

North Dallas Gazette



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Take a Trip with Me, Nelson George

BY NELSON GEORGE
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

Barcelona, Spain
Walking down the street on a recent trip to Barcelona, I clearly heard the sound of rap music. Looking up, I saw a young black man, maybe 19 or 20, sitting on a small metal balcony. He was blasting old

school rap on the even older streets of Barcelona.

Welcome to Europe, circa 2009.

I'll be sharing these types of stories and more in a new online community from American Airlines—BlackAtlas.com.SM It's a forum designed to engage, inform and entertain—an

online space that looks at travel from a uniquely African-American perspective.

I'll be your Travel Expert-at-Large, and as I explore the world, I want you to come along. Join me as I walk the streets of the LaBrera area in Milan, where you'll find a series of

connected streets filled with cafes and shops. Come with me to Memphis where I pay homage to this vibrant city, past and present. Explore a side of Los Angeles that you may have never seen. My videos, blog posts and photos will put you right in

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National senior care expert speaking in Dallas on December 1

(NDG Wire) Paul Hogan, CEO of Home Instead Senior Care, the largest provider of non-medical in-home senior care services, will lead a free public discussion on planning for senior care at The Magnolia Theatre in Dallas

on December 1 from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Hogan, a leading expert on senior care, will discuss the many care options available today, financial planning for senior care, being a caregiver to an elderly parent, insurance options, and

the state of senior care in America.

Says Hogan, "With more than 78 million Baby Boomers on the verge of retirement, America is facing monumental social and economic challenges in the ways in which we care for

our seniors. With healthcare concerns at the forefront, and with time and money management a major factor for American families in the 21st century, how adult children and seniors can best prepare and plan for their fu-

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Healing through the Holidays

BY RUTH FERGUSON
NDG EDITOR

For many, the holiday season represents family traditions and memories. But this often makes the holidays the hardest times of the year for those who have lost someone they love. It can be a challenge to watch others

laugh and celebrate when facing one of the major "firsts," such as the first Thanksgiving or Christmas without a parent, spouse, child or close friend.

For people in this situation, The Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) of Texas Hospice offers grief support

events November and December designed to help them through the holidays.

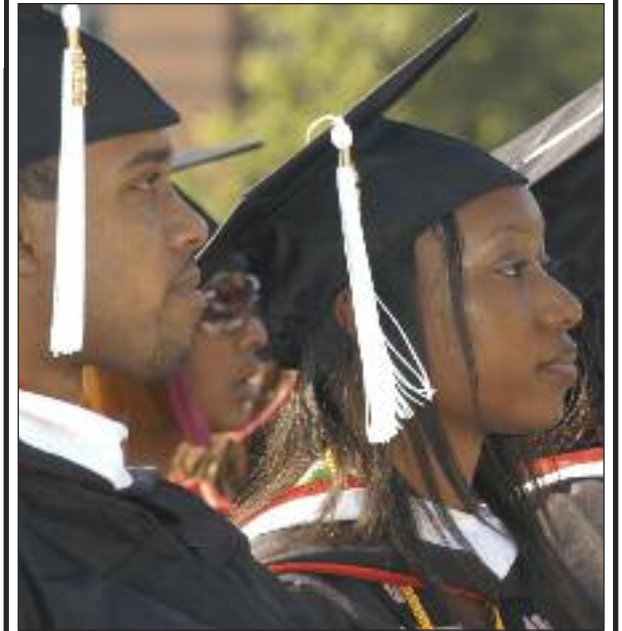
The first is a holiday grief support workshop, "Healing Through the Holidays," which is open to any adult in the community who has experienced the death of a loved one.

The free workshop, on Wednesday, November 11, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., helps participants manage the holidays through grief education and support. The VNA will host the workshop at the Patrick and Beatrice Haggerty Center located at 1440 W. Mock-

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SPOTLIGHT

The United Negro College Fund



See FUND, Page 9



Michael Jackson's This is It is captivating

For more information see pg. 10
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COMMENTARY

Better Off Than a Year Ago?

BY JULIANNE MALVEAUX
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

(NNPA) President Ronald Reagan had his flaws, but he certainly could turn a phrase. In the 1980 Presidential campaign he asked a question that has resonated in campaigns ever since. "Are you better off than you were four years ago," the former California governor asked in his race against Democratic President Jimmy Carter. The people answered with a resounding

"no", and Ronald Reagan was elected.

The question has been asked in every election since, but President Barack Obama spun it cleverly in the 2008 election, when he said "At the rate you are going you will have to ask are you better off than you were four weeks ago." And so, just one year ago, in a stunning moment of history, the former Illinois Senator Barack Obama was elected

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People In The News...



Rudy McDonald



Antoinette Manganas



Sen. Edward W. Brooke III

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Rudy McDonald

Rudy McDonald has served as the new Post Commander since 2007 for the Veteran of Foreign War Post 8923 in Carrollton, Texas. In July he Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States announced McDonald had received All American status as a Post Commander.

Commander in Chief Glen Gardner said, "McDonald, Commander of Post 8923 in Carrollton, is one of only 198 VFW Post Commanders world-wide selected for the All American

Post Commander. The criteria for this honor are based on outstanding achievement in membership growth and participation in other VFW programs that benefit veterans and their communities. The title of All American Commander is one of the most prestigious honors given by our organization."

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, with its Auxiliaries, includes 2.2 million members in approximately 8,100 Posts worldwide.

The VFW traces its roots

back to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service.

The VFW's voice had been instrumental in establishing the Veterans Administration. In 2008, VFW won a long-fought victory with the passing of a GI Bill for the 21st Century, giving expanded educational benefits to America's active-duty service members, and members of the Guard and Reserves, fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The VFW also has

fought for improving VA medical centers services for women veterans.

Its mission is to "honor the dead by helping the living" through veterans' service, community service, national security and a strong national defense.

Annually, VFW members and its Auxiliary contribute more than 13 million hours of volunteerism in the community, including participation in Make A Difference Day and National Volunteer Week.

