

North Dallas Gazette



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2nd Annual Recessionista's Closet

Family Friendly Clothing Swap Returns to Dallas with a Different Twist



(NDG Wire) On September 25, 2010 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Dallas Texas will host its largest and most unique clothing swap for the second time around; but this time the organizers are adding a bit of a different twist. Talisa

Lavarry, owner and operator of Talisa Lavarry Lifestyle and Image Consulting successfully introduced and pulled off this concept during the summer of 2009.

This event was well received and raised aware-

ness about recycling while giving participants an opportunity to rebuild their wardrobes free of charge during trying economic times.

With the current unem-

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Proposed cuts will impact public safety

BY CRAIG WATKINS,
DALLAS COUNTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

(NDG Wire) "During this critical budget process, I want to reiterate the importance of prioritizing public safety as the top concern for the citizens of Dallas County," said Dallas County District Attor-

ney Craig Watkins. "While I recognize the financial crisis the County is facing, I also need to point out that due to budget cuts over the last two years, there is nothing left to cut at the District Attorney's office.

There are currently 25 positions in our office that

the County has proposed to be cut in the 2011 budget. The proposed cuts will have a direct impact on our ability to prosecute certain types of criminal offenses, including gang violence, elder abuse, mortgage fraud, human trafficking, child pornography and Internet crimes.

Given that we already have a smaller budget than Tarrant County, I cannot in good faith accept proposals that limit our office's ability to continue making Dallas County safe. Any additional cuts to positions within the Dallas County

See SAFETY, Page 5

Hamilton Park resident recognized by three Presidents and a Governor

BY SHIRLEY DEMUS TARPLEY

Mrs. Euphemia Clement Tinner, a resident of the Hamilton Park community in Dallas, Texas is different from most in her neighborhood and perhaps all of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex area. One way she has

stood out over the years is as the recipient of four congratulations and best wishes from Presidents Barack H. Obama, George W. Bush and William (Bill) Clinton of the United States of America; and Rick Perry, Governor of the State of

Texas.

Mrs. Tinner and her husband, Mr. Eugene H. Tinner were married June 8, 1948 in Paris, Texas. They are the parents of Beverly, Ruena, Rebecca, Regina (Law-

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Mrs. Euphemia Clement Tinner

COVER STORY

North Texas Job Corps Center in McKinney Helps to Make Students' Dreams Possible



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Eisemann Center's Family Theatre Series
opens with Lyle, Lyle Crocodile

For more information see pg. 7
www.northdallasgazette.com

COMMENTARY

Jeopardizing America's houses of worship: church foreclosures

BY CHARLENE CROWELL

With more than 2.5 million foreclosed homes nationwide and millions more to come, many families are tightening their household budgets, delaying major purchases and paying down debt as best they can. Unemployed or under-employed heads of household hope and pray for a new job, while those who are still working feel fortunate but also nervous

that the ax could fall on them next.

Historically, severe economic downturns draw many people to turn to their faith, praying for the strength to hold on just a little bit longer. But now, where people pray or worship is also being affected by foreclosures. From California, to Tennessee, Georgia and other states,

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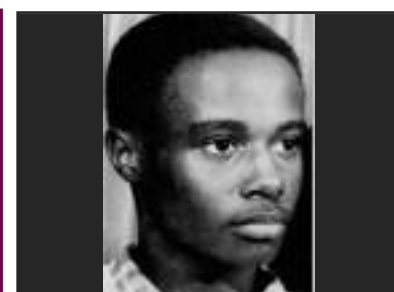
People In The News...



Frank L. Branson



Blair H. Taylor



Jefferson Thomas

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Frank L. Branson

(NDG Wire) The Dallas Bar Association is proud to



announce Frank L. Branson as the recipient of the Outstanding Trial Lawyer of the Year award, to be presented on October 14. This prestigious award is given annually to a Dallas Bar Association member who best exemplifies the noble principles of the legal profession.

Branson grew up west of Fort Worth in the community of White Settlement. He attended Brewer High School where he

learned the value of hard work. His father was the football coach and later the principal, and his mother was a teacher and tennis coach. Academics and athletics were a big part of the Branson house and Branson excelled in history and government which led him to law. He was admitted to the SMU Law School on a "3 and 3" program after his junior year at TCU and has been a fixture in legal circles since his graduation in 1969.

After only a year in a new job after his graduation,

he was already proving himself to be a fine trial lawyer when he was asked to try a murder case. Branson won the largest civil verdicts in successive weeks in Fort Worth and Dallas.

In 1978, Branson formed the Law Offices of Frank L. Branson, P.C., where he established a reputation as an innovative, thorough and fearless lawyer. He was distinguished as one of the earliest in the profession who approached lawsuits from an entirely scientific point

of view. He began the use of very sophisticated human anatomical models and displays of physical evidence and 3-D demonstrations. Today, between juggling a heavy practice, Branson gives much of his time to teaching young lawyers his techniques for trying successful lawsuits.

"Frank is simply one of the very best there is in the business and deserving of this award. He has set an example of total dedication to his craft, consistent performance and professionalism at the highest level, and

amazing effectiveness at getting the best results for his clients. He has established a standard of excellence which all trial lawyers should strive to achieve," said Ike Vanden Eykel, President of the Dallas Bar Association. "I am very proud to have him in my profession."

Branson has been named by Forbes as one of the 50 most successful trial lawyers in the U.S., he has been listed in Best Lawyers of America since 1987 and

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Blair H. Taylor

Blair Hamilton Taylor is the President and CEO of the Los Angeles Urban League, a position he has held since 2005. With a staff of over 300 and a budget in excess of \$25 million, the 88-year-old Los Angeles Urban League is one of America's largest civil rights entities.

Taylor is a community servant and coalition builder with nearly twenty five years of public and private sector business experience. A Los Angeles resi-

dent for more than two decades, Taylor was born in New York as the third of five children. He learned the value of higher education at a young age. His father earned his bachelor's degree from Yale University and his law degree from NYU; his mother earned her bachelor's degree cum laude from Smith College and her masters from Yale University. These were significant achievements for African Americans of their era. More importantly, both

parents were tireless community servants and instilled in their five sons a passion for advancing causes of the less fortunate.

Prior to joining the LA Urban League, Taylor served as Executive Vice President of College Summit, a national college access initiative with a track record of nearly doubling the college enrollment rates of low income students. During his tenure, College Summit achieved the fastest growth in the organization's history, quadrupling its student outreach to more than 6,000 students in 2005.

Taylor's entrepreneurial background includes four years as the President and CEO of COI/ICD, a leading retail franchising company focused on low income communities in the U.S. and the Caribbean. For his pioneering efforts, Taylor was named California's Mass Mutual Blue Chip Entrepreneur of the Year in 1999 and was frequently recognized in national publications such as *USA Today*, *Entrepreneur* magazine, *National Business Employment Weekly*, *Fortune* magazine, *Franchise Times*, *PC World*, *Success-*



ful Franchising Magazine, and *Franchise Times* magazine.

Taylor earned his B.A. in economics from Amherst College in Amherst, Massachusetts and his MBA in

marketing and entrepreneurial studies from UCLA's Anderson Graduate School of Management. In August, 2009 and again this year, Taylor was named by the *Non Profit Times* to the Power & Influence list, which identifies the top 50 non profit leaders in the nation.

With his wife Bridgette Taylor, Esq., Taylor has been a resident of Los Angeles for more than 20 years. The couple have four children.

Jefferson Thomas

On September 5, 2010, Jefferson Thomas died at age 67 of pancreatic cancer. In 1957, Thomas, at age 15, had been the youngest of nine black students to integrate Central High School, in Little Rock, Arkansas. The black students' attendance — resisted by segregationist mobs and the state's governor — set off a federal crisis and established the students as important figures of the civil rights era.

On September 6, 2010, the White House released a statement by President Obama, in which he says, "Our nation owes Mr. Thomas a debt of gratitude for the stand he took half a century ago, and the leadership he showed in the decades since. Our thoughts and prayers are with his

family."

The following article and audio clip are from a 2007 interview of Thomas marking the 50th anniversary of the integration of Central High.

Fifty years ago, black youngsters' struggles to attend Little Rock's Central High School during the 1957-1958 school year propelled the civil rights movement forward in the United States. (See "After Facing Mobs 50 Years Ago, Nine Go Home to Honors.") The Little Rock Nine's story is really nine stories.

Like his classmate Carlotta Walls, Jefferson Thomas took correspondence courses (conducted via mail) during the 1958-1959 school year, when Little Rock high schools were closed — first by the gover-



nor and then by popular vote — to avoid racial integration.

"After the governor closed the schools, I knew I was in the right place. That the governor would say, 'To stop a few black kids from getting an education, I'm going to deny it to 2,000 whites' is amazing."

He returned his senior year and graduated in 1960, along with Walls (now LaNier). After earning a college degree, he worked

as an accountant until his retirement.

Thomas vividly remembers the first day the Little Rock Nine attempted to attend Central High, down to the plaid shirt he put on that morning. It was in early September 1957. "I felt anticipation on the first day of school — of meeting new people. I was excited and ready to go. I knew white boys with whom I had played ball were at Central. A couple of them grew up two-and-a-half blocks away. We knew each other. I anticipated the surprise they would have seeing me."

But Thomas would not find them. He recalls walking with several ministers from different denominations who were there to support the school's integration: "We walked a block. The National Guard closed ranks each time we stepped

up on the curb [at the school]. We made two or three attempts to enter. Each time, we would be blocked.

The ministers talked to the guards. The troops said, 'You can't enter here.' They

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Nation's black farmers await justice

BY JOHN BOYD

Our government has admitted that between 1981 and 1997, the United States Department of Agriculture discriminated against blacks who farmed or attempted to farm.

