

# North Dallas Gazette



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## Black Reporters Roundtable on Air Force One



From the left: Kevin Chappell, Cynthia Gordy, Herb Boyd, Pamela Gentry, Derek Dingle, April Ryan and Roland Martin.

BY HERB BOYD

(NNPA) - When seven Black journalists are invited to fly on Air Force One with the president, you know there has been a dramatic change in the White House. During an exclusive roundtable interview with President Barack Obama, and he

was as accommodating as the surroundings.

For more than twenty minutes on a flight from Andrews Air Force Base to Kennedy Airport in New York where President Obama was scheduled to address the NAACP's centennial con-

See **ROUNDTABLE**, Page 12

SPOTLIGHT

## Analysis: Gates' Arrest a Signpost on Racial Road



See **ANALYSIS**, Page 9

## Senator West Says Postal Plan Needs More Public Input

(NDG Wire) State Senator Royce West (D-Dallas) believes a study by the United States Postal Service regarding consolidating regional facilities has proceeded too far without the community having been part of the process.

The Area Mail Processing Feasibility Study proposes the removal of

operations from the Dallas - Main Post Office (Dallas Processing and Distribution Center) on Interstate 30W near Sylvan, to what is the North Texas Processing and Distribution Center in Coppell, Texas.

"My office has received numerous calls over the past week from citizens expressing concern over a

plan they fear could lead to the closure of the Main Post Office," said Senator West. "While postal officials say they have gathered sufficient public input into the process, truth is that few knew the study was taking place and the public largely, has not been informed."

A public meeting was

held July 1, at Mountain View College. Postal officials estimated 260 attended.

Postal union officials and a Dallas City Council member say the overwhelming majority of the attendees were postal employees.

Postal officials claimed

See **PLAN**, Page 12



## Chris Brown Apologizes for Rihanna Beating

For more information see pg. 10  
[www.northdallasgazette.com](http://www.northdallasgazette.com)

COMMENTARY

## Obama at the NAACP

BY RON WALTERS

(NNPA) Despite speculation of a struggle within his administration regarding President Barack Obama's ties to the African-American community, he showed up at the 100th Anniversary of the NAACP and showed out.

At points in his speech, I could not tell who Obama was and who Ben Jealous, the new CEO, was, as Obama turned country preacher and got busy giving the organization its marching orders.

He said that Blacks had made extraordinary progress,

but there are still the barriers of HIV/Aids, disproportionate imprisonment, unemployment and health care. He seemed to understand that in eliminating those structural inequalities, there was a balance between what he could do and what the Black community might do.

So, he talked about fixing the economy and health care reform, but featured his initiatives on education. He gave the impression that "No child left behind" was left behind, not mentioning it once, and changed the infer-

See **NAACP**, Page 3

## New Black Panther, KKK Protest in Paris



Bobby McCleary, father of Brandon McClelland, speaks to supporters during a rally outside the Lamar County Courthouse Monday in Paris, Texas. (AP Photo)

(AP) Protesters angered by the dismissal of murder charges brought against two white men accused of fatally striking a black man with a pickup truck rallied outside an East Texas courthouse Monday.

About 150 people showed up for the protest,

including members of the Nation of Islam and the New Black Panther Party. Participants said they were angry at what they called a pattern of unequal justice for whites and blacks in Paris, approximately 90 miles northeast of Dallas.

See **PROTEST**, Page 12

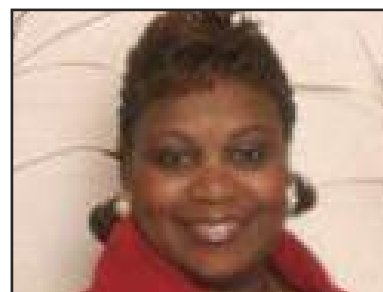
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## People In The News...



Leslie Taylor Hare



Cheryl Donovan



Xernona Clayton

See Page 2



## Leslie Taylor Hare

Leslie Taylor Hare is very delighted to announce that she's bringing her brand new television talk show with a brand new twist to Dallas. The show will air August 13, 2009.

WOW, did you ever think a talk show like this would come to Dallas?

The Leslie Taylor Hare Show is going to be a live show airing locally on digital TV and moving to various cable networks. The show will also air live online at [www.Access34.TV](http://www.Access34.TV) on August 13 at 7:30 pm for

millions of viewers to tune in for educational and entertaining family programming. In addition to the show being a live recording we are also taping all shows in front of a live studio audience on the lot of the Access34 25,000 square foot state of the art Dallas studio.

In creating the show Leslie Taylor Hare looked at the state of our families today, particularly the situations children are faced with today. So many things threaten their well-being



and the well-being of the family unit.

Leslie thought to herself, "What can I do to make a difference?" She believes that every time she

conducts an interview she will make a difference by bringing informative, positive, encouraging information into the lives and homes of millions of families. The show will also be a vehicle for helping to make many dreams come true.

The show will not only be geared towards interviewing celebrities and people in the news.

Every show will feature a "Live Your Dream" segment. Highlighting new public speakers, singers, actors, dancers, jewelry and fashion designers. Authors seeking to publicize their

book will receive the opportunity to talk about their book, reveal their talent or give their best public speech live on-air.

This opportunity is a chance of a lifetime for adults/children to showcase their talent or product to millions.

Ultimately, the goal for the show is to become nationally syndicated and picked up by one of the larger networks. The show isn't just about having another talk show on-air it's about taking part in educating and equipping our families to live life.

Leslie Taylor Hare is the

evening radio personality on KCBI 90.9FM (every Sunday from 8:30p.m. to 11:00p.m.), television host, and President/CEO of InnerCircle Mind and Body a public speaking agency in Dallas, Texas. Previously Leslie has had the opportunity to create, produce, direct, and host her own successful talk show for five years in New York City.

Visit Leslie's website at [www.leslietaylorhare.com](http://www.leslietaylorhare.com) or [www.kcbi.org](http://www.kcbi.org) and learn more about her past and current adventures as a talk show host, public speaker and radio personality.

## Cheryl Donovan

*Editor Note: Tulisoma South Dallas Book Fair and Arts Festival Featured Author; see [www.tulisoma.com](http://www.tulisoma.com) for more info.*

Audiences described Cheryl Donovan's features as "Inspiring, powerful, thought-provoking!" A native Houstonian, Cheryl is walking in her destiny. Her talents as a gifted communicator are evident as she ministers to women and teens groups, sin-

gles' gatherings, corporate workshops, conferences, and special church services.

Her prepared topics are appropriate for many functions and God uses her messages to empower, encourage, and equip anyone who attends to discover their true worth.

In 2007, Cheryl added the title "Author" to her list of accomplishments with the publication of

her award winning book *Women What the Hell are You Thinking* published under her own imprint Imani Publishing. Later that year, Cheryl joined publisher Elissa Gabrielle and had her story *The Ministry of Motherhood* added to the *Triumph of My Soul* Anthology.

Cheryl has also been published in the *Gumbo for the Soul* Anthology: *Here's our Child Where's the Village*.

Cheryl's internet radio show *Worth More than*

*Rubies* reaches thousands of listeners each Saturday and has impacted women all across the nation. Cheryl travels the country with her thought provoking inspiring message of empowerment for women of all ages.

In August, she will be among the authors visiting the Tulisoma Book Fair here in Dallas to promote her newest release *The Ministry of Motherhood* published under the Peace in the Storm imprint.

Cheryl is the Chief Vi-

sionary Officer of Imani Enterprises which is comprised of three divisions: Worth More Than Rubies Ministries, Worth More Than Rubies Productions, and Imani Publishing. Cheryl's desire is that everyone experience healing and wholeness.

For more information, visit

[www.cheryllaceydonovan.com](http://www.cheryllaceydonovan.com).



## Xernona Clayton

For more than 40 years, Xernona Clayton has played key roles in everything from the Civil Rights movement to network television. Now, she is telling her best stories from those eras in her one-woman show *An Evening with Xernona*, partnering with Susan G. Komen for the Cure's Circle of Promise.

The evening is designed in recognition of the past as

well as engage, educate and empower women of color to end breast cancer.

*An Evening with Xernona* is being presented on Friday, August 14, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Dallas, 300 Reunion Blvd., at 6:00 p.m.

Clayton's show touches on her conversations with The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. shortly before his death, her talks with the Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, and her tenure as one of the highest ranking employees of Turner Broadcasting System for nearly 30 years.

Joining Clayton for *An Evening with Xernona* is Richard Roundtree, Susan G. Komen for the Cure® national ambassador, actor and breast cancer survivor, along with other local and national celebrities who embrace the

idea of eliminating breast cancer. There is no charge for the event, but seating is limited. For reservations contact 404-455-4946 or [xernonaclayton@gmail.com](mailto:xernonaclayton@gmail.com).

