

North Dallas Gazette



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Take a Trip Around the World without a Passport at Worldfest 2009

(NDG Wire) Jules Verne traveled around the world in eighty days, but have you ever considered doing it in just one weekend?

On October 24 and 25, 2009, visitors to WorldFest will have the chance to do just that in beautiful Addi-

son Circle Park . The Town of Addison and the World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth are partnering to present WorldFest 2009, North Texas ' largest international festival. The two-day event takes attendees on an exciting journey

around the world, allowing them to experience the many diverse cultures that make North Texas such a vibrant place to live and work.

Guests will be immersed in the cultures of Africa, the Americas , Asia, Europe and Oceania . Their

experiences will include non-stop entertainment, international food, world markets, children's activities, global games, a Parade of Nations and much more!

This year's WorldFest has a unifying theme --

See **WORLDVEST, Page 4**

SPOTLIGHT

An Open Letter to President Obama



See **LETTER, Page 9**

Bible Study Travels to Local Gazebos



Thelma Wells (center) and students at recent Gazebo Bible Study

(NDG Wire) Thelma Wells has moved Bible teachings from the church to small-town gazebos and art galleries.

"It is necessary to take the word of God to people instead of waiting for them to come inside of a building," Wells says. "It was part of Jesus' commission."

Since September,

Thelma Wells, also known by many as Mama T, has been presenting an hour-long Bible study on the book of Philippians inside gazebos all over the metroplex. Her next stop is the gazebo at Prestonwood Baptist Church, October 15, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at 6801 W Park Blvd. Plano.

See **GAZEBOS Page 5**



Law Abiding Citizen Delivers Justice – By Any Means Necessary

For more information see pg. 10 www.northdallasgazette.com

BLACKONOMICS

Doing the Right Thing

BY JAMES CLINGMAN (NNPA) You know, some of our Black-owned business owners and Black consumers really "get it." They fully recognize and understand the importance of mutual support and the seriousness of our economic position in this country.

ply because it is the right thing to do.

Although there are many examples that I could share, here are two that are exemplary of what it means to do the right thing when it comes to economic empowerment. On the business side, we have Compro-Tax, Inc. (www.comprotax.net), headquartered in Beaumont, Texas, and with 220 local offices throughout the country. On the consumer side, we have John and Maggie Anderson's Em-

Even more importantly, they act upon those realities by using their businesses and their consumer power as catalysts for positive change and empowerment among African Americans. Why do they do this? Sim-

See **RIGHT, Page 3**

First-Time Homebuyer Credit Provides Tax Benefits to 1.4 Million Families to Date

(NDG Wire) With the deadline quickly approaching, the Internal Revenue Service today reminded potential homebuyers they must complete their first-time home purchases before Dec. 1 to qualify for the special first-time home-

buyer credit. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act extended the tax credit, which has provided a tax benefit to more than 1.4 million taxpayers so far.

The credit of up to \$8,000 is generally available to homebuyers who

have never owned a home or have not owned one in the past three years and with qualifying income levels. The IRS has a new YouTube video and other resources that explain the credit in detail.

The IRS encouraged all

eligible homebuyers to take advantage of the first-time homebuyer credit. but at the same time cautioned taxpayers to avoid schemes that help ineligible people file false claims for the credit. Currently, the agency

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People In The News...



Laymon Hicks



Antonio Johnson



Ron Kirk

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Laymon Hicks

(NDG Wire) In 2005, Laymon Hicks launched a community service initiative to tutor 150 students during his senior year of high school in Tampa, Florida.

Hicks realized how little encouragement youth in his community were receiving, and made an earnest commitment to be a source of inspiration for youth facing many of the challenges he once fought to overcome. To fulfill that commitment, Hicks has become a celebrated speaker, coach and

author who motivates and helps youth take a more active role in their personal achievements.

In his second book, *A Treasure Chest of Motivation: 8 Jewels of Wisdom for a Young Adult's Success*, Hicks delivers key strategies for success. The tips are designed to help youth access positive reinforcement and encouragement.

"Youth today aren't praised by their peers, and unfortunately, there isn't much positive feedback from their parents or their

communities," said Hicks. "One way kids can compensate for this is by building their own personal development library. It's a great way for kids to collect life-affirming books and resources so they can access positive reinforcement, encouragement and tools for success whenever they need them."

A recent graduate of Florida State University, Hicks is no stranger to adversity. He often shares his journey from being a struggling middle school student to serving as the student body president of Florida State University, managing

a \$10.3 million dollar budget.

His messages of determination, hard work and perseverance have resonated with kids ages 8 to 18. Hicks relies on his experiences to deliver powerful, relatable tips, tools and resources tailored for young audiences and readers.

In addition to building a personal development library, other tips in the book include: Seek Mentors, Listen to Your Inner Voice, Neutralize the Weapons of Mass Distraction and Seize the Opportunity.

Each "jewel" in the book is designed to em-

power young readers. The book also encourages dialog among teens, their parents and their peers to help enhance their lives and help them begin thinking about setting and accomplishing life goals.

"Every kid faces self doubt, fear, setbacks, confidence challenges, haters and friends who are only your friends because you are going somewhere," said Hicks. "It's my hope that youth readers will rely on the messages in this



book to regain focus on what's important, and be empowered to overcome the obstacles and challenges that they're sure to meet along the path to success."

Antonio Johnson

(NDG Wire) The smooth and inspiring voice of Antonio "AJ" Johnson has returned to airwaves as host of KRNB 105.7's "Praise & Gospel Sundays." This encouraging gospel radio show airs Sunday mornings from 6 a.m. to noon.

"I am passionate about gospel music and the role it plays in transforming lives," said Johnson. "Becoming part of the KRNB family has been a blessing, and I am

truly excited to be back on air inspiring and motivating the community through life-changing music."

Providing music that is uplifting and inspiring, Praise and Gospel Sunday's is a featured gospel segment on KRNB 105.7-FM that airs Sunday mornings from 6 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Listeners have the opportunity to make special song requests, share testimonials and win tickets to pre-



mier concerts and events. As the entertaining gospel show host, Johnson plays tradi-

tional and contemporary gospel music. From the soulful sounds of Beverly Crawford, Dottie Peoples and Shirley Caesar to the contemporary melodies of Kirk Franklin, Mary Mary and Fred Hammonds, Praise and Gospel Sundays embraces an audience that crosses many generations.

No stranger to the airwaves, Johnson has been inspiring listeners with hand clapping gospel music for over 20 years. Discovered at the early age of 15 while working the drive-thru win-

dow of a popular fast food chain, Johnson is considered to be one of the most talented gospel radio personalities in the industry. Throughout his years of experience, he has been blessed to interview legends like Jesse Jackson, Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, Penny Hardaway, the Williams Brothers, Melba Moore, Les Brown, Usher, Shaquill O'Neil, Bishop TD Jakes, Yolanda Adams, Beverly Crawford and Prophetess Juanita Bynum. Most recently serving as program director for

Dallas' KHVN Heaven 97, Johnson's experience spans across an array of markets, including radio stations in Tennessee, Kentucky and California.

When not on-air, he can be found in Fort Worth running his recently opened restaurant, AJ's Chicken and Waffles, hosting Gospel Sunday Sound Check on TXA 21 or entertaining audiences with his clean Christian comedy.

To learn more about Antonio "AJ" Johnson, visit www.antonioajjohnson.com.

Ron Kirk

(NDG Wire) Former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk is the keynote speaker for the 3rd banquet of the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce (DBCC), Friday, October 16.

The DBCC is the oldest and largest Black chamber in the nation. Its banquets draw over 1,500 attendees annually, and this year will



feature the special presentation of DBCC Lifetime Achievement Award to honor an individual for a lifetime of work, dedication and contributions towards the betterment and advancement of Dallas' African American community.

Kirk is the 16th United States Trade Representative, Ambassador Kirk where he serves as President Barack Obama's principal trade advisor, negotiator and spokesperson on trade issues.

