 to 21,980). Despite this drop, the overall AIDS rate among pris-

oners was 0.46 percent compared to 0.17 percent for the U.S. general population.

The report, "HIV in Prisons 2006," further indicated that the number of AIDS-related deaths in state and federal prisons dropped to 167 from 203; and the states with the

largest numbers of AIDS related deaths were Florida (28), New York (14), Pennsylvania (13), Georgia (10) and Louisiana (10).

The data does not include information on the flow of HIV positive inmates in and out of pris-

See HIV/AIDS, Page 12

Dallas County Health officials Announce Salmonella Investigation

From staff reports

Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) is assisting with an multi-state investigation of an outbreak of relatively rare species of Salmonella bacteria known as the Saintpaul

strain. DCHHS epidemiologists are working in partnership with multiple federal, state and local agencies to identify the source of the outbreak.

"DCHHS epidemiologists are coordinating our efforts with the Centers for Disease Control

(CDC), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Food and Safety Inspection Service (FSIS), Texas Department of State Health Services and local health departments from across Texas to pinpoint the exact source of the implicated

tomatoes," said Zachary Thompson, DCHHS Director.

To date, there have been 21 cases of the Saintpaul strain of the Salmonella bacteria reported in Texas. The majority of these cases have been reported in Harris County but a few

See SALMONELLA, Page 4

Collin County Dems Begin Work For Fall Campaign

COVER STORY
view more photos online



(Photo Credit: Patrick Hoffman)
See COLLIN COUNTY, Page 9

The Rock finalizes divorce



Get the full story on pg. 10
www.northdallasgazette.com

Blackonomics

Moving From Rhetoric to Action

By James Clingman
NNPA Columnist

Black Americans do a great deal of talking about designing and executing economic empowerment initiatives, via nationalist principles (the same principles used by other groups in this country).

We conduct conference calls, "webinars," workshops, and town hall meetings; we attend conventions, expos,

seminars, and conferences, all in an effort to sit and "discuss" or listen to someone else speak about empowerment for Black people, only to go home and do nothing. In other words, we are skilled in the rhetoric of empowerment but far less adept at acting appropriately in response to our rhetoric.

Why is this? Is it a phenomenon that is only peculiar to 21st Century

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People In The News...



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Tisa W. Jackson

Union Bank of California, N.A. announced Tisa W. Jackson has joined the bank as vice president of diversity and inclusion. Jackson is responsible for developing and executing diversity and inclusion strategies, initiatives, and programs for the bank.

Prior to joining Union

Bank, Jackson was the vice president of the diversity and inclusion strategies group at Countrywide Financial.

She also served as the human resources administrator for Deloitte & Touche Tax Technologies and human resources manager for InfoNXX.

Jackson began her career

with Advanced Micro Devices, where she served as the human resources program manager for the workforce planning and development division, and was responsible for creating and implementing the diversity work-life balance programs and initiatives.

Jackson is the founder of the Professional & Technical Diversity Network and is the pro-

gram chair of the Young African American Women's Conference. She also is a leadership council member of the Global Organization for Leadership and Diversity and is a member of the Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center Dinner Committee. Jackson is a past recipient of the Urban Financial Services Coalition's

Philanthropist Award. She holds a bachelor's degree from Emerson College.

Jackson has conceptualized and strategically implemented programs and processes in partnership with employees and management at all levels, as well as, educational, community and government leaders. Her leadership and vision has been evident throughout her career.



Dr. Henrie Treadwell

Dr. Henrie Treadwell is the senior social scientist and associate director of development in the National Center for Primary Care at the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia, whose mission is to promote excellence in community oriented primary health care and optimal health outcomes for all Americans, with a special focus on underserved populations and on the elimination of health disparities. Her major responsibilities

include program oversight and management for a special informing policy initiative, Community Voices, that is funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and oversight of the men's health programs.

Prior to joining the National Center for Primary Care, Dr. Treadwell served for 16 years as program director at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan. Dr. Treadwell's received her B.A. in biology from the

University of South Carolina, where she enrolled as the first African American student as a result of a desegregation lawsuit. She received an M.A. in biology at Boston University, and a Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology at Atlanta University. Dr. Treadwell was a faculty member at Salzburg Seminar Session 334, Health Care Partnerships: Meeting the Needs of Underserved Communities, 1996; and served as a resource person at Session 395, Improving Access to Healthcare and Human Services: Elements



of Success, 2002.

Dr. Treadwell's distinguished career has included chairing the Division of Mathematics and Natural

Sciences at Morris Brown College, a historically black college and university. She is recipient of numerous fellowships and awards and is a published author of numerous monographs and peer-reviewed articles.

Dr. Treadwell's special interests include projects which enhance the human growth of young people, activities which "stimulate the development of grassroots indigenous leadership, and projects that strengthen the infrastructure of neighborhoods and communities." She wants to improve the quality of

life of the undeserved people in the communities where she works.

This prolific writer, scholar and administrator has received many fellowships and is a member of many professional organizations such as the American Cell Biology Society, American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Association of University Women. She also is a member of Sigma XI, Omicron Delta Kappa and Phi Eta Sigma honorary society and Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

Bo Diddley

Bo Diddley, a founding father of rock 'n' roll whose distinctive "shave and a haircut, two bits" rhythm and innovative guitar effects inspired legions of other musicians, died Monday after months of ill health. He was 79.

Diddley died of heart failure at his home in Archer, Fla., spokeswoman Susan Clary said. He had suffered a heart attack in August, three months after suffering a stroke while touring in Iowa. Doctors said the stroke affected his ability to speak, and he had returned to Florida to continue rehabilitation.

The legendary singer and performer, known for his homemade square guitar, dark glasses and black hat, was an inductee into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, had a star on

Hollywood's Walk of Fame, and received a lifetime achievement award in 1999 at the Grammy Awards. In recent years he also played for the elder President Bush and President Clinton.

Diddley appreciated the honors he received, "but it didn't put no figures in my checkbook."

"If you ain't got no money, ain't nobody calls you honey," he quipped.

His first single, "Bo Diddley," introduced record buyers in 1955 to his signature rhythm: bomp ba-bomp bomp, bomp bomp, often summarized as "shave and a haircut, two bits." The B side, "I'm a Man," with its slightly humorous take on macho pride, also became a rock standard.

The company that issued



his early songs was Chess-Checkers records, which also recorded Chuck Berry and other stars.

Howard Kramer, assistant curator of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, said in 2006 that Diddley's Chess recordings "stand among the best singular recordings of the 20th century."

Diddley's other major songs included, "Say Man," "You Can't Judge a

Book by Its Cover," "Shave and a Haircut."

Diddley's influence was felt on both sides of the Atlantic. Buddy Holly borrowed the bomp ba-bomp bomp, bomp bomp rhythm for his song "Not Fade Away."

Bo Diddley, a founding father of rock 'n' roll whose distinctive "shave and a haircut, two bits" rhythm and innovative guitar effects inspired legions of other musicians, died Monday after months of ill health. He was 79. Rolling Stones frontman Mick Jagger has paid tribute to guitarist Bo Diddley, describing him as an "enormous force in music".

Jagger, whose band covered the Diddley songs Mona and Crackin' Up, paid tribute to the Mississippi-born musician.

He said: "He was a wonderful, original musician who was an enormous

force in music and was a big influence on The Rolling Stones.

"He was very generous to us in our early years and we learned a lot from him.

"We will never see his

like again."

Diddley's contribution to music was rewarded in 1999 with a lifetime achievement prize at the Grammy Awards.

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MON-The Gazette assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.

Is the sky clearest on the day it is most blue?

While you ponder that thought we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, Inc., formerly a Dallas based Renaissance community tabloid, founded in 1991, has relocated to Plano, Texas, and changed our name to MON-The Gazette. In addition to moving our offices to Plano, our editorial coverage has also shifted to encompass Dallas' Northern Corridor. The Northern Corridor is clearly the fastest growing region in Texas, if not in America. MON-The Gazette believes that the engine to continue this growth is the airport expansion in McKinney, which is the largest and most visible of many area opportunities. As always, and true to tradition, MON-The Gazette will be there carving a world of opportunity for those seeking to provide quality services. Should you dare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the southern region or just want to know what is going on up north.

Think of MON-The Gazette as your paper of opportunity!