"We treasure our relationship with this inspiring icon of dignity, achievement and service," said Andrea Anderson, director of marketing at Susan G. Komen for the Cure®. "Ms. Clayton's one-woman show will make you laugh and cry as she talks about her work and friendships with famous history-makers."

Clayton, an award winning journalist, is also the founder, president and CEO of the Trumpet Awards Foundation, Inc. and creator and executive producer of the Trumpet Awards, a prestigious event highlighting the accomplishments of African-Americans. In 1965, she accepted a position with the Southern Christian Leader-

ship Conference and worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She also traveled extensively with Mrs. Coretta Scott King.

*An Evening with Xernona* and Komen's Circle of Promise program are supported by The Links, Incorporated, who are actively engaged nationally with efforts to end breast cancer forever and the Dallas County Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure®.

The Komen Dallas Affiliate will be granting more than \$2.3 million in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Approximately \$1.8 million of that money will be used for local breast cancer education, screening and treatment programs for the uninsured.

The Race for the Cure, scheduled for Saturday, October 17 at Northpark Center, is the largest fundraising event for local breast cancer screening, treatment, education and research in Dallas

County. Last year the Komen Dallas Affiliate granted \$1.8 million into the immediate Dallas community

for these vital services and \$535,000 was invested in cutting edge research at the national level.



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# Addressing America's Healthcare Disparities

BY CLAYOLA BROWN

For success, national healthcare reform must address access, quality and affordability issues in a comprehensive approach. Providing health care for all must also recognize and address health disparities that exist among minority populations.

According to the Children's Defense Fund, for example, black children in the United States are five times more likely to die from asthma than white peers. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, more than half of all uninsured Americans are racial minorities.

A study by the Mount Sinai School of Medicine recently found that black women are more likely to have low birth weight babies, a condition linked to infant mortality.

A study by the Commonwealth Fund discov-

ered that half of all black Americans suffer from a chronic illness or disability, the highest rate among all racial groups. Meanwhile, the Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health found that blacks have a 30 percent higher death rate than whites.

In 2006 U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher concluded about 84,000 deaths every year could be prevented if gaps in mortality between blacks and whites were eliminated.

There are numerous causes for these disparities, but one major factor is a lack of access to appropriate medical care among minorities. Public hospitals, for instance, admit more minority patients than whites for conditions that could have been treated much earlier by a primary care physician.

This situation places millions at risk and severely

strains our nation's medical resources.

That is why comprehensive healthcare reform requires an effort to give minority patients access to primary care. This means establishing more primary care facilities in minority communities so that patients in those communities can address health problems early, before they precipitate into more serious conditions.

But it cannot stop there. The profound differences between white and minority medical outcomes can also be linked to a lack of cultural competency among healthcare professionals.

Many in the medical community do not possess the necessary knowledge of various minority cultures that is needed to properly diagnose, treat, and communicate with minority patients.

It is for this reason the

medical profession should welcome more minorities into its ranks. From physicians, to nurse practitioners, and hospital administrators, the more diverse the healthcare community is, the better-equipped the healthcare community will be to address the unique challenges that minorities face to stay healthy.

But it's important to note that many of these challenges aren't race-specific. This is why efforts to decrease healthcare disparities should just be a part of a much more comprehensive reform plan that provides all Americans with broader access to affordable, high-quality healthcare.

The Pharmaceutical Industry Labor-Management Association, an organization comprised of organized labor and America's phar-

**See HEALTHCARE, Page 4**

## NAACP, continued from Page 1

ence that the state of our school "is an African American problem" but an American problem that is the responsibility of our leaders.

Obama wants to strengthen community colleges to bear more of the challenge of job training, institute a "race to the top" fund to give learning incentive to children in public schools and pilot programs that feature innovative college preparation.

I liked his urging for us to elevate more examples of professional excellence in fields other than athletics and entertainment as the basis for educational achievement.

True to form, Obama returned to the familiar theme of personal responsibility. But this time I noticed that the audience seemed somewhat weary. Perhaps it is because most Blacks have climbed up the rough side of the mountain and have mostly been very responsible considering the tremendous odds they have faced.

Black audiences therefore, may be growing tired of the

preaching and expect someone with a large White House megaphone would also remind America of this fact.

Nevertheless, while he presented both halves of the balance of responsibility to energize Black progress, both government the Black community, the private sector seldom gets included (except by those who discuss Reparations) while it has the largest responsibility as providers of critical resources such as housing, employment and wealth.

Obama could have said more about this in reforming the economy, by sending some of that TARP money to community banks to expand credit for depressed neighborhoods.

The opportunity to say more about private sector responsibility was missed even though Obama's NAACP speech was given on the very day the Senate was discussing his nomination of Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the Supreme Court and the major highlight of those hearings was the Ricci case featuring Affirma-

tive Action.

Although Obama may have been advised to take a pass because his advisers believed that an errant comment by him could have been damaging to the judge, an NAACP audience still needed to hear that Affirmative Action was not dead, that it is still needed and that his Administration was committed to it.

I liked the strategy that Obama laid out which gave the NAACP the role of making the White House do what is right, in other words, being the legitimate protagonist for an agenda of civil and human rights.

It strikes me that is the right posture, not just for a Black president but for any president, as was discussed during the campaign about his fidelity to the Black Agenda.

But being a protagonist at a time when there is a history-making event such as a popular Black man sitting in the White House takes courage and thus far, little courage has been in evidence by any of the Black leadership.

Maybe that is because when you attempt to broach the issue of accountability, even by accident, you are disbarred from the black community — ask Rev. Jesse Jackson, Tavis Smiley, and others.

Will the NAACP be up to the role of the legitimate protagonist? I don't know because historically, it has also depended upon access to the White House as a currency of its leadership, and that currency could be eroded by the alienation that naturally comes from strong opposition.

So, maybe this is not just a role for the NAACP, but all of our organizations to take seriously the task of "tough love" toward the administration, a role that gives strong support when it is right on our issues and strong opposition when the need is clearly there, but nothing happens. What more can anyone ask?

Dr. Ron Walters is Professor Emeritus at the University of Maryland College Park. His latest book is: *The Price of Racial Reconciliation* (University of Michigan Press)





## Urban Environmentalism: Sharing Sustainable Progress

(NDG Wire) The public is invited on Friday July 24 at 6:30 p.m. when Houston Mayor Bill White and Laura Aune, the Trade Commissioner, Canadian Consulate General-Dallas are the Progressive Center of Texas' guest speakers.

Mayor White, former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy, is designated one of America's "Greenest Mayors."

Houston is the nation's leading purchaser of re-

newable energy and cut energy consumption by 6% during double digit economic growth.

Aune has a mission to see Dallas reduce auto emissions by developing walkable and affordable neighborhoods. She recently returned from guiding a delegation from Dallas including Mayor Tom Leppert to explore Toronto's best case walkable neighborhoods.

The DFW area began to shift to more sustain-

able growth years ago, but can always use fresh perspectives and solutions to ensure the continuing population boom doesn't overwhelm the community financially or environmentally. The public is invited to come with their questions!

The address is South Side on Lamar, 1409 S. Lamar Street, Dallas. Call 214-485-2720 or email [frontdesk@progressive-centeroftexas.org](mailto:frontdesk@progressive-centeroftexas.org) for details.

## Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Workshop

(NDG Wire) The City of Richardson is in the process of preparing a comprehensive master plan to improve the parks, recreation and open space system throughout the city. A public workshop will be held: at the Richardson Civic Center, Richardson Room, 411 W. Arapaho Rd. Tuesday July 28, 6:30pm to 7:30pm.

City officials are asking the public to provide input regarding how to improve parks, recreation and leisure opportunities. The format of the workshop will follow these basic questions:

1. What parks and recreation facilities and programs (indoor and outdoor) do you currently use? If you don't use the system, why not?

2. What do you like

about the City of Richardson Parks, Recreation Facilities and Programs (indoor and outdoor)?

3. What do you not like or what is missing from your parks and recreation system? How can the system be improved? What is your VISION for the future of Richardson parks and recreation opportunities?

4. Imagine it is the year 2015. You are very pleased with the improvements that have been made to your park and recreation system since the master plan was completed. What has made the parks more successful and enjoyable? How have the recreation and leisure opportunities changed?

5. How do you feel the City and other jurisdictions

should generate needed funds to improve the parks and recreation system?

The answers received will provide the framework and the priorities for the proposed improvements to the parks and recreation system. The City would like the master plan to reflect the desires and needs of the citizens.

Therefore, the public's responses to these questions are very important.

If you attend the workshop, please send your responses to these questions by July 31 to: [andrea@nationalresearch.com](mailto:andrea@nationalresearch.com) or write to Andrea Thomas, National Service Research, 2601 Ridgmar Plaza, Suite 9, Fort Worth, TX 76116.