Born in Austin, Texas, Kirk is the youngest of four children. He attended Austin College, graduating with a degree in both political science and sociology in 1976. He then went to the University of Texas School of Law. After receiving his Juris Doctor in 1979, he practiced

law until 1981 when he left to work in the office of then-Texas Senator Lloyd Bentsen. In 1983, Kirk returned to Texas to lobby the state legislature in Austin, first as an attorney with the city of Dallas, and later with a law firm.

In 1994, Kirk worked for then-Texas Governor Ann Richards as Secretary of State of Texas. The following year, Kirk ran for mayor of Dallas. With support from Dallas' business community and influential members of the city's African-American community, Kirk was successful in his bid and became the first African-American mayor of Dallas, Texas, winning 62 percent of the total vote.

During his tenure as mayor, Kirk earned the reputation of being a coalition-builder, managing to keep the always-tumultuous Dal-

las City Council and Dallas School Board together. Under his leadership, he proposed the "Dallas Plan," a vision for the next 25 years, which included the controversial Trinity River Project, a \$246 million plan that called for constructing a network of parks and highways in the flood plain of the Trinity River. He also pushed the construction of the American Airlines Center, whose opening he oversaw in 2002.

In 1999, Kirk was re-elected as mayor of Dallas in a landslide with 74 percent of the vote.

Registration for the Chamber's festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. at the Dallas Convention Center, Ballroom A, 650 South Griffin Street, Dallas, with the event scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$60.00 each,

a small business table of ten (10) is \$600.00 and a corporate table of ten (10) is \$1,000. For tickets or for

additional information, please contact the DBCC office at (214) 421-5200 or visit www.dbcc.org.

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What President Obama's Nobel Peace Prize Means for America

BY BRIAN TOWNSEND

(NNPA) It was announced last Friday President Barack Obama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Within hours the Republican Party issued a statement declaring he was not worthy of such recognition. Others said the award was based on his potential rather than his accomplishments so far.

Let's look at the record.

During the last two years, President Obama was singularly credited for beginning a much needed dialogue on race with his impassioned speech on the reality of race relations in America. The speech was so inspiring and insightful that it propelled his candidacy forward when the political pundits thought his candidacy was about to come to an end. His speech detailed the cause and effects of racism from both a White and Black perspective, laying the groundwork for America to begin to work through old wounds and allowed it to elect its first African American President.

One of his first acts as President was to order the

closure of the detention center in Guantanamo Bay. Serving as an indictment of the United States' fall from its cherished role of moral leadership, he ordered the end of torture and the closing of the torture chambers that forced the world to turn away from this nation in disgust. He found the detention center to be Un-American as did those who voted to elect him President.

As commander-in-chief he has drawn down the troops in Iraq in an orderly fashion so that America can end the war in that country. Around the world, the incursion into Iraq was seen as an offensive move for regime change, rather than a move to defend America's homeland. His first day in office he called for an orderly withdrawal from a war of our choosing so that we can concentrate on a war that we did not choose in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

President Obama has called for unprecedented reform of our health care system, a system one congressman called a holocaust on our own people. He has

championed a system that does not bankrupt those with catastrophic diseases or medical needs and has called for health coverage for all Americans. Through his domestic policy efforts, he is leading the way for peace and prosperity at home.

President Obama has championed the greening of America and has called on the world (which is ahead of America on this front) to make climate change efforts the highest priority. By working to focus Americans on a green economy, he is laying the foundation for America's economy in the 21st century. It also lays the foundation for protecting interests around the world as nations begin to fight over the availability of water and arable land and raw materials.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. did not end Jim Crow laws nor guarantee the right to vote for all. But he led the way. Rev. Desmond Tutu did not end apartheid in South Africa. But he helped lead the way.

The Nobel Peace Prize is an affirmation that America

is engaged in the world again. As President, Barack Obama has called for renewed peace efforts in the Middle East. He has reduced tensions with Russia, not via acquiescence, but by reassessing real rather than perceived threats. He has reached out to the so-called "Muslim world" to assure them that America is not fighting Islam, but fighting those that have attacked America irrespective of their religious beliefs.

And he has correctly noted the positive impact that Muslims have had on our landscape.

President Obama is deserving of recognition for leading America's outreach to world leaders to work together for a more stable and peaceful world. The Nobel Peace Prize award should be celebrated by all Americans because the world sees us as righting ourselves on the track once again.

Brian Townsend is publisher of the Precinct Reporter Newspaper in San Bernardino, Calif., and former chair of the NNPA Foundation.

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powerment Experiment (www.eefortomorrow.com). This Oak Park, Illinois, family made a one year (January 1, 2009 - December 31, 2009) pledge to live off purchases made at Black-owned businesses.

The 9th Annual Cultural and Economic Seminar, is one of the most productive economic conferences in the country, and now it is held the Black-designed, Black-constructed, Black-wired-for-technology, Black-catered, and Black-owned and-operated Convention Center. See www.weareonpower.com to register for the event, or call 490 840 6338.

Through its dedication to empowerment, Compro-Tax has created numerous business opportunities for aspir-

ing entrepreneurs. That opportunity exists for you right now, if you would like to start and grow a recession-proof business.

Understanding the importance of Black consumers supporting Black businesses, as well as recognizing that empowerment comes from self-help economics, Anderson's have put an end to the rhetoric and lip-service; they are "walking the talk," as we like to say. Their efforts during 2009 have brought an enormous amount of attention to the fact that Black people can, if we so desire, do much more than we have been doing when it comes to our own economic empowerment.

The Anderson's are demonstrating the positive effects of self-love - they

care enough about their children's perception of our people to do the right thing by supporting Black businesses. Their celebration of and advocacy for Black owned businesses have started a much-needed economic movement across this country. It's called the Empowerment Experiment (EE). Their proactive initiative, grounded in their acknowledgment of the unacceptable conditions that exist in Black neighborhoods, has created a groundswell of support and involvement in other cities by other families who have pledged to do the same as the Anderson's.

As so-called political conservatives have said for decades, "Blacks should start doing more for themselves; they should take care of their

own problems." Well, John and Maggie Anderson are promoting exactly that, despite the fact that some of those same "conservatives" are responding by calling the Anderson's "racists" and "separatists."

Undeterred, this family continues to follow through on its pledge, and to date, according to their website, they have spent \$53,453.74 with Black businesses thus far in 2009." I say to my readers, "Did you EE today?"

I am so proud of Compro-Tax and the Anderson's, the perfect examples of Black businesses and Black consumers simply doing the right thing, not for self-aggrandizement, not for accolades, not for recognition, but simply because it's the right thing to do.

Battling Racial Disparities: Faith-based Breast Cancer Initiative Goes National with Capitol Hill Pink Ribbon-Pinning Ceremony

(NNPA) A recent report released by the American Cancer Society reveals that death rates from breast cancer across the United States have been falling, but African-American women are still 38 percent more likely to die from breast cancer than their White counterparts. This is true, even though White women are diagnosed with the disease at a higher rate.

This is why a growing campaign to call attention this disparity is so significant.

For more than three years, Chicago-based Access Community Health Network has addressed racial disparities around both breast and cervical cancer with its Pin-

A-Sister™/Examine Comadre™ campaign. The initiative works to educate women about breast and cervical health, to provide free mammograms and pap smears for underinsured and low-income women across the state of Illinois.

This initiative has now gone national. Many states are on board to hold pink ribbon-pinning ceremonies as a tribute to women and families affected by breast cancer, with pins indicating commitment to get screenings.

To bring national attention to this initiative, and to celebrate National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, ACCESS CEO Donna Thompson and ACCESS, in



conjunction with lead sponsor the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, will hold a Pin-A-Sister™/Examine Comadre™ pink ribbon-pinning ceremony Wednesday, October 28.

According to the most recent study by the Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer

Task Force, of which Thompson is a co-chair, mortality rates for Hispanic women are considered to be similarly high. Many factors work against women of color when they are confronted with health care decisions.

Many do not receive mammograms due to financial issues, or their dedication to their families prevents them from looking out for themselves many receive inferior mammograms and some don't have access to quality care, even if they are diagnosed with breast cancer. Also a major factor is family support. It's hard to concentrate on fighting breast cancer if you don't have anyone in your corner to provide sup-

port.