McDonald was in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1968. He spent one year in Vietnam. He returned to

civilian life and joined Steinkamp Brothers, VFW Post 853, in New York. He later relocated to Dallas, Texas with his wife, Odessa and joined VFW Post 8923, in Carrollton in the fall of 1982. He served as Senior Vice Commander and Junior Vice Commander.

McDonald values education and holds a AA Degree (Liberal Arts) from Manhattan Community College in New York and a BA Degree (Education), Hunter College-New York. He also earned a Human Resources Certificate-Bus Mgmt. at New York University. Additionally McDonald is a grad-



uate of the Carrollton Government Academy and the Metrocrest Chamber of Commerce Leadership.

He is a member of Hamilton Park Baptist Church and volunteers in different organizations throughout the community.

Antoinette Manganas

(NDG Wire) Sometimes your time comes when it comes and there's not much you can do but be open and ready. That certainly applies to Pittsburgh-based vocalist Antoinette Manganas, her music encompasses contemporary adult pop, jazz and R&B.

Manganas grew up around music and always dreamed of singing. She recalls her father listening to Rod Stewart, Gladys Knight

and Frank Sinatra, her sister playing the Beatles and Chicago. Her own tastes ran to Gino Vanelli, Earth Wind and Fire and Chaka Khan.

Four years ago, divorced and working in the deli she owned, she felt like she'd reached a dead end. One day I was making a gyro and someone came in and said, 'Antoinette, with a voice like yours, you should be singing.' I said, 'You know, that's right. I should. I'm



outta here.'" Manganas contacted a Pittsburgh booking agency, put together a band and a set list, and started playing around town.

"It all started at a little place called Déjà vu in the Strip District in Pittsburgh," she recalls. "We played there regularly and people loved it. There was this woman Donna Ambrogio, that used to live near me and we sort of knew each other from the neighborhood. Donna came in one day and said she heard this voice and when she heard it was me, she was amazed. Together we worked hard and started our own company, Milestone Entertainment."

Manganas began record-

ing, putting together a release called *Angel Eyes*. She recorded a tune she'd penned called *Where Do We Go From Here* recorded as a duet with former Shalamar vocalist Howard Hewett from nearby Akron OH. The new disc, titled *Verbal Crush*, reflects the full scope of Manganas' musical tastes. Among its twelve tracks are a version of Hall and Oates' *Sara Smile*; the Barry Manilow hit *Could It Be Magic* redone in jazz style; the duet with Hewett; the Norman Connors-produced

My Love Is All That, originally intended for Phyllis Hyman and given to Manganas by Connor because he felt she resembled Hyman; Antonio Carlos Jobim's *How Insensitive*; and a club/lounge remix of the classic Summertime.

"My time is now," she says. "I feel like God has preserved me for now. I'm very spiritual and I know in my heart this is what I'm supposed to be doing. It's like I'm at the end of my war and I've got to have victory. It's my turn and I'm taking it.

Sen. Edward William Brooke III

(NNPA) Cheers and applause filled the U. S. Capitol Rotunda on Oct. 28. It was an emotional moment as nearly 500 people witnessed "the Obama of the 20th century" receive the highest honor Congress can bestow - the Congressional Gold Medal.

The grandson of a slave, former Sen. Edward William Brooke III grew up not

far from the Capitol in a then segregated Ledroit Park. He faced racism as he fought in a segregated army during World War II as a soldier in the 336th Infantry.

But toward the end of the tumultuous 60s, Brooke would step over the boundaries of segregation and become the first African-American elected to the U. S. Senate by popular vote in 1967.

At the Gold Medal ceremony, two African-American men, President Barack Obama and Senator Edward Brooke, sat on the stage with other leaders of the House and Senate. The crowd's attention focused on President Obama as he gave his speech. The nation's first African-American president, he reflected

the journey this country has taken over the past two centuries.

"Ed was unfazed when people pointed out he was Black, Protestant, Republican and a carpetbagger from the South," said President Obama. "They saw how hard he fought for them, just about everyone he encountered."

Sen. Brooke served as a Republican senator from Massachusetts, also commented on the advances the country has made, delightfully making note of the fact that the Speaker of the House was a lady.

The crowd cheered as Sen. Brooke said, "Don't think it'll be long before a lady is president."

The 90-year-old senator continued to allure the

crowd with his sense of humor as he told the story of how he learned he was going to be awarded the Congressional Gold Medal.

"I was in shock. I was in awe, but you could be sure I was pleased," he said.

Good friends of the late Sen. Ted Kennedy, Sen. Brooke remembered receiving the telephone call from Kennedy that congress was working on passing a bill that would award the senator the medal.

Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass) recalled that Jackie Robinson once said, "a life is not important except for the impact it's had on another...and that is the type of life Ed has lived."

"Massachusetts elected Ed not because of his race but as Martin Luther King had hoped, the content of his character," Kerry said.

Brooke's works were

many.

He was involved when President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed Otto Kerner

to analyze the riots that were spreading throughout

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Obama's Leadership Style

BY RON WALTERS

(NNPA) I do not understand those people who criticize President Barack Obama for taking his time to get public policy right, when much of the misery that has come to visit their lives is a result of public policy, in both the domestic and international arenas, formulated by the previous administration, that was founded on distorted information, tunnel vision and hasty judgment that produced ill-conceived decisions.

In fact, Vice President Dick Cheney said that with respect to the time being taken to arrive at a policy for Afghanistan that President Obama was "dithering." But President George Bush's response to 9/11 was to trash careful deliberation and hastily proceed to initiate

a conventional war against Iraq, when it was not at all certain that this kind of war would lead to the destruction of Al Qaeda or the capture of Osama bin Laden. And despite Bush's failure to achieve his policy goals, he never rendered his decision to the kind of deliberative process Barack Obama is using.