## The No Limit Network Presents the 5th Annual No Limit Women's Expo

(NDG Wire) The No Limit Network, a business and social networking organization, is the presenting sponsor for the 5th Annual No Limit Women's Expo to be held Saturday, August 1, 2009. The show is from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm at the Richardson Civic Center located at 411 W. Arapaho Rd, Richardson, TX 75080.

Admission is \$1 or Free with a canned food donation for the North Texas Food Bank. The purpose of the No Limit Women's Expo is to promote life enrichment and empowerment. The North Texas Food Bank is the charitable organization benefiting from the expo this year.

This charitable, family-

friendly event features exhibitors with products, services and business opportunities for women.

Attendees will enjoy shopping, children's activities, and door prize drawings.

Free events scheduled include: health screenings, vision screening, massages, and seminars.

Entertainment includes songs by House of Blues Sunday Gospel Brunch hostess Kertrina Dauway and a fashion show by Sew Kool and Watchama Callit Fashion Boutique. Seminars included tips on living and working Green, home and office organization tips, business networking, and women's health issues. For

only \$20, health professionals at the No Limit Women's Expo will be giving high school and middle school athletes the required sports physicals needed to participate in school athletics.

Sponsors for the No Limit Women's Expo include The No Limit Network, KAAM 770 AM radio, *North Dallas Gazette*, *The Dallas Examiner*, *The Wylie News*, *Valder Beebe Show*, DART, Krispy Kreme Doughnuts and 1st International Bank.

For information, visit [www.nolimitexpo.com](http://www.nolimitexpo.com) or call 972-898-5882. To learn more about The No Limit Network, visit, [www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com](http://www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com).

## Garland Mayor Invites Citizens to Mayor's Evening Out


(NDG Wire) Garland Mayor Ronald E. Jones will host his quarterly Mayor's Evening Out on Thursday, July 30 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Mayor Jones' host Evening Out events quarterly to broaden his accessibility to the citizens of Garland.

Citizens across Garland have an opportunity to ask Mayor Jones questions or raise concerns about their neighborhood or the city.

The July event will be held at the Holford Recreation Center, 2314 Homestead Place. This format will be an open, come-and-go

session from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. It is not necessary to schedule an appointment. The Mayor will visit with citizens in the order in which they sign in upon arrival.

For more information, call 972-205-2471 or email [EDatomo@ci.garland.tx.us](mailto:EDatomo@ci.garland.tx.us).



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# UNCF Launches K-12 Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship Program

(NDG Wire) UNCF – the United Negro College Fund – announced that it has taken a major step in the cutting-edge field of social entrepreneurship, the application of business management practices to social reform effort, by launching the UNCF K-12 Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship Program. The program, which is funded with a \$1.08 million seed grant from The Walton Family Foundation of Bentonville, Arkansas, is a pilot initiative established to build a pipeline of talented African American college graduates equipped to enter careers that apply social entrepreneurship principles to reforming elementary and secondary education.

Tiffany Singleton, the UNCF Director for Social Entrepreneurship Programs, will oversee and manage the implementation of the program. Singleton is a Harvard

Business School Leadership Fellow and former UNCF Gates Millennium Scholar. The UNCF K-12 Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship Program will address one of the most significant challenges facing social entrepreneurship today – the lack of racial and ethnic diversity among those in leadership positions.

“Social entrepreneurs are society’s change agents, and we know from past experience that solutions developed for the benefit of diverse populations are most effective if the change agents and innovators themselves come from the populations they seek to serve,” said Michael Lomax, Ph.D., UNCF President and CEO. “As the nation’s largest provider of financial assistance to minority and low-income college students, UNCF is committed to becoming a top producer

of African American educational entrepreneurs and school leaders who are committed to improving minority education from pre-school through college.”

“The Walton Family Foundation is pleased to support the development of the UNCF K-12 Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship Program,” said Kathleen deLaski, a senior education program officer. “This initiative is consistent with the Foundation’s mission of expanding educational opportunities and the Walton family’s goal of making a difference in communities by addressing K-12 education reform.”

Social entrepreneurs use entrepreneurial and business principles – and an innovative spirit – to seize opportunities to improve systems, invent new approaches and create data-driven, outcome-based solutions to societal

challenges that have resisted previous efforts at change.

The lack of diversity in leadership is a significant problem in the area of K-12 education reform. The primary goal of the UNCF K-12 Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship Program is to cultivate a pool of young change agents and innovators who can foster increased racial diversity among the leadership and managers of educational reform organizations that focus on increasing the number of low-income and minority students who are prepared for and pursuing a college degree.

In its pilot phase, the UNCF K-12 Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship Program will be offered to juniors attending five to-be-selected UNCF schools. Two cohorts of 15 fellows each will be

See UNCF, Page 11

## COLLEGE CORNER

### Academic Competitiveness Grant

The Academic Competitiveness Grant was made available for the first time for the 2006-2007 school year for first-year college students who graduated from high school after January 1, 2006, and for second-year college students who graduated from high school after January 1, 2005.

The amount of the ACG, when combined with a Pell Grant, may not exceed the student's cost of attendance. In addition, if the number of eligible students is large enough that payment of the full grant amounts would exceed the program appropriation in any fiscal year, then the amount of the grant to each eligible student may be ratably reduced.

To be eligible for each academic year, a student must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen; be a Federal Pell Grant recipient; and be a first or second-year undergraduate student or a student in a certificate program of at least one year in a degree program at a two-year or four-year degree-granting institution.

**Deadline:** Varies

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# Bella Notte Gala Celebrates Communities in Schools Dallas Region



**Charles & Kim McDonald, Plano (Viewpoint Bank)**

(NDG Wire) The doors opened to a gorgeous night in Venice, with flower-filled gondolas atop a sea of tables at the recent Bella Notte Gala.

The black-tie event, which took place in the Omni Mandalay at Las Colinas, included fine dining, live and silent auctions, dancing to the music of Plush, and Casino fun – all for a good cause: Com-

munities In Schools Dallas Region (CISDR).

Barbara Hunt Crow served as the honorary chairman, Elsa Norwood was the chairman.

CISDR operates in 61 schools, in ten school districts, in six counties, achieving stunning accomplishments in 2007-2008. Of 10,085 at-risk students (bright but under-achieving):

- 97% stayed in school
- 89% improved in academics, behavior and/or attendance
- 95% of eligible seniors graduated

With monies raised at this 8th Kids Come First Gala, the organization will continue to provide comprehensive academic and social support services, and will expand its program to serve additional

students struggling and waiting for help.

Barbara Hunt Crow said, "Today, anywhere from one fifth to one third of all high school children drop out of school, which is tantamount to a national epidemic."

The Gala has raised more than \$1.75 million in the past for at-risk children. Visit [www.cisdallas.org](http://www.cisdallas.org) for information.

## The Giving Movement Partners With Local Businesses to Raise Money for Food Pantry

Each month Cheryl "Action" Jackson, Founder of The Giving Movement (TGM) hosts a special event to raise funds for Minnie's Food Pantry. Minnie's provides food to children and families in impoverished areas. In June, TGM partnered with Nissan of McKinney and gave away a free van.

On July 23, Platinum Motorcars Grand Opening

Celebration will be held on Thursday, July 23 from 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm at the new dealership located at 11430 North Central Expressway.

Platinum Motorcars will sell toy matchbox cars for \$50 each. Three winning cars will have hidden keys to unlock a free weekend experience in a Lamborghini, Aston Martin or Rolls Royce Phantom.

(Dates based on availability. Rental restrictions do apply.) The toy cars can either be kept by the owner or donated to the children involved in the charity. To RSVP, call FMPR at 214.559.0122 or e-mail [assistant@friedmanpr.com](mailto:assistant@friedmanpr.com).

For more information about The Giving Movement, visit [www.thegivingmovement.org](http://www.thegivingmovement.org).



**Above, (L) Chris Godwin, Nissan of McKinney's General Manager, donated the van in the background to (M) Cheryl Jackson founder of The Giving Movement also Erica Simon is included in the photograph.**



**Above, Nissan's Chris Godwin reaches in to pull out the lucky entry.**



**Above, Tenisa Blair, Nila Prian, Crystal White and Kandice Johnson enjoy food and fun at the giveaway drawing.**

**At right, Dana and John Decker from Princeton were the winners of the Free Car Friday giveaway in June hosted by Godwin & Nissan of McKinney.**



## All One Debt Settlement "Relief is Just Around the Corner"



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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 HQ, 8416 Stacy Road, McKinney. Call Fred Moses at 972-618-7027 or [fred@tes.com](mailto:fred@tes.com) for more information.

**Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce**, July 9, August 14 & September 10, CCBCC General Meetings for Summer Quarter, McKinney Public Library, 101 E. Hunt Street McKinney, TX 75069

**Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce: Monthly Lunch & Learn** - July 16, August 20 & September 17, \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, 11:00am until 1:00pm at the El Fenix Restaurant, 3450 S. Central Expressway, McKinney, TX 75070. Info: (469) 424-0120.