"There hasn't been much change in the breast cancer mortality rate for underserved women since 1980. While there have been many advances in mammography screening, which leads to early detection, a large segment of African-American and Hispanic women in particular are still losing their lives to breast cancer," said Thompson in a news release.

"Pin-A-Sister™/Examine Comadre™'s mission is to highlight these unacceptable statistics and encourage women to be proactive in taking care of themselves and each other. The power of the 'pulpit Mother's Day message' has been effective in

reaching women and encouraging them to obtain breast and cervical exams."

ACCESS has also become known as a national model for community health care, and Thompson recently spoke at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's 39th Annual Legislative Conference at the Washington Convention Center in D.C.

For more information, visit the Website at www.accesscommunityhealth.net. Follow ACCESS on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/ACCESSHealth>, learn more about the Pin-A-Sister™ campaign at www.pinasister.com or email paulina.guzman@accesscommunityhealth.net.

Beat Razor Bump Blues with Skin Therapy System

Clinical Studies Show New Product Prevents Over 70 Percent of Ingrown Hairs and Razor Bumps, Common Problem Among African Americans

(NDG Wire) Pseudofolliculitis Barbae (PFB) is a common skin affliction affecting people with naturally curly or coarse hair. Approximately 70 percent of African Americans are susceptible. A University of Pennsylvania clinical study shows Shaver's Choice Skin Therapy System prevents Over 70 percent of ingrown hairs and razor

bumps. This new product is available for both men and women and works on all areas of the body from the face and neck, to legs, bikini lines and underarms.

"Over 20 years of development has resulted in our skin therapy shaving system to be preferred by over 80 percent over other shave products. It's the product that anyone who has ever

shaved has been waiting for," said Michael Van Velkinburgh, president.

A one-of-a-kind program, the Shaver's Choice™ Skin Therapy Shaving System is a shaving system that consists of three product steps — Swipe!™ Towelettes, Slick!™ Shave Gel, and Smooth!™ Skin Therapy—that not only give the clos-

est, most comfortable shave ever, but with regular use, helps prevent and cure razor bumps and ingrown hair entirely.

Swipe! Towelettes sanitize the skin, killing germs and bacteria that can cause infection of razor bumps, while Slick! Lubricating Shave Gel straightens and lifts the hair (for a closer shave), protects the skin

from blades and dries the hair left in its follicle straight, to resist hair's natural urge to curling back into your skin.

Finally, the application of Smooth! Skin Therapy prevents razor bumps, ingrown hairs, razor burn and itching without the use of

harmful acids or alcohols.

Unlike competitor products, Shaver's Choice (www.shaverschoice.com) contains no alcohol, acids or caustic materials. This breakthrough skin therapy system is available for purchase for \$9.99 via select retail stores.

WORLDVEST, continued from Page 1

Green Around the World. For example, did you know that 60% of Switzerland's electricity is provided by hydroelectric power?

At WorldFest, visitors will learn interesting facts about how countries are promoting sustainability, and how we can all reduce our carbon foot prints while having fun! Green Around the World also showcases the Town of Addison's new "green" Website, www.addisongreen.info.

The Parade of Nations

kicks off an evening of entertainment, Saturday, October 24. This symbolic parade boasts a sea of international flags borne by participants in authentic national dress that promises to be a stirring sight. The parade begins at 5:30 p.m., as participants carry their flags to the Main Stage to create a global backdrop for the festival's headliners.

With six entertainment stages, WorldFest has something for everyone! Guests can enjoy featured groups

like the Chinese Acrobats of Hebei, a 45-member, three-time world champion folk dance group from Turkey presented by TURANT, Iraqi pianist Abbas Abboud, Brave Combo, The Killdares and The Australian Outback Show. Other performances include hula dancing, kung fu demonstrations, Scottish reels, traditional Indian and Ethiopian dancing, Brazilian Capoeira, world flutes and much more.

New this year is the WorldFest Mariachi Compe-

titition, which is presented in partnership with the Consulate General of Mexico and hosted by WFAA's Cynthia Izaguirre. Professional and student mariachi groups will whisk WorldFest patrons away to the streets of Mexico with the sounds of trumpets, violins and traditional mariachi guitars. The region's top groups will compete for cash prizes and the opportunity to perform on stage Sunday, October 25, with famous songstress Veronica Robles.

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Garland Hosting 2009 Neighborhood Summit

(NDG Wire) City of Garland is hosting their annual Neighborhood Summit with the theme *Great Neighborhoods: From Concept to Reality*.

It is set for Saturday, October 24, from 8 a.m. to

2 p.m.

Registration for Garland residents and stakeholders is \$15. For those not related to Garland, the cost is \$25.

The keynote speaker is the Director of the Min-

neapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program, Robert Miller. He will discuss the keys to creating great neighborhoods.

The scheduled workshops, Building a Sustainable Organization, Devel-

oping Effective Partnerships, Developing a Resident Driven Neighborhood Action Plan, and Understanding the Concept of Community Leadership will provide important tools, information, and

models to lead participants down a path of building and sustaining a great neighborhood.

The event will also feature information about the Envision Garland comprehensive plan project and

the opportunity to explore the Office of Neighborhood Vitality's Social Capital Library.

For more information or to register, call 972-205-3864 or e-mail fconner@ci.garland.tx.us.

Read to Rover in Carrollton

(NDG Wire) Love dogs? Why not read to one? Hebron and Josey Library is hosting Read to Rover at 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 18 for ages six and up. Independent readers can read a favorite book



(from home or from the library) one-on-one to a Heart of Texas Therapy Dog.

These specially trained dogs are trained to listen as kids read. The dogs provide a pressure-free, non-judg-

mental audience for these young readers, so they can practice reading aloud and build their reading confidence and motivation. Readers will sign in and receive a ticket indicating which reading group they

are in. When their group is called, kids choose a dog and read one-on-one to their new furry friend. Dog handlers remain with their dogs at all times.

Younger children and

their parents may visit and take photos with the dogs after all the readers have read to Rover. For more information, visit cityofcarrollton.com/library or call 972-466-3800.

CREDIT, continued from Page 1

is investigating a number of cases of potential fraud and is using computer screening tools to identify questionable claims for the credit.

Because the credit is only in effect for a limited time, those considering buying a home must act soon to qualify for the credit. Under the Recovery Act, an eligible home purchase must be completed before Dec. 1, 2009.

This means that the last day to close on a home is Nov. 30.

The credit cannot be claimed until after the purchase is completed. For pur-

chases made this year before Dec. 1, taxpayers have the option of claiming the credit on their 2008 returns, or waiting until next year and claiming it on their 2009 returns.

The credit is 10 percent of the purchase price of the home, with a maximum available credit of \$8,000 for either a single taxpayer or a married couple filing jointly. In most cases, the full credit will be available for homes costing \$80,000 or more.

The credit reduces the taxpayer's tax bill or increases his or her refund, dollar for dollar.

A home constructed by the taxpayer only qualifies for the credit if the taxpayer occupies it before Dec. 1, 2009.

The credit is reduced or eliminated for higher-income taxpayers. The credit is phased out based on the taxpayer's modified adjusted gross income (MAGI).

The credit must be repaid if, within three years of purchase, the home ceases to be the taxpayer's main home.

Taxpayers cannot take the credit even if they buy a main home before Dec. 1 if:

The taxpayer's income is

too large. This means joint filers with MAGI of \$170,000 and above and other taxpayers with MAGI of \$95,000 and above.

The taxpayer buys a home from a close relative. This includes a home purchased from the taxpayer's spouse, parent, grandparent, child or grandchild.

The taxpayer owned another main home at any time during the three years prior to the date of purchase. For a married couple filing a joint return, this requirement applies to both spouses.

The taxpayer is a nonresident alien.

GAZEBOS, continued from Page 1

Then she moves on to the gazebo at Bob Haggard Park in downtown Plano Thursday, October 22, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Over the last two months, she held her studies in gazebos in Highland Park, Highland Village, Cedar Hill, Ovilla and Grapevine. Upcoming 2009 studies are planned for McKinney, Southlake and Keller.