As a former attorney, Obama's style is the lawyerly pursuit of decision-making with respect to Afghanistan, initiating an open deliberative process that includes all of the relevant voices. With patient accumulation of the evidence, he can hear the arguments selling pros and cons on various scenarios and then come to a conclusion that is enriched by insight, intelligence, and hard data from it all. He has asked for

a study of how some of the scenarios would be perceived by the people of Afghanistan, not just assume, as Cheney did, that America would be perceived as heroes, but including them in an assessment whether America could achieve its objectives.

Obama and Bush, however, have one thing in common with respect to war in the Middle East; they pursued these projects on an unquestionable premise. Bush had retribution for 9/11 as his goal; Obama has announced that the war in Afghanistan is "a war of necessity."

In both cases, the existence of an unchallengeable premise could lead to disaster, so in Obama's case, the truth of the premise itself also needs to be part of the deliberations.

Part of the reason for taking time to deliberate is to respect the application of resources that are important to the style of objective reasoning. The Obama administration has sought to return to legitimizing science and thoughtful studies of unbiased institutions, not just narrow conservative ideology, as the source of its decision making.

But while deliberation in the context of diversity is positive, it is also frustrating because it often does not yield decisions as clear cut as those using ideology.

This is illustrated by Obama's dance with the public option in the health care policy debate, where he first supported it to get his constituency behind the health care fight; then he

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the 44th President of the United States.

I remember that election night, November 4, 2008, as if it were yesterday. I remember the tear trickling down the cheeks of Rev. Jesse Jackson at that cold park in Chicago, remember the exuberance of some of the commentators as the numbers came in. It was not even close, really, and all of us who were afraid to believe in the possibility of an African American president were chastened and excited. And many of us remain excited at this Presidency, even as Obama's ratings drop to something around 53 percent in late October (from a high of 62 percent in April). The drops are understandable.

President Obama presides over the worst economic conditions in seventy years, with unemployment rates at all time highs, and consumer confidence at all time lows. He has ambitiously tackled some of the most tractable policy challenges, including credit reform and health care reform, even as he has had to manage military action in

Afghanistan and Iraq and the declining popularity of our nation in the world (Nobel Peace prize notwithstanding).

Our President has had to manage the hostility of the tea party Republicans whose disrespectful and obnoxious behavior has changed the tone of civic discourse and introduced an acceptable racism into what might otherwise be reasonable criticism about policy matters.

Challenges notwithstanding, there is a question that must be answered. Are the American people better off now than we were a year ago? The answer is an ambiguous yes.

We are better off for the possibility of health care reform. We are better off for the possibility of credit card and banking reform. We are better off thanks to a stimulus that has saved some jobs and pumped some money in the economy. We are better off to the extent that the federal government is attempting to help with the foreclosure situation.

In terms of the labor market we are emphatically not better off. The unemployment

rate was 8.1 percent when President Obama was sworn in on January 20. It is 9.8 percent now. African Americans had official unemployment rates of 13.4 percent last January. Now the rate is 15.4. Those are only the official rates.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics says that it estimates overall unemployment as high as 17 percent. Using the same formula, the unemployment rate for African Americans is 26.7 percent, a Depression-era rate. If you are a renter who is also jobless, you probably have not seen any positive impact of the public policy that President Obama is attempting.

Are you better off than you were a year ago? It depends on where you stand on the economic totem pole.

Is it too soon for us to have this conversation? After all, President Obama absolutely inherited an untenable economic situation. He has approached it with energy and vigor, championing stimulus and counting on stimulus to trickle down to workers.

My only criticism is that

there are workers who would like to have the same priority that Wall Street and the bankers do. A federal employment program would make all the difference in the world for people at the bottom. An unemployment rate of 9.8 percent is all too high, and the cost of living with it is way too much.

Indeed, it is not likely that our economy can recover without a jobs program.

People won't spend until they feel secure about their economic futures. We are moving into the holiday spending season, and what people spend in the next two months will make the difference between profits and losses for millions of retailers.

On election night, a year ago, our nation might have gone in another direction.

Are we better off than we were a year ago? For sure. But we'd be even better still if we could put American back to work.

Julianne Malveaux is President of Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, North Carolina.

National survey finds your smile is your most attractive feature

BY TONY PANACCIO
NEWS & EXPERTS SYNDICATE

Smile, because America's watching.

The American Dental Association recently conducted a survey and found that most Americans view the smile as the most attractive attribute. Facebook fans everywhere are taking surveys such as "What attracts you most?" with one of the most popular answers being "his/her smile." Unfortunately, with the sagging economy many people are pushing dental visits down their priority list.

Everyone wants a white, healthy smile, but Cosmetic Dentistry is an expensive luxury and do-it-yourself alternatives often cause

tooth sensitivity or other problems. There is one way to safely whiten and improve the health of your teeth with over-the-counter products, says Dr. Ellie Phillips, DDS., author of *Kiss Your Dentist Goodbye*, from Greenleaf Book Group Press (www.KissYourDentistGoodbye.com).

Phillips says xylitol is the key to a healthy smile.

"Xylitol is one of the most effective methods for removing harmful plaque and cavity-forming bacteria from the mouth," said Phillips. "Eating two teaspoons of xylitol each day eliminates harmful mouth germs in a matter of months. Germs that feed on sugar or carbohydrates to

produce mouth acidity and cause cavities will die off if you expose them to xylitol three or four times a day – preferably after meals or drinks."

Xylitol is derived from birch wood and granular xylitol is found in most health food stores as a diabetic-safe sugar alternative. Xylitol can be purchased as candies, breath mints, tooth wipes, gels, mouth rinses and even nasal sprays. Small amounts are found in popular chewing gums, but you need sufficient xylitol for it to be effective, so check xylitol is the main ingredient in your gum or candy.

"Harmful bacteria are unable to use xylitol as an

energy source, so they are starved and their numbers around teeth gradually reduce," said Phillips. "Bacteria absorb xylitol as they do regular sugar, but their attempt to process it is unsuccessful. The bacteria continue trying, but use up their resources in this futile effort. When these bacteria die out, less adhesive ones take their place. This second-generation of bacteria are easily removed from teeth by brushing and rinsing, which makes your oral care efforts more rewarding."