**DFW Financially Empowered Women** meet monthly for lunch or dinner and a fun, informative seminar on various financial topics. For info: 469-942-0809 or [meetup.com/378](http://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 Thursday at 11:30 am - 12:30 pm every Thursday at Texas Land & Cattle Steak House 3945 N. Central Expy. Plano 75023 Must RSVP at [www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com](http://www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com) or 972-898-5882.

**The National Business Women Enterprise Network (NBWEN) Learning Over Lunch** Series: Monthly workshop and networking event giving mem-

bers 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. 4th Saturdays, 11AM-1PM, ReMarkable Affairs Cafe, 2727 LBJ Freeway, Suite 140, Dallas, \$20 for members; \$35 for non-members, \$5 off for early bird registration. Visit <http://nbwen.org> for more information.

**Summer Melange: Business, Pleasure & Charity Networking Event** Every 2nd and 4th Friday, 5:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. at Prince Bistro, 1201 E. Spring Creek Pkwy, Ste. 100, Plano, Admission is free Info: 972.422.9078 [melange@cause360group.com](mailto:melange@cause360group.com)

**Summer 2009**

**Seniors Active in Learning** hosting annual summer series including Brown Bag lecture series and a variety of classes and other activities. For a complete list and details of the Summer Learning speakers and events, call 972.985.3788, [wjmartin@cccd.edu](mailto:wjmartin@cccd.edu) or [www.cccd.edu/sailsite](http://www.cccd.edu/sailsite).

**March 28 - October 25**

**The George Washington Carver: An Extraordinary Man With A Mighty Vision** Exhibit at The African American Museum, 3536 Grand Avenue, Historic Fair Park, Dallas, TX, 214 565-9026, \$5-Adults, \$2 - Children [www.aamdallas.org](http://www.aamdallas.org)

**July 23 - August 2**

**Les Miserables** is at Granville Arts Center 972-485-8884, [www.granvilleartscenter.org](http://www.granvilleartscenter.org)

**July 25**

**The PLAN Fund is offering "Business Basics for Entrepreneurs"** 9:00 am - 6:00 pm. Concepts covered are: Marketing, Forecasting, Cash Flow, Pricing, and Business Planning.

Upon completion of the training class, prospective members will receive a certification and become eligible for business loans. Location Builders of Hope, 333 N. Stemmons Fwy., Suite 100, Dallas, TX 75207 Cost is \$40.00 if paid in advance, \$45.00 at the door. Register: [www.planfund.org](http://www.planfund.org) or 214-942-6698.

**"All Dressed Up, With No Place To Go"- A Touch of Pink** The Butcher Shop 808 Munger, Dallas, Doors open at 9:30. Everyone Free till 10:30 with RSVP to [alldressedup@cajunfamily.com](mailto:alldressedup@cajunfamily.com) or 214-395-6517.

**July 27**

**African Drum & Dance Mini Camp** for children ages 6 and up at the Rosemeade Recreation, M-F, 7/27 to 7/31 Rosemeade Rec. Center, 1330 Rosemeade Pkwy. in Carrollton, TX 75007. Baba Kwasi and the Ayubu KAmu Kings \$ Queens 2-4 pm \$40 per student [babakwasi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:babakwasi@sbcglobal.net) 972-466-9800

**July 28**

**Putting America Back to Work Job Fair**, New Cowboy Stadium, 925 North Collins, Arlington, TX 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**July 28**

**ALDI hiring event:** Accepting applications for store manager trainees 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Galleria Doubletree Hotel at 4099 Valley View Lane, Dallas

**July 29 - August 1**

**Life Enrichment Boot Camp:** Admission Fee: \$200 per person, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Info: David Bishop at 214-736-9991 or [www.lifeenrichmentbootcamp.com](http://www.lifeenrichmentbootcamp.com)

**July 29**

**PLAN Fund & Comerica Bank** hosting a free busi-

ness networking event to announce its new micro-loan program, 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. at the Center for Community Cooperation Rm: Oak Corner 2900 Live Oak, Dallas, Info: Tarsha: 214-942-6698 or [www.eventbrite.com/event/314365275](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/314365275).

**July 30 - August 1**

**Friends of the Plano Public Library 26th Annual Book Sale First Nighter Sale**, Thursday, July 30, 6 - 10pm, Entry fees: \$5 Individual, \$10 Family. Free Admission Friday, July 31, 9am - 9 pm, and Saturday, August 1, 9am - 1pm Over 75,000 new and gently used books. Hard-back books, DVDs and CDs: \$2. Paperback books: \$1. Videocassettes, audiocassettes, and records: 2 for \$1. No sales tax! All proceeds go to Friends of Plano Public Library. Info: 972-208-8002.

**July 30 - August 9**

**Ringling Bros & Barnum & Bailey Show** The American Airlines Center Thursday, July 30 7:30PM Friday, July 31, 7:30PM Sat., August 1, 11:30AM Sat., August 1, 3:30PM Sat., August 1, 7:30PM Sunday, August 2, 2:30PM Sunday, August 2, 6:30PM Thurs., August 6, 7:30PM Friday, August 7, 7:30PM Sat., August 8, 11:30AM Sat., August 8, 3:30PM Sat., August 8, 7:30PM Sunday, August 9, 2:30PM Sunday, August 9, 6:30PM Info: [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

**July 30**

**Diversity/Professional Job Fair** 10AM-3PM Westin DFW Airport, 4545 W. John Carpenter Frwy, Irving (972) 929-4500

**July 31**

**1964 The Tribute (to Elvis) Bass Performance** Hall, 4th and Calhoun Streets in Fort Worth, TX, 8 pm 817-212-4280

**August 1**

**Congregation "Click" Workshop** Maximizing web technology, congregations have an opportunity to communicate its message, in the most efficient means possible, to their members and the community at large. Froswa' Booker-Drew, Director, Partners for Sacred Places. 1500 N. Main, Suite 160, Fort Worth, Texas 76164 [fdrew@sacredplaces.org](mailto:fdrew@sacredplaces.org), [froswabookerdrew@att.bleckberry.net](mailto:froswabookerdrew@att.bleckberry.net), [www.sacredplaces.org](http://www.sacredplaces.org)

**August 2**

**2009 Taste Dance: Addison Style!** 2-4PM, Addison Conference Center, 15650 Addison Road, Addison TX 75001. Cost: Adults \$8, Seniors & Students \$6 and children under 6 FREE

**KKDA-AM's Reporter Roundtable** Live from Harwood 609 at 8 am. Bring your calendar of events, your alumni chapter dues and your contribution to UNCF and Paul Quinn College.

**August 5**

**Arlington Professional Diversity Career Fair**, LaQuinta Inn, 825 N. Watson Road, Arlington, 10-2 p.m.

**August 5**

**Technology, Engineering, and Security Clearance Career Fair** Admission is FREE. 11am to 3pm. Info: 800.695.1939 or [www.targetedjobfairs.com](http://www.targetedjobfairs.com).

**August 7 - August 8**

**14th Annual Summer Homeschool Conference** Pre-register at [www.NTHEN.org](http://www.NTHEN.org) or 214-495-9600.

**August 7**

**"Music under the Dome"** features the live band of "MuziQue" 7pm to 11pm located at the African American Museum in the Historic Fair Park of Dallas, TX. The \$10 admission includes food, refreshments, and entrance to the "George

Washington Carver" exhibit. Parking is FREE. Info: 214 563 9026, [www.aamdallas.org/](http://www.aamdallas.org/), [www.dallasalphas.com/](http://www.dallasalphas.com/)

**August 8**

**The Wiggles!** Tour NOKIA Theatre 1:30 & 5:00 PM

**August 11**

**The Multicultural Outreach Roundtable** The mission of the roundtable is to partner with City Council and the citizens of Plano encouraging understanding and participation in the government process and the needs and desires of its diverse citizens. Info: 7:00 p.m. Plano Municipal Center, Training Room A 1520 Avenue K

**August 14 - August 15**

**Quilt Plano 2009** presented by the Quilters Guild of Plano 9am to 5pm Info: [www.quiltersguildofplano.org](http://www.quiltersguildofplano.org), 972-517-7238.

**August 19**

**What a Wonderful World** fun-filled family day, 1-4pm Amon Carter Museum

**August 21 - August 22**

**Half Price Sale: Divine Consign Children's and Maternity Consignment Sale** 9am-8pm Admission is free. Info: Tina Teutsch 214-513-2838, [divineconsign@hotmail.com](mailto:divineconsign@hotmail.com) or [www.divineconsign.net](http://www.divineconsign.net)

**August 21-23**

**"The 3rd Annual Fort Worth MusicFest"** featuring legendary billboard-topping bands, Morris Day and the Time, The Bar-Kays and The Zapp Band. This three-day outdoor music event will take place in Fort Worth. Tickets are \$15 per day until August, 14, 2009. Kids under the age of 10 get in free. More info: [www.fwmusicfestival.org](http://www.fwmusicfestival.org) or 817.923-9300.