In 2010, Wells will venture to Fort Worth. She intends to cover as many cities as she can by the end of 2010.

Wells, author and popular speaker of the Women of Faith Tour, motivates, inspires and equips people to "be their best." Her latest

book, *Don't Give In - God Wants You to Win*, offers readers the encouragement to face times of testing and uncertainty in life.

As a writer, Wells possesses the unique talent of communicating with her audience in a disarming, folksy and honest manner. She uses her warm style and familiar subject matter in her Gazebo Bible studies.

The topic of the Bible study is *Why Should We Worry*. Wells said we are in trying times and many people are struggling. It is causing depression, anger, a higher rate of divorce, as well as other serious problems. She said the Bible has

a message of comfort to the hurting, and her study reminds people of God's promise to his children.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God," she said.

She has already started to see people's lives change as a result of the roving Gazebo Bible studies. One woman came to the study afraid that her ex-husband was abusing their children. Her fears had immobilized her, but after the study the woman was able to calm down and present a better case before the judge trying her custody case.

Wells said not only are the Bible studies good for the participants, but they are also good for the small towns. After the Bible study, the women walk into the downtown area to eat and visit the local shops. "It's a great way to spend time together and visit places you would not ordinarily go."

The Bible studies are free and open to the public. But with a donation of \$20.00 or more, attendees receive a free autographed copy of Thelma's latest book. Anyone interested in attending should visit the Website at <http://www.thelmawells.com> or email gazebostudies@thelmawells.com.

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Two TWU Students Selected for National Science Scholarship Program

(NDG Wire) Two Texas Woman's University (TWU) seniors Victoria Loveland and Rae Lynn McFarlin recently received \$10,000 scholarships from the National Consortium of Measurement and Signals Intelligence Research Scholars Program.

They are among 46 students in the nation to receive the scholarships, which are awarded through the National Science Foundation.

Loveland, of Rockwall, is a senior biochemistry major and assistant manager of the TWU swimming pool. She is a TWU Honors Scholar, a member of the Athenian Honors Society and volunteers with TWU's Helping Hands Chapter, Keep Denton Beautiful and Denton's Friends of the Family Thrift Store.

"It is rewarding to know that my hard work over the past three years is being recognized with a



Victoria Loveland



Rae Lynn McFarlin

national scholarship," Loveland said. "The scholarship will help me reach the finish line of graduation in the spring."

McFarlin, of Bonham, is a senior mathematics and chemistry major and the TWU student regent. She is a tutor and student assistant in the TWU Science Learning Resource Center and for the TWU Math and Computer Science Department. She recently completed a chem-

istry research internship at UT Southwestern Medical School.

"I wouldn't have dreamed it was possible to receive a national award if it weren't for the support of TWU faculty and staff," McFarlin said. "Being at TWU has taught me that the sky is the limit in terms of my possibilities as a student and as a future college professor and researcher."

GISD Green Classrooms

(NDG Wire) Every classroom in Garland Independent School District (GISD) can be a green classroom this year, thanks to the partnership between GISD and the City of Garland Environmental Waste Services Department (EWS). Each classroom has a green recycling bin and a poster depicting what can be recycled in the new single stream program.

Single stream recycling

means that paper products, aluminum cans, steel and tin cans, cardboard, chipboard (i.e., cracker boxes and cereal boxes) and plastics #1 - #7 can be placed in the same bin. GISD custodial staff empties the classroom bins daily, and EWS provides weekly collection and hauls the materials to Greenstar North America, where they are weighed, sorted and processed for remanufactur-

ing.

Because every school is recycling more, EWS has reduced the number of trash pick ups, resulting in a cost savings for GISD. "This partnership between GISD and EWS will conserve resources and increase the amount of valuable materials diverted from the landfill," reports EWS Waste Minimization Coordinator, Glenna Brown.

Rep. Johnson Introduces Financial Education for Teachers & Students Act

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson introduced the Financial Education for Teachers and Students Act, which will authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to states for financial education in public middle and high schools.

The grants will fund financial literacy programs for students and their parents, as well as professional development for the teachers of the programs.

"A basic understanding of personal finance is crucial to navigating today's econ-

omy," Rep. Johnson said.

"When money is tight, as it is for many during a recession, it is particularly important to understand how to make a budget, manage credit, save for retirement and avoid predatory loans."

COLLEGE CORNER

HSBC Emergency Financial Assistance Program

HSBC - North America is providing funds to support graduating seniors at UNCF member institutions whose college finances may have been compromised by such circumstances as family home foreclosure, parent or guardian job loss or medical expenses associated with a major illness.

Eligible applicants must be graduating from a UNCF member school during the 2009 -2010 academic year, have a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA, and be a

U.S. citizen or permanent resident. Applicants must provide an essay describing their personal economic circumstances.

A financial need statement, completed by their Financial Aid office, must also be submitted. Applications will be reviewed as they are received.

Deadline: May 1, 2010

Award Amount: \$2,000

Website:

www.uncf.org/forstudents/scholarDetailSGA.asp?id=398

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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 Road, 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.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce: Monthly Lunch & Learn - Every third Thursday \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm at El Fenix Restaurant, 3450 S. Central Expressway, McKinney. Info: 469-424-0120.

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

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch 1st Thursday at 1 pm in Plano Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.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 Freeway, Suite 140, Dallas. \$20 for members; \$35 for non-members, \$5 off for early bird registration. See <http://nbweng.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)

Thru October 24
My Sister in This House presented by Wingspan Theater Company at The Bath House Cultural Center on White Rock Lake, 521 East Lawther Drive, Dallas. Tickets \$15-20, Info: 214-675-6573, wingspan@wingspantheatre.com, or www.wingspantheatre.com

Thru October 25
The George Washington Carver: An Extraordinary Man With A Mighty Vision Exhibit at The African American Museum, 3536 Grand Avenue, Historic Fair Park, Dallas, 214-565-9026, \$5 Adults, \$2 Children www.aamdallas.org

Thru December 4
Adriatic First Fridays Art Walk 6-9 p.m. Adriatic Merchants Association presents First Fridays at Adriatica (McKinney). Art walk, live music, sidewalk sales, free food samplings. Admission is FREE. Every 1st Friday on Virginia Pkwy. 972-540-2739

October 13 - 18
There Is One In Every Family 8 p.m. nightly - A Soul Stirring Inspirational Stage Play starring Shirley Murdock, Luther Barnes & Curtis Von at Majestic Theater, 1925 Elm Street Dallas. Tickets 800-745-3000

October 16
Jazz Friday featuring Freddie Jones Band 7:00 - 10:00 p.m., 13342 Midway Road Suite 250 at ArtFest International, Dallas. Tickets: \$10 -\$25, email stephanie@stephaniestips.com for paypal link and e-ticket.

October 16 - 18
Heart of Texas Arts and Crafts Show at Plano Centre - Free Friday Admission with postcard invitation. Admission is \$5 for adults

and free for kids 12 & under. Info: 903-217-8081 or www.heartoftexas-show.com.

October 17 -18
A Taste Of Plano Sat., noon - 8:00 pm. Sun., Noon - 6 p.m. Activities include food samples for purchase, wine tastings, demos, music and more. 15th Street at Avenue K. Admission is \$5 for ages 12 and up. Ages under 12 get in free. Info: www.visitdowntownplano.com.

October 17
Free Workshop-Marketing 101 for Congregations 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. To RSVP, contact Suzy Yowell at syowell@sacredplaces.org by Friday, October 9, 2009.

A Gospel Musical Concert at 5:00 p.m. hosted by Granny's Place, Inc. a non profit residential home for girls in and aging out of foster care at the Free Will Baptist Church, 1415 Wheatland Road in Duncanville.

October 22
Humanitarian Hands Foundation will host its fund-raising gala entitled *Life Is* at 7 p.m., Renaissance Dallas Hotel at 2222 Stemmons Freeway. Info: www.humanitarianhands-foundation.com or Mary Christopher 972.331.6098.