Phillips recommends a regimen that works with xylitol to make teeth and gums healthier and stronger. Her suggestions include:

- A neutral pre-rinse before brushing
- Toothbrushing with a well-formulated toothpaste
- Two mouth rinses after brushing – the first, a well recognized antiseptic rinse, followed immediately by an alcohol-free sodium fluoride rinse

"If used every twelve hours the effects can be astonishing," Phillips said. "Bad breath will be a thing of the past, bleeding gums heal and dull teeth become shiny and smooth. Even tooth-cleaning fanatics see improvements. I suggest people try this system between dental visits and let their dentist describe what he sees. Don't be surprised when they demand to know

what you have been doing!"

Many oral care products cause concern for Phillips; like rinses containing harmful ingredients or toothpaste that is too abrasive. Some products are only a temporary fix for tooth sensitivity or tartar build up.

"There is an important chemistry between the pastes and rinses I recommend. This is a precise recipe and substitutions or changing the method will alter the outcome" she said.

"This regimen allows you to take charge of your oral health and experience a more beautiful, healthy smile using over-the-counter products. Why not amaze your own dentist?"

November is National Diabetes Month

(BLACK PR WIRE) The statistics are alarming:

- Almost four million African-Americans have diabetes.
- One in four African-American women over 55 years of age are diabetic.
- There is an estimate that 80% of black women and 60% of black men are overweight or obese (which con-

tributes to diabetes, certain cancers, heart disease, high blood pressure, among other chronic health conditions).

Keeping weight under control plays a critical role in managing these health issues.

However, many African-Americans face a major hurdle: they are living with chronic joint pain.

"Every warning from

governmental and non-profit health organizations implores our community to 'get moving' because of the positive impact it has on combating these conditions," explains Verona Brewton, Director of Minority Initiatives, Zimmer. "But we have failed to make the direct link between painful movement and poor health."

A November 2006 Centers For Disease Control (CDC) report revealed that the knee is the joint that causes the most pain. Additionally, the CDC reported that African-Americans cite arthritis as the leading condition that limits their daily activities. Arthritis is the third most common problem among African-Americans,

and arthritis-attributable work limitation disproportionately affects minority groups. In a May 2007 report, the CDC projected a nationwide surge in arthritis prevalence, which caused the Arthritis Foundation to warn Americans to take action now to limit future disability.

According to Jean Pompey, Zimmer's Back in the

Groove™ program representative, "coping with diabetes and arthritis seemed to be an uphill battle." Before Pompey's double knee replacements, she was not able to exercise.

"I needed to exercise to lose weight, but I was in so much pain, I couldn't exer-

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tures have evolved into a complex process that often involves misinformation and injects unwanted stress into our most important relationships."

A recent study conducted for Home Instead Senior Care found planning for care is out of sight and out of mind for half of U.S. seniors ages 65 to 75 who have not thought about their own future care needs. Adult children were uninformed as well: nearly three-fourths (71 percent) of 35- to 64-year-olds could identify no more than two of eight care options available to seniors who can no longer live independently.

Even more concerning said Hogan is both seniors and adult children have the notion that Social Security

and Medicare will pay for senior care, and survey participants also underestimated the costs of nursing homes and overestimated the price of such popular options as Assisted Living Facilities.

"Senior care options have expanded almost beyond recognition in the last 20 years, yet most Americans are still only familiar with nursing homes or family care at home," added Hogan. "With tens of millions of Boomers starting to retire, it's critical that people start thinking about this."

Hogan is providing the free lecture in conjunction with the release of a new book, *Stages of Senior Care: Your Step-by-Step Guide to Making the Best Decisions* (November 2009/McGraw-

Hill/\$18.95). Although the book's release date is still weeks away, it has already hit *USA Today's* best-selling list.

The book serves as a comprehensive guide for the ever-expanding world of senior care, breaking down the process by addressing the shared concerns of seniors and their family members. Featuring more than 30 sources from the most credible major healthcare organizations, universities and non-profit organizations, the book thoroughly explains each and every aspect of senior care.

This includes the array of available care choices, being a caregiver, planning for your own future, aging in place, family and professional care options, how to choose an option and what to look for, fi-

nancing care, insurance, legal matters, dealing with stress, communication and family relations.

TV talk show host, Dr. Oz describes the book, "Informative, complete and practical. This book will guide family caregivers through the surprisingly complex world of senior care."

All profits from the sale of this book will be donated to the non-profit Home Instead Senior Care Foundation, which works to provide financial support for activities designed to improve the quality of life for seniors, including research and development, education, scholarships, and/or advocacy for the health and well-being of older adults.



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Pumpkin pie? Try pumpkin compost!

(NDG Wire) Jack-o-lanterns usher in the fall holidays with their festive glowing faces and bright orange color. With gourds of every shape and size decorating porches and yards to celebrate the coming chill of autumn, the City of Plano announces an innovative option for environmentally-friendly pumpkin disposal – composting.

Simply put pumpkins and decorative gourds in yard trimmings collection bags and let the City compost them to produce a variety of organic yard and garden products.

The City of Plano diverts 100 percent of its collected yard trimmings and corrugated cardboard from



the landfill. Yard trimming is made up of grass clippings, brush, tree trimmings and other yard debris. Plano residents place these materials in biodegradable bags, which are collected on their designated collection day by Sustainability & Environmental Services crews.

This material is processed at the 121 Regional

Composting Facility located at the North Texas Municipal Water District's landfill. Once processed, the material is reused by area residents as Texas Pure compost, top-dressing, soil blend and wood mulch.

Biodegradable paper collection bags are available at local retail stores. Bags may also be purchased

at the following city locations: City Warehouse and Custer Road Transfer Station.

Jack-o-lanterns are not scary, they are good for fall and for the soil. For more information about the yard trimmings collection schedule, bag availability and locations, visit www.livegreeninplano.com

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ingbird Lane.