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# Analysis: Gates' Arrest a Signpost on Racial Road

*If this man can be taken away by police officers from the porch of his own home, what does it say about the treatment that average blacks can expect in 2009?*

BY JESSE WASHINGTON,  
AP NATIONAL WRITER

(AP) It took less than a day for the arrest of Henry Louis Gates to become racial lore. When one of America's most prominent black intellectuals winds up in handcuffs, it's not just another episode of profiling - it is a signpost on the nation's bumpy road to equality.

The news was parsed and Tweeted, rued and debated. This was, after all Henry "Skip" Gates: Summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Yale. MacArthur "genius grant" recipient. Acclaimed historian, Harvard professor and PBS documentarian. One of *Time* magazine's "25 Most Influential Americans" in 1997. Holder of 50 honorary degrees.

If this man can be taken away by police officers from the porch of his own home, what does it say about the treatment that average blacks can expect in 2009?

Earl Graves Jr., CEO of the company that publishes *Black Enterprise* magazine, was once stopped by police during his train commute to work, dressed in a suit and tie.

"My case took place back in 1995, and here we are 14 years later dealing with the same madness," he said Tuesday. "Barack Obama being the president has meant absolutely nothing to white law enforcement officers. Zero. So I have zero confidence that (Gates' case) will lead to any change whatsoever."

The 58-year-old professor had returned from a trip to China last Thursday afternoon and found the front door of his Cambridge, Mass., home stuck shut. Gates entered the back door, forced open the front door with help from a car service driver, and was on the phone with the Harvard leasing company when a white police sergeant arrived.

Gates and the sergeant gave differing accounts of

what happened next. But for many people, that does not matter.

They do not care that Gates was charged not with breaking and entering, but with disorderly conduct after repeatedly demanding the sergeant's name and badge number.

It does not matter whether Gates was yelling, or accused Sgt. James Crowley of being racist, or that all charges were dropped Tuesday.

All they see is pure, naked racial profiling.

"Under any account ... all of it is totally uncalled for," said Graves.

"It never would have happened - imagine a white professor, a distinguished white professor at Harvard, walking around with a cane, going into his own house, being harassed or stopped by the police. It would never happen."

Racial profiling became a national issue in the 1990s, when highway police on major drug delivery routes were accused

of stopping drivers simply for being black. Lawsuits were filed, studies were commissioned, data was analyzed. "It is wrong, and we will end it in America," President George W. Bush said in 2001.

Yet for every study that concluded police disproportionately stop, search and arrest minorities, another expert came to a different conclusion.

"That's always going to be the case," Dr. Greg Ridgeway, who has a Ph.D. in statistics and studies racial profiling for the RAND research group, said on Monday. "You're never going to be able to (statistically) prove racial profiling. ... There's always a plausible explanation."

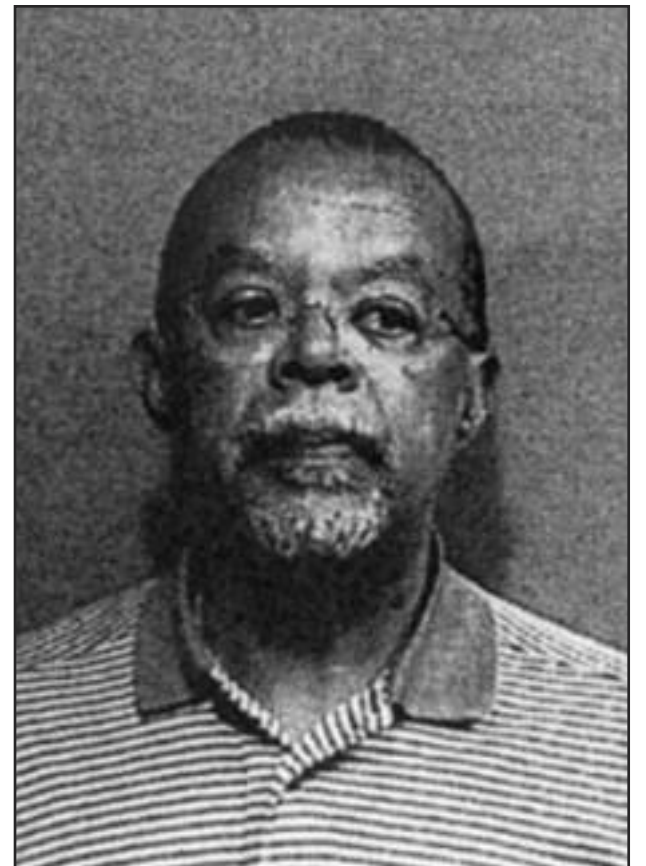
Federal legislation to ban racial profiling has languished since being introduced in 2007 by a dozen Democratic senators, including then-Sen. Barack Obama.

According to U.S. Rep. Danny Davis, D-Ill., that was partly because "when you look at statistics, and you're trying to prove the extent, the information comes back that there's not nearly as much (profiling) as we continue to experience."

But Davis has no doubt that profiling is real: He says he was stopped while driving in Chicago in 2007 for no reason other than the fact he is black.

Police gave him a ticket for swerving over the center line; a judge said the ticket didn't make sense and dismissed it.

"Trying to reach this balance of equity, equal treatment, equal protection under the law, equal understanding, equal opportunity, is something that



*This booking photo released by the Cambridge, Mass., Police Dept., shows Harvard scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr., who was arrested while trying to force open the locked front door of his home near Harvard University Thursday, July 16, 2009. Gates is accusing Cambridge police of racism after he was arrested on a disorderly conduct charge after police said he "exhibited loud and tumultuous behavior." He was released later that day on his own recognizance and arraignment was scheduled for Aug. 26. AP Photo Credit*

we will always be confronted with. We may as well be prepared for it," he said.

Amid the indignation over Gates' case, a few people pointed out that he may have violated the cardinal rule of avoiding arrest: Do not antagonize the cops.

The police report said that Gates yelled at the officer, refused to calm down and behaved in a "tumultuous" manner.

Gates said he simply asked for the officer's identification, followed him into his porch when the information was not forthcoming, and was arrested for no reason. But something about being asked to prove that you live in your own home clearly struck a nerve - both for Gates and his defenders.

"You feel violated, embarrassed, not sure what is taking place, especially

when you haven't done anything," said Graves of his own experience, when police made him face the wall and frisked him in Grand Central Station in New York City. "You feel shocked, then you realize what's happening, and then you feel it's a violation of everything you stand for."

And that this should happen to "Skip" Gates - the unblemished embodiment of President Obama's recent admonition to black America not to search for handouts or favors, but to "seize our own future, each and every day" - shook many people to the core.

Wrote Lawrence Bobo, Gates' Harvard colleague, who picked his friend up from jail: "Ain't nothing post-racial about the United States of America."

Jesse Washington covers race and ethnicity for *The Associated Press*.



*Henry Louis Gates Jr is arrested at his home. Photograph: B Carter/AP*



## Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® and American Airlines Center to Celebrate the Arrival of the Circus with an Elephantine Block Party



(NDG Wire) Time to put on the party hats! The *Greatest Show On Earth*® and American

Airlines Center® are hosting a FREE elephantine block party and the guest list includes children of all ages in the metroplex! The festivities begin with a performance from the world famous *Ringling Bros.* clowns, who will delight young and old alike with their silly antics. Then, the ponderous pachyderm stars of the circus will stroll to the party and revel in the excitement by snacking on a colossal salad of veggies and fruits.

For more information on the celebration, 214-222-3687 or [www.americanairlinescenter.com](http://www.americanairlinescenter.com).

This event heralds the arrival of the all-new *Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey*, a sensational salute to the animals that have inspired wonder and awe in audiences for 138 magical years.

The event will kick off July 28 at 7:00 p.m. at the AT&T Plaza at American Airlines Center, located at 2500 Victory Avenue, in Dallas.

## Theatre Three Presents: Woody Guthrie's American Song



By  
Rick Elina

Rarely does a day's news cycle fail to remind us of the current economic downturn.

Seemingly no one is spared from the constant barrage of commentary that prices are high, wages are low, unemployment is rampant and factories everywhere are closing. And oh yes, consumer confidence is now measured in degrees of consumer uncertainty.

Thankfully, escape from these harsh realities lies just around the corner at your local air-conditioned multiplex where the latest multi-million dollar blockbusters are showing for the price of a drive thru combo meal. Super-sized. Fight the urge to escape!

Instead go see Theatre Three's production of *Woody Guthrie's American Song*, a musical biography of the late Woody Guthrie. This show will take you back in time to the Great Depression of the 1930s, when prices were high, wages were low and 25 percent of the country was thrown out of work. Do we need more of the same?

Yes, the inspirational message of the two-dozen songs performed, a mere fraction of the 3,000 song lyrics written by the late folk singer, is that the American working man and woman have an indomitable spirit.