The North Dallas Gazette, formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones



THE TRUTH CLINIC

Truth Misused Leads To Freedom Abused

Therefore, putting away falsehood, let every one speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. (Ephesians 4:25)

If ye continue in My Word, then ye are my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free. (John 8:31-32)

Scott McClellan's tell-all tome "What Happened: Inside the Bush White House and Washington's Culture of Deception" has created a firestorm of controversy and much discussion that questions McClellan's motivation for writing the book.

As with most controversies there are those that believe Mr. McClellan did the right thing in exposing the Bush administration's lies and others that express outrage since revealing the inner secrets of the White House is perceived as a lack of loyalty that breeches the unwritten code of honor high level government officials are supposed to embrace.

Little if any effort seems to be expended in determining if McClellan is telling the truth. However, true to previous precedent when anyone dared challenge the Bush administration attack squads were quickly deployed to undermine the perpetrator's credibility, loyalty, and patriotism. If you don't like the message, attack the messenger seems to be the administration's response against whistle blowers.

McClellan's book goes beyond the simple expose. He declares that President Bush "convinces himself to believe what suits his needs at the moment," and has engaged in "self-deception" to justify his political ends. He calls the war in Iraq a strategic blunder and identified the administration's biggest mistake as "a decision to turn away from candor and honesty when those qualities were most needed."

This deliberate distaste

for truth, especially in an administration that champions its Christian foundation, casts an ominous shadow over America, its image, and its future role in orchestrating world affairs.

Now, as in the past, disclosing any truth that rebukes the deceptions and lies of those in power will activate opposition. For ages, those who dared to advocate for truth have been denounced as seditious, heretical, divisive or disgruntled.

Some people have a pattern of lying, often including lying to themselves first. When these people make their way into positions of power they continue their destructive behavior. The only reason they survive is that their deception and lies are rarely publicly identified.

John 3:20 says, "For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved." When men see that they cannot maintain their exalted position by perverse interpretation of the scriptures they will revert to malicious acts to assault the character and motives of those who dare to shine the light on their misdeeds. Incredibly, the same people who are being deceived will accept without question the accusations made against the brave souls who demand the truth be told.

What is the duty of the messenger of truth? The truth is not received for the messenger alone but through its revelation the knowledge of God's truth might enlighten the earth.

Even when Israel would not heed to God's truth the messenger was exhorted to



Former White House Press Secretary Scott McClellan is interviewed on the NBC "Today" television program, in New York Thursday. McClellan, who is promoting his book, says he didn't object to the way the war in Iraq was sold to the American people at the time because he, like other Americans, gave the president the benefit of the doubt.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

speak God's words to them whether or not they would hear or abstain from the word. In Isaiah 58:1 the messenger is told to, "Lift up thy voice like a trumpet and show my people their transgressions and the house of Jacob their sins." Should the house of Bush be treated any different?

America has paid and continues to pay a huge price for ignoring the messengers who foretold of the very manifestations highlighted in "What Happened." Read the concerned pleadings of Senators Byrd and Stark and then State Senator Obama made in October 2002 warning of the consequences for accepting the deception being perpetrated in the call to war.

Every new truth is beset with hatred and opposition. Persecution in its varied forms will exist to fight the truth as long as Satan

exists. No man can speak a God centered truth without enlisting the enmity of the hosts of darkness.

There are many pseudo-Christians in the world today who, out of fear of rejection or hostile reaction, use shading of the truth or a nuanced truth as an alternative to avoid adhering to the unpleasant or unpopular divine truths. Lacking in spiritual courage these Christian charlatans who know better will still mislead using reconstructed truths that may pass secular legal tests but cannot stand the test of God's truth.

A dense darkness is falling over America and the World. Truth-tellers are becoming an extinct breed. Many Americans are afraid to speak the truth or even to hear the truth, fearful of intimidation by the government, and ridicule and ostracism by their friends and family. Fear can never engender freedom.

For a real Christian, there is no shading of the truth. The Word of God must shine in its full glory with no shadows, no dark spots, and no hidden meanings. Any Christian who succumbs to shaded truth and a culture of deception that misleads is nothing more than a liar.

Perhaps McClellan can tell his detractors that The Truth is the language of God and there is nothing in this world worth lying about.

James W. Breedlove
Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at:
www.truthclinic.com.

Leaders Dismayed By Anti-Immigrant Violence

NNPA

The African continent is "shocked" by the xenophobic attacks in South Africa, declared African Union President Jakaya Kikwete of Tanzania, after a meeting of African heads of state examining the project for a Pan-African government.

Images of looting, burnings, destruction of shacks and beatings of defenseless immigrants from Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Nigeria, Somalia, among other countries, have filled newspapers and television continent-wide. The unexpected violence has left at least 50 dead, hundreds injured and tens of thousands homeless or displaced from Johannesburg and other South African cities.

Speaking out against the attacks, Zambian President Levy Mwanawasa recalled that the freedom of South Africa was achieved as a collective effort by South Africa and its neighboring

countries. He appealed to South Africans to reflect on the unity that is talked about and promoted in Africa, adding that the South African government has laws to deal with illegal immigrants.

Mozambican President Armando Guebuza Thursday called on Mozambicans not to react with hatred to the wave of mob violence.

Meanwhile, Cape Town has been on a knife-edge after anti-immigrant violence reached the port city where angry mobs attacked Somalians and Zimbabweans and looted their homes and shops.

Ironically, South Africa marked Africa Day on Sunday in Johannesburg under the banner "united in diversity." Within sight of the stage, however, was Central Methodist Church, sheltering some 2,000 Zimbabweans, barricaded inside against the gangs who have been terrorizing refugees.

"It is almost as though the South African authorities want this to happen,"

said Anderson Ingwe, 28, a car mechanic. If that is so, then they should just say peacefully: 'You are not welcome, Zimbabweans. Now go home.'

Critics are faulting President Thabo Mbeki for failing to visit any of the trouble spots. Calls for his resignation appeared this weekend in The Sunday Times and other local papers.

Meanwhile, taking a stand against violence, some 5,000 people from non-governmental organizations, communities affected by the violence and social-movement groups joined an anti-xenophobia protest in central Johannesburg and the suburb of Hillbrow Sunday. The protesters delivered a memorandum to the provincial government demanding security for foreigners and humanitarian support.

South Africa, with a population of 48.5 million, has a shortfall of 2.4 million houses and one in four South Africans doesn't have a job.

SALMONELLA, cotinued from pg 1

cases also reported in Dallas, Tarrant, Cameron, Fort Bend, and Hays counties. State Health authorities say the investigation is in its early stages but that consumption of raw tomatoes is the likely source of infection. Specific type and source of tomatoes are under investigation.

"DCHHS has received reports of four cases in Dallas County," said Dr. Wendy Chung, DCHHS Chief Epidemiologist. Until the exact source of infections are determined, federal and state health agencies are recommending to consumers to follow the general precautions listed below:

- Wash cutting boards, dishes, utensils and counter tops with hot water and soap when switching between types of food products.

- Wash your hands thoroughly and often with

soap and warm water especially after going to the restroom, before preparing or serving food and after changing a diaper.

- Thoroughly wash all raw vegetables under running water,

- Refrigerate within 2 hours or discard cut, peeled, or cooked vegetables, including tomatoes,

- Keep tomatoes that will be consumed raw separate from raw meats, and raw seafood, and raw produce items,

- People who want to reduce their risk of Salmonella infection avoid eating raw Roma or full-sized round tomatoes other than those sold attached to the vine or grown at home or cooked at 145 degrees F. for at least 15 seconds to kill Salmonella.

- Avoid purchasing bruised or damaged tomatoes and discard any pro-

duce that may appear spoiled, and

- Persons with increased risk of severe infection, including infants, elderly persons, and those with impaired immune systems, should not eat any uncooked full-size round or Roma tomatoes other than those attached to the vine or grown at home.

Most people infected with Salmonella develop diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after infection. The illness usually lasts four to seven days, and most persons recover without treatment. Some people may need hospitalization due to severe diarrhea and dehydration. The elderly, infants, and those with impaired immune systems are more likely to have a severe illness. Further information regarding the multi-state investigation may be found at either of these websites: www.cdc.gov or www.fda.gov.

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GARLAND

Star Spangled Volunteers needed

Garland's premiere 4th of July celebration event is the Star Spangled Fourth will feature Kool & the gang on the main stage along with the usual food courts, and the fireworks. However organizers are seeking volunteers to help bring off this community event.