Workshop topics include: remembering your loved one in the holiday season; suggestions and strategies for coping; and what to change and what to keep the same. The VNA will provide handouts on grief and other resource literature.

For more support, the VNA offers a six week group grief support, "Sharing the Journey: Coping with Grief." The group will meet every

Tuesday Nov. 10 to Dec. 15 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Room 145 at the Saturn Rd. Church of Christ, 3030 Saturn Rd., Garland.

During the six weeks the support group will discuss: Common Grief Experiences; The Process of Grief; Honoring Your Loved One; Caring for Your Needs while Grieving; Getting Through the Holidays; and Strategies to Cope.

Because having an ap-

pointment or an event to attend can give a grieving person something to look forward to when trying to get life back to normal, the VNA also hosts monthly bereavement luncheons, which gives participants the chance to talk with others, receive grief literature and hear a practical program about the grieving process. There is no charge for attendance.

The monthly luncheon is held the third Thursday in

Nov. and Dec. from noon to 1 p.m. at the Church of the Incarnation, 3966 McKinney Ave., Dallas.

Upcoming topics are:

Nov. 19: Norma J. Carter, *Without Warning: Coping with the Holidays*

Dec. 17: Verdell Davis Krisher, *Let Me Grieve, But Not Forever: Grieving Our Way Into Healing*

To register for these free events contact Sue Rafferty at 214-689-2922.

Plano church celebrates 125th anniversary



**Pastor
Isiah Joshua, Jr.**

(NDG Wire) Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, where Isiah Joshua, Jr. is pastor will be celebrating its' 125th Church Anniversary on Sunday, November 8, 2009. The celebration will take place at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, located at 920 East 14th Street, Plano. The service will be held at 3:30 p.m. with Pastor Denny D. Davis as speaker. The St. John choir and members will be joining in the celebration.

DIABETES, continued from Page 4



cise. Zimmer's Back In The Groove program gave me important information about the link between painful movement and poor health, and the wide range of options to eliminate joint pain," explains Pompey.

Early intervention is an important factor as there many options to alleviate joint pain. Knee or hip discomfort should not be dismissed as one of the natural signs of aging without discussing it with a primary care physician. Today's treatment options offer non-surgical solutions, which provide temporary pain relief and more permanent solutions such as joint replacement.

Total knee replacement is

an effective method of reducing pain and improving physical function among those with disabling knee osteoarthritis. However, a February 2009 report from the Centers For Disease Control (CDC) revealed health disparities for African-Americans in getting joint replacement have worsened, from 37% to 39% between 2000 and 2006. Although doctors performed 58% more TKR procedures between 2000 and 2006, blacks were 39% less likely than Caucasians to get joint replacement.

Regaining mobility and being active is critical in helping to manage and defeat chronic health conditions. Healthcare disparities for

African-Americans in getting joint replacement represent a serious healthcare barrier to overcoming chronic health conditions through increased exercise. Zimmer's Back In The Groove™ program is an education-based community

partnership that addresses healthcare disparities impacting African-Americans in the area of joint replacement.

For more information, visit www.zimmer.backinthegroove.com or call 1-866-923-2345.

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RFQ: Architectural and Engineering Services:

MCKINNEY HOUSING AUTHORITY (MHA) will accept qualifications for furnishing Architectural and Engineering Services for various housing developments of the Housing Authority of the City of McKinney. Responses will be received until 10:00 a.m. local time on Friday, November 20, 2009, at the Authority's Administrative Office at 1200 North Tennessee Street; McKinney, Texas 75069.

A copy of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) may be obtained during normal business hours (Monday through Thursday from 7:30am – 5:30pm) by contacting MHA at the address listed above or by emailing at bbentley@mckinneyha.org.

The Request for Qualifications contains specific submission requirements, anticipated scope and period of services required, as well as terms, conditions and other pertinent information necessary for submitting a response.

The following schedule will be applicable to this solicitation:

1st Public Advertisement: November 5, 2009
2nd Public Advertisement: November 12, 2009
RFQ Issue Date:
November 5, 2009
Pre-proposal Conference: November 13, 2009,
11:30am – 12:30pm CST
Submission Due Date: November 20, 2009, 10:00
a.m. CST
Anticipated Award Date December 1, 2009

Help for vets taking advantage of GI Bill

(NDG Wire) Over 300,000 veterans have applied for tuition assistance under the new Post 9/11 GI Bill and Education Connection's services helps servicemember headed to college. The company has inside knowledge on which online schools are military-friendly and offer discounts to veterans and active-duty personnel.

The GI Bill program provides higher education and housing funding for any veteran who served 90 days or more on or after Septem-

ber 11, 2001. Beneficiaries of the bill may use the funds to pay for certification testing, enroll in undergraduate and graduate degree programs, or receive vocational training at the Veteran Administration (VA) approved institutions nationwide, including 26 distance learning and online schools.

The amount of assistance available to each applicant is dependent on several factors, including time served and active duty or reserve status.

Under the new program,



called Chapter 33, veterans may receive coverage for up to 100 percent of their tuition and fees. Funds were set to be made available on August 1 of this year, which

resulted in high volumes of veterans enrolling in higher education programs in the fall semester.

The VA expects up to 440,000 students to apply for funding from the new program next year, a significant increase from the 305,000 who benefited from the Montgomery Bill this year, the *Statesman Journal* reported.

Higher enrollments due to the new bill have inspired some schools to engage in other alliances and programs catered to veteran or

active-duty students, Caller.com reported. Texas A & M at Corpus Christi joined the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges consortium, which allows military to take courses at or near military installations, at sea or on Navy ships during their off-duty hours through correspondence or online programs.

Many online colleges are also offering special tuition discounts for military students and other programs to help servicemembers adjust to academic life.

As schools continue to make education more accessible to veteran and active-duty soldiers, departments of the U.S. military are developing programs in addition to the GI Bill to create greater opportunities for their members.