The Holocaust in Contemporary Consciousness, Culture and Curriculum 7:00 p.m. at the Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record Street, Suite 100, Dallas.

Metroplex Technology Business Council hosting **Brown Bag Lunch** Topic: *Making the Web Work for You*. 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at 411 Belle Grove Drive, Richardson. Fee: \$5.00, bring your lunch, beverages provided www.metroplex.org

plexitbc.org/Events/Brown-Bag-Luncheon.aspx

Geriatric Wellness Center of Collin County 30th Anniversary Bash Luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. \$40 per person. Info: 972-941-7335 or www.gwccc.org.

October 24-25
Star Wars Fan Days III runs 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25 at the Plano Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy. in Plano, Texas. Admission is \$15 Saturday and \$10 Sunday, with free admission for children ages 12 and under when accompanied by an adult. Speed passes and VIP passes also are available and may be pre-ordered online. Parking is free.

October 24
Collin County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 10th Anniversary Gala at the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel & Conference Center, 705 Central Expressway South, in Allen at 7 p.m. \$90 for a single ticket, \$150 for two and \$720 for a table for eight. Info: www.cchchamber.org or 972-548-2608.

Sisterspeak Luncheon at the Omni Dallas Hotel at Park West 1590 LBJ Freeway, Dallas. Noon - 3 p.m. Register for this FREE event: EBONYJET.com or (800) 530-9636.

National Finals Rodeo - Doors Open at 6:30 p.m., Rodeo at 8 p.m. at the Mesquite Championship Resistol Arena, I-635 LBJ Fwy. at Military Pkwy. The largest multicultural rodeo in the country celebrates Cowboys and Cowgirls of all colors including Buffalo Soldiers, Ceremonial Dancers, and Pony Express Relays educate about Western heritage. Tickets \$30 Box Seats; \$14 Grandstand Reserved; Call for details: 972-285-8777

NAACP Irving Branch Freedom Fund Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., DFW Wyndam Hotel North, 4441 Esters Rd. @ Hwy 114

City of Garland - NAACP Garland Branch Fair Housing Expo, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Garland NAACP Meeting, 7:30 p.m., at Garland Women's Center 713 Austin Street @Glenbrook agenda will include an overview of the GISD School Desegregation Court Order and job opportunities with the Internal Revenue Service.

Business Basics for Entrepreneurs, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Christian Chapel 14120 Noel Rd. Dallas, \$45.00

Hamilton Park United Methodist is hosting their annual **Health and Wellness Fair** from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at 11881 Schroeder Road in Dallas. The event is free and open to the public. Info: call 972-235-4633 ext. 7.

October 27
Jobing.com Career Expo Will Rogers Coliseum, 3401 W. Lancaster, Ft. Worth, noon - 5 pm

October 30-31
Woman to Woman Conference - 3000 Women in Pink at the Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center, 1501 Gaylord Trail, Grapevine. \$139.00 includes hotel room, breakfast, lunch, workshops and conference materials. Register at: www.woman2womanctcc.com

October 30 - November 1
"Haunting and Healing" Event at the Famously Haunted Adolphus Hotel in Dallas at 1320 Commerce Street, Dallas 75202. Tickets are \$ 20. in advance or

\$ 30 each at the door. Seating is limited, so please register early. Register online at www.hauntingandhealing.com or (520) 399-1969.

November 1
4th Annual Business Expo, 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. at Christian Chapel CME Church, 14120 Noel, Dallas. Admission is free. Info: Lynne Poole at 214-679-2072, lynnesconstantconnection@verizon.net.

November 14
Jazz Series at Bishop Arts Theater Center featuring Jeff Lorber

The Methodist Richardson Medical Center Foundation presents the **Yellow & Black Tie Gala** benefiting Methodist Richardson Cancer Center at the Marriott at Legacy Town Center Plano. Info: www.yellowandblacktiegala.com or 972-498-7678.

Toilet Trade-In Program 9:30 a.m. to noon at Home Depot at Firewheel, 3261 North George Bush Highway, Garland

November 19-22
Curious George swings onto the stage at the Nokia Theatre at Grand Prairie. Tickets are on sale now and start at just \$16

November 27
Jazz Friday featuring Cat Garner Trio 7:00 - 10:00 pm, 13342 Midway Road Suite 250 at ArtFest International, Dallas. Tickets: \$10 -\$25, email stephanie@stephaniestips.com for paypal link and e-ticket.

December 31 - January 3
Lone Star Circus® presents **BANQUISTA!** at the Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St., Dallas. Tickets 214/740-0051, or www.lonestarcircus.org.

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An Open Letter to President Obama

SHIRLEY DEMUS TARPLEY
NDG RELIGIOUS EDITOR,

On October 11, 2007, NDG published a story on Mr. Ray de Beasley and the creation of his Identity Theft Management System (Cover Story: *UT-Dallas Proposes to Develop Inventor's Identity Management System, page 9*) that would guarantee that only legitimate U. S. residents receive and use Social Security numbers that are issued by our Federal Government. The following 'open letter' to President Barack Obama is a follow up story on our first printing about Mr. Beasley, his new partnership and the jobs that are expected from this project, which will be printed in NDG's Classified section in the future for the benefit of our readers, family and friends.

September 9, 2009

The Honorable
Barack Obama
The White House

Re: Effective Identity
Management
\$50 - \$85 Billion Gen-
erated Annually For
SSA Program

Dear Mr. President:

My name is Raymond D. Beasley. After seeing the partisan attack against your Back-to-School message to encourage our youth to stay in school and not fail themselves or their country, I decided to come out of the shadows to report to you how obtaining a higher education in prison provided me with opportunity today.

In 1981, I obtained an athletic scholarship to University of Houston. While excelling in football, I was also a track State Champion in the shot-put event. I attended one year of college, dropped out and became a drug dealer. In 1991, I was convicted and sentenced to 99 Years and given a \$1,000,000.00 fine.

While on bond, I was introduced to individuals in Dallas, Texas operating a check cashing and check fraud ring. For my drug charge, I needed quick money and a new way to make it. What seemed like an instant opportunity to criminally participate in the check-cashing ring, turned into my ability to master the art of creating new financial bank scams. Prior to identity theft being officially established as a name for the

illegal use of other people's personal data, I became a quick study of bank laws, the procedures of banks, checking cashing businesses and how checks were processed.

In prison on the drug charge, I started an 'In-Prison Think Tank and Research Project'. The purpose for research was the need to make determinations as to why my criminal capabilities were so easily created and successfully operated against banks and businesses. Over a nine-year period, several hundred convicted criminal minds were interviewed for obtaining numerous common denominators, which lead to the success of financial crimes. By 1996, my research required that I obtain Computer-Programming skills to understand the capabilities of software and computer hardware. It was then that my future changed for the rest of my life. As a convicted prisoner, I enrolled in the College Education Program provided by The State of Texas.

President Obama, financial expertise knowledge combined with obtaining a higher education has afforded me the creation of a positive future. The facts as to where I am today as a member of society and what I offer my country is well reported in several news reports.

Please Google me as listed below:

- Ray de Beasley Joint Venture
- Ray de Beasley Inven-

tor

- Ray Beasley Ex-con
- Cyber Security: Latest Trend in Economic Development

Hit www.bsecuritysystem.com open the Solution Tab. Please read The de Beasley Brief in its entirety.

Mr. President, without violating any civil liberties of the American people, there is a way to effectively protect the issuing and the use of the federal Social Security Number (SSN), where the SSN could be legislated for legal use as identity. Sir, by way of a created subsidized corporation, there is a way that the SSA could create a for-use fee, when state governments use the SSN and also when the SSN is used commercially to establish consumer accounts.

Knowing that you are a quick study, please permit me to present you with a known fact. In 2008, FDIC protected banks lost over \$50 billion to fraud. Although not protected by taxpayers, many other commercial industries lose hundreds of billions to fraud annually. This includes the Health Care Industry. Frauds that start with the request and use of the SSA owned and issued SSN to establish consumer accounts.