Star Spangled Fourth has been scaled back quite a bit from a multi-day celebration to simply Friday, July 4th from 10 a.m. to midnight. The venue has changed as well, instead of downtown Garland, the city is partnering with the Firewheel Town Center. Organizers promise the fireworks display will be bigger and better, starting at 9:30 p.m. The patriotic songs will be simultaneously broadcast on KAAM Radio, 770AM. Another event highlight

includes a Naturalization Ceremony for new U.S. citizens.

Volunteers are needed to assist with bounce houses and other activities in the children's area, the Rad Hatter hat-making feature, parking lot attendants, barricade attendants, food court, concert seating, volunteer support team and more. Various shifts are available between 10 a.m. and midnight.

Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Bill Clifton at 972-205-3837, by email at bclifton@ci.garland.tx.us, or by fax at 972-205-3634. Students seeking to fulfill volunteer requirements are encouraged to sign up. Volunteers under fifteen (15) years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Envision Garland

Help create the Garland of the future! Make plans to participate in the City of Garland's Community Visioning Workshop on Saturday, June 21, 2008.

The workshop is part of Envision Garland, the City's initiative to develop a plan that will build on today's strengths and shape tomorrow's community. The Community Visioning Workshop will allow citizens to share ideas, hopes and concerns about the quality of life and economic vitality that future Garland residents will enjoy. Participants in this interactive workshop will help create a plan to address issues our City will face in the coming years.

The Community

Visioning Workshop will take place at North Garland High School, 2109 Buckingham Road. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The workshop runs from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Please register in advance at www.envision-garland.org or by calling 972-205-2445. The event is open to residents, property owners and business owners in Garland.

For those who want to be involved but cannot participate in the workshop, an Open House will be held from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Members of the Envision Garland planning team will be on hand to share information and hear your ideas.

'Real Men' gear up for charity cook off



From left, Real Men Cook VIP and Guest Host, Rockmond Dunbar poses with Real Men Cook Founder, Yvette Moyo and Leo Hicks, RMC Honoree, South Dallas Fair Park Trust Fund. Above Real Men Cook VIP and Guest Host, Rockmond Dunbar. Left, Sherry Bronson, Faith TV chats with Firefighter Terry House,

Two Weeks Left to Register For Soap Box Derby

From staff reports

Only two weeks remain for kids interested in registering for the North Texas All American Soap Box Derby benefiting the Plano Rotary Club on Saturday, June 14 on Westside Avenue near Plano High School. Registration for the event closes Friday, June 13. Registration fee is \$50.

The Derby, launched last year by the 63 year-old organization, is open to kids from eight to 17 years of age, with the goal being to help raise awareness and

money for communities and schools in North Texas. "Kids will really love this event," said Lynn Schwartz, Soap Box Derby Chairman. "It is something the whole family can enjoy."

The winners of North Texas All American Soap Box Derby competition is in two categories - Stock Division for boys and girls ages eight to 13 who complete a simplified car built from the kit and Super Stock Division for boys and girls ages 10 - 17 who built larger, heavier model cars from the kit. Those

winners get \$1,500 towards the trip to the world championship in Akron, Ohio.

The cars for the derby average six feet and made of plastic or Fiberglass depending upon the category of the race. There are no motors. The cars race downhill on sloped tracks about 900 feet long up to 20 miles per hour. There are brakes.

"Brakes are for safety. We believe in safety," Schwartz said, "it's our number one priority because at the end of the day these are our children."

Schwartz added that hay bales and cones line the track.

Registration forms are attainable on line at www.northtexassoapboxderby.com. For more information on derby kits or the race, please visit www.aasbd.com or call (972) 596-2585. KDAF TV CW33 is the media sponsor. Other sponsors include the City of Plano, ExxonMobil, Oncor and Fluor. Additional sponsorships are also available. Please call (214) 744-1428 for additional sponsorship information.



6th Annual Citywide Vacation Bible School Family Style
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Black Lawyers and MBAs Converge in Houston

Blacknews.com

If you are interested in either earning a law degree, a business school graduate degree, or both, two national conferences coming this fall provide the information and contacts you need to be successful -- and they are both specifically designed with the aspiring young Black professional in mind. On the weekend of Friday, October 10, 2008 and Saturday, October 11, 2008, Houston, the fourth biggest metropolitan city in the country and one of the most racially diverse with one of the largest African American populations, will be host to two national Black pre-professional conferences taking place at the same time. Both events will be held at The University of Houston - Central Campus in the University Center. Each event offers unparalleled information-gathering and networking opportunities, an will attract guest speakers and panelists from all over the country.

Most importantly, both are dedicated to providing a quality, first-class experience while not requiring any registration fee for the purpose of providing access to anyone who wants to attend.

This year's first National Black Pre-Professional Weekend begins with the two-day National Black Pre-Law Admissions & Preparation Conference and Law School Recruitment Fair. For the past three years, the law fair has attracted over 100 law schools that come out specifically to recruit African Americans interested in law school.

After the fair, powerful panel discussions in a lively town hall meeting format will take place which aim to provide everything the aspiring

lawyer needs to know to successfully navigate the competitive admissions process, financial aid, the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), personal and diversity statements, law school selection, and pre-law preparation programs.

On Saturday, registrants have the chance to learn even more critical information through insightful panel discussions covering the case method and the Socratic method of law school learning, student life and making the most of the law school experience, coping with diversity issues, passing the bar exam, what legal employers are looking for in top candidates, and varying career options. Participants will even have the opportunity to participate in a mock class, participate in lunch round tables, and get one-on-one assistance during the Law School Admissions & Preparation Advice Help Clinic.

Those specifically interested in earning an MBA can participate in the National Black Pre-MBA Conference and Business School/MBA Fair. The Pre-MBA festivities will begin with icebreakers and networking activities during a special mixer on Friday evening.

Then, the MBA Fair and all of the informational panel discussions and workshops will be held on Saturday. A comprehensive and progressive offering of sessions provide informative discussion on all of the major topics of interest and importance to aspiring MBAs including pre-requisites for non-business majors, the admissions process including insider tips on interviews and essay writing, financial aid, Graduate Management Admission

Test (GMAT) preparation, the value of the MBA, the MBA student learning experience, general and minority specific programs and preparation resources, and career options. Representatives from diversity programs aimed at assisting more minorities gain entry into business school and rise up the ladder in the corporate world are being invited to give special presentations on the important work they are doing to diversify business schools and leadership in corporate America, and how you can benefit.

Dynamic keynote speakers will provide motivational addresses at both events. Former professional football player (NFL, XFL, NFL Europe) turned successful law student and new attorney Shawn Stuckey, University of Dayton law professor and founder of the J.D. Project

Vernellia R. Randall, and attorney Jo Ana Saint-George, founder of the NBA Arizona Diversity Pipeline Program, Inc. will address pre-law participants. Successful Harvard Business School graduate Panya Lei Yarber, an engineer by training, entrepreneur, community servant, and agent for positive change in urban public schools will inspire and provide key advice to pre-MBA attendees.

Both events provide a complimentary continental breakfast, light box lunches, refreshments, and most importantly, critical networking opportunities through planned icebreakers, refreshment breaks, power networking half-hours, mixers, and speed networking activities. The two conferences culminate together with a mixer and conference after-party for both pre-law and pre-

MBA participants to mingle and network.

Those interested in attending are encouraged to sign up for one conference or even cross-register for both if they are considering pursuing both the J.D. and MBA degrees, or simply want to learn more about their possible options before making a definitive decision on either.

Come take part in this wonderful opportunity to further explore what it really takes to be successful in business and law school, and gain entry into these competitive professions - all in a friendly and non-threatening environment with other highly motivated and driven aspiring professionals, as well as current Black professionals who want to see you succeed.

Everyone is welcome including high school students, college students, college graduates, career changers, working professionals, as well as parents, spouses, and supporters. College pre-law, pre-MBA, career services, and multicultural diversity advisors are also invited and encouraged to bring their advisees.

Enrollment is limited due to space constraints, and tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Register easily online today at www.blackprelawconference.eventbrite.com for the National Black Pre-Law Conference or www.blackprembaconference.eventbrite.com for the National Black Pre-MBA Conference.

This is an amazing and unprecedented opportunity for any aspiring professional who hopes to one day earn J.D. and/or MBA. Plan to attend and take full advantage of all the resources being brought together to help ensure your future success.