The increasing number of financial aid options for former or current members of the military may allow active-duty or veteran students to obtain a higher education through convenient methods, such as online degree programs.

Computer classes offered at the libraries

(NDG Wire) Interested in learning more about the computer? The Carrollton Public Library is offering classes in November and December that range from an Introduction to Computers and the Internet to training in Microsoft Office.

For a list of class times and dates, check out the City calendar at cityofcar-

rollton.com or visit the Library page at cityofcarrollton.com/library.

Hebron and Josey Library (4220 N. Josey Ln) is also offering job search classes November 14 and 21 from 1 to 3 p.m. The first class will address Resume Writing That Gets Results and the second class will be Job Hunting With

the Internet. Both classes filled up quickly and were a success in September; please sign up early.

All classes require a current Carrollton library card and a USB flash drive or floppy disk for saving work.

To register or for more information call 972-466-4800.

COLLEGE CORNER

Dell Internship Program

Through the Dell Internship Program, top-caliber students receive an opportunity to develop real-world skills in an environment that encourages personal and professional growth.

They gain exposure and experience. Interns learn the ins and outs of one of the high-tech industry's most innovative leaders. And when finished, an intern may be offered a full-time position at Dell.

The Dell Internship Program is only offered during the summer months and

lasts from 10 to 12 weeks. Internships are available for first-year MBAs and first-year Masters and Undergraduates with a sophomore or junior ranking.

U.S. locations including, Austin, TX, Nashville, TN, Westchester, OH, Reno, NV, and Winston-Salem, NC. Additional opportunities may be available in Latin America and Canada.

Website/Contact Info:

www.dell.com/content/topics/global.aspx/corp/careers/studentprograms/interns?c=us&l=en&s=corp

Colleges fight to get and keep black males

BY EBONI FARMER

(NNPA) It was Joshua Almond's first semester grade point average (GPA) of 3.53 that gave him the motivation he needed to succeed at West Georgia State University. But, Almond did not get that GPA alone. Having been a good student in high school, Almond had some help with the often difficult transition into college academia. When he arrived at West Georgia State in 2006, he was greeted with open arms by other Black males who were part of the Center for African-American Male Research, Success, and Leadership (CAAMRSL).

"CAAMRSL is definitely making a huge difference in the lives of African-American males and is shaping the campus of the Univ. of West Georgia into a production factory of intelligent, resourceful, and great

African-American males," Almond said in an interview.

Almond does not believe he would have advanced as far as he has without the strong support system CAAMRSL has provided. He is not alone.

In higher education Black males have lagged behind Black women for decades. Since 1990 Black women have increased their four-year college graduation rate by 14 percentage points, now standing at 48 percent. For Black men, there was a nine-percentage point gain during a 17-year period, and their graduation rate is now 37 percent.

According to the *Journal of Blacks in Higher Education*, African-Americans at colleges and universities across the nation have a 'very low' graduation rate of 44 percent. Despite the disparities in the graduation

rates of Black males, strides are being made across the country to help them enter and stay in college.

The data provided by the Georgia State System African-American Male Initiative (AAMI), of which CAAMRSL is a part, shows the gap between the enrollment, retention and graduation rates of African-American males and females has decreased.

In the fall of 2002 when the initiative began, Black female enrollment had increased by 9.5 percent while Black males had increased by 7.2 percent. In 2007 the gap had decreased and Black males were enrolled at a higher growth rate with 7.4 percent compared to females at 4.4 percent.

Sewell, director and founder of the center, said there are currently 80 males who are a part of the center.

80 percent of the males graduate within four years and 95 percent within five years.

"Although these numbers may seem great, they aren't because we can do better and we will," Sewell said. "Within the next four years we're going to have a 100 percent graduation rate."

Arlethia Perry-Johnson, the director of the Georgia State System AAMI, credits grant donations with the increase in Black males entering, being retained and graduating. In 2006, the initiative received a \$100,000 grant from the Lumina Foundation and this year it will receive a grant for \$500,000.

There are other AAMI across the country: Clemson State University, in South Carolina, has its Call Me Mister program, used to recruit African-American male teachers.

The University of Ne-

braska houses the Melvin W. Jones Scholars' community, which is designed to help minorities of different races, and ethnicities adjust to college life. The City University of New York has a Black male initiative that focuses on increasing the acceptance and retention of Black males through programs and activities.

At the University of Maryland, which houses the Nyumburu Black Male Initiative, the 2005 retention rate of African-American males was 28 percent. Today it is nearly 50 percent.

Solomon Comissioning, assistant director for Student Involvement and Public Relations for the Nyumburu center, said that part of the reason there has been an increase is because of Nyumburu, which began in 2005. Comissioning, who graduated from the University of

Rhode Island, knows first hand how difficult it can be for Black men to transition into a university. Especially if they do not have a safety net.

Comissioning credits the support of the Black Student Union for his success at Rhode Island. "The odds are stacked against them once they get here," Comissioning said. "A lot of Black men are attracted to schools for athletic reasons and when they get to college it's a complete culture shock. If there isn't a BSU or another place for them to turn to, many of them either transfer or drop out." Rin McGrew, information technology support assistant and facility supervisor, said that a lot of the problem is what some Black men are lacking before they get to college.

See MALES Page 12

HP & Dallas Mavericks team up to help local school



HPDA Dallas 1 (L-R): Regina Jones, Executive Director, East Learning Community, Roberto Basurto, Principal, Alex W. Spence Middle School, Jason Terry, Guard, Dallas Mavericks, Nancy Keith Kelly, Director of Influencer and Community Relations, HP, Michael Hinojosa, Superintendent, Dallas ISD, Adam Medrano, School Board President, Dallas ISD

(NDG Wire) In September HP, the NBA and the Dallas Mavericks launched the HP Digital Assist education grant competition at Alex W. Spence Middle School in Dallas.

To help tip off the nationwide program, Dallas Mavericks player Jason Terry personally delivered HP computers and a printer to Spence students as the contest, in which under-

served schools have an opportunity to win more than \$80,000 in HP mobile digital classroom technology, NBA tickets, merchandise, visits from NBA players and other awards, gets underway.