As U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., pointed out at a rally of Louisiana's black farmers in August, the discrimination resulted in many losing not only opportunities, but their very livelihoods.

In Louisiana alone, the USDA's actions may have derailed the lives of 2,000 farmers.

The U.S. Department of Justice settled this case in

February, with one detail remaining — how to pay for it. That detail has bedeviled black farmers, their families and supporters ever since.

Even as our government officials acknowledge the discrimination, our Congress has been unable to move on the remedy. Approval for funding the black farmers' settlement remains — after seven failed attempts — stalled in the U.S. Senate.

But, as a nation committed to fairness, we can no longer accept pointless delays. When the Senate reconvenes this month, it must act to approve funding and close this sad and needlessly drawn out chapter in Ameri-

can history.

There is a bipartisan cry for legislation. Leaders from both sides of the aisle, for example, have worked to identify offsets, meaning that delivering justice will result in no increase in the deficit, no additional expense to taxpayers.

Republican House Minority Leader John Boehner is on record supporting settlement funding as are Republican Senators Burr, Cochran, and Grassley. Twice the House of Representatives has passed a measure to pay for this settlement, yet the legislation languishes in the Senate.

Sen. Landrieu has taken a

position of leadership on this issue, meeting with black farmers to discuss strategies and opportunities. We are hopeful Sen. David Vitter, R-La., will also be responsive and supportive.

Yet, while no senator has publicly opposed funding this settlement, it remains unfunded — stripped out of larger bills or burdened by "unanimous consent" requirements, which necessitate that 100 percent of senators vote "yes."

By no choice of their own, the hard working farmers of Louisiana have become the human face of the

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FORECLOSURES, continued from Page 1

houses of worship are struggling to avoid foreclosure, especially in areas where residential foreclosures are particularly high.

Although Sunday morning is considered the most segregated time of the week, no such distinction exists with church foreclosures. Congregations of all denominations and faiths that are black and white, large and small, and others somewhere in between are all affected by a common dilemma: will the church continue to be a sanctuary for its members, providing a place to bring burdens of all kinds for rest and restoration — or — will that spiritual nourishment be jeopardized, forcing church leaders to pay before they pray?

Over the past week in metro Atlanta, multiple news reports have covered the problems of Atlanta's Higher Ground Empowerment, formerly known as Mount Gilead Baptist Church. A 2008 tornado left the 108 year-old church in such disrepair that it had to be rebuilt. Now reportedly, its lender has given a deadline of August 31 to either pay the money it owes or face foreclosure. Additionally, as many as 40 other Atlanta churches face a simi-

lar fate.

In Memphis, where last year the county and city jointly filed a lawsuit claiming discriminatory residential mortgage lending, a local television station, WREG-TV, reported earlier this year that since 2007 at least 27 area churches received foreclosure notices.

One Memphis church, Solid Rock Christian, took out a \$2.9 million loan to purchase 40 acres of land to build a new church. According to Apostle Bill Anderson with the church, no one reneged on the monthly \$22,000 mortgage payment. But when tithes and offerings dropped, the church wanted to use its savings account to cover the shortfall. Both accounts were with the same lender -- yet the lender disagreed. As a result, foreclosure proceedings began.

With \$2 million in unpaid bills and a budget gap in the range of \$55-70 million, Garden Grove, California's mega-church, the Crystal Cathedral, has seen a 27 percent drop in revenue and has a mortgage of \$35.5 million, according to a recent Christian Century report. Associated Press recently reported on the church's decision to reduce the number of television

stations carrying its global television ministry, The Hour of Power. Only a few days ago Dr. Robert H. Schuller, the church's founding pastor, and family members working in the ministry announced a voluntary 50 percent cut in pay for the next two months. Other church staff may face pay cuts between five to 10 percent.

Already and according to the Center for Responsible Lending's most recent foreclosure research, it is projected that from 2009 to 2012 the economy will lose an estimated \$1.9 trillion. State-specific residential foreclosure projections are available on CRL's web at: <http://www.responsiblelending.org/mortgage-lending/tools-resources/foreclosures.html>. State data includes foreclosure projections for 2010, foreclosure starts by quarter, lost wealth, average lost home value and more.

Yet there is no dollar value that can accurately establish all the effects of closing houses of worship. How could or would anyone assess the measure of shattered faith communities? In many communities, houses of worship are not only the place to be on Sunday mornings; but also cen-

ters of year-round community activities.

In an extended recession with high and long-term unemployment, many faithful flocks need now more than ever the spiritual guidance and hope that churches provide. If the churches can no longer feed the souls of its people, where do those in need of prayer go? To whom do they turn when churches, just like troubled homeowners, have unpaid bills and cannot get loan modifications?

Perhaps it is time for people of faith and their leaders to exert their collective moral authority to challenge lenders to adapt to a failing economy. Lenders retain the voluntary option of modifying loans. It seems it is time for them to begin volunteering more often. The churches whose regular deposits collectively bolstered lenders' liquidity and growth across the country now need their good faith efforts returned.

No one should be forced to pay before they pray.

Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending's communications manager for state policy and outreach. She can be reached at: Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org

Texas to receive \$1 million to help crack down on unreasonable health insurance premium hikes

(NDG Wire) Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced recently the award of \$1 million to Texas to help crack down on health insurance premium increases. Texas will use this Affordable Care Act funding to help improve the oversight of proposed health insurance premium increases, take action against insurers seeking unreasonable rate hikes, and ensure Texans receive value for their premium dollars.

"The Affordable Care Act puts in place critical market reforms to improve quality and reduce the cost of health care for employers and individuals. Increased competition, lower insurance overhead, and better risk pooling in health insur-

ance Exchanges in 2014 are expected to reduce premiums in the individual market by anywhere from 14-20 percent according to the Congressional Budget Office," said HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. "Between now and then, we will continue to work with States to ensure consumers are receiving value for their premium dollars and to avoid the kind of double digit premium increases seen recently. The State proposals approved today demonstrate the need and desire for new resources and tools to help them protect against unjustifiable premium increases."

The Affordable Care Act provides States with \$250 million in Health Insurance Premium Review Grants over five years to help cre-

ate a more level playing field by improving how states review proposed health insurance premium increases and holding insurance companies accountable for unjustified premium increases. Applications for the first round of Health Insurance Premium Review Grants were made available on June 7.

The grants build on President Barack Obama Administration's work with States to implement the Affordable Care Act. Earlier this year, Secretary Sebelius called on certain insurance companies to justify large premium increases and encouraged State and local officials to obtain stronger health insurance premium review authorities under State laws. This increased

scrutiny by the Administration and by several States has led to the withdrawal or reduction of several proposed health insurance premium increases that in some cases turned out to be based on faulty assumptions and data.

The following is a general summary of how Texas intends to use its funding:

- **Improve the Review Process:** Texas currently conducts limited health insurance premium review due to limited resources. The State intends to implement improved data collection and improve resource levels as well as in depth review of health insurance premiums.

- **Increase Transparency and Accessibility:** The State currently provides

access to health insurance premium filings upon request, unless the information is determined by the State to be confidential or a trade secret, or it is not available. The State will develop a format and process of public disclosure of information including insurer justifications

- **Develop and Upgrade Technology:** Texas will support health insurance premium review functions and compile and analyze data and assess the validity of proposed increases.

"States will use these grant dollars in the way that makes the most sense for their insurance consumers," said Jay Angoff, Director of the Office of Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight. "As we continue to implement the new health

insurance reform law, we will continue to work with States to ensure they have the tools they need to ensure the stability of the marketplace, keep costs low and provide consumers with increased transparency, choice and quality they need to make the best health care decisions for their businesses and families."

The Health Insurance Premium Review Grants are one element of a broad effort under the Affordable Care Act to reduce the unreasonable premium increases proposed by some insurers today. Additional resources from this \$250 million program will be available in subsequent years to further strengthen State health insurance premium review procedures.

"Clinical Trials: A Legacy of Shame and Fear Being Addressed in 2010"

PART I: Long After Tuskegee, Blacks Still Leary of Clinical Trials

BY PHAROAH MARTIN

(NNPA) The general distrust that African-Americans have of clinical trial research goes back a long way. History tells them that it would be in their best interests to not participate but the reality is that Black participation in clinical research is critical because African-Americans disparately suffer from some of the highest disease rates and respond differently to many treatments.

Researchers like Dr. Claudia Baquet, associate professor of epidemiology and preventive medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and director of its National Bioethics Research Center, wants to not only foster public trust among African-Americans for research, but also stress the importance of participating in such research.

"The reason that this is so important is that we know that the public has a lack of trust in research and also in academic institu-

tions," said Baquet, one of the few Black clinical researchers in the country.

"We know that African-Americans and other underserved communities do not participate in medical research or clinical trials at the same rate of the general population. We feel that the lack of diversity in clinical trial participation contributes to health disparities. Plus, it affects our ability to develop new ways to prevent, diagnose or treat illness."

The National Center of Minority Health Disparities, which is a part of the National Institute of Health, provided Baquet a \$2.5 million dollar grant to establish a national bioethics research center at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore and attempted to remove the stigma and mysteries associated with medical research within minority and under-served rural communities.

The two-year grant is funded by the stimulus

funding passed by the U. S. Congress last year.

Among the educational programs, Baquet established a partnership with the National Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation in order to encourage Black Press Reporters to explore the issue of clinical trials and report on the impact of the issue in 2010. Six reporters participated in the exploration.

That includes five from around the nation, who applied and were selected as fellows, who spent two days at the University of Maryland.