Essence Mag offers 'Generation Next' scholarship

From staff reports

ESSENCE magazine has partnered with The Sallie Mae Fund, a charitable organization sponsored by Sallie Mae, to present the "Generation Next" scholarship competition. This program will award five young African-American women each a \$5,000 college scholarship from The Sallie Mae Fund, an all-inclusive trip to attend one of the first-annual ESSENCE Young Women Leadership Conferences. In addition, winners will receive recognition in a special magazine feature in the October 2008 issue of ESSENCE.

To be eligible, each contestant must be an African-American female who is enrolled as a freshman at an accredited post-secondary institution. She must be a United States citizen or permanent resident, have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, have a family adjusted gross income for

2007 of \$50,000 or less, and demonstrate leadership and community service experience.

Applicants must also submit a 500-word essay on the additional ways that they plan to continue to ensure success while in college. The application deadline is June 15. Winners will be selected by committee and announced on or about June 30, 2008.

In addition, scholarship applicants will receive information on planning and paying for college, including Black College Dollars, a scholarship directory sponsored by The Sallie Mae Fund and available at www.salliemae.org. In total, The Sallie Mae Fund will award roughly \$2 million in scholarships to students attending college this fall.

Additional eligibility requirements and an online application form are available at www.essence.com/essence/generationnext/index

Deadline is June 15, 2008.

n2ne
BE-TUNE Youth Mentoring

"Focus on your future and believe in your dreams."

The program is held on Tuesday's and Thursday's, from 6:00 - 7:15 pm, in the clubhouse at Indigo On Forest Apartments, 9669 Forest Lane, Dallas TX 75243.

Topics Discussed: Family Values, Juvenile Homes, Alcoholism & Drug Addiction, Teenage Pregnancy & Self Preservation, etc.



Lake Highlands Recreation Center 9940 White Rock Trail, Dallas, Texas "Presents" N2NE Basketball and Soccer League. Registration deadline is May 24th 2008. Registration fee: \$25.00 per youth. League starts June 7th - July 31st. We are in need of referee's and coaches for our league if you are interested please send your resume to one of the following: Rich_etta@n2ne-ym.com, penny@n2ne-ym.com, or kdemon@cokece.com

For more information, please contact:
Founder/CEO - Rich Etta Weathersbee (469) 223-5618
or VP - Penny Francis (214) 793-7178.

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Ongoing

African American Republican Club of Collin County meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm (Doors will open at 6:30 pm) Collin County Republican Party Headquarters 8416 Stacy Road, McKinney Call Fred Moses at 972 618 7027 or fred@tes.com for more information.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce General Meeting is 2nd Thursday monthly, 6:30pm - 7:30pm. McKinney Housing Authority 1200 N Tennessee St McKinney 75069 The general public is welcome. For additional information call 469-424-0120.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce Monthly Lunch & Learn every 3rd Thursday \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members, 11 am-1 pm, Ralph and Kacoos - 401 S. Central Expwy, Allen. For general information and reservations call 469-424-0120.

DFW Financially Empowered Women meet monthly for lunch or dinner and a fun, informative seminar on various financial topics. For more information call 469-952-0809 or www.meetup.com/378.

Marriage Prep Class 1st Saturdays monthly 423 West Wheatland Road Suite 101, Duncanville 75116 \$10 fee for materials. For more info call Karen Duval at 972-709-1180.

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch 1st and 3rd Thursday 11:30 am - 12:30 pm every Thursday at Texas Land & Cattle Steak House 3945 N. Central Expressway Plano 75023 Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com or call Sylvia Williams at 972-898-5882.

SHARE! PISD International Exchange Student Program is in the process of finding new host families to share their hearts and home with an exchange student for the

2008/2009 School Year. For more information on or how to become a host family, call 1-800-941-3738, or www.sharesouthwest.org.

Watermarks Invitational Exhibit runs through April 12th 9 am - 8 pm Mondays through Thursdays, 9 am - 5 pm Fridays, and 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Saturdays. FREE Collin College 800 E. Spring Creek Parkway. For more info call 972-881-5873, or visit www.ccccd.edu.

The National Business Women Enterprise Network (NBWEN) hosts monthly lunch and learn workshop and networking event giving members and guests the opportunity to network, build relationships, present information on their business and services, and most importantly, learn different ways to improve upon and grow their business. For more information www.nbwen.org or info@nbwen.org.

Wit Women Conference Call join this weekly conference call if you need encouragement, prayer, or inspiration. Dial in Tuesdays 7 pm - 7:15pm to 218-486-1616, Code 10984 (may change each week).

June 6 - 7

TBAAL Black Academy: The Roots and Reggae Concert at The Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters, featuring Ras Tumba and Ashanti. The concert will be held at the Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex at 9 pm. Tickets will be \$15 and may be purchased through TBAAL. For more information please call 214-943-2442.

June 7

TBAAL Black Academy: Dancin' Soul program will be held at the Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex beginning at 8 pm. Admission to this event is \$10. For more information please call TBAAL at 214-

943-2442.

2008 McKinney Track Attack McKinney's 4th Annual Track Meet will be located at Ron Poe Stadium, with field events starting at 8 am and running events beginning at 9 am. Participants are required to pay a \$2 fee, which allows unlimited entry to ALL events. For more details, or for information on McKinney's Track and Field Summer Program, contact Dewayne Dunning at 214-435-4360 or ddunning@take-it-2-the-next-level.com; or contact Larry Thomas at 972-508-0855 or at lltkbt@yahoo.com.

June 9 - July 11

Summer Theater Program for children ages 6 to 14. Mondays - Fridays from 9 am to 12 noon. Bilingual classes that help familiarize the children with both English and Spanish. \$400, for five weeks (includes materials, and enrollment fees) A discount will be offered to families with more than one child and special arrangements can be made for payment. Call 214-689-6492.

June 13 - 15

Dallas City Arts Celebration The 5th annual CityArts Celebration will showcase the incredible performing, visual and culinary arts which are the fabric of Downtown Dallas. The free festival will take place from 6 - 10 pm Friday, June 13; 11:00 am - 10 pm Saturday, June 14; and from 11 am - 6 pm on Sunday in downtown's Dallas Arts District. This event is completely free and open to the public. For more information email jmiller@jmillermkt.com, or call 214-571-1376.

June 14

Regional Conference on Domestic Violence Cross Cultural Perspective will be located at UTA's E. H. Hereford, University Center, in the Rio Grande Ballroom, 300 W. First

Street in Arlington. The conference will be from 9 am - 4 pm. Admission to this event is \$20. Email mcchs2005@hotmail.com or call 817-589-9165 for more details.

RC Hickman Young Photographers Workshop photography basics for young photographers ages 10 through 18. Classes are \$25.00 and will be located at Mountain View College located at 4849 W. Illinois Avenue in Dallas, 75211 from 11 am - 2 pm. Email artistelaine@artiststuff.com or call 972-572-3525 for more info.

June 16

Black Wax's Open Mic is open to all poets or performers, and will be located at the Starbucks at Midway and Spring Valley road in Farmers Branch from 7 - 9 pm. Email preacherboypub@yahoo.com for more details.

June 16 - 21

Dallas Dazzlers 8th Annual Elite Dance Summer Workshop! The Dallas Dazzlers Dance Co. will host their 8th Annual Elite Dance Summer Workshop at the Cedar Hill Recreation Center from 3 pm - 9 pm. For only \$55, participants will receive intense dance training in jazz, modern, hip-hop, African and praise dance from Jamie Buis, Christian Motivational Speaker and former Dallas Mavericks Dancer; Regina Tucker, Director of Dance Arts at Friendship West Baptist Church and former Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader; and Michelle Gibson, professional choreographer and performance artist who has appeared as a principal dancer in the films "Interview With The Vampire" and "Ray. Registration ends June 1st. Registration brochures are available at the Cedar Hill Recreation Center located at 310 E. Parkerville Road. Call 469-767-9903 or send an email to dallasdazzlers214@yahoo.com for more information.0

June 20 - 21

TBAAL Black Academy: Sankofa Muse Cafe Bash at the Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters Convention Center Theatre Complex. This event begins at 9 pm, and admission costs \$10. For more information please call 214-943-2442.

June 23

The Plano Chamber of Commerce is gearing up for its 18th Annual Golf Tournament. The Golf Tournament committee has been meeting every month to make this the biggest and best tournament yet. Sponsored by Capital One, the day will begin with registration and lunch at 11:30 am and the tee-off will be at 1 pm. The tournament will end with awards at 5:30 pm.

June 27 - 28

TBAAL Black Academy: Comedy Night at the Muse will feature B Cole at the Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex. Comedy Night at the Muse will begin at 9 pm and tickets will be priced at \$15. For more information please contact TBAAL by calling 214-943-2442.