More than 5,000 students from approximately 100 se-



lected Title I middle schools in Dallas, Houston, Chicago, Miami, San Francisco Bay Area, and Washington, D.C. will participate in the competition, which ends November 20.

More information is available at www.hpdigitalassist.com.

City of Carrollton Website wins national award

(NDG Wire) The City of Carrollton's recently redesigned website cityofcarrollton.com was presented with a Silver Circle Award from the national City-Council Communications and Marketing Association. The City's website received the Silver Circle Award, equivalent to second place, in the Digital Interactive Website category (pop. 75,000-177,000).

This website redesign project involved a complete rebuilding of the site, led by the City's Marketing Services and IT staff in conjunc-

tion with Vision Internet, providers of a new content management system (CMS).

The website's features include a newly designed look with drop-down menus, better search functionality and greater ease of use for both content providers and visitors to the site.

More than sixty departmental web specialists have been trained and now use the CMS on a regular basis to update content and photos on their respective pages, in addition to their regular job duties. Marketing Services Director Sheri Chadwick said,

"This has truly been a team effort and an outstanding achievement for the City of Carrollton."

Other winners in the same category (Population: 70,500 - 177,000) include:

Savvy - City of Gresham, OR - GreshamOregon.gov

Silver Circle - City of Carrollton, TX - cityofcarrollton.com

Award of Excellence - City of Round Rock, TX - roundrocktexas.gov

Award of Excellence - City of Westminster, CO - ci.westminster.co.us

"We realize that there are

continual improvements to be made, and are not ones to rest on our laurels," Chadwick said. "We will be conducting an online survey now through November 15 to gather user feedback and input on ways in which we can continue to make the site even better."

The public is invited to provide feedback by taking the survey at: <http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07e2m8mcczg1f108mv/start>.

For more information, contact Marketing Services at 972-466-3593.

Create The Good Volunteer Fair in Dallas

(NDG Wire) AARP Texas, along with Richland College, is holding a Create the Good Volunteer Connection Fair on Thursday, November 12 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the El Paso Hallway at Richland College.

Create the Good is an initiative designed to con-

nect AARP members with opportunities to make a difference. It is based on the notion that regular people can do remarkable things, going above and beyond the call of duty to make things better for others.

The concept is simple yet powerful: What if the country's largest member-

ship organization unleashed many of its 40 million members - 2.5 million in Texas - to give back to their communities throughout a variety of projects to help meet unmet needs?

"As our nation faces growing challenges, our communities need volunteers now more than ever,"

said Bob Jackson, AARP Texas state director. "With a lifetime of skills, experience and wisdom, boomers and older Texans have much to contribute."

Richland College is located at 12800 Abrams Road in Dallas. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

First Baptist Church Dallas launches building campaign

(NDG Wire) The congregation of First Baptist Church Dallas learned and agreed to the plans to proceed with a \$130 million capital campaign to build an expansive new 1.5 million square foot, state-of-the-art campus, making it the largest

church building program in modern history, according to church fundraising experts.

"First Baptist's building program is not an end in itself, it is a means to an end to better minister to and meet the needs of the community," said Dr. Robert Jeffress, Pas-

tor. "Now more than ever, our church is firmly committed to spreading the message of God's love to transform lives and our City."

Dr. Jeffress informed the congregation Sunday that more than \$62 million has been committed to this cam-

paign. Mark Lovvorn, chair of the church's Planning and Development Committee, further noted that the economic downturn has led to unprecedented potential savings in construction costs, citing research showing that

See CAMPAIGN Page 15

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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.

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 meeetup.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://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).

Thru November 29

35th Annual Texas Renaissance Festival at 21778 Fm 1774 Plantersville, TX. Info at www.texrenfest.com 800-458-3435

Thru December 4

Adriatic First Fridays Art Walk 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Adriatica Merchants Association pre-sents 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.

November 5

Etta J. Mullin Democrat for Judge County Criminal Court #5 Campaign Kick-off and Fundraiser, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Harwood 609 Restaurant at 609 N Harwood. Info: ettamullin@yahoo.com

November 6

Dallas/Fort Worth Breast Cancer 3-Day Opening Ceremony 6:30 a.m. at Plano Centre. Info: 800-996-3DAY (3329), www.The3Day.org.

November 6-7

Natl. Multicultural Western Heritage Museum in Fort Worth will host its annual **Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Weekend of Activities.** For more info: www.cowboysofcolor.org, 817-922-9999 or info@cowboysofcolor.org.

November 10

Plano ISD Board hosting **Isaacs Early Childhood School dedication ceremony** at 7:00 p.m., located at 3400 East Parker Road in Plano (Parker Road and San Gabriel Drive).

November 11

Veterans Day Parade at Dallas City Hall

November 12

Junior League of Plano's Ladies Night Out 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. VIP Admission \$75 (including early admission at 6:00 pm, special gift bag, and valet parking, 1-day Market Shopping Pass), Regular Admission - \$35 per person (includes 1-day Market

Shopping Pass). Visit www.neaththewreath.org for more information.

Richardson Chamber of Commerce Business & Industry Awards 11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency North Dallas-Richardson, 701 E. Campbell Rd. Richardson

Austin Carty from CBS's *Survivor: Panama - Exile Island* will be the guest speaker for this year's **Women on the Move Luncheon** 11:30 a.m. in Dallas sponsored by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Lone Star Chapter. The annual luncheon at the Dallas Arboretum (8525 Garland Rd. Dallas, TX). Individual tickets as well as tables are available; ticket purchase is required to attend the luncheon. Info: www.WOMtexas.org or Jenny Heidrick at jheidrick@nmsslonestar.org or 713-394-2976.

November 12-14

Junior League of Plano's 'Neath the Wreath Holiday Gift Market - One Day Ticket advanced ticket \$8; One Day Ticket at door \$10, ages 12 & up. Tickets will be available at select Tom Thumb stores. Visit www.neaththewreath.org for more information.