If a federal subsidized corporation was formed and the banking industry paid \$10.00 per-use of a citizens SSN (to establish a for-profit consumer account), the 'for-use fee' would cost the entire banking industry less than half of what is lost to criminals and that is repaid by taxpayers. Combine the fact that providing a deterrent that will deter criminals from attempting fraud and identity theft, to effectively management the issuing and the use of the SSN will save local, state and the federal government tens of billions of dollars annually from having to investigate, adjudicate, probate, incarcerate and from monitoring offenders once

released on parole.

President Obama, within a few years, it is reported that the GAO expects the SSA Program to run out of funding; this is the case sir, when trillions of dollars are earned off transactions from commercially established consumer accounts that exist by and because of the free use of a government owned and is-



Ray de Beasley, Chief Creating Officer bSecurity Systems, LLC and Mr. Tom Hill, who is in charge of The Fellows and Distinguished Engineering Program and Global Service Delivery at HP Enterprise Services (formerly called EDS).

sued number. For less than a dollar a month, bSecurity System Identity Management System (software) can effectively put the federal government in the position of verifying the use of the SSN when used as identity.

Fraud and identity theft negatively affects our economies. When victims of identity theft have their good names destroyed they lose credit ratings that affect the ability to obtain goods and services. Likewise, fraud alerts prevent impulse shoppers from making purchases. A government provided effective identity management of the use of the SSN would eliminate the need for fraud alerts.

Taxpayers of all political affiliations have a serious concern about an increase in taxes. Creating a 'for-use' fee to commercially use SSNs to generate profits will not be consid-

ered a tax. Likewise sir, the capabilities provided by the federal government's subsidized corporation to entities, will make the IT Security Solution and service free to and free for the American people.

Mr. President, solving fraud and identity theft will also deter illegal immigration. If the practice of becoming an illegal immi-

Texas, provided a technical review of the bSystem Identity Management System. The review determined that the solution would create over 200,000 jobs. Add the fact that a subsidized corporation will have to be established with regional offices throughout the country, solving fraud in the U.S. could easily create 225,000 permanent new jobs. This does not include the fact that over 60 million retailers and merchants will require new compatible hardware for at the Point-Of-Sale consumer transactions.

President Obama, when the United States made the decision to enter World War II, the country was forced to mobilize for war. In the 1920s the needs of the War Department represented the bulk of requirements for a war production program. The supporting mobilization plans for raw materials, labor, power, fuel, and transport, as well as the associated development of economic controls, were seen as derivative functions. Mobilizing for WWII stimulated local, state and national economies.

Solving fraud in the U.S. will create a need to mobilize numerous divisions of production. This will include equipment that will have to be manufactured: assembled, delivered, leased, installed, and repaired as needed.

The question Mr. President is what's needed in order to start us towards economically benefiting from solving fraud? As reported in the Sunday, August 30, 2009 Dallas Morning News report, bSecurity System is in need of a working prototype that can be demonstrated to Mr. Tom Hill (EDS). Once effectively demonstrated, Mr. Hill is quoted in the report as saying, "I will recommend the application to the EDS Corporation". With

See DE BEASLEY, Page 16

Eisemann Center Presents *Cirque Shanghai: Bai Xi*

(NDG Wire) Dating back to the Han Dynasty more than 2000 years ago, Chinese acrobatic spectacles were first called "Bai Xi," meaning "one hundred amazing acts," in reference to the performer's seemingly limitless skills and innumerable feats they could perform. These daring and beautiful talents

were featured in command performances for China's imperial courts and have been passed down and enhanced through generations.

International Special Attractions, Ltd's, production of *Cirque Shanghai: Bai Xi* combines all aspects of the traditional and the modern in acrobatic stage performance:

awesome displays of physical strength, incredible feats of balance, graceful folkloric pageantry, fast paced contemporary dance and energetic martial arts...all performed in spectacular costumes, on the stage and high in the air, in a grand theatrical production. Featuring state-of-the-art computerized lighting

and beautiful orchestrations ranging from exotic Oriental to trend-setting electronic compositions, *Cirque Shanghai: Bai Xi* is a breathtaking spectacle that establishes a new standard of acrobatic and entertainment excellence.

Tickets for the Nov. 14 Spotlight Series appearance of *Cirque Shanghai: Bai Xi*, range from \$30-\$60 and are available online at www.eisemanncenter.com or at the Eisemann Center ticket office at 972-744-4650. Ticket

office hours are 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Monday - Saturday and one hour before performances. Group discounts are available for 10 or more by calling 972-744-4657.

Law Abiding Citizen Delivers Justice – By Any Means Necessary

BY RUTH FERGUSON
NDG EDITOR

When a home invasion victim powerlessly witnesses the rape of his wife, then watches the deviant pick up his little girl and go into another room before he loses consciousness – is it too much to expect justice from the system? It can be if young a hot shot prosecutor is more concerned with protecting his nearly perfect conviction rate. But once justice is denied, how far is too far in seeking justice?

Clyde Shelton's (Gerard Butler) world is destroyed when his wife and daughter are murdered, and he is

stunned when Nick Rice (Jamie Foxx) cut a deal with one defendant to add a death penalty conviction to his resume.

Academy Award winner Jamie Foxx is all about swag-



ger, making him a good fit for the role. Even coupled with hints of humor in this dark film, he makes it work. He is so cocky and seemingly invincible, you almost look forward to his come-uppance. By the end of the film, Rice is humbled and the audience is emotionally spent – but satisfied.

Women who enjoyed the animated Gerard Butler wearing leather underpants in *300*, will be happy to hear, he inexplicably strips and greets the police SWAT team bursting through glass doors. And he does not look too bad

See JUSTICE, Page 13

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Date: Saturday, October 24th

Time: Doors Open 6:30 p.m.
Rodeo Starts 8 p.m.

Where: Mesquite Championship Resistol Arena

Other: For Tickets call 972-285-8777

Box Seats \$30; Grandstand Reserve \$14
Presell and Group Tickets Available

Entertainment: Richmond Punch Jazz Quartet



Special Friday Night VIP Party - Living Legends Western Gala Dinner and Dance

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Preserving Personal Histories - A Family Business

(NDG Wire) Jeff Sabins, 26, and owner of StoryMatters, lost both of his grandparents when he was 19 years old. He had planned to interview them to record their stories and experiences, but as things would have it he did not get around to it. Sabins stated, "Being busy is the best reason I could come



up with for not following through and it is a big regret for me." Years later, he

wants to help others move past "being busy" and not miss out on capturing those precious stories and experiences.

StoryMatters helps its clients preserve the personal histories of parents, grandparents, and other beloved family members in audio format. Opening his doors during the uncertain economic times of late 2008, he is realistically optimistic about the uptake of his services.

"What we do is important, but this is the first time such a specific service has been offered to the general public. If our customers will gift us with moderate success now, I am confident that the practice of pre-

serving personal histories will spread far and wide during more certain economic times. We have no illusions about taking the country by storm but we believe deeply in what we are doing. We will continue to grow one satisfied customer at a time."

StoryMatters sends an interviewer with professional interviewing equipment to the home or office of your loved one to conduct a personal history interview. Applying a defined process for helping narrators relive experiences that are often 50 or more years in the past, interviewers record the definitive experiences that shaped the narrator into who they became. The recording is professionally edited to

focus on the narrator and to polish the audio quality.

Also, included in this



process is the digitization of photos or slides that depict various times from the narrator's life. With the originals returned, the digital versions are arranged and printed to personalize the CD and CD casing.

"Although the final product is professionally edited

and aesthetically beautiful, what we really give people are the words, memories, voice, and wisdom of their loved ones. People learn so much about even those they have lived with their whole lives."

Jeff set out to reduce the price of hiring a professional to help with a personal history from "thousands to hundreds" of dollars. Recognizing that the providers of similar services around the country focus on a very involved and elaborate set of offerings that quickly become out of financial reach for many families, Jeff turned his attention to developing more straight forward offerings that fulfill the transmission of personal his-

stories between generations. Sabins goes on to say, "You hire an architect because he has skills and tools and you hire a tax accountant for the same reason. We have skills and tools for preserving personal histories affordably and professionally."