June 28

2008 Reebok Heroes Celebrity Ball Game at Baylor Medical Center at Frisco Celebrity Home Run Derby beginning at 4 pm Reebok Heroes Celebrity Baseball Game at 6 pm with the fireworks finale following the game. The Dr. Pepper Ballpark is located at 7300 Rough Riders Trail in Frisco, Texas. Proceeds will benefit the children's charities of The Heroes Foundation, and Mike Modano's Youth University Program. Tickets are now on sale for \$5, \$7, \$12 and \$15 through Ticketmaster or the Dr. Pepper Ballpark. Tickets available at 214-373-8000, online www.Ticketmaster.com, or at the Dr Pepper Ballpark

Ticket Office during office hours.

July 4

Addison's Kaboom Town will feature spectacular fireworks, visible from all over town, from 5:00 pm - 12:00 am. Addison Circle Park, at 4970 Addison Circle Drive. For further information please email webmaster@addisontx.com. Garland's annual Independence Day celebration will take place from 10 a.m. until midnight at Firewheel Town Center, located on State Highway 78 at State Highway 190. The theme for 2008 is "We the People Celebrate!" This year's Main Stage will feature the legendary Kool and the Gang. To participate in the event as an artisan or craft vendor, please contact Melody Kamp at 972-675-1041 or mkamp@simon.com. For volunteer opportunities, contact Dana Dunlap at 972-205-3896 or ddunlap@ci.garland.tx.us. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Contact Bonny Patrick at 972-205-2633 or bpatrik@ci.garland.tx.us For updates about plans for this year's event, log onto www.starspangledfourth.com.

July 5

July Jazz in Addison at Esplande Park, 5044 Addison Circle Drive in Addison. The Jazz will keep on playing from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Admission is free, email webmaster@addisontx.gov for more info.

July 25

Barack Obama Turning Red to Blue Fundraiser event located at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex 650 South Griffin Street, Dallas, 75202 from 6:00 - 11:00 p.m. For ticket or vendor information contact teresa@dfwobama.com now! For more details visit www.DFWObama.org.

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Collin County Dems Look to The Fall Campaign – Together

By Ruth Ferguson
North Dallas Gazette

Sunday afternoon Teresa Gilbert Taylor, CEO of NtheKnow Marketing, hosted a mixer for Collin County Democrats at Prince Bistro in Plano. Supporters of Senator Barack Obama clearly outnumbered those for Senator Hillary Clinton, but all were invited and welcomed. The attendees strongly believe victory in November is possible only if both sides begin to work together.

Nader Saad, a long time activist in North Carrollton, was pleased with the Democratic Rules Committee's allocation of the Michigan and Florida delegates on the previous day. He described the televised discussions as, "Very professional, civil and distributed very fair to both sides." Saad believes that following a healing period, both sides will come together to elect the nominee for the party. Supporters of both candidates are, "In general, very passionate about their candidate. But they are also very educated, wholly understand what is at stake nationally and why they need to unite," according to Saad.

Saad also emphasized that it is not only the White House at stake, but democrats need to also focus on the state-wide elections such as State Representative Rick Noriega's race to unseat U.S. Senator John Cornyn. Noriega is losing the fundraising battle; last quarter raising only \$330,000 to Cornyn's reported \$8.7 million. Yet, according to recent polls, Cornyn lead is only four percentage points: 47 percent to 43 percent. However, before over-confidence sets in, Cornyn has not yet begun to spend his war chest. A key obstacle to re-elect



Teresa Gilbert Taylor



Frederick Barrow

tion for Cornyn is his consistent support of President George W. Bush's policies.

In the end, Saad and other attendees believe the issues, not personalities, will lead to the democrats uniting. He cited their shared concerns regarding the war in Iraq and the major influence of lobbyists on Washington. Taylor added the high price of gas, and Veterans serving their country, only to come home and not receive the complete medical treatment they need – physical and mental, as well as the needs of senior citizens across the country are important issues.

Taylor is the President of the 368 member DFW Obama, and Precinct 85 Captain and Senate District 8 Delegate, which

represents Collin and part of Dallas county. She is also spearheading the Democrats United group, which hosted the Sunday's event. Taylor is running for a national delegate position in hopes of representing Collin/Dallas County Senate District 8 in Denver at the national party convention.

Sunday afternoon nearly twenty candidates running for delegate or committee positions were allowed two minutes to present why they should be selected. Final votes will be cast at the Texas State Democratic Party Convention this weekend in Austin, Texas. Other candidates include Bill Mark, attorneys Steve Bolden and Frederick Barrow.

The Collin County delegation was almost stripped of their seats at the State Convention because they held their district convention on Sunday, March 30th, instead of the scheduled date of Saturday, March 29th. Frederick Barrow was asked to

attend the temporary Texas State Credentials Committee meeting on Thursday, May 29th, however the challenge was a total surprise because any challenges are required to be submitted no later than sixteen days after the primary to allow for two weeks of discussion. The challenge period had elapsed and the list of challenges provided earlier to District 8 did not reflect any issues.

Barrow indicated, "The date was moved because there was not a large enough facility available." On March 29th the largest venue they could find would accommodate 800 people, they were expecting 3,200. "We immediately started having conversations," with party officials because the date is set

by a state statute. Barrow stated, "Obama and Clinton officials indicated they would not challenge" the date change. So he was totally surprised when arriving at last week's meeting to discover the first challenge on the agenda was Collin County. The committee voted to table the issue until Tuesday, June 3rd, but the district delegates were meeting Sunday, June 1st.

Barrow asked officials to allow him to see the address of the voter who submitted the challenge. The address on Live Oak immediately stood out as a red flag. However, Barrow called the Dallas/Collin County Democratic Party office asking, "Tell me who is registered to vote at that address."

Armed with the new information that the challenger did not live in the district, Barrow requested the opportunity to speak before the committee again, warning officials that members of the media were present from NPR and the

Fort Worth Star Telegram.

Barrow cautioned that if this situation was not resolved within this news cycle, the headlines tomorrow will read, "Collin County Delegation Disenfranchised." In fact, the Star Telegram had already run a news item on their blog PoliTex. In light of the new information, the committee quickly resolved the matter, allowing the seating of the Collin County Delegation.

Taylor and others are excited because they are confident that with organization and hard work there is a real possibility of turning Collin County blue, despite historically being a solid red stronghold.

Democrats United will host another mixer at Prince Bistro on June 21st with fun and games, as well as strategy. For more information, e-mail democratunited@yahoo.com.

Photographer Patrick Hoffman can be reached via e-mail at cpatrickhoffman@gmail.com. North Dallas Gazette thanks Hoffman for photos provided.



Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson Finalizes Divorce



In the papers, the couple agrees to share custody of their 7-year-old daughter, SIMONE, and although Dwayne will pay more than \$22,000 a month in child support, both parties agreed to waive their right to alimony. They also both pledge to pay \$5,000 a month into a trust fund for Simone's education and other living expenses.

Dwayne and Dany wed in May of 1997 and were married for 10 years. Last year in June they announced their split and said in a statement, "We've been fortunate enough to spend the last 17 years together as a couple and look forward to spending the rest of our lives together as best friends and business partners."

Rapper 50 Cent Make Sense of Mansion Fire

Police are investigating a suspicious fire that blazed through a mansion owned by 50 Cent. While a cause of the fire has not been determined, investigators found a five-gallon gas container at the US\$2.4-million dollar home. The rapper's son, his ex-girlfriend Shaniqua, and her boyfriend were all taken to the hospital for smoke inhalation. Fiddy and his former girlfriend have been engaged in a legal battle over the house and

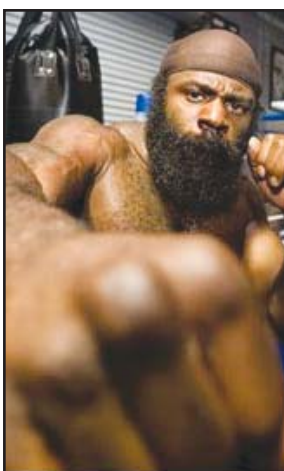


she's filed a lawsuit claiming he tried to evict her unjustly. He says he

had nothing to do the fire and was thankful no one was injured.