They were: Joan Allen of the Daily Challenge in New York; Linnie Frank Bailey of Black Voice News in Riverside, Calif.; Elaine Hegwood Bowen of the Chicago Crusader; Gordon Jackson of the Dallas Weekly; and Rhetta Peoples of the Florida Sun in Orlando.

NNPA National Correspondent Pharoah Martin, the writer of this story, also participated.

The reporters studied how African-Americans could benefit from clinical trials and the fear that still prevail.

Baquet has also been setting up community educational programs on bioethics in Maryland called "mini-medical schools". The community attends a four-week medical school.

They are taught some core research methods involving ethics, its history of scandals and tragedies, the federal regulations that came about to protect participants and the application of those protections such as the importance of informed consent, the knowledge level of a person participating in a clinical trial.


Students also receive lessons on health care problems that affect their communities such as HIV/AIDS, hypertension, diabetes and the need for vaccines.

The approach is multi-level; so in addition to educating the public researchers also educate com-

munity physicians and search abuses and scandals nurses. "There is still the persistent concern about re-

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TXU Energy's summer moratorium on disconnects still in effect

Customers must contact TXU Energy to sign up for special, more flexible payment plans

(NDG Wire) TXU Energy want the public to be aware that the summer moratorium on disconnects is still in effect and customers can still call to sign up for this program.

Customers must contact

TXU Energy at (800) 242-9113 to notify the company of their needs and to sign up for special, more flexible deferred payment plans. These measures are in effect through September 30, 2010.

On May 5, TXU Energy declared a summer moratorium on disconnects for customers designated as low-income, ill or disabled or who are at least 62 years of age this summer. Customers can call TXU En-

ergy to be added to the summer moratorium do not disconnect list.

This is the fourth consecutive year the company has offered protections to eligible customers.

Also, TXU Energy has

launched a website at txu.com/billhelp designed to give consumers the ability to identify common causes of high electricity costs and provides a number of easy-to-use tools to help consumers learn about

and manage their energy consumption.

This website also provides information and resources for customers on how to get help with their electricity bill.

Volunteers needed for healthy living

(NDG Wire) Volunteers are the backbone of any important undertaking. The same is true for the Healthy Living Expo on Saturday, September 25 at the Garland ISD Special Events Center.

The event theme is "Healthy You, Healthy Earth." The City of Garland, Garland ISD, Baylor Med-

ical Center at Garland and the Garland Chamber of Commerce will join forces to demonstrate how caring for both ourselves and the earth creates a healthy lifestyle, and has a positive impact on the world around us. The Expo will offer exhibitor booths, free services, demonstrations and enter-

tainment, all focused on helping citizens make positive changes to their daily lives.

Volunteer opportunities are available for adults and older teens. Duties will include exhibitor check in, guest and exhibitor relations, kids' activities, and other interactive features.

Some exhibitors will need volunteer manpower to help accept donations and recycling drop-offs.

Anyone interested in volunteering can download a Volunteer Application at www.GarlandGoesGreen.org or contact Shelley Franklin at 972-205-3285 or sfrankli@garlandtx.gov.

Go Green, Save Green

(NDG Wire) Being green doesn't have to mean you have to spend a lot of green.

According to the Car Care Council, by properly maintaining your vehicle's fuel system, you will not only improve the performance of your vehicle, but lower its emissions and save money at the pump, too.

"A well-maintained fuel system is essential for good gas mileage," said Rich White, executive director, Car Care Council.

"By simply replacing your car's fuel filter every

two years or 24,000 miles and having your fuel injectors flushed out every 30,000 miles, you will not only have a cleaner, 'greener' car, but you will also spend less 'green' at the pump."

In addition to routine maintenance, your fuel system should be checked immediately if you smell gas, or suddenly have poor fuel economy, because there might be a leak in the fuel system.

If the "Check Engine" light is illuminated, it may mean a problem with the fuel injectors or oxygen

sensors. While oxygen sensors are part of the emission system, they have a large impact on your vehicle's fuel economy.

The fuel system in your car includes a pressure regulator, fuel injectors, lines/hoses, fuel filter, fuel tank and one or more fuel pumps.

These components work together to supply fuel to the vehicle as needed. The fuel system transfers fuel from the fuel tank, passing it through a fuel filter for cleaning before it arrives at the injectors.

A pressure regulator controls fuel pressure to ensure good engine performance under a variety of speed and load conditions. Fuel injectors, when activated, spray a metered amount of fuel into the engine.

Some vehicles use a return line system to return unused fuel back to the tank.

"While the fuel system may seem complex, preventative maintenance will keep it running at peak performance and keep you in the 'green,'" said White.

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District Attorney's office will harm our ability to provide the level of public safety that the citizens expect and deserve.

This is not about me or saving people's jobs. It is the simple reality that if we do not have the necessary funding to run an effective office, we will neither have enough prosecutors to handle the current caseload nor will we have enough investigators to assist in preparing cases for trial. The domino-effect on the crimi-

nal justice system in Dallas County will be devastating if the District Attorney's office is not adequately funded.

I am asking the County Commissioners to understand that leadership is about setting priorities. My number one priority is providing public safety by prosecuting individuals who commit crime in Dallas County, and I am going to fight for the resources my office needs to do its job effectively. At the end of the

day, I am optimistic that we will be able to work with Commissioners to resolve this issue without eliminat-

ing any positions at the District Attorney's office and therefore protecting public safety."

Are you a Dallas Housing Authority Section 8 voucher holder interested in moving into a 3- or 4-bedroom house in Little Elm or Frisco? If so, contact (972) 480-8280 or omnikeyrealty@aol.com and ask about our NSP homes. Certain income limits apply. Equal housing opportunity provider.



Candidates for Dallas County District Attorney Scheduled to participate in public forum

(NDG Wire) The public is invited to a public forum to hear from the two candidates for Dallas County District Attorney. Craig Watkins and Danny Clancy will meet on Thursday, September 23 for a one-hour discussion.

The forum will begin promptly at noon at the Pavilion at the Belo Mansion, 2101 Ross Avenue in downtown Dallas (garage parking available; enter from Olive Street).

The event is free. An

optional \$13 lunch buffet will begin at 11:30 a.m.

Sponsored by the Public Forum Committee of the Dallas Bar Association, the program is intended to educate the Dallas legal community and public of the backgrounds and philosophies of the candidates.

The Dallas Bar Association is a non-partisan organization.

Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP to sevans@dal-lasbar.org so adequate seating is available.

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Summit Learning Services and DISD partner to offer additional training for at risk students

(NDG Wire) Summit Learning Services reaches its peak with its Texas debut and Dallas ISD has been chosen as its premier partnering district.

Summit Learning Services is offering free opportunities to students that attend eligible DISD schools, including after-school training and coaching to help them prepare to be successful in this economy, in school and in life. The innovative pro-

gram centers on engaging students and educating them on ways and methods to be successful in their changing world. Summit Learning Services aims to enhance students' skill set and prepare them for our future.

Collaborating with administrators, parents, teachers, students and community organizations, Summit Learning Services will coordinate all resources to ensure each student's success. In

fact, the Program Manager, Misty Tarver, is a member of the local community.

Tarver, a former Dallas ISD student, also attended graduated from Seagoville High School. She went on to earn her degree at Texas A&M, served her country for two years in Americorps and received her Master's in Educational Administration. Tarver has joined Summit Learning Services and is back to impact her own com-

munity.

Using proven learning techniques taught by ONLY state-certified teachers, the program aims to develop in-house relationships to promote student confidence and success making student improvement is a reality.

Summit Learning Services has proven itself over the years in many other states, becoming one of the leaders in education. Since its initiation, they have tu-

tored 1,000s of students across the nation. Now, Summit Learning Services aims to positively impact DISD students, teachers, and ultimately the entire school and community.

If your child attends (high schools): Bryan Adams, David W Carter, Hillcrest, Thomas Jefferson, Justin F. Kimball, Moises E Molina, North Dallas, LG Pinkston, FD Roosevelt, WW Samuell, Seagoville,

Skyline, or Sunset or (middle schools) TW Browne, Edward H Cary, EB Comstock, Robert T Hill, J L Long or Seagoville enroll today!

Summit Learning Services is currently enrolling students and hiring certified teachers for this unique opportunity. To enroll your student or to apply for a paid position, contact Misty Tarver at mtarver@SummitLearning.net or at 972-924-4200.

Carrollton Police Offer RAD Class

(NDG Wire) The Carrollton Police Department will be offering a Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) class from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, September 11 and Sunday, September 12.

The class will be held in the Carrollton Police Department Training Room (2025 E. Jackson Rd).

RAD is a program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques for women.

This class is open to women who are at least 17 years old.

Each class is a total of 12 hours in length and you must be present for at least 9 hours to successfully complete the course. Cost

for the class is \$5. Attendees of the class should dress comfortably.

Sweatpants and workout pants/shorts are acceptable along with comfortable tennis shoes. You do not have to be a Carrollton resident to participate.

The course will be taught by nationally certi-

fied RAD instructors, Officer Lauryl Duncan and Officer Shannon Hartzell. Instructors will provide each student with a workbook / reference manual.

This manual outlines the entire Physical Defense Program for reference and continuous personal growth, and is the key to the free

lifetime return and practice policy for RAD graduates. If you are interested in attending the class or would like to register, please contact Officer Hartzell at 972-466-9122 or Officer Duncan at Lauryl.Duncan@cityofcarrollton.com. Email is preferred.

The RAD System is a

comprehensive, women-only course that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and risk avoidance, while progressing on to the basics of hands-on defense training.

For more information on the RAD system, visit ad-systems.com/faq.html.

Initiative Helps Youths Imagine a Future in College

(NDG Wire) Essays and tests are hardly the stuff that teen summer dreams are made of, but include that hard work in a longer-term vision, and a group of high school students was willing to accept the challenge.