That acute observer of the Depression-era depressed, author John Steinbeck, once wrote about Mr. Guthrie, "...there is nothing sweet about Woody, and there is nothing sweet about the songs he sings. But there is something more important for those who still listen. There is the will of a peo-

ple to endure and fight against oppression. I think we call this the American spirit."

To quote John Steinbeck here is completely appropriate. The set and costumes designed by Bruce R. Coleman will have you searching the program for a character named Tom Joad. Theatre Three's basement space has all the trappings of an Oklahoma dustbowl without the dust.

The ensemble cast, performed well together musically.

Daniel Svoboda, Willy Welch and Doug Jackson on banjo exhibited great versatility on several different instruments. Christine Harpine was an absolute virtuoso on the violin, though she mostly remained off-stage, and that is unfortunate.

Vocally, there were a couple of "dead spots" where the lyrics seemed to drop to the floor before reaching the other side of the room, especially as the actors moved around the limited basement space.

However, the vocal quality of N. Wilson King stood out among her cast mates in terms of richness and consistency. Alexander Roos singing "Dust Storm Disaster" was among my favorite numbers performed. "We loaded our jalopies and piled our families in, we rattled down that highway to never come back again."

Maybe Tom Joad was there after all.

Woody Guthrie *American Song* is currently running at Theatre Three through July 26, 2009. For information or to purchase tickets call 214-871-3300 or [Theatre3Dallas.com](http://Theatre3Dallas.com)

*Rick A. Elina is a playwright based in Plano, Texas and is the theatre critic for the North Dallas Gazette.*

## Chris Brown Apologizes for Rihanna Beating

(AP) Chris Brown on Monday publicly apologized for the beating of Rihanna, saying in a two-minute video that he's still seeking help and wants to live his life as a role model.

Brown released the video on his website apologizing to fans and saying he is sad and ashamed of his conduct. He also tells viewers that he has repeatedly apologized to Rihanna.

Brown was arrested Feb. 8, hours after he fought with his then-girlfriend in a rented sports car after a pre-Grammy party. According to a police affidavit, Brown tried to push the 21-year-old Barbados-born singer from the car and repeatedly hit her and choked her.

He left the scene and later

turned himself in to authorities during the Grammy Awards, where he and Rihanna were slated to perform. He was later charged with assault likely to cause great bodily harm and making criminal threats. He pleaded guilty to the felony assault charge last month and faces sentencing Aug. 5.

He is slated to serve five years of probation and perform six months of community labor.

On the video, Brown calls the beating "the incident." He vows to conduct interviews and answer some questions about the beating, but said he wanted to speak directly to fans first.

"I felt it was time you that heard directly from me that I am sorry," he says on the video.

Brown describes his conduct as "inexcusable" and says his mother has taught him better. He mentions that he witnessed domestic violence growing up.

"I saw firsthand what uncontrolled rage can do," he tells viewers. "I have sought



Chris Brown

and am continuing to seek help to ensure that what occurred in February can never happen again."

Brown says on the video he wanted to speak out earlier, but was advised not to by his lawyer.

He acknowledges that the beating has hurt his reputation. Although he doesn't mention it, Brown lost sponsorship deals, radio stations stopped playing his music and other artists condemned him after the attack.

Before the beating, Brown was considered a squeaky-clean R&B up-and-comer. He rose to prominence after the 2005 hit *Run It!* He was nominated for a Grammy for *No Air* with Jordin Sparks and named Billboard's top artist in 2008.

"I intend to live my life so that I am truly worth of the term 'role model,'" Brown says at the video's conclusion.

## Attention Wine Lovers Register for the 2009 DLW Conference

Registration is open for the GO TEXAN DrinkLocalWine.com Conference 2009, set for Aug. 15 at Le Cordon Bleu Institute of Culinary Arts Dallas. Registration is \$35 in advance and \$45 the day of the event. To register, go here. Participants in the Texas Twitter Taste-off must be 21 or older.

The conference will

include three seminars, focusing on trends in Texas wine, the distinctive grapes Texans use to make those wines, and how consumers can work to get more regional wines in stores and restaurants. The final event of the day will be a Texas Twitter Taste-off, moderated by Russ Kane of Vintage Texas. Participants will taste

some 40 Texas wines and blog or Twitter about them. Their votes will pick the conference's favorite wines. They also get lunch prepared by the chefs at the world-famous Cordon Bleu. The complete schedule is here.

Many are surprised Texas is the fifth-largest wine producing state in the country, with 177

wineries and 280 commercial vineyards.

The Texas industry has made important strides this decade, focusing on Italian and Spanish varietals.

The presenting sponsor, the Texas Department of Agriculture's GO TEXAN program, sees the conference as an opportunity to tell the Texas wine story.



## American Eagle Airline Adds Five Cities from DFW

(NDG Wire) American Eagle Airlines, the regional affiliate of American Airlines, in June began non-stop jet service to five new cities from Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW): Santa Fe, New Mexico; Tallahassee,

Florida; Montgomery, Alabama; Brownsville, Texas; and Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Jon Snook, Senior Vice President Customer Service for American Eagle said, "With daily service to the Dallas/Fort Worth hub,

customers can connect on American Eagle to anywhere in the world that American flies."

"These five new destinations from American Eagle give DFW travelers even more options to connect across the country and

around the world," said Joe Lopano, Executive Vice President of Marketing and Terminal Management of DFW International Airport. "And more flights create more choices and more competitive fares for our passengers."

## Adapting to Change: Over Compensating for Success

BY FARRAH GRAY

(NNPA) We live in a world driven by money and ideals, but most notably by fears. Fear of change, fear of taking risks, fear of losing, and fear of failure. Fear is why we can easily cling to false beliefs and let them control our way of thinking.

In the middle of struggle it's often difficult to stay convinced that success is worth the price that has to be paid. Something tells you that "there must be an easier way." There is an easier way, but not one that leads to success. It depends entirely on what you want. If you want to retain the option to choose, then part of the payment you make is to be true to your choice.

You have to turn yourself into the light to see what's written on each facet that goes into your potential success

Your personal strengths and weaknesses must be identified in order to recognize where improvements are needed. Let's begin by taking your personal assessment as a way to generate the information necessary for you to create the best fit possible between you and your chosen

lifestyle for success as you would define it.

What's the key to creating this fit? Simply put, the secret to mastering your universe is, "Pay attention!"

Look carefully at your lifestyle and work situation are choosing. Will you be rewarded or penalized for being who you are? What characteristics result in rewards? Which ones bring penalties? Practice utilizing those attributes that bring awards and refrain from displaying those that result in penalties.

By practicing this daily, and having the courage to make the required changes, you truly can stretch the existing "good" fit to a "perfect" fit, on your journey toward successful self-employment can truly become a dream fulfilled.

Accepting Responsibility: Pay careful attention to how you respond when you see that a mistake has been made.

Do you blame someone else or make excuses? It requires self confidence to admit a mistake.

Self-Discipline: Most of us think we are self-disciplined until we have to be!

Think of something you have "been meaning to do" (losing weight, exercising every morning, etc.) For those things that require regular practice, set our sights on doing them for one week.

Resourcefulness: Observe how often you say, "I can't." Resourcefulness springs from developing an "I can" attitude!

Ability to Delay Gratification: Paying attention to how you respond when you are required to wait in line for a movie; or to purchase something you just cannot do without!

Ability to Sacrifice: Give up something; no shopping on the weekend, no break during work for a day. The stronger your attachment to the item of sacrifice, the better!

Accepting Criticism: Do something you are not very good at! Then, seek the opinion of someone whose honesty you value. Pay careful attention to how you feel and respond when you are criticized.

Flexibility in Thinking: Choose three routines that you regularly adhere to (operational procedures under your control at work. De-

velop new ways of doing things!

Support Network: Join a local business group or create your own. Include your family/friends in the development phases of your business. The more understanding the people close to you have of your dream, the easier it will be for them to buy into it and provide the support you need.

Energy level: For one week, get up an hour earlier and go to be an hour later than normal. Observe how this affects your mood and your performance.

Risk-Taking Ability: The most important thing to remember in learning to take risks is to carefully calculate the up and down side to each potential opportunity. Begin slowly!

Personal attributes are both the easiest and the hardest to change! They are easy to change in that we are the only ones who have control over who we are and how we behave. Practical application will yield positive results!

*Dr. Farrah Gray is chairman of the Farrah Gray Foundation. He can be reached at fg@drfarrahgray.com.*

## UNCF, continued from Page 6

chosen – one in the Spring of 2010 and the other in the Spring of 2011, for a total of 30 Fellows

Fellows will participate in "real-world" experiences, including a K-12 Social Entrepreneurship Boot Camp, summer internships with

leading educational entrepreneurship organizations and a post-internship Leadership Summit to provide in-depth exposure to careers available in the educational entrepreneurship sector.