Ain't Bout Nuttin'

Meet Kimbo Slice. The famed internet street fighter made a name for himself this past week by a crucial third round win during mixed martial arts (MMA) EliteXC Main Event Fight. His prey, James "The Colossus" Thompson. Both 200+ pound heavyweights were fatigued, and with the momentum leaning toward Thompson, Slice landed massive right to



the left side of Thompson's head, striking him on his badly cauliflowered ear, which split wide open and began to bleed. Like a vicious dog, Kimbo smelt blood and went in for the kill, landing a vicious uppercut and several more unanswered punches, prompting the referee to call the fight. Unfortunately Youtube has taken down all the good and gory footage.

Are you hosting a Juneteenth Celebration or Observance?

If so please send details to editor@northdallasgazette.com. All submissions must be in by Monday June 9th.

Theatre Three Presents: A Dog's Life



by
Rick Elina

Theatre Three's current production is guaranteed to be a crowd pleaser. Rarely can one go wrong when showcasing man's best friend, the dog. In fact, a trio of triple threat dogs will sing, dance and act their way right into your heart. You won't find stupid pet tricks here, which is a good thing since these dogs are the stars of Theatre Three's main stage show, *A Dog's Life*.

The top dog is Jack. As a pound puppy, Jack competes with the other dogs to get adopted before the dreaded 30-day deadline. To these dogs, the term deadline is taken literally. Jack, played by Gregory Lush, is an adorable mutt who

admits he's not very talented. He eats. He sleeps. And he...well, some things are better left unsaid. Mr. Lush, unlike his character, displays ample talent as he sings tunefully and dances nimbly across the set. When he interacts with his human, Joel (Cedric Neal), undeniable chemistry unfolds. Anyone who's ever owned a pet will recognize it instantly. Mr. Neal, a skilled actor, holds his own vocally, as well.

The other dogs in the show, aptly named Big Dog (Marcus M. Mauldin) and Little Dog (Megan Kelly Bates) complete the tail-wagging triumvirate with singing and dancing abilities commensurate with that of Jack. Mr. Mauldin's character comes across as the gruff canine that's all bark and no bite. An imposing actor, he translates his physical presence and vocal strength in a compelling manner.

Ms. Bates plays her character, a terrier, perfectly as an overly caffeinated canine. Calling her hyperactive would be

an understatement. Yet, her performance is anything but understated. Her voice nicely complements the other cast members. The contrast of her character to Mr. Mauldin's works well, and serves as a reminder that dogs, like people, have their own unique personalities.

The other human characters in the story are adequately performed by two versatile supporting actors, Mark C. Guerra and Rhianna Mack. The set, though minimal, is transformed by Sam Nance's effective use of lighting into a variety of venues called for in the script. All elements of this show come together nicely in a production that has literally, gone to the dogs.

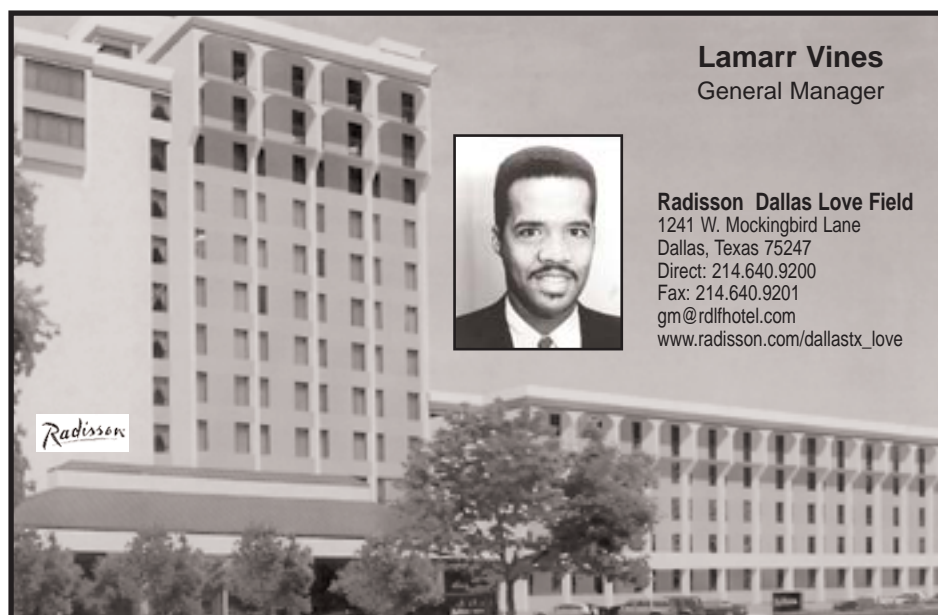
A Dog's Life runs through June 22, 2008. For tickets or more information contact the box office at 214.871.3300 or visit Theatre3Dallas.com.

Rick A. Elina is a playwright based in Plano, Texas and is the Theatre Critic for the North Dallas Gazette.

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Texas To Refund Unemployment Taxes To Companies

The Texas Workforce Commission is mailing \$148 million in refund checks to nearly 360,000 Texas employers.

TWC collects unemployment insurance taxes from Texas employers for the Unemployment Compensation Trust fund, which funds benefits to workers who become unemployed through no fault of their own and are actively seeking work.

The trust fund has risen to \$1.7 billion, about \$738 million more than the minimum required by state law, enabling TWC to send employers a refund of about \$400, on average.

"This is how government should work," said TWC Chairman Tom

Pauken. "This surplus tax refund and historically low UI tax rates are among the many reasons Texas is a great place to do business."

Employers must have had payroll during 2008, paid all due taxes, and been in business for at least 18 months prior to Oct. 1 2007, among other requirements, to receive the refund.

Many employers will have additional savings on unemployment insurance taxes this year due to a decrease in the minimum tax rate to 0.1 percent, from 0.29 percent last year, and the elimination of the obligation assessment component of the tax.

Web site: www.twc-state.tx.us

Dallas Minority Business Development Breakfast

The Dallas Minority Business Development Breakfast will be held 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on Thursday June 19th at City Place, Alcove Room, 3rd Floor, located at 2711 N. Haskell (SE corner of Haskell and North Central Expressway). The networking event is co-hosted with the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) and the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. For more information call Raquel F.R. Suniga at rsuniga@mbda.gov or Raymond Cervantes at rcervantes@mbda.gov or call (214) 767-8001.

2008 Dallas Franchise Opportunities for Women & Minorities

The Dallas Franchise Opportunities event will be hosted on Tuesday June 24th at the CHG Cityplace Conference Center, 2711 North Haskell, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration is only \$20 and includes a continental breakfast, lunch and seminar materials. The first 150 paid pre-registrations will receive a free gift on the day of the event. To register using a credit card goes to franchise08.dfwmbas.org.

Program will include the following topics:

Franchisor Participation - What are franchisors looking for? Fundamentals of Franchising - What is franchising (and isn't) and how to evaluate franchise options.

Experiences in Franchising - What is it really like to be a franchisee? Funding and Technical Assistance - How do I begin the basic process? What are the requirements for financing?

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RHETORIC, cotinued from pg 1

Black people? Are we paralyzed by our own self-denial and self-abasement? Do we truly believe in our collective ability to “accomplish what you will,” as Marcus Garvey espoused? Have we succumbed to the name “Toby” and given up on our true identity?

Are we ensconced in the power of our own consciousness, or are we languishing in the powerlessness of having been reduced to mere “non-people” in this land of plenty?

As for me, I believe rhetoric both spoken and written are vital to our learning and our prosperity, but it can only lead to positive outcomes if appropriate action follows. It's not enough just to know; we must act upon our knowledge.

It's not enough just to believe; the manifestation of our beliefs must be evident in our actions. It's not enough to convene intellectual confabs to discuss our plight; we must leave not only with a commitment to the cause but also with a commitment to appropriate and commensurate action. At the end of the day, if we fail to act we will have accomplished very little.

Consciousness is the key to action; it is the key to positive and appropriate behavior both individually and collectively. In that vein I invite you to read the words of Amefika Geuka, of West Palm Beach, Florida, excerpted from his outstanding “Black Paper” titled, *From Rhetoric to Action*:

“Now is the time for Nationalists to move from rhetoric to ACTION! We must prove that ours is more than a rhetorical concept, and most importantly that we are more than theorists and rhetoricians.

We must demonstrate that we are capable of conceptualizing, develop-

ing, implementing, and conducting programs and ventures that will improve the living conditions and life chances of our people, those at home and those abroad! It is time for us to become the party in power, and retire the Integrationists/Assimilationists to the back rows from which vantage point the loyal opposition spews forth its rhetoric in reaction to action taken by the power-wielders.”