Most participants in UT Dallas' College Readiness Initiative (CRI) hope to be the first members of their families to attend college, and the program works to give students who have that dream the support they need to complete a degree.

R'lexus Collins, sixteen-year-old of A. Maceo Smith High School found UT Dallas to be a little daunting when she first visited in July. "Being on a college campus was new and huge, and kind of scary at first," she said. "But after I worked with my mentor Ishar Ma from the Academic Bridge Program, it was better."

CRI students spent each morning in SAT prep, but learning how to master college entrance exams wasn't the only thing on the daily schedule. Beyond the impor-

tance of SAT scores, analytical thinking and leadership skills also were emphasized.

"The three numbers that we consider very important in going to college are class rank, GPA and SAT score. We want to make sure that when it is time to apply to college they will have the right numbers to open the door, the right combination to get them in," said Cornelia McCowan, CRI program supervisor.

Jarrell Brown, a 15-year-old from South Oak Cliff High, had an eye-opening experience at the CRI Reality Store, a simulation designed to illustrate how daily life differs for those without a college education. Participants were given checkbooks and assigned jobs that didn't require college degrees. From their limited wages, they had to pay bills and cover emergency expenses like being hospitalized.

"I had two baby boys to take care of and was quickly in debt," said Brown. "Through this exercise I learned that without a degree,

life is hard."

Students became empowered in two weeks, but the CRI is after long-term results. They will meet during the school year when conversations about self-awareness and community service will

supplement those about grades..

Most of the students participating this summer were the first in their families to study in a college classroom, and the CRI has shown them new opportunities.

Talissa Lowery Lifestyle and Image Consulting Presents.....

A Family Clothing Swap and Vintage Apparel Expo.

The 2nd Annual Recessionista's Closet

September 25, 2010
10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Excuses Art Bar & Café
3025 Main St
Dallas, TX 75219

Women, Men and Children are encouraged to participate. Swap your way to a new toy wardrobe while enjoying fashion shows and trunk shows throughout the day.

For More Info log onto www.recessionistascloset.com and click the latest news link or call 214.886.0696

\$5.00 Donations requested at the door.

A portion of proceeds and left over clothing will be donated to The Dallas International Street Church.

Sponsored in part by: Glamour, The Dallas Morning News, The Dallas Observer, and The Dallas Independent Morning News.

6th Annual Women's Celebration

Theme: "Women of Integrity...Walking with the Lord"

"And you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind. Let everything you do reflect the integrity and seriousness of your teaching." (Titus 2:7 NLT)

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THURSDAY, SEPT. 16th - 7:00 P.M.

Guest Speaker: Prophetic Michelle Yancy,
Turning Point Temple - Dallas

(Attire: White or Off-White for the Ladies)



SUNDAY, SEPT. 19th - 11:00 A.M.

Speaker: Reverend Marian Rabb

(Attire: Pink and Black for the Ladies)



SUNDAY, SEPT. 19th - 3:00 P.M.

Guest Speaker: Pastor Regina Burrell,
Praise Temple Evangelistic Church, DeSoto, Tx.

(Attire: Pink and Black for the Ladies)

Methodism's Breadbasket Celebrates 40th Anniversary



Methodism's Breadbasket is hosting a celebration of 40 years of service with a Luncheon of Appreciation

(NDG Wire) Methodism's Breadbasket, a mission of the North Texas Conference, will celebrate its 40th year of service with a Luncheon of Appreciation on Friday, September 24 at 11:30 a.m. Churches, former staff members, volunteers, donors and other supporters of Methodism's Breadbasket will come together to commemorate this milestone.

Breadbasket founder, Rev. John W. Tatum, Sr., along with long time Breadbasket supporter, Rev. Zan W. Holmes, Jr. will be in attendance. Honorary Chair-



persons, Beverly Wooten, Lauri Lueder, John Wiley Price, Anne Sedita, and Rebecca Frank encourage you to make plans now to join in the celebration. Methodism's Breadbasket continues to be a beacon of light, providing emergency assistance to individuals and families in our south, southeast Dallas, and Pleasant Grove neighborhoods.

The luncheon will be held on Friday, September 24

at 11:30 a.m. at Zan W. Holmes, Jr. Community Life Center located at 6211 East Grand Avenue in Dallas. Tickets are \$40 per person and \$320 per table with all proceeds benefiting Methodism's Breadbasket. Additional donor levels are also available.

For more information, to purchase tickets, a table, or to place an ad in the souvenir book, please contact the Breadbasket office at 214.887.3926 or email Breadbasket director, Cynthia Martin at cmartin@slcunc.org.

Senate Select Committee on Redistricting to meet in Dallas

Senator West urges public participation at hearing

DALLAS -- State Senator Royce West (D-Dallas) is inviting the public to attend a joint public hearing on the subject of redistricting. The Senate Select Committee on Redistricting will meet Monday - September 20, 2010, at noon in the Central Jury Room of the George Allen Courthouse building, 600 Commerce St. in downtown Dallas.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive public testimony and input before a combined panel of the House Committee on Redistricting, the House Committee on Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence and the Senate Select Committee on Redistricting. The Dallas hearing is one of several sched-

uled to take place across the state. Legislators from throughout Texas will take part in these hearings.

"Redistricting directly impacts each citizen's ability to elect a candidate of their choice to serve as their voice in the legislature or in Congress," said Senator West. "For that reason, it is critical that these committees hear from the public now, as they begin their work. I cannot overemphasize the importance of this issue. This is a rare opportunity for the public to become engaged. Redistricting happens only once a decade, but its ramifications could have impact for years to come."

Section 28, Article III, of the Texas Constitution, re-

quires that the legislature apportion the state into senate and representative districts following the release of the federal decennial census information. In addition, the number of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives apportioned to each state is determined after each census by a mathematical formula set by federal law based on population. The state legislature then draws the appropriate number of districts to accommodate any changes required by that formula. Because 2010 is a census year, the Texas Legislature will take up these tasks during its next session, which begins in January 2011.

Dallas appoints Richard Carrizales to DART Board

(NDG Wire) Dallas attorney Richard Carrizales is the newest member of the Board of Directors of Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART). He was appointed by the Dallas City Council.

Carrizales, a Dallas native, is past president of the Mexican American Bar Association of Texas and a past board member of the Dallas Volunteer Center, Dallas Bar Association and Dallas County Youth Vil-

lage Foundation.

He holds an undergraduate degree in education from the University of North Texas, a masters degree in social work from the University of Texas at Arlington, and a law degree from Texas Southern University in Houston. Carrizales also worked in the field of mental health as a psychiatric social worker and youth counselor prior to entering law school in 1984.



Richard Carrizales

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HOMELAND SECURITY

- Security and Protective Services



HOSPITALITY

- Culinary Arts

ADVANCED CAREER TRAINING (ACT)

- Advanced Career Training (Collin County Community College)

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Every Saturday

Pure Saturdays 2026 Commerce Street 23 & up preferred DJ Steve Nice in The Mixx. Doors open @ 10 p.m. Info text or call 214-810-5483.

Every Tuesday

The Irving Public Library invites families to enjoy stories and music in both English and Spanish. **Family bilingual storytimes** are offered at 11 a.m. Tuesdays at the East Branch Library, 440 S. Nursery Road, and at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd. For more information, call 972-721-2458.

Ongoing

African American Republican Club of Collin County meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm. (Doors open at 6:30 pm.) Collin County Republican Party HQ, 8416 Stacy Rd., McKinney. Call Linda Wynn Drain, 214-498-7574 or website www.aarcc.com

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce, CCBCC General Meetings, 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:30pm. Call 469-424-1020 or email: info@CCBlackChamber.org for location.

DFW Financially Empowered Women meet monthly for lunch or dinner and a fun, informative seminar on various financial topics. Info: 469-942-0809 or meeetup.com/378.

Group Business Seminars at 4907 Spring Avenue, Dallas, (214) 11:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.; 3rd Friday of the month 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for those interested in starting your own business, it is a Brown Bag Lunch with Free Parking

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch 1st Thursday at 1 pm in Plano Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com

LimitNetwork.com or 972-898-5882.

The National Business Women Enterprise Network (NBWEN) Learning Over Lunch Series: 4th Saturdays, 11am-1pm, Remarkable Affairs Cafe, 2727 LBJ Fwy., Suite 140, Dallas. \$20 for members; \$35 for non-members, \$5 off for early bird registration. <http://nbwenorg.ning.com>.

North Dallas Texas Democratic Women Regular Meetings 4th Thursday, 6:45 p.m. Northaven United Methodist Church, 11211 Preston Rd (between Forest & Royal Lanes).

Target Second Saturdays at Latino Cultural Center On the second Saturday of every month family-friendly activities celebrating Latino arts and culture. Come in for one hour, or stay the whole day.

Target Second Saturdays at Latino Cultural Center On the second Saturday of every month family-friendly activities celebrating Latino arts and culture. Come in for one hour, or stay the whole day.

Business Empowerment Sessions. Learn to grow a successful small business. 1st Thursday of each month at Christian Chapel Temple of Faith, 14120 Noel Rd., Dallas. Call 214-942-6698 for details.

How to start a business. Free sessions on getting started the right way. Sessions held the last Monday of each month. Call The PLAN Fund for details 214-942-6698.

Thru November 7

Amon Carter Museum's Ansel Adams: Eloquent Light features 40 photographs by the artist. Admission to the Carter is free.