Fellows will also have access to faculty and career

mentors, job placement assistance and financial incentives for working for a K-12 social change organization following college graduation.

Evaluation of the Program will be conducted by UNCF's Frederick D. Pat-

erson Research Institute. UNCF expects to seek additional support from foundations, corporations and philanthropists to underwrite future cohorts of fellows and expand program offerings following the pilot phase.

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## ROUNDTABLE, continued from Page 1

vention July 16, Obama fielded a range of questions.

When Kevin Chappell, a senior reporter at *Ebony*, referenced the disparaging comments by Michael Steele, chair of the Republican National Committee, Obama said, "I think Mr. Steele should focus on the Republican Party."

What the President chose to focus on at the moment was entrepreneurship and urban affairs, "and we must particularly target communities most in need."

Equally important to the administration is health care and Obama responded to Cynthia Gordy of *Essence* magazine that "it is critical that we close some of these gaps in health care for all Americans, but particularly for Blacks and Latinos," where the incidence of HIV/AIDS is disproportionately high.

As the veritable flying White House touched

down, Obama elaborated on health care reform in response to a question from BET.com's Pamela Gentry concerning the impact of his plans on African-Americans and the single-payer option.

"We don't have a final bill yet," Obama began, "And as I've said before, there are countries where single-payer plans have worked well, but we have a tradition of an employer-based health care system...if people are happy with their health care, we don't want to change it."

"But for those who don't have health care because their employer doesn't offer it, then they have an option," Obama added. "And we are confident that the bill we produce will provide a level of subsidy that will guarantee affordable health care for all Americans."

With the NAACP on his agenda, as a reporter with the *Amsterdam News*,

I wanted to know the extent to which he would deal with race relations, reminding him of a recent comment by Julian Bond, chairman of the NAACP's board. While Obama's daughters can fly on Air Force One, little Black girls in the suburbs of Philadelphia were recently banned from a swimming pool, Bond observed.

"Obviously, this is a reminder that because of my election that racism is no longer an issue in America, and that is not true," Obama asserted. What needs to be done to eradicate the racial disparity, he continued, promising to address this issue during his speech at the NAACP, was "to improve substandard schools...to focus on economic parity, economic development and access to higher education."

Derek Dingle, editor-in-chief of *Black Enterprise*, keyed his question to the condition of small busi-

nesses and to what degree they could expect support from the Obama administration.

"First of all," Obama said, "we are focusing on small businesses already. The Small Business Administration (SBA) has increased its guarantees in terms of lending and it has been much more aggressive in trying to fill the gap as private lending contracted." He recounted a recent meeting with minority automobile dealers to discuss their plight.

"And the SBA is one of the primary tools to make sure those minority dealers are able to get the money they need to operate a showroom." It was a point that was clarified by Valerie Garrett, one of his chief aids at the roundtable.

Obama believed that the main problem confronting small and minority businesses was not so much the lack of capital, despite its critical impor-

tance, but the overall dismal shape of the economy.

Foreign policy and Africa were among several issues posed by April Ryan of American Urban Radio, and the president listened intently.

"In terms of foreign policy, that's one of the reasons I just came back from Ghana," he stated, "and that was to focus attention on the fact that Africa was not just a side note in our foreign policy, but a central concern of our administration."

The economic development and good governance are among some of the key points in providing aid to African nations, Obama stressed, and he mainly reiterated a policy he outlined during his speech before the Ghanaian parliament.

Commentator Roland Martin of CNN had the final question and he touched on the issue of vouchers and education,

which the president agreed was the most important issue for the African-American community.

"If we can close the achievement gap, then a big chunk of the economic inequality is diminished,"

Obama noted. "We have got to get our kids up to speed. Now, how do we do that? Better teachers, greater accountability, more resources combined with more reform."

He then invoked his Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and applauded his push for more aggressive reforms.

We were on the ground for 15 minutes and gradually Obama was surrounded by his aides, beckoning him for departure to the next stop in New Jersey and then on to the NAACP where much of what Obama shared with the reporters would be revisited with gusto at the Hilton.

## PROTEST, continued from Page 1

It nearly turned violent when one man swiped at a self-identified Klansman named Rock Banks. Banks, who said he is a grand titan in the East Texas Ku Klux Klan, was holding a small patch displaying a Nazi-era Iron Cross.

Sheriff's deputies escorted Banks and others away from the scene while protesters called him "cracker" and shouted curse words. No one was arrested.

The protest was organized last week after a special prosecutor, citing a lack of evidence, had charges dismissed against Shannon Finley and Charles Crostley, who were accused of killing their friend Brandon McClelland.

His mangled body was found September 16 on a country road, and authorities estimated it had been dragged more than 70 feet beneath a vehicle.

The two former suspects were released Thursday with no restrictions

after more than eight months in jail.

McClelland's mother, Jacqueline, said she believes Crostley and Finley were guilty of running down her

cial prosecutor Toby Shook said it was unlikely the trucker would face charges, but that the investigation into McClelland's death would continue.



Jacqueline McClelland, mother of slain victim.

son.

But investigators working for the defendants' attorneys were able to locate a gravel truck driver who last month gave a sworn statement acknowledging he might have accidentally run over McClelland. Spe-

The trucker's attorney, Mike Mosher, said his client was given immunity. He said the trucker does not know any of the parties involved.

Authorities had arrested Finley and Crostley, working on the theory that the

trio went on a late night beer run into Oklahoma from their dry county. On the way back, authorities alleged, the men argued over whether Finley was too drunk to drive. McClelland got out of the truck to walk home, and Finley ran over him.

In an arrest affidavit, authorities said they saw human blood on the underside of Finley's truck. But the vehicle was tested in a lab three times, and no biological evidence was found to link it to McClelland's death.

In an interview with *The Associated Press* last week, Finley said he and his friends were drunk and high, and he acknowledged arguing with McClelland about who should drive home. Finley and Crostley left him on the side of the road, returning once to persuade him to get back in. McClelland refused, so they continued home, Finley said.

## PLAN, continued from Page 1

the proposed changes will have no impact on local customer service and that a final decision has not been reached.

"When I spoke with several regional level officials today, including the Dallas District Manager, they flatly refused to even consider more time for public input. It seems to me that the decision has already been made to move forward with the plan," said Senator West. "There could be efficiency factors involved, but otherwise, I do not see the logic in de-emphasizing a well-established, centrally-located facility that the community has come to count on in favor of a functional shift to a more remote location."

Some fear the plan to phase out the Main Post Office is well underway. Union officials say they can document hun-



Royce West

dreds of worker transfers from the Dallas facility and that more are planned. Postal officials say the Coppell facility is better-equipped to conduct regional operations. Federal level elected officials have been contacted by Senator West. The deadline to submit public input expired Thursday, July 16. Senator West is calling on postal officials to allow more time for public input. There are no plans to re-open the public comment period.



## Texas Workforce Commission Will Expedite Payments of State Extended Benefits

(NDG Wire) Recently the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) announced that it will begin paying benefits to jobless Texans who qualify for 13 weeks of state extended benefits by the end of July. TWC will begin sending letters to claimants beginning July 24, 2009 with instructions on how to file for the new extension. A dedicated telephone hot line will be established to take claims.

At the direction of the governor, TWC worked with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) to expedite payments for eligible Texans after realizing it would have taken months to reprogram computers to address the extensive eligibility and reporting requirements.

"Earlier this week upon learning that extensive federal eligibility verification and reporting requirements could delay extended unemployment benefit payments to eligible Texans, my office directed the Texas Workforce Commission to address the problem and find a solution to provide Texans with timely benefits," said Gov.

Rick Perry. "I am pleased TWC has worked with the Department of Labor on a solution that will allow eligible Texans to begin receiving extended unemployment benefits by July 31, without the months of delay that had initially been predicted."

Chairman Pauken added, "I and my fellow Commissioners learned as well this week of a potential gap in the payment to claimants entitled to extended benefits. I immediately instructed staff to come up with a plan to expedite the payments of those benefits. Specifically, I asked staff to come forward with a solution to this problem so that benefits could begin to be paid by the end of this month. I am pleased that the TWC staff has taken the necessary action to get this accomplished."

Since the end of May, after Gov. Perry worked with the Legislature to change the law to allow for state extended benefits, the agency began addressing the necessary transition of the system to accommodate the stringent federal requirements.

Through an agreement with DOL, TWC will be allowed to temporarily defer certain federal requirements, allowing for immediate payment of extended benefits to thousands of long-term unemployed Texans.

This 13-week state extension is available to claimants that have exhausted 59 weeks of unemployment benefits. TWC estimates that as many as 100,000 claimants could exhaust their unemployment benefits by November 2009 and may be eligible for the new extension.

Re-employment services

are available through Texas Workforce Centers at [www.texasworkforce.org](http://www.texasworkforce.org) or by accessing [www.WorkInTexas.com](http://www.WorkInTexas.com) for information.