Amefika Geuka is co-convenor of the Bring Back Black movement, which was initiated in December 2006 in Cincinnati, Ohio, and which has since “given birth” to the Nationalist Black Leadership Coalition (NBLC). His words remind me of where we are and where we should be in this country, having been here since its inception.

Black people have allowed ourselves to be duped into believing that someone else will take care of us, in spite of the fact that for the last four centuries there has been no real indication of that being the case. Geuka has written several “Black Papers” that not only describe our past and current situation, they also provide a plan that takes us from rhetoric to action and then on to the successful outcome of controlling our own destiny.

He says, “[NBLC's] vision is of a transformed Black community where our people radically improve the quality of their lives and surroundings. We will accomplish this by implementing programs and ventures designed specifically for the unique needs of people of African descent – without apology! This will result in the complete elimination of the ‘slave mentality’ and dependence on the gratuity of others that it promotes. We will cease to be the ‘weakest link in the

chain,’ or weakest ‘patch’ in the ‘quilt-like’ fabric of American society and that of the world.”

If you have not read Geuka's enlightening and educational writings, you can find them at www.bringbackblack.com or www.amefikageuka.com. You can also arrange to set up a chapter of the NBLC in your city by inviting him to come and personally lay out the plan that will take us from rhetoric to action. He will be in Detroit on June 7, 2008, at the Akwaaba Center. Call 313 850 3793 for more information.

Prior to the current political campaign, Geuka proposed that Black people in this country designate a President of Black America (POBA), much in line with articles I have written asking, “Who speaks for Black people?” We see politicians rushing to the microphones to pledge their allegiance to other groups, but we never hear them offer similar support to Black Americans, upon whose backs the wealth of this country was generated.

As Amefika Geuka states, “Blacks collectively need a champion! We need a strong, unwavering voice to reassure us of who we are and from whence we came...Our President Of Black America will single-mindedly advocate and promote the interests of Black people, without reservation, without hesitation, without apology, and most of all without fear. He or she will have no interest in playing to the mainstream media, seeking photo opportunities, currying favor with political parties, multinational corporations, foundations, or philanthropists. His/her objective will be to build the capacity of Blacks to do for self! The POBA will be the foremost cheerleader for Black America!”

As Barack Obama says,

HIV/AIDS, cotinued from pg 1

ons, and the Justice Department has no idea of where inmates go when released, but is exploring ways to get that data.

There are also times when some states fail to submit year-end data—mostly because states do not have the facilities to track the numbers, Maruschak told *The Final Call*.

“The bigger states are the ones that we always try to get no matter what. We force the issue and get some numbers because when a Georgia, Texas or California would drop out, you would see an artificial decrease. If we are talking about a small state reporting a small number, it doesn't affect the data,” she said.

“The whole service community is saying the numbers are up,” said Cynthia Davis, director of HIV Education & Outreach Programs for the Charles R. Drew University of Medical and Science. Her organization helps service some 15-20 prisons in California and many inmates have no clue of their HIV status because of a lack of mandatory testing of inmates.

“We don't know what the actual numbers are. At a recent training, a health professional estimated that there are 1,200 people in prisons who are HIV infected, but their internal numbers were upward of 3,000. That's a big discrepancy and we don't have a handle on the amount of prisoners in California or nationally who are infected or know their status,” Davis said. Davis supports legislation to test inmates, including Rep. Maxine Waters' proposed Stop AIDS in Prison Act of 2007, which was introduced in April. The act would allow for routine non-mandatory HIV counseling and testing upon entry and release and enable prisoners to request testing without

being penalized.

“This would help determine numbers more accurately, because often if you're found to be positive, then you lose a lot of privileges that are afforded non-HIV positive inmates, like certain jobs, housing status and even work time credit. They'll send you to an institution that primarily cares for people with HIV/AIDS, but once persons are comfortable in an institution they don't want to move,” Freddie Williams told *The Final Call*. Inmates also don't want to extend their stay by losing work time credit if they report their status, he said.

Williams speaks from experience. He spent 20 years in prisons in Arizona and California and contracted HIV in 1994 as a result of drug abuse. Today, he is an HIV prevention and certified substance abuse counselor in Lancaster, Calif.

AIDS researchers say any decline in numbers is a result of more advanced medications, but federal and state funding needs to target more outreach and education, especially to minority communities.

Despite an increase in new HIV/AIDS diagnoses

in 2006 among Whites and Asians/Pacific Islanders, the disease is still more prevalent among Blacks and Latinos. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2006 AIDS statistics were:

- Blacks – 67.7 AIDS cases per 100,000;
- Latinos – 25.5 AIDS cases per 100,000;
- Whites—8.2 8.2 AIDS cases per 100,000;
- Asians/Pacific Islanders – 6.7 per 100,000.

“When AIDS first struck, the CDC labeled it ‘G.R.I.D.’ meaning gay-related immunodeficiency disease, and tried to combat it using a social model instead of a medical model; and of course the White gay male population began to get a handle on it through education and funding, but now that it has become a people of color disease, they don't have any money to fund it,” Mr. Williams said.

He adds, “Looking forward we need to begin to mobilize community by community and we need to mobilize through our churches because if we don't do anything to get a handle on this and recognize that it has become a people of color pandemic, we will be in a world of trouble.”

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Plano benefits fair June 21 for Texas veterans

AUSTIN - A free benefits fair for Texas veterans will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 21 at the Plano Convention Centre. The fair, targeting all North Texas veterans, is one of several throughout the state.

Officials from the Texas Veterans Land Board will be on hand to provide information on state programs including land, housing and home improvement loans as well as Texas state veter-

ans cemeteries and nursing homes for veterans. Joining them will be representatives from the Texas Veterans Commission, the Small Business Administration, the Social Security Administration and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), who will be available to discuss federal benefits and pending claims. Veterans wishing to discuss pending claims with VA officials should bring pertinent case informa-

tion, including claim numbers if available. Veterans are encouraged to drop in to learn more about their benefits any time between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and are not required to stay for the duration of the event.

For more information on the benefits fair, please call Michelle Davis with the Texas Veterans Land Board at 214-498-8174.

For more information on benefits available only to Texas veterans, call 1-800-252-8387.


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Church Happenings

CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH

June 6, 7 pm

Come to our Gospel Under the Stars Praise Concert featuring Fred Hammond.

Concord Baptist Church
Rev. Bryan Carter,
Senior Pastor
6808 Pastor Bailey Drive
Dallas, TX 75237
214-331-8522

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES

This Saturday,
June 7, 1:30-3 pm

That time is here again! If you are in need or know someone in need, meet us @ The Touch Ministry's Ms. Helen House Give-Away @ the church. Pastor Minnie Ewing is opening the pantry doors to the public! Come to Helen's House to receive, to give, and most of all to fellowship.

DayStar Deliverance Ministries
WIT (Women in Transition)
Apostle Minnie Hawthorne-Ewing, Senior Pastor

635 W. Campbell Road,
#210
Richardson, TX 75080
972-480-0200

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

June 8, 2008

Our 8:15 am service with speaker, Pastor Travis Mitchell; & our 10:45 am service with speaker Pastor Kevin Caldwell, and Children's church and the nursery will be held @ Story Elementary School, 1550 Edelweiss in Allen, Texas.

June 6-8, 2008

You are invited to our Annual Youth for Christ Explosion. Theme: "Born to Worship." Friday night will be @ the Allen Civic Center, 300 N. Allen Dr., with speaker Pastor Kevin Caldwell and Violinist Will4Real; Saturday is "Youth for Christ" Fun Day, and Sunday Service is the close of our youth events.

June 11-13, 7 pm
Each Night

Don't miss our Annual Summer Revival featuring

Rev. A. A. Todd, Pastor of Pleasant Grove MBC.

Fellowship B. C. of Allen
Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr., M. Div., Senior Pastor
200 Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK (FIRST CHURCH)

June 8, 6 pm

You're invited to our Voices of Hope, Sonshine Choir Annual Concert

First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park
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Senior Pastor and
Rev. Anthony Foster,
Pastor
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Richardson, TX 75081
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GREATER NEW BIRTH BAPTIST CHURCH

June 8, 10:45 am

You're invited to our 30th Church Anniversary—A day of fun and celebrating! This is

Casual Attire Day. Following worship a meal will be served, games played, and fun for all. Call Sis. Elfrieda Cole @ 214-434-3746 for information or directions.