September 10

9th annual Freedom Run & Festival will be staged in the Dallas City Hall Plaza. The Attacks of September 11, 2001 were intended to divide our country through fear and intimidation. The Freedom Run not only pays tribute to the victims and heroes of that fateful day, but also to boldly declare that our nation is even stronger today. Dallas Police Department will have S.W.A.T. vehicles, police horses, fire truck and police officers on hand distributing identification kits for children. Details @ www.thefreedomrun.com.

Sep. 10-11

Join some of the best names in national, regional and local jazz, pop, gospel and R&B at the eighth annual **Jazz By the Boulevard Festival**, at the Will Rogers Memorial Center in the heart of Fort Worth's nationally celebrated Cultural District. This year's two-day festival features stars such as legendary jazz bassist (and Return To Forever co-founder) Stanley Clarke, New Orleans' red-hot Trombone Shorty (featured in the acclaimed HBO series *Treme*), Mississippi blues-rocker Charlie Mars and much more. Along with music, Jazz By the Boulevard will also feature a Cooking Carnivale, where festival-goers can attend tastings and demos by area chefs. 2010's Jazz By the Boulevard is presented by the Historic Camp Bowie Initiatives (a non-profit group dedicated to revitalizing historic Camp Bowie Blvd.). For more information visit www.fortworthjazz.com

September 11

Texas Publisher's Association is hosting the **Black Publisher's Luncheon** at the Courtyard Marriott - 2383 Stemmons Trail, Dallas at 12:00 noon. The Honorable Senator Roy West is the speaker for the occasion.

Read to Rover at the Library – Readers can read a favorite book one-on-one to a Heart of Texas therapy dog for free at 11 a.m. on Saturday, September 11 at Hebron and Josey Library (4220 N. Josey Lane). These specially trained dogs love to hear kids read. Younger children and their parents may take photos with the dogs after all readers have read to Rover. For more information, call 972-466-4800 or visit cityofcarrollton.com/library

Start! Heart Walk promotes walking as part of a healthy lifestyle and to raise funds to support cardiovascular research and educational programs for the Tarrant County community. Who: More than 73 Tarrant County companies and organizations participate along with family and friends. What: 3-mile non-competitive walk at Sundance Square Downtown Fort Worth. Info: 817-698-5421 or www.tarrantcounty-heartwalk.org

Pack up the family and the pooches and join us for the **16th Annual Dog Day afternoon** benefiting Operation Kindness celebrating our 4-legged best friends! Canines Contests, vendors and more will be at Flag Pole Hill Park just North of White Rock Lake on Northwest Highway Sunday from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Please visit www.OperationKindness.org for more information.

Introduction to Memoir will be held 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Southside on Lamar, 1409 Lamar Ave., Dallas (4th floor conference room). Info: www.manelockcommunications.com

September 12

The Premier Bridal Show In Plano at Plano Centre from 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm where over 100 wedding businesses will meet your every wedding need. Tickets are available at the door, and no advance registration is

needed. Entry is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 14 & under - includes toddlers & infants. (No credit cards accepted for admission.) For more information on location and times, visit www.bridal-showsinc.com

September 16-19

Make your way to historic Grapevine and uncork the largest wine festival in the Southwest. Wine lovers and connoisseurs from across the nation will sample award-winning Texas wines at the **24th Annual GrapeFest** on September 16, 17, 18, and 19. GrapeFest is the place to enjoy premium wines, great music, delectable foods and plenty of fun. It's the perfect spot to eat, shop and be entertained! A grape stomping good time awaits you at GrapeFest voted a 2010 ABA Top 100 Event in North America! Visit www.grapevinetexasusa.com for more information.

September 21

Methodist Health System is sponsoring a **free health screening event** at Golden Cross Academic Clinic, 122 W. Colorado Blvd, adjacent to Methodist Dallas Medical Center. Screenings will be from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and will include prostate blood test, cholesterol, sugar, triglycerides, and the digital rectal exam. These screenings are limited to once per year per person. Fasting is not necessary. Appointments are recommended. To schedule an appointment, call 214-947-4647.

September 24

Methodism's **Luncheon of Appreciation**, Celebrating 40 Years of Sharing the Bread of Life at 11:30 a.m. at Zan W. Holmes, Jr. Community Life Center; 6211 East Grand Ave. The cost is \$40 per person.

September 25

Recessionista's Closet will be held at Excuse Art Bar and Café located at 3025

Main St. Dallas. A \$5 donation is requested at the door. For more information visit www.talisalavarry.com and click on the latest news link, or call 214-886-0696.

September 27

Annie's List Luncheon's Special Guest is Connie Schultz, author and syndicated columnist for The Cleveland Plain Dealer and Creators Syndicate. The event is scheduled for Noon to 1:15 p.m. at The Westin Galleria Dallas, 13340 Dallas Parkway, Dallas.

October 2 thru January 2

American Modern: Abbott, Evans, Bourke-White at the Amon Carter Museum of Art www.cartermuseum.org/exhibitions

October 12

27th Annual Philbin Awards Luncheon, Recognizing Excellence in Legal Reporting. Keynote speaker: Former U.S. Solicitor General and Current President of Baylor University Kenneth Starr. For tickets, log on to dallasbar.org/philbin or email JSmalling@dallasbar.org.

October 23

2010 C.C. Rousseau Scholarship Black and Gold Gala at 7 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel (Downtown Dallas). Tickets are \$65.00 per person or \$650 per table. This is a Black Tie event. : DallasAlphas.com or : jabari156@gmail.com

November 12-13

The Ricardo Miller Children's Ministries are hosting the 2nd Annual Children's Ministry Symposium, a city-wide meeting for Children's Pastors, Children's Workers, Coordinators, and individuals interested in being trained in Children's Ministry. The CMS will be held November 12-13 at Pathway of Life Church in Dallas. www.richadomiller.com

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North Texas Job Corps Center in McKinney Helps To Make Students' Dreams Possible

BY JACKIE HARDY,
NDG CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Each Tuesday, the North Texas Job Corps Center (NTJCC) input new students and every Wednesday those same students are formally welcomed via a luncheon in their honor. The New Student Luncheon is eloquently executed by the students of the NTJCC Culinary Arts program who plan and prepare the menu to serving the new students.

This event along with other special events is what helps set the foundation for a student's success within the program.

Students like Illinois native Brianna Charles, Hayiza Ahmed and Ashenafi Habteyohannes of Ethiopia are proud graduates and/or soon-to-be graduates of NTJCC. Charles will graduate this coming September, completing the Culinary Arts and ServSafe certifications. Ahmed completed her career training in Culinary Arts and will be pursuing a second trade in Nurse Assistance-Health Occupational Training.

Habteyohannes graduated in 2007, where he completed the Nurse Assistance and Electrical training program and is currently employed with Home Depot. Once he can afford to return to school, Habteyohannes plans to further his education at Collin Community College to pursue Bio Technology; where he hopes to fulfill his dream of working in the Health Care industry.

"In my country, I would not have been able to afford the training I received from North Texas Job Corps and I will always be grateful for the training I received," states Habteyohannes.

The NTJCC embraces students from across the globe and currently serves a

student body where a little more than seven percent of its student population consists of Asian and Pacific Islander. The majority of students are African American (56.48 percent), White (17.96 percent), and Hispanic (17.59 percent); however, NTJCC is proud to know their program is not only making a difference in the lives of students domestically but, internationally as well.

One of the ways the NTJCC is making a difference is giving students like Brianna Charles who since the age of 13 lived in foster homes the confidence she needs to be successful. Many of the students who join the NTJCC are high-school drop-outs (over 60 percent) and are unem-



NTJCC graduate Brianna Charles

ployed, which alone are two factors that can affect a person's confidence.

When a student joins the NTJCC they will quickly be exposed to a Positive Normative Culture (PNC) and participate in the Guided Group Interaction (GGI), which is an activity used to celebrate accomplishments on a weekly basis and foster a positive environment.



Culinary Arts students

"Joining North Texas Job Corps Center has made my self-esteem go above what I could have imagined. I thought when people looked at me they were

rally very quiet and reserved. Coming to Job Corps gave me the confidence to get outside of my comfort zone and speak up more," stated Habteyohannes.

Confidence matched with competence is two great qualities any employer desires from their employee. Home Depot located in Dallas (Forest Lane location) saw those qualities in Habteyohannes and hired him from part-time to full-time. Since his employment with Home Depot, Habteyohannes has been recognized with perfect attendance for one year and received the Outstanding Employee Award in 2009.

All three students have not gone without facing their share of challenges throughout their training at NTJCC. Many students when joining the program will face challenges such as: adjusting to a structured environment, abiding by a curfew, peer pressure, and/or learning how to live with roommates (students can live with up to seven roommates).

"Being from another country, the cultural differences were definitely a

challenge for me. The first three months were the most difficult because I was learning how to live with other individuals and going through those experiences were a great teaching experience," advises Habteyohannes.

The Graduate Benefits Program also provides an important service for graduates like soon-to-be graduates, Charles and Ahmed. Charles plans to get an apartment and work to save money to pursue her dream of attending the Culinary Institute of America; while Ahmed will further her education by enrolling in the NTJCC Nurse Assistant program than later pursue her LPN certification.

The Graduate Benefits Program is designed to help students both financially and professionally. Each graduate receives 750 dollars of their 1200 dollar allowance upon completion of their Career Technical Training (the remaining balance goes to their career advisor to help the graduate with relocation and/or transportation expenses), Career counseling; Job placement assistance for up to six months; and Relocation counseling services.

According to Habteyohannes, "the Graduate Benefits Program was very helpful to me, especially my career advisor. She kept me informed about upcoming job opportunities, as well as helped me maintain a positive attitude while waiting to find a job."