Currently employing 16 people, StoryMatters continues to grow and is hiring new interviewers and community outreach professionals. Jeff mentions that StoryMatters, "love[s] hiring stay at home individuals who are actively involved in the community." The community outreach role includes working from home, flexible hours, and the ability to scale your involvement with the job as life demands change.

Beauty on a Budget: Shop Your own Closet

(NDG Wire) Most of us love to go shopping for new clothing, but the truth of the matter is these tough economic times have created a need for creativity when it comes to updating your wardrobe.

Lifestyle and Image Consultant Talisa Lavarry



is offering DFW residents a neat service called Closet Clarity, which is an innovative shop-your-own-closet experience.

Talisa comes into your home and works her way through your closet and dresser drawers section by

section, showing you what to keep, what to throw out, what to mix and match and how to organize your item.

"She helped me do in four hours what would have taken me weeks," said Brandi Richards of Homeland Security.

The process is easy and fun, and Talisa is sure to explain the hows and whys as she works her way through your items.

"I love to walk into my client's closets and show them the many possibilities that they already have right under their noses. I get to know my clients, their lifestyle and their desires, and I show them how to maximize their wardrobe and stretch their dollars while never leaving their home," said Lavarry.

Since the fall of the economy Talisa has been getting more and more inquiries about Closet Clarity.

Clients still have a need and desire for updated wardrobes, and this is a fun and economical way to achieve such goals.

"After allowing Talisa

to shop my closet, I told all my friends. They would have to see it for themselves in order to believe how helpful the service can be," says Sharhonda Price of Fort Worth. "She even went through my dresser drawers, bags of clothing and my shoes and accessories."

Closet Clarity has proven itself to be a great investment. Not only do clients discover wonderful

hidden treasures in their own closets, they also learn a ton of information about smart shopping and their personal style during the consultation.

This information allows clients to continue to save money as they build their wardrobes.

More information about Closet Clarity can be found at www.talisalavarry.com.

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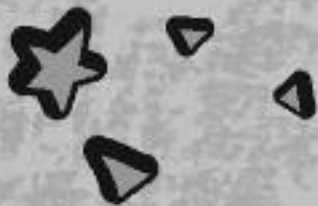
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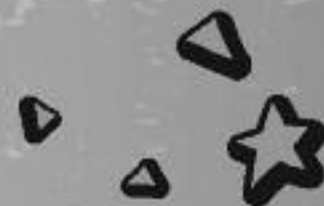
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To learn more about the State of Texas HUB Program, visit the Texas Procurement and Support Services web page at: <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/>



Federal Tax Savings Program for Employers Expanded

(NDG Wire) Employers who hire unemployed veterans or eligible 16- to 24-year-olds are now entitled to receive up to \$2,400 in tax savings for each member of those groups added to their payrolls in 2009 and 2010. As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, these groups now are included among Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) target populations.

In order for employers to qualify for WOTC, new hires who are unemployed veterans must have been receiving unemployment benefits for at least four weeks and youth must not have been regularly

employed or regularly attending school for six months prior to being hired.

"WOTC gives employers an incentive to hire from groups that face extra challenges in their efforts to find work," said TWC Chairman Tom Pauken. "It's particularly encouraging to me that unemployed veterans now are included in this program. By hiring job seekers from any of these groups, employers are able to receive tax credits and tax savings for their businesses."

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) assists employers by certifying the eligibility of individuals for

this federal employer tax benefit.

Other groups eligible for WOTC include:

- disabled veterans
- veterans receiving food stamps
- ex-offenders
- residents living within empowerment zones, renewal communities or rural renewal communities
- vocational rehabilitation referrals
- youth who live in empowerment zones or renewal communities and are hired for temporary summer work
- food stamp recipients
- supplemental security income recipients

• Temporary Assistance for Needy Family benefit recipients

Within each group, including the two new ones, additional conditions must be met. The tax credit amount is between \$1,200 and \$9,000 per employee, depending on which group the newly hired worker represents.

More information on WOTC, including all the eligibility requirements and the forms employers need to apply for certification is available online at: www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/wotc/wotc.html, or by calling the TWC WOTC unit at 1-800-695-6879.

Mountain View College Hosting Job Fair

(NDG Wire) The Mountain View College Career Services is hosting its bi-annual Fall Job Fair. Employers will be available to do on-site interviews, accept resumes, and provide students and community with the opportunity to network with career professionals.

The event will center on general job openings as well as focusing on the technical/occupational careers that are being recruited. Local employers, as well as representatives from state, re-

gional and national companies, will be on hand to discuss opportunities, and in some cases conduct interviews.

The Job Fair is scheduled for 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at 4849 West Illinois Ave. Dallas, in the West Building. Prior to the Job Fair Career Services will be providing seminars to update resumes and interview techniques. Guests are invited to stop by Career Services in the new Student Services Building, Room 2080.

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JUSTICE, continued from Page 10

shirtless in jeans when escorted to the car, either. Although, it is odd Shelton does not have a single cut on his chest despite being thrown to a floor covered in glass while nude.

The film is not without its flaws, but it hits the mark in so many ways, the audience will be forgiving. Slip ups such as why Foxx practically quoted Denzel Washington's Alonzo from *Training Day*, almost take the viewer out of the moment. Also, one wonders if they ran out of special effects funding for the final scene.

This film combines the best features of director F. Gary Gary's earlier popular movies. *Italian Job* (2003) boasted an intricate plot with twists and turns, and *A Man Apart* (2003) focused on violent revenge.

Law Abiding Citizen is definitely entertaining, not only for its visceral satisfying acts of revenge, but also for the smart cat and mouse game it plays with morality. Throw in swagger, violence, a little nudity and a lot of hi-tech toys that go bang, and the film will satisfy a broad audience.

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Church Happenings

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**Apostle Minnie
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Senior Pastor

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Allen for Sunday
Morning Worship
Church Address is
200 Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

October 17, 3 pm-6 pm

Don't miss our Fall Harvest Fest 2009 in our Family Life Center. There will be something for everybody.

**Dr. Gregory Foster,
Senior Pastor**
**Rev. Anthony Foster
Pastor**
300 Phillips Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-235-4235

HOPEWELL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

October 18, 3:30 pm

You're invited to our 81st Church Anniversary and Home Coming Services with speaker Rev. W. Locke, Pastor of New Mt. Gilead Baptist Church.
**Rev. Michael R. Hubbard,
Senior Pastor**
5144 Dolphin Road
Dallas, TX 75223
214-823-1018

MITCHELL CHAPEL COGIC

October 23-25, 2009

Help us to celebrate our Pastor & Wife's 12 Anniversary with speakers, Elder Willie Centers from Walton Memorial COGIC in DeBerry, TX and a Musical @ 7:30 on Friday night; Elder Clarence Collins from Palm Lane COGIC in Houston @ 7 pm on Saturday night; and Supt. Reginald Williams from Love Sanctuary COGIC in Dallas on Sunday evening @ 4 pm.

**Supt. Nelson Gatlin
Senior Pastor**
402 S. Jackson Street
Sulphur Springs, TX
75482
903-885-0338

MT. PISGAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

November 6, 6 pm-10 pm

Our Singles' Ministry presents: Living Single, Faithful to the End, Ecclesiastes 3:1; and "A Night of Jazz" at the Verona, 13330 Noel Road (across from Dallas Galleria), Dallas, Texas

November 7,
8:30 am - 4 pm

Come to our "A Date with Ruth and Boaz" and other workshops on Relations, Finance, Self, Health, Divorce and Single Parenting at our main campus. Call Rosylin Johnson for fees and details @ 972-241-6151

**Rev. Robert Townsend,
Senior Pastor**
11611 Webb Chapel Road
Dallas, TX 75229
972-241-6151

NEW MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

October 16, 7 pm

All NMZ Senior Saints are invited to a "Movie Night." Come on out for an evening of fellowship and fun.