Greater New Birth Baptist Church
Rev. Charles Terry, Senior Pastor
3501 Sherrye Drive
Plano, TX 75074
972-424-9300

LOVE CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

June 29, 10 am

Sis. Stella Johnson, First Lady Elizabeth White and the ladies at church invite you to an "Old Fashioned" 5th Sunday Worship Service and Hats Day. Come and praise God like your parents and grandparents use to do, with a "Soul Food" dinner on the grounds.

Love Chapel COGIC
Elder Philip White, Pastor
2003 Morris Street
Dallas, TX 75212
214-631-1857
ST. PAUL UMC

June 8, 10:45 am
Come to our Annual Women's Day Celebration. Theme: "Women of Faith in a World of Change." 2 Corinthians 1:1. Colors: white & gold. Speaker is Mrs. Mavis Knight with Clinician Ms. Marcha Johnson. The 2008 Living Legends ceremony will also take place at this time.

St. Paul UMC
Rev. Elzie Odom,
Senior Pastor
1816 Routh Street
Dallas, TX 75202
214-922-0000

SUNSET BAPTIST CHURCH IN GRAND PRAIRIE

June 9-12, 2008

You are invited as we host the 94th Congress of Christian Education. Classes will be held @ Morning Star Baptist Church; and The Crown Plaza Hotel in Arlington is the host hotel.

Sunset Baptist Church
Rev. Matthew McGruder
721 Manning Road
Grand Prairie, TX 75051

972-641-0706

TRUE WORSHIPERS WORSHIP CENTER

June 7, 8 am-4 pm
And June 9, 1:30-3 pm

Join us for a Glory Explosion Conference @ the Gaylord Texan Resort, 1501 Gaylord Trail, Grapevine, TX. Speakers include Dr. Cindy Trimm, AKA the General in the Art of Strategic Prayer and Spiritual Warfare.

True Worshipers Worship Center
Apostle Margelee Hylton
Senior Pastor
3068 Forest Lane
Dallas, TX 75234
972-247-7133

REAL MEN COOK

June 15, 3 pm-6 pm

Join us for the largest family celebration @ the African American Museum at Fair Park and help salute celebrity host Rockmond Dunbar of Soul Food/Prison Break.

For information call Terry Allen @ 214-376-6530 or Jackie Murphy @ 972-218-1525, Ext. 3041.

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Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 A.M.
Wednesday Night-
Community Bible Class: 7:30 P.M.





Sister Tarpley

Things to Ponder: Life is like coffee

Now consider this: Life is the coffee; your family, job, money and position in society are the

cups. They are just tools to hold and contain life. The cup you have does not define, nor change your quality of life. Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the coffee that God has provided us. God makes the coffee, man chooses the cups. The happiest people don't have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything that they have. To reduce your stress: Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. And enjoy your coffee. Author Unknown

The life of faith does not earn eternal life: it is eternal life. And Christ is its vehicle. —William Temple. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins or any, they are retained. —RSV. If God can bring blessing from the broken body of Jesus and glory from something that's as obscene as the cross, He can bring blessing from my problems and my pain and my unanswered prayer. I just have to trust Him. —Anne Graham Lotz. God takes us into deep

A group of graduates, established in their careers, were talking at a reunion and decided to go visit their retired university professor. During their visit, the conversation turned to complaints about stress in their work and lives. Offering his guests coffee, the professor went to the kitchen and returned with a large pot of coffee, different cups - porcelain, glass, crystal, some plain looking, expensive, and exquisite - telling them to help themselves to the coffee.

When they all had a cup of coffee, the professor said: "Notice that all the nice looking; expensive cups were taken, leaving behind the plain and cheap ones. While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and stress. The cup that you're drinking from adds nothing to the quality of the coffee. In most cases it is just more expensive and in some cases even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted was coffee, not the cup; but you consciously went for the best cups—and then you began eyeing each other's cups.



Attorney DeMetris Sampson and Sister Tarpley

waters, not to drown us but to cleanse us. —Unknown. I have but one candle of life to burn, and I would rather burn it out in a land filled with darkness than in a land flooded with light. —John Keith Falconer. Nothing would remain stable in human society if we determined to believe only what can be held with absolute certainty. —St. Augustine. Let us think of nothing but serving God: He will readily provide whatever else we need. —St. Ignatius Loyola. Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls. A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love. —Mother Teresa. The

Christian message is what sets Christian music apart. We've got hope, and we've got to be upfront about that hope. —Rebecca St. James. The depths of our spirituality do not depend upon changing the things we do, but in doing for God what we ordinarily do for ourselves. —Brother Lawrence. One rare and exceptional deed is worth far more than a thousand commonplace ones. —St. Ignatius of Loyola. The income of God's Word is the outcome of a changed life. —Ed Cole. I told a friend, "The best cure for loneliness is developing an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, He understands."

OBAMA, continued from pg 1

Thousands of miles have been traveled; millions of voices have been heard," Obama told more than 20,000 supporters in St. Paul, Minn., Tuesday night. "And because of what you said, because you decided that change must come to Washington, because you believed that this year must be different than all the rest, because you chose to listen not to your doubts or your fears, but to your greatest hopes and highest aspirations, tonight we mark the end of one historic journey with the beginning of another, a journey...a journey that will bring a new and better day to America. Because of you, tonight I can stand here and say that I will be the Democratic nominee for the president of the United States of America."

The historic win has sent a wave of euphoria through the Black community and America in general as supporters cheered at the news after a long-

fought primary contest against Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.).

But, it is not just an American celebration, but a world celebration, says the Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr., a former Democratic presidential contender.

"The whole world is celebrating today, and rightfully so," says Jackson in a phone call from the United Republic of Tanzania to the NNPA News Service. "It is a glorious, mountain-top moment in American history. It is a great victory for Barack, Michelle and a hard fought campaign. It is a greater victory for America, a redemptive moment, a transformative moment, and so we have reason to celebrate."

Clinton, who would have been the first woman nominee, did not concede Tuesday night. But it is Obama who will be running in the general election against Republican Sen. John McCain in the fall.

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Sunday School Classes-9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship-11:00 a.m.

Tuesday
Early Bird Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday
Morning Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting and Evening Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

"The Church with a Vision"

Can God Lower Gas Prices?

(Washington Post) The price of regular at a Shell gas station in Petworth gleamed defiantly in the midday sun: \$3.91 a gallon.

But unlike the customers rolling up to the station's pumps this week, resigned to the fact that their wallets were about to take a beat-

ing, Rocky Twyman and company had a plan to bring that number tumbling down

They would ask God to do it.

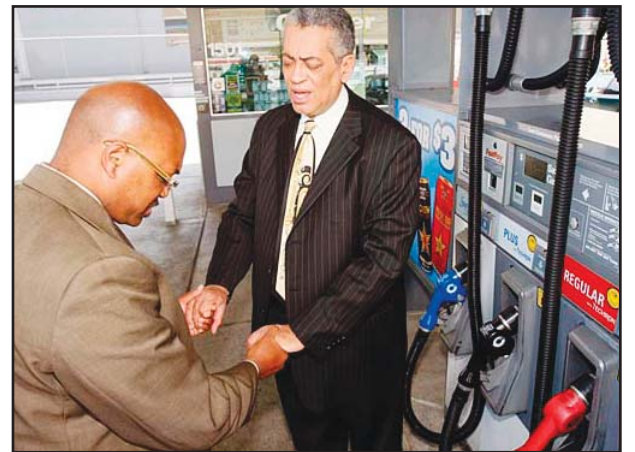
"Our pockets are empty, but we're going to hold on to God!" Twyman, a community organizer from Rockville, said as he and

seven other people formed a semicircle, held hands and sang, pleading for divine intervention to lower fuel prices.

It was the latest demonstration by Twyman's movement, Pray at the Pump, which began in April. Since then, he has held group prayers at gas stations as far away as San Francisco, garnering inter-

national media attention and even claiming success in at least a couple of cases.

Some would say the proof of whether Twyman has the ear of the Almighty is in the result. On the first day of the movement, April 23, the national average price of a gallon of unleaded was \$3.53, according to AAA. As of yesterday, it was \$3.96.



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Bible Study 7:00 pm

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Pastor Charles S. Wattley

Sunday
Education Ministries - 9:30 a.m. • Worship Celebration - 11:00 am.
- Nursery Facilities Available -

Wednesday Family Ministries... 7:00 p.m.

Friendly Fellowship with A Family Focus
For More Information Call 972.542.6178
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