Both American and International students share a universal goal when they walk through the doors of NTJCC; they are coming to find a better opportunity. NTJCC is the stepping stone for so many of its graduates looking for a better opportunity. It is a shared sentiment from each of these students that NTJCC is a great place to come to get the foundation you need in building your dreams.

"I think it is a great place to get your life together and get ahead of the game. Job Corps is just another stepping stone for me so I can reach my dream of becoming a chef and owning a restaurant," states Charles.

For more information about the NTJCC and its programs, visit www.northtexas.jobcorps.gov or call 972-542-2623.

Eisemann Center's Family Theatre Series opens 2010-11 season with *Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile*

(NDG Wire) Eisemann Center Presents' Friends of the Richardson Library Family Theatre Series is a Sunday matinee series for children and families of all ages bringing professional touring children's productions to the Eisemann Center. Online study guides are provided for all Family Theatre Series shows on the Eisemann Center website. Go to the Eisemann Center Presents page and click on

the Family Theatre Series logo to find all of our study guides for the 2010-11 Season.

The series kicks off with Theatre IV's production of *Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile* on Sunday, October 17, 2010 at 2:30 pm. Based on the timeless picture books by Bernard Waber, Theatre IV's production of this crowd-pleasing musical has been taking the country by storm for many years. Join

young Josh Primm as he moves to New York City and shares magical adventures with his loving parents, his stage-struck nemesis Hector P. Valenti, his rambunctious new friends, his persnickety neighbor Grumps, and his misfit (but oh so special) reptilian pet – Lyle!

Since 1975 Theatre IV has been dedicated to the creation of professional, exciting and innovative theatrical productions for young audiences. Theatre IV's plays are entertaining while introducing the audience to the books, people and events being studied in schools as a natural extension of their educational experience.

Tickets range from \$11-\$21 and are available online at eisemanncenter.com or by calling the Eisemann Center Ticket Office at 972-744-4650. The Ticket Office is open from 10:00 am until 6:00 pm Monday – Saturday and one hour before performances. Group discounts for 10 or more are available by calling 972-744-4657.

The Charles W. Eisemann Center is located at 2351 Performance Drive in Richardson, Texas. The Eisemann Center is accessible from Highway 75 North taking the Galatyn Parkway/Renner Road exit

going north and the Galatyn Parkway/Campbell Road exit going south, or from the DART light rail station at Galatyn Park. Family Theatre Series season sponsors include title sponsor Friends of the Richardson Library, the Richardson Woman's Club and media sponsors The Dallas Morning News, North Texas Kids and WFAA-TV.

The Charles W. Eisemann Center is located at 2351 Performance Drive in Richardson, Texas. The Eisemann Center is accessible from Highway 75 North taking the Galatyn Parkway/Renner Road exit

TWO ON THE AISLE: *The American Dream* and *The Sandbox*

(NDG Wire) Edward Albee's *TWO ON THE AISLE: The American Dream* and *The Sandbox* are both plays from the early part of the playwright's canon. Albee's hall of mirrors and absurd games and wicked humor are at full tilt.

In *The Sandbox*, written in 1959, Albee introduces one of America's most dysfunctional families, a grasping materialistic married couple who stages a perverse seaside idyll destined to end in the demise of the wife's aged mother.

In *The American Dream*, written in 1960, Albee continues the story of *The Sandbox's* Mommy and Daddy. In it, Albee explores the hollowness of the American dream,



Elly Lindsay (as Grandma) and Austin Tindle (as Young Man) Photo Credit: Lowell Sargeant

as well as the fallacy of the ideal American family.

Both plays are startling tales that rock middle-class ethics to their complacent foundations.

The play will be directed by Susan Sargeant. The acting ensemble includes: Elly

Lindsay (Grandma), LuLu Ward (Mommy), Barry Nash (Daddy), Austin Tindle (Young Man), Jane Willingham (Mrs. Barker) and Rebekah Wheeler (Musician). The production will be designed by: Rodney Dobbs /Scenic Design, Barbara C.

Cox /Costume Design, Dan Schoedel/Lighting Design, and Lowell Sargeant /Sound Design. The production's Stage Manager is Traci Kaplan.

The play previews on Wednesday, October 6, 2010. The play opens on Thursday, October 7th and runs through Saturday, October 23, 2010.

The curtain time for all evening performances is 8 p.m. There will be two Saturday matinee performances on Saturday, October 16 and Saturday, October 23 at 2 p.m.

All performances will be at The Bath House Cultural Center on White Rock Lake, 521 East Lawther Drive, Dallas, Texas 75218. Tickets prices are: \$17.00 on Thurs-

day evenings and Saturday matinees, Friday and Saturday evenings are \$20.00. The Pay What You Can performances are: Wednesday, October 6th/Preview, Thursday, October 7th/Opening and Thursday, October 14th. Discounts available for Seniors, Students, KERA Members, STAGE Members and

Groups of Ten or More. Student Rush tickets available half hour before curtain.

There will be POST SHOW TALK BACKS on Friday, October 15 and Friday, October 22.

For more information or tickets: wingspan@wingspantheatre.com or: www.wingspantheatre.com

BRANSON, continued from Page 2

in Super Lawyers as one of the top 10 lawyers in Texas. He is past president of the Dallas Trial Lawyers Association, the Dallas Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, the Southern Trial Lawyers Association and the Executive Committee of the Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law, where he also received an LL.M. in 1974. In 2001, he received the Southern Trial Lawyers Association's Warhorse Award for

his extraordinary contributions to the trial bar. And, this year he was a recipient of the SMU Distinguished Alumni Award. "Against odds that sometimes seem insurmountable," said Branson, "I try to right wrongs, level the playing field and convince jurors to make my clients whole again."

The Trial Lawyer of the Year Award is presented annually at the Dallas Bar Association's Bench Bar Conference in Horseshoe Bay.

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What changes are coming for FHA lending?

BY CHARLENE CROWELL

When the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) was created in 1934, its main focus was to change the difficulty that people seeking mortgage loans faced during the Great Depression. By the end of World War II, many returning service men and women took advantage of FHA programs to help finance home purchases. Today, FHA insures 4.8 million single-family home mortgages.

Now in 2010, the still-unfolding foreclosure tsunami that began in 2007 has forced FHA to alter how it can continue operating independent of taxpayer funds. Unlike many federal agencies FHA's only operating revenues are derived from the proceeds generated by fees paid for mortgage insurance. In mid-July FHA announced a number of policy changes that included an increase in mortgage insurance premiums. FHA is also considering other changes such as requiring new mortgage applicants

to have higher down payments and/or higher credit scores.

For many policymakers, increasing required down payments and high credit scores are the opposite of what the country needs right now. Instead, these voices are urging FHA to preserve its traditional role of extending affordable access to homeownership. In their view, that access would be a valued complement to the many reforms sets forth and regulations yet to come from the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act.

Among the organizations choosing to file comments on these changes and their likely effects was the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL), an affiliate of Self-Help. With 30 years of service as a community development financial institution operating a credit union and nonprofit loan fund, Self-Help has provided over \$5.65 billion of financing to 64,000 low-wealth families, small businesses and nonprofit organi-

zations in North Carolina and across America.

Like FHA, Self-Help has been a partner in expanding affordable and sustainable homeownership for many families that otherwise would have remained renters. As Self-Help's research and policy arm, CRL has authored research reports and provided insightful analyses of nagging housing issues.

CRL also recently advised FHA in part, "The foreclosure crisis and the resulting economic crisis were caused by reckless and predatory lending practices and toxic financial products not by any policy goal aimed at increasing homeownership."

"The predatory lending practices and toxic products characteristic of the past decade", continued CRL, "occurred for one reason and one reason only: for mortgage brokers, lenders and investors to make money. . . And communities of color were disproportionately targeted by non-bank subprime mortgage lenders who pro-

vided them with higher-cost, risk-layered, less sustainable loans than they qualify for."

Statistics from other independent organizations tracking African-American consumer trends support CRL's own findings.

The 2010 annual survey published by the National Urban League, The State of Black America, determined that although nearly three quarters of white families own their own homes, less than half of African-American or Latino families are homeowners. Blacks and Latinos are also more than three times as likely to live in poverty as compared to whites.

Earlier this year, and as reported in this column, the Institute for Assets and Social Policy (IASP) at Brandeis University found that only one in four African-American middle-class families in America are financially secure. The 15th annual Buying Power of Black America report published by Target Market News determined

that the \$166.3 billion spent on housing each year is more than double and sometimes triple any other household cost. This fact suggests that housing affordability in the black community remains a challenge. Moreover, on a range of services and products, black households were found to spend more than their white counterparts.

These facts and other economic measures contributed to CRL's call for a number of specific FHA reforms. Among them:

- An immediate ban on yield-spread premiums, the broker kickback paid by lenders for pushing high-cost loans onto buyers;
- Safeguards against abusive pricing and fees – in-

cluding rigorous oversight and enforcement; and

• Stronger, more aggressive limits on points and fees identified in regulation that will complement those outlined in the Dodd-Frank bill.

Hopefully the regulations yet to be crafted by FHA will begin to close the affordability gap that now exists for many communities of color. Whatever rules go into effect, will become either the opportunity or an obstacle for people hoping to have their own American dream.

Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending's communications manager for state policy and outreach. She can be reached at: Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

Garland Chamber of Commerce revamps their website

(NDG Wire) The Garland Chamber of Commerce recently announced their website has been completely redesigned in an effort to offer added value and convenience.

New features include the ability to register and pay for events online. Simply go to the Events link, click calendar and registra-

tion to view upcoming events and select the event in which you would like to register.

The Business Resource Center includes an online resources section where business owners can obtain information on things like small business tax requirements; area trainings, GISD & City bid sites, etc.