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

OAK CLIFF BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

October 25, 2 pm

We are hosting a FREE College Fair for graduating seniors in our Christian Education Building. Schools that will be showcased are: FAMU, Spelman College, Prairie View A & M, Alabama State, Tennessee State, Jackson State, North Carolina A&T, Houston – Tillotson University, Dillard University, Hampton University, Paul Quinn, Xavier University, Morehouse, Tuskegee University and University of Arkansas Pine Bluff. For information call 214-672-9100 ext. 4169.

**Dr. Tony Evans,
Senior Pastor**
1821 W. Camp Wisdom Rd.
Dallas, TX 75232
214-672-9100

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

October 16, 7 pm

You are invited to Friday Night Live

October 17, 7 pm

In conjunction with the Leslie Taylor Hare, we present "Celebrate Life: A Gospel Concert" featuring Tommye Young-West in a live recording. Call 972-416-5300 or 972-746-1013 for details.

**Elder Gregory Voss,
Senior Pastor**
2765 Trinity Mills Road
Suite 305
Carrollton, TX 75006
214-514-9147

Living Single Conference in November

The Mt Pisgah Singles Ministry Living Single Conference is slated for November 6-7. The theme of the weekend conference is *Faithful to the End* Singles Ministering to Other Singles with a scripture reference of Ecclesiastes 3:1.

The event will kick off with a Night of Jazz, Friday November 6, 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. at Verona located at 13330 Noel Rd, Dallas (across from the Galleria)

Saturday will feature

"A Date with Ruth and Boaz" with workshop sessions on relationships, finance, self, health, divorce and single parenting beginning at 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Mt. Pisgah Campus located at 11611 Webb Chapel Rd, Dallas, TX 75229

The cost is \$10 per person, online registration is located at www.dallasmtpisgah.org; or Rosylin Johnson

singlesministry@dallasmtpisgah.org

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

The Interview



Sister Tarpley

As a retired school-teacher I am passing this along for current teachers to get a really BIG laugh. By now, you can surely relate to this.

I was listening to world news one day and heard about Dick Grasso, the Chairman and CEO of the New York Stock Exchange resigning his position. The reason for his resignation is that his retirement package of \$140 Million dollars (give or take a few millions) caused a tidal wave in the business world. This, at a time when our country is in an economic slump and everybody is being asked to tighten their belts.

School districts all over the country are cutting back

on school programs that are being taught, curriculums, teachers and they are increasing class enrollments. Eliminating some school supplies, teacher's sick days, etc.; and here we have one man, that I believe is not doing half as much as teachers are, asked for and is getting that type of money. Teachers somewhere taught Dick Grasso; teachers teach and train people in all professions and at the present time, teachers are not given the respect or salary that they deserve. As people of this world, we really need to look at our value system.

After being interviewed by the school administrator, the eager teaching prospect said: "Now let me see if I've got this right."

You want me to go into that classroom with all those kids and fill their every wak-

ing moment with a love for learning? And I'm supposed to instill a sense of pride in their ethnicity, modify their disruptive behavior, observe them for signs of abuse and even censor their T-shirt messages and dress habits?

You also want me to wage a war on drugs and sexually transmitted diseases, check their backpacks for weapons of mass destruction and raise their self-esteem?

And you want me to teach them patriotism, good citizenship, sportsmanship, fair play, how to register to vote, how to balance a check-book, and how to apply for a job? I am to check their heads for lice, maintain a safe environment, recognize signs of antisocial behavior, offer advice, write letters of recommendation for student employment and scholar-

ships, encourage respect for the cultural diversity of others, and oh, make sure that I give the girls in my class fifty percent of my attention?

In addition, my contract requires me to work on my own time after school, evenings and weekends grading papers. Also, I must spend my summer vacation at my own expense working toward advance certification and a Masters' degree?

And on my own time you want me to attend committee and faculty meetings, PTSA meetings and participate in staff development training? I am to be a paragon of virtue, larger than life, such that my very presence will awe my students into being obedient and respectful of authority?

Furthermore, I am to pledge allegiance to family values and the current ad-

ministration? You want me to incorporate technology into the learning experience, monitor web sites and relate personally with each student? That includes deciding who might be potentially dangerous and/or liable to commit a crime in school?

I am to make certain all students pass the mandatory state exams, even those who don't come to school regularly or complete any of their assignments and without any help from their parent or guardian?

Plus, I am to make certain that all students with handicaps get an equal edu-

cation regardless of the extent of their mental or physical handicap?

Then I am to communicate regularly with the parent or guardian by letter, telephone, newsletter, email and a report card?

All of this I am to do with just a piece of chalk or a marking pen, a computer, a few books, a bulletin board, a big smile, along with a starting salary that qualifies my family for food stamps?

You want me to do all of this and yet you expect me—**NOT TO PRAY?**"

Author Unknown

Free Children's Clothing Swap in Plano

(NDG Wire) Dr. Amy Wood and Gifts From Moms Project is organizing a free children's clothing swap Oct 17, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Swap organizers are hoping to match families who need clothing with families that have clothing that might be too small.

"This is a great opportunity for mothers that are cash strapped to get some cute new duds for free," said Stephanie Ward Founder of

Gifts For Moms Project, an organization that provides Christmas gifts and referrals services for single mothers. Event organizers are asking parents to drop off gently used clothing for boys and girls newborn to 14 years old, at Wellness Solutions at 2301 W. Parker Rd in Plano, during Thursday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct 15-16.

Clothing needs to be clean, and unwrinkled. Parents are welcome to bring toys and other items.

Dr. Woods, owner of Wellness Solution Chiropractor where the event will be held, came up with the idea for the swap after swapping clothing with friends for the past two years.

"I have never had to buy clothing for my daughter," she said, "So, I thought this

would be a great thing to do for other mothers."

There is no cost to participate in the swap, event organizers ask that participants send an e-mail with the sizes that they are bringing to Stephanie@stephaniestips.com, to insure there are enough choices in all sizes.

All clothing left over will be donated to local charities. Info: 214 774-2194 or 214 862-5581.



(L to R) The Honorable Richard Fleming, Carrollton-Farmers Board of Trustee, being congratulated at his reception by the Honorable Jim Jackson, Dallas County Commissioner Court.



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Morning Worship-11:00 a.m.

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

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Saturday & Sunday Closed

Contact Info: Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
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Wednesday Night Bible 7:30pm

DE BEASLEY, continued from Page 9

EDS on board, the ability to lobby Congress towards creating change will exist for the management of the Federal SSN.

Using a Biblical analogy, there was a man that was thrown in prison for a crime that he did not commit. While in prison, he successfully interpreted dreams of two men that were thrown in prison by Pharaoh. Once released, when Pharaoh was having dreams that his cabinet could not interpret, the former prisoner remembered the man in prison and his

special ability of interpreting dreams. Humbly, the Pharaoh sent for Joseph. Blessed with God's favor, Joseph interpreted the Pharaoh's dream and all of Egypt was saved from a seven-year famine.

I am your modern day Joseph, I can provide the innovative technological solution that will provide national security and the solution to fraud within the homeland. Fraud and identity theft has created famines within the American's Society. National security wise, people living in

caves in countries that hate us, know all that is needed is an American SSN and they can live amongst us while planning to kill Americans.

When the *Dallas Morning News* made me a cover story on May 11, 2008 (Ray Beasley Ex-Con), I made a comment in the last paragraph that holds true today. I was asked what is it going to take in order for bSystem to become a reality? I ended my interview by stating "I have not met the right Pharaoh yet."

Finally sir, I made the

decision to better myself that would increase my chances for not returning to prison. Prison offered college education programs and provided me the opportunity to obtain a higher education. Without basic computer skills, I could not use the computer to type you this letter.

Education helped me to become an asset to my country. I have a great sense of pride each month when I make my reimbursing payments to the State of Texas for an education provided to me when I was in

"my hell and getting myself together." Education is the best means to reduce recidivism. Education can provide hope for the hopeful.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely yours,

Raymond D. Beasley
Chief Creating Officer
bSecurity Systems, LLC
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Sunday School 9:30 am
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Bible Study 7:00 pm

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