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the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

#### CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Dallas

Contract 0009-02-058 for FULL-DEP CONC REPAIR &  
ACP OVERLAY in DALLAS County

will be opened on August 12, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Contract 2374-07-061 for LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT

in DALLAS County will be opened  
on August 11, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

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Constr./Maint. Division

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Dist/Div Office(s)

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Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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## Church Happenings

### AVENUE F CHURCH OF CHRIST

**July 22-26, 7:30 pm**

Join us for our Homecoming & Gospel Meeting with Minister Shelton Gibbs, III of Greenville Avenue Church of Christ Church. Our Wednesday through Saturdays' Musical begins @ 5 pm. Sunday's Bible study time is 9:45 am; Worship Service is 10:45 am and Fellowship meal is from 1 pm to 2:15 pm followed by our afternoon worship at 2:30 pm. Call 972-423-8833 for details.

**Brother Ramon Hodridge,**  
Senior Minister  
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Plano, TX 75074  
972-423-8833

### C. D. DIXON MINISTRIES

**August 6 & 7, 7:30 pm**

Join us for "The Prophetic Voice Speaks in 2009 with Apostle C. D. Dixon @ God's Tabernacle of Deliverance Event Center, 1020 E. Pleasant Run Road, Desoto, TX 75115.

**Apostle C. D. Dixon**  
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Calling all youth to our Gen-Ex Youth Explosion "Born to Worship" @ the Allen Civic Auditorium. There will be food, fellowship, fun and worship.

**Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr.**  
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972-359-9956

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**August - November**

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**Dr. Frederick Haynes, III**  
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972-228-5200

### GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

**August 7 - 9, 2009**

Don't miss our FREE Back-to-School Gospel Explosion III, "Just the Beginning." Friday night Music is from 7-10 pm with various church choirs, B Holy, Da Chosen One,

Monae Miller, RJ & Group, mime dancers and Adrian Peace. Saturday is our Health & Safety Fair from 10 am - 2 pm. And Sunday is "Raise the Praise" Service at 4 pm; our Youth Minister brings the message of the hour.

**Rev. Maurice Floyd,**  
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1602 College Parkway  
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972-436-6704

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**August 1, 2009**

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**Dr. Tony Evans, Sr.**  
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by prayer and petition,  
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of God, which transcends all  
understanding, will guard  
your hearts and your minds  
in Christ Jesus."*

*- Philippians 4: 4-7*

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# Measuring Your Self-Worth



How do you define your self-worth? Do you define it by your family name and wealth? Is your self-worth based on your financial assets? Is it based on what you have achieved professionally and the status you have obtained? What about your standing in your church and the community where you live?

There are plenty of things that individuals can and will use to define their sense of worth. But, the Scriptures clearly tell us that there is only one true way to measure our self-worth.

Each of us has value and self-esteem because we are made in the image of God. "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them." Genesis 2:27

If we place a value in ourselves that is based on some other criteria but the image of God, we have moved beyond God's view of our worth as human beings. We will never be

more valuable to God than before we were conceived in our mother's womb.

Many individuals seek to determine their self-worth based on the amount of money they have, who their friends are, where they live, or what church they attend. This is a dangerous trap for people, especially Christians.

Apostle Paul warns us against seeking to build wealth in order to gain greater value. He came to understand that the greatest riches could not compare with knowing Christ. "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ," Philippians 3:7 & 8.

Daily we are bombarded with message after message in advertising that want us to define our self-worth by what we drive, where we live, what clothes we wear, what school our children attend, what church we attend, and the size of our bank and/or investment account. This is some of what advertis-

ing does, it make us desire things that we can't really afford and don't really need.

Your self-worth should be identified by what Apostle Paul said, "That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death;" Paul also said, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:10 & 14.

On the other hand when I think that I am, "All of that and a bag of chips," as we would say in my younger days, I remind myself that if it was not for Jesus I would be nothing! That's why I love the Lord. There is a song that contains the words, "I Praise You Lord because of who You are," this song blesses my heart each time I hear it.

There is another song that has these words, "Without God I could do nothing, without Him, I'll fail, Without God I would be drifted, like a ship without a sail."

Now, as a Christian, how do you measure your self-worth? It should be based on knowing Christ alone.



WWII Airman Sherman Goodfriend, Dr. Myrtle Hightower and WWII Escort Pilot Lt. Calvin J. Spann.

## Annual Senior Adult Event Scheduled for August 8 at Eastfield

(NDG Wire) The 13th Annual Senior Fest will be held at Eastfield College Saturday, August 8, from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., bringing adults 50 and over from across the Metroplex together. Attendees can choose from over 20 different workshops ranging from Auto Burglary & Theft Prevention to Diabetic Foot Care to Basic Computer to Salsa Dance! Registration is \$8 and

includes breakfast, 2 workshop sessions and lunch. Admission begins at 8 a.m. in Building C lobby area. Featured lunch-time entertainment will be The Sorta Sisters & The Blue Diamond Trio. Both groups will perform many familiar favorites from the '40's such as such as *Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree* and *The Boogie-Woogie Bugle Boy*. Deadline for Registra-

tion is Friday, July 31. Please NO Walk-in Registrations on Saturday, August 8. For more information, contact Janet Loper 972-860-7232 or visit [www.eastfieldcollege.edu/ce/Special/SenFest2009.html](http://www.eastfieldcollege.edu/ce/Special/SenFest2009.html). Eastfield College, one of the seven Dallas County Community Colleges, is located at 3737 Motley Drive in Mesquite, just north of I-30.

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Sunday Bible Class .....9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship .....10:45 am  
Evening Worship .....3:00 pm  
Wednesday Bible Class .....7:00 pm

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**Sunday**  
Early Morning Worship-8:00 a.m.  
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.

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Saturday & Sunday ..... Closed

**Contact Info:** Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church  
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Office: 972-241-8151  
Email: [info@dallasmtpisgah.org](mailto:info@dallasmtpisgah.org)  
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# 10 Recession Gardening How-Tos'

BY STEVE JACOBS  
NDG SPECIAL  
CONTRIBUTOR

While many are pinching pennies amid the economic downturn, there are a number of thrifty ways to manage a garden and landscape to ensure it looks good and flourishes while also costing less to maintain.

1) Plant perennials instead of annuals. Annuals are short lived, use excessive water and must be replaced.

2) Eliminate your lawn where you are not using it. Lawns are one of the most intensive maintenance and water consuming plantings

in a landscape, requiring weekly mowing, edging and recurrent irrigation.

3) Leave lawn clippings - don't bag. Lawn clippings contain water and nutrients that can benefit your lawn. The result is a need for less water; fertilizer and you don't need to pay for landscape debris removal or dumping.

4) Prune naturally instead of formally. When you prune for the natural growth habit of the plant you will reduce the amount of pruning needed per year, resulting in decreased costs. Hedging and balling your plants will create a need for frequent pruning, and the

tools and/or professional landscape maintenance services that goes with it.

5) Cut back on water. Reduce your watering schedule to the bare minimum required to keep the yard and garden healthy.

Over watering can cause excessive growth, requiring even more maintenance, a higher water bill and a greater instance of disease.

6) Fix irrigation problems. Keeping an eye on the condition of your irrigation system, including leaks, overspray, broken heads, incorrect water pressure and trajectory problems, you can reduce your water costs

while also avoiding water damage to your home and hardscape.

7) Apply a ground cover mulch to cut down on weeds, and the need to purchase weed killers and the time to apply, and also water usage.

8) Select drought tolerant plants. Native plants will need less water and maintenance.

9) Put the right plant in the right spot. Install plants that can grow to maturity where they are planted with minimal care or pruning.

10) Fertilize modestly. Fertilize only as needed based on the requirements of your individual plants. If

you have good soil, some of your plants may need little or no fertilizer.

Not only is over-fertilizing expensive and time consuming, it can also require more water and cause excessive growth resulting in increased maintenance needs.

An over-abundance of nitrogen and other fertilizer ingredients can also readily kill the plant material on which it was applied.

Garden, landscape, irrigation and horticulture expert Steve Jacobs is the President of Nature Designs [www.NatureDesigns.net](http://www.NatureDesigns.net).

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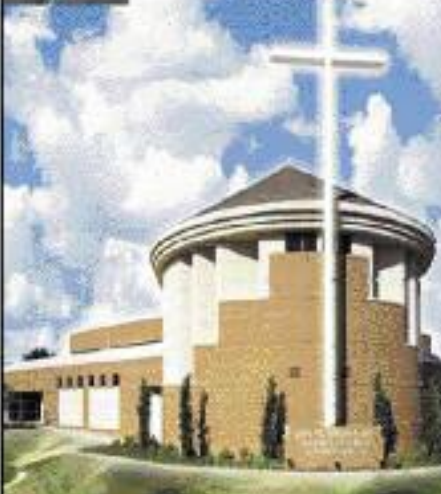
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