Also Chamber members can list open positions on our website, using our Job Bank. This is an additional option for locating qualified employees at no additional cost. Registered employers can search job bank resumes for qualified employees and post unlimited jobs. Registered jobseekers can upload their resume, re-

ceive notifications when new jobs are posted and apply for all posted jobs online.

Visit the Garland Chamber website at www.garlandchamber.com or contact Kisha at 469-326-7454 or kisha.allen@garlandchamber.com if you have any comments/suggestions.

JUSTICE, continued from Page 3

agony that follows when political gridlock and back room machinations stand in the way of America's impulse to do the right thing.

I recently travelled across the South to meet with farmers who, because of their inability to access basic federal loans, were left with farm properties but no operating support.

Some had farmed thousands of acres and contributed to our national

breadbasket, but clear-cut discrimination prevented them from accessing federal programs.

They lost their land and their ability to provide for their families.

One older man I visited never had the money to install clean running water or safe electricity, or to access quality medical care.

Stymied by racism, he struggled through poor health while living in a

shack that was collapsing around him. The scene I witnessed does not belong in America.

Let's resolve to end the waiting and anguish. When the Senate returns in September, it should act immediately to fund this settlement.

If the black farmer funding is offered as a stand-alone measure for senators to vote on, we ask for closure, which limits filibusters

and allows for passage with 60 votes. If it is attached to a larger bill, we ask not to be stripped out as has happened before. The time for political games has ended. The time for justice is now.

John W. Boyd Jr., a working farmer, is the founder and president of the National Black Farmers Association (blackfarmers.org).

City of Carrollton First-Time Homebuyer Assistance

(NDG Wire) The City of Carrollton is now accepting applications from qualifying individuals who would like to purchase a home in Carrollton through the HOME Investment Partnership Program.

The program provides down payment and closing cost assistance to low-to-moderate income first-time homebuyers within the Denton County portion of

Carrollton. Assistance up to \$15,000 is provided in the form of a 0% interest, 10-year forgivable loan for down payment and non-recurring closing costs associated with the purchase of a new home. This is a first-come, first-served program.

For qualifying details, program guidelines and application forms, call 972-466-4299 or cityofcarrollton.com/comdevelopment.

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Is America Marching in Two Different Directions

BY MARC MORIAL

(NNPA) – “Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred.” – Martin Luther King, Jr., August 28, 1963

On Aug. 28 in Washington, DC, two groups of Americans gathered on the National Mall to express their vision of freedom 47 years after Martin Luther King, Jr.'s historic “I Have a Dream” speech.

Unfortunately, the two groups seemed to be marching in different directions. One rally, co-convened by Rev. Al Sharpton's National Action Network, the National Urban League and a coalition

of civil rights organizations, marched from Washington's Dunbar High School to the site of the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial under construction on the National Mall.

That group marched to “Reclaim the Dream” that Dr. King so courageously and eloquently articulated at the Lincoln Memorial on August 28, 1963: “And as we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall always march ahead. We cannot turn back . . . We will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.”

In the 21st century that means a national commit-

ment to quality education for all. It means jobs and a living wage for all. It means affordable housing on fair terms for all. And it means quality and affordable health care that is accessible to all. Speaker after speaker, including myself, Rev. Sharpton, NAACP President, Ben Jealous; DC Delegate, Eleanor Holmes Norton and Martin Luther King, III, echoed these themes, which are also the major empowerment goals of the National Urban League during this, our 100th year anniversary.

It was fitting that the Reclaim the Dream rally began at a public high school. Education has always been the

gateway to opportunity for African Americans and Education Secretary, Arne Duncan was on hand to once again call education the “civil rights issue of this generation.” Underscoring that commitment was the presentation by Larry Handfield, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Bethune-Cookman College, of a \$100,000 four-year scholarship to high school student, Leah Carr, of Northwest Washington.

Fox News talk show host, Glenn Beck, led the other rally, which took place at the Lincoln Memorial, the very spot where Dr. King rallied the nation to overcome its divisive past. Beck has made a

living denouncing the concept of social justice, belittling the legitimate grievances of African Americans, using faith as a wedge issue, and claiming that President Obama is racist and his policies are reminiscent of Nazism.

In short, Beck is a world-class divider, and his march was designed to take America in another direction - back to its roots of states' rights separatism. Unfortunately, Beck has amassed a large following. Many of them joined him and former vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin at their so-called “Restoring Honor” rally.

Their rally was not only

about an outdated “us vs. them” vision of America, it was a cynical attempt to hijack the message and meaning of Dr. King and the civil rights movement. As I told the crowd at the Reclaim the Dream rally, “We will not stand silent as some seek to bamboozle Dr. King's dream. We reclaim the dream because we are here to say we must be one nation.” At a time when Dr. King's message of unity is more important than ever, the question must be asked: Is America marching in two different directions?

Marc Morial is president and CEO of the National Urban League.

CLOSET, continued from Page 1

ployment rate at an all time high, families large and small can appreciate such an event.

While clothing swaps originated in the late nineties and have mostly been adopted by women as “Ladies night out parties” Lavarly has recently observed a need for this type of event that could benefit mothers, men and children alike.

Once the doors open at 10 a.m. participants will be allowed to enter with any amount of clothing, shoes

or accessories. Their items will be counted and sorted upon arrival and then they will be free to shop for clothing that other participants have contributed to the swap. There are no minimums on the amount of items that participants can bring and no limits on how often a swapper can return to the event throughout the day. The amount of items obtained do not have to be an exact match to the amount of items contributed, however volunteers will be on board to en-

sure participants are contributing and selecting items within reason.

“If you would have asked me last year if I planned to make Recessionista's Closet an annual event I would have told you no, but the response has been greater than I ever imagined and over the past year I have received countless requests to bring this event back. While others have caught on to the swapping trend, Recessionista's Closet is still unique as it offers the experience to the

entire family as well as entertainment and the opportunity to contribute to a great cause,” says Lavarly.

This year the organizers are excited about a few unique changes to the event. They have decided to partner with several local vintage apparel and accessory dealers to offer swappers several mini fashion shows and trunk shows throughout the day.

The Dallas International Street Church was selected as the charity to receive proceeds and any remaining

clothing following the event. Also members from the Dallas International Street Church who are currently in reform programs will be a part of the event planning. A few will even be featured as models in the fashion shows. Not only does this concept offer these individuals an opportunity to gain job skills it gives them a chance to be on display while increasing their self-esteem.

“We are truly blessed to be apart of such an event, the ladies are very excited

about the opportunity to walk on a runway and have a sense of responsibility in something that will help others in the community” says Karen Dudley, Founder of Dallas International Street Church.

Recessionista's Closet will be held at Excuse Art Bar and Café located at 3025 Main St. Dallas. A \$5 donation is requested at the door. For more information visit www.talisalavarly.com and click on the latest news link, or call 214-886-0696.

THOMAS, continued from Page 2

didn't say, ‘We're keeping you out.’ Eventually, we turned around and walked home.”

Thomas said he saw reporters surrounding his group and that some jostled him. Only after he came home — to see his mother, waiting on the porch, crying — did he learn that he had been surrounded by ugly vi-

olence. On the television, he saw the reporters who had been near him taking a beating. He saw one hit by a baseball bat.

Later that month, the Little Rock Nine entered school and attended a few classes before being pulled out and taken to the main office, where the police fretted about keeping the

black students safe as the mob outside became restive. Thomas heard a policeman suggest to the chief that he turn over one black student to the mob, saying, “You can get credit for saving eight.” Thomas feared it would be him and began calculating how he might outrun the segregationists. (The chief smuggled all

nine out safely.)

The Little Rock Nine agreed to forgo extracurricular activities, to ease fears of whites who did not want “race-mixing.” Thomas, an athlete, would have to stop running track.

“The white students kept me in shape,” Thomas laughed. “They kept me running.” He has a sense of

humor. He said he had to be careful at times at Central not to show it, but that he secretly enjoyed “body-language jokes.” When a bully would attempt to hit or shove him, Thomas stepped aside quickly. “I enjoyed helping them miss me. They couldn't keep up.”

When Thomas went to college, he somehow was

not assigned a dormitory room. An administrator, after hearing about his high school background, assigned him a room in the foreign-student building and jokingly justified it to Thomas, saying, “Little Rock? That stuff that has been happening there can't be in America. It's a foreign country you are from.”

LEGACY, continued from Page 4

that have happened in the past such as the Public Health Service's study of untreated syphilis in Tuskegee, Alabama, which recruited African-American men in Tuskegee who were

promised treatment for syphilis,” Baquet said.

“Even after penicillin was identified as a cure the treatment was withheld from them by the federal government. So there is still

the persistent fear and concern about being treated like a Guinea Pig and not understanding that research has a role to play in improving the health of the community.”

Because of the historical concerns of events like the Tuskegee experiments and others, lecturers go through intense efforts to explain how federal regulations resulted from such scandals to

protect individuals who participate in clinical trials so that similar incidents are not repeated.

Baquet said, “By promoting research literacy, it breaks down those barriers

and the historical distrust that the literacy it breaks down those barriers and the historical distrust that the African-American community has had of research and of researchers.”

Texas businesses to receive \$500,000 towards training and assistance programs

(NDG Wire) The Texas Department of Transportation will allocate \$500,000 for technical assistance and supportive service programs that include the Technical Assistance Program,

the Texas Business Opportunity and Development Program and the Disadvan-

tagged Business Enterprises Supportive Services Program Outreach and Development Programs. The Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Sup-

portive Services Program was developed to help DBE firms remove barriers and assist them to compete successfully in the marketplace outside the DBE Program.

City of Irving "Best Places to Work" Finalist

(NDG Wire) The City of Irving was selected as a finalist in the "Best Places to Work" contest through a recent *Dallas Business Journal* survey taken by city employees in June.

To earn the prestigious "Best Places to Work" designation, companies have to earn a national best practice score for their category. This score is based on its work environment, innovations/new ideas, people practices, personal growth and development, leadership, employee recognition and the structure of day-to-day operations.

The 2010 rankings will be revealed at the annual *Dallas Business Journal* 2010 Best Places to Work Awards Luncheon on Sept. 23.



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Dave Mullenix

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Every Wednesday

Join us for Wednesday Morning Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.; Prayer, Praise, Songs, Fellowship, Bible Study and Worship at 7 p.m.

September 16, 12 Noon

Join us for a "Between Jobs Support Group" meeting at the Christian Works for Children, 6320 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX 75240. Call 972-960-9981 to register.

September 26, 7 a.m.

Join us for our Ladies Prayer & Breakfast meeting at the IHOP, 933 N. Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75075. Come fasting, if you can, and have a thirst for righteousness. Everyone is welcome. For details call Sis. Misty Rockwell at 214-244-1142 or Sis. Deadra Pete at 469-667-5865

**Brother Ramon Hodridge,
Minister**

**1026 Avenue F
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8833**

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**Pastor Minnie
Hawthorne-Ewing
635 W. Campbell Road
Suite 210
Richardson, TX 75080
972-480-0200**

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Each Wednesday,
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Join us each Wednesday for our Midweek Bible Study.

**Pastor Autry
701 E. Centennial Blvd.
Richardson, TX 75081
972-991-0200**

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IN ALLEN
"THE SHIP"**

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Monday – Friday

Prayer Lines for those in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567.

Wednesdays Only

Come get your praise on in the middle of the week at our Wednesday Night Live at our main campus @ 7 p.m.

September 29, 6:30 p.m.

Be challenged and read Pray Big by Will Davis, Jr. to strengthen your prayer life in BIG ways and join us in room E103-105 for a discussion on the book. Call the church for details.

**Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr.,
M.Div.**

Senior Pastor

305 N. Alder Drive, in

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Church Address is
200 Belmont Drive
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Each Wednesday,
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Let your child or children join us at our Annie Pearl Foster Children Center in Room 238

**September 11,
9 a.m.-11 a.m.**

Join us for our annual Taste of First Church in the Fellowship Hall. Call Margaret Roberts at 817-784-8066 for details

**Pastor Gregory Foster,
300 Phillips Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-235-4235**

**INSPIRING BODY OF
CHRIST CHURCH**

September 12, 7:30 a.m.

And 11 a.m.

You're invited to our Sunday Morning Worship Services.

September 13, 7 p.m.

Join us for Monday School as we learn about, worship and praise God in our new facility.

**Dr. Rickie G. Rush,
Senior Pastor
7701 S. Westmoreland Rd.
Dallas, TX 75237
972-372-4262**

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Join us for our "Planning for the Future" Kick-Off.

**Pastor Robert Townsend
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Dallas, TX 75229
972-241-6151**

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On Going

Let your child or children attend TTS (Test Taking Skills) for math classes for TAKS (5th – 12th Grades) and special TTS for math Class (5th – 8th Grades.) Call 214-235-3190 or 214-541-8292 for details.

September 20, 10 a.m.

Join us for Music Ministry Annual Day as we celebrate another year of serving God.

**Dr. Robert Price, Sr.
Senior Pastor
9550 Shepherd Road
Dallas, TX 75243
214-341-6459**

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**Dr. Leslie W. Smith,
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1010-1020 S. Sherman St.
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972-437-3493**

**SAINT MARK MBC
IN MCKINNEY**

September 11, 12 p.m.

**And on Going Every 2nd
Saturday In Each Month**

All Senior Saints are invited to our Double Nickel (55 and above) Luncheon @ the Newsome Center on Am-scott Street in McKinney. Activities include lunch, bingo and door prizes. Come and bring a friend. If you are homebound, we will deliver to you. Please call 972-542-6178 no later than the Friday, September 10th this month) before the luncheon and leave a message with your name, address, phone number and how many meals you need.

**Dr. Charles Wattley
Senior Pastor
1308 Wilcox Street
McKinney TX 75069
972-542-6178**

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IN PLANO**

Every Wednesday

In September, 7 p.m.

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**Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
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GOD IN CHRIST**

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In September 2010

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**Dr. Gregory Voss,
Senior Pastor
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Carrollton, TX 75006
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*Then spake Jesus again unto them,
saying, I am the light of the world:
he that followeth me shall not
walk in darkness, but
shall have the light of life.*

John 8:1

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Hear Pastor Sam on: "Truth Made Simple"
KGGR 1040 AM, Monday - Friday @ 5:25 pm - 5:30 pm

Pastors Sam & Gloria Fenceroy



Sister Tarpley

"All thy works, shall praise thee, O Lord; and thy saints shall bless thee. They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power; To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of His kingdom." Psalms 145:10-12 (KJV)

With the state of people in this world and all that is going wrong, how do Christians measure their effectiveness in God? We read that the early Church turned the world upside down in that first century. Have you ever thought about what made them so effective? Was it their theology? Was it great preaching? Was it due to one man's influence apart from Jesus?

The Scriptures are clear as to what made the early Church effective. It is at the core of God's heart, and it is quite simple; it is God desires to reflect His nature and power through every individual. When this happens, the world is automatically changed because those who reflect His glory affect the world.

The Bible tells us that we serve a jealous God. He is a God who will not share

His glory with anyone. God sets up situations in order to demonstrate His power through People. He has done this since the day He created man. God's desire is to reflect His glory through you and me, so that all men may know of His mighty acts and the glorious splendor of His Kingdom. Apostle Paul understood this principle: *"And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."* **1 Corinthians 2:4 & 5 (KJV)**

If Christians do not see God's glory being reflected through their lives, then they need to ask why. God has promised to do so if we will walk in obedience to His commands. Christians should present their bodies as a living sacrifice to God; but they need God's help to be holy and acceptable, which is their reasonable service. They need God to guide and direct them; and to protect them from harm and evil.

God need to shine through Christians lives to influence the world around them for Him. He should

be glorified and the lost should be pointed to Jesus through the testimony of their lives.

Many times for Christians this means changing their paradigm (example or pattern.) Often Christians are so bent on their particular belief that the Holy Spirit must do something miraculous to change their pattern.

"While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them. Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said; Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come?" Acts 10:19-21 (KJV)

The Bible tells us that Peter had never preached to the Gentiles. In fact, Paul believed it was against Jewish law to associate with the Gentiles. God needed to change Peter's attitude about this, so during the night God gave Peter a vision that showed him it was permissible to preach to the Gentiles. The Spirit came to Peter and informed him that some men were about to come visit him, and he

was to go with them. He went with them, and the Lord did great miracles in the lives of Gentiles through Peter.

Do you need the Lord to send a messenger to change your paradigm because you don't have faith to think of the possibility. The Lord still intervenes in the lives of His people every day. Don't be surprised when God begins to change your paradigm by giving you a vision or sending you a messenger of His choosing. Ask God to give you grace to be a faithful follower during times of prosperity as well as lean and trying times. Learn to be consis-



Mrs. Phemia Tinner and Mrs. Frankie McFadden, sisters, celebrating at a birthday party.

tence "in season and out of season." If you have doubt, God still give reassurance. If there is sorrow, God will give joy. Where there is an ounce of faith, God will give an abundance of hope.

Boy Scouts of America Receive \$100,000 grant from UPS Foundation

(NDG Wire) To honor 100 years of service, the Boy Scouts of America has received a \$100,000 grant from The UPS Foundation. The grant will be used toward the Boy Scouts of America Natural Resources Conservation Local Council Grants.

Conservation programs are popular activities for Scouts, and the Boy Scouts of America adheres to its long-standing policy of teaching youth and adult members to conserve, pro-

tect, and respect the environment. The goal of awarding the grant is to educate youth on the positive impact they can have on our environment through our con-

servation initiatives. Councils will apply for \$10,000 grants in support of project development and implementation of new conservation programs or initiatives.



Ramon Hodridge, Minister


Avenue F Church of Christ

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www.avefchurchofchrist.org

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Wednesday Night Bible 7:30pm



Mrs. Euphemia Tinner poses with official documents.

RESIDENT, continued from Page 1

rence), Reginald (Iris) and Wilford (Peggy). Their pride and joy are their grandchildren, Naarah, first grandchild of the Tinnors and a graduate of Austin College in Sherman, Texas; Joshua; Ebony, a junior student at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas; Jordan; Lee Ann; Jared; Leeah; Joseph; and great grandson, Joshua, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Tinner have been faithful members of the First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park in Richardson, Texas for over 50 years under the leadership of the late Dr. J. L. Foster, Founder; and currently, Dr. Gregory

Foster, Senior Pastor and Rev. Anthony Foster, Pastor.

Mrs. Tinner, called Phemia by family and friends, has kept her *Cover Girl* beauty, can still prepare delectable meals from scratch and she still maintains a "white glove test" home.

She was surprised with a birthday party on August 1st at the Holiday Inn Select on LBJ at Preston Road.

Phemia was surrounded by family and friends and she delighted in the mini roast and kind words from everyone who spoke, including her only sibling, Mrs. Frankie McFadden from Garland,

Texas and her only god-daughter, Minister Sheila Tarpley Lott.

Phemia has always been very happy and pleased with her congratulations and best wishes from family and friends; when she received a congratulations and best wishes from President

Barack Obama, the first African American President of the United States of America and First Lady Michelle Obama, she was mixed with pride, happiness, joy and a feeling of how blessed she is. She thanked her husband, family, goddaughter Sheila and gives all credit to God.

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