November 12-15

Dallas Dance Festival at the Sheraton Grand Hotel (@DFW Airport) located at 4440 W John Carpenter Freeway Irving, Texas. For reservations, call (800)558-6879 or www.dallasdance-festival.com

November 12, - January 3

ICE! and Lone Star Christmas One-of-a-kind holiday attraction ICE! this time, we're bringing one of the country's most-loved children's tales — the Dr. Seuss classic, *How The Grinch Stole Christmas!*

Also a 50-foot rotating Christmas tree, magical train sets, a life-sized gingerbread house, and 1.5 million twinkling lights. For more information visit www.gaylordtexas.com

November 14

Jazz Series at Bishop Arts Theater Center featuring Jeff Lorber.

The Methodist Richardson Medical Center Foundation presents the **Yellow & Black Tie Gala** benefitting 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.

Johnson Chapel Community Church is hosting a **FREE 2009 Business and Career Expo** from 10 a.m. -3p.m. The expo will include: career resources, networking opportunities, a "Clothes Closet" with business attire, workshops, and a "Dress for Success" fashion show. Info: Tandra Johnson 972-224-9940, info@jc3online.org or www.jc3online.org. Johnson Chapel is located at 1400 N. Hampton Road, Desoto.

Irving Intl. Women's Consortium's **Salute to the Men and Women of the Armed Forces** at Veterans Memorial Park in Irving at 600 East Irving Blvd., Irving, noon. Info: Monica at 972-831-8866 or Monica@IIWC.net.

Hip Hop Broadway - The Musical at the Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House, 2100 Ross Avenue, Suite 650 Dallas. 214-880-0202

November 15

Medical City Heart presents **The Chile Pepperama** saluting the spicy impact of the Chile Pepper and other hot and fiery ingredients on Texas cuisine, from 11:00 a.m to 6:00 p.m. at the Old Town Shopping Center at Lovers Lane and Greenville Info: www.chilepepperama.net

November 17

10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. **Estate Planning Seminar** at Plano Centre. Tickets are free, reservations required: Karen at 972-497-1010 or Karen@RichardJohnsonLaw.com

November 18

4th Annual Wedding Professionals Business Conference at Plano Centre. Info: Nicole Brawner 972-713-9920 x-106, nicholebrawner@bridalshows-inc.com or www.wedding-businessconference.com

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 20

UNCF's North Texas Scholarship Luncheon 11:30 a.m.- 1:00p.m. featuring keynote speaker U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Ronald Kirk at Hyatt Regency DFW. Sponsorship, tickets and more info: (972) 234-1007, diane.stephenson@uncf.org or www.uncf.org/dallas.

MTBC's "Beyond Business Intelligence: Connecting People and Data in the Enterprise" Featuring Bill Pritchett, Regional APO Manager, Microsoft 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Renaissance Hotel Dallas - Richardson 900 E. Lookout Drive, Richardson

November 21

PLAN Fund 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 2801 Swiss Ave, Ste 120, Dallas. Cost is \$45 www.planfund.org or call 214-942-6698.

November 21 - January 3

Trains at Northpark - A favorite holiday attraction, the exhibit travels across the United States at various landmarks, and is the most elaborate toy train attraction in all of Texas, with locomotives on a journey across America, past miniature landmarks including Mount Rushmore, Dallas' skyline, New York city's Times Square and Washington, D.C.

November 27

Jazz Friday featuring Cat Garner Trio 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m, 13342 Midway Road, Suite 250, at ArtFest International, Dallas. Tickets: \$10 - \$25. Email stephanie@stephaniestips.com

December 3

Christmas on the Square in Downtown Garland 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

December 5

Capital One Bank Adolphus Children's Parade Benefiting Children's Medical Center on Commerce Street at 10 a.m.

December 9

MTBC Brown Bag Lunch at 411 Belle Grove Drive, Richardson "Is Your Business in Danger?" Featuring Greg Gullota, Vice President of Sales, Merchant Pro Express

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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Upcoming annual United Negro College Fund luncheon

BY RUTH FERGUSON
NDG EDITOR

The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is hosting their third annual North Texas Luncheon on Friday November 20 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency DFW Hotel (inside Terminal C) at DFW Airport

The keynote speaker is U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Ronald Kirk, the former mayor of the City of Dallas. The monies raised at the luncheon will help students at the five UNCF member institutions throughout Texas.

"Funds raised from this event will be a lifeline to students whose college education may be threatened by the recession," said Diane Stephenson, UNCF's area development director.

"Thousands of UNCF students have seen family contributions reduced or eliminated due to job loss and pay cuts. The credit crunch has squeezed private student loans off the market. Many of these students won't be able to graduate without additional financial aid. Because a college education can open so many doors, we must do what we can to assist students who have trouble meeting tuition costs."

The UNCF supports thirty-nine colleges and universities nationally, including five in Texas: Paul Quinn College (Dallas), Texas College (Tyler), Jarvis Christian College

(Hawkins), Wylie College (Marshall) and Huston-Tillotson (Austin). UNCF is the largest non-govern-



Ambassador Ron Kirk,
keynote speaker

ment provider of support to these schools.

Each of the five schools in Texas are private Historical Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). As a result they were not eligible for funding from the *American Recovery Reinvestment Act of 2009* commonly known as the Stimulus Package.

The majority of the money raised in Texas, stays in Texas according to Stephenson. Seventy-five percent of the monies are split among the five schools in Texas with the remaining 25 percent split among all 39 UNCF schools – with each of the Texas schools receiving monies from the pool of 25 percent.

During the 2008-2009 annual campaign, UNCF raised \$18 million through their fundraising throughout the country. Donors from New York, California

and Michigan provide significant contributions, despite having no member school in their state.

Donors can request the funds be made available to students to attend non-member schools, because the organization's primary mission is education. Last year UNCF awarded nearly \$86 million to 9,936 students attending member HBCUs and more than 850 other institutions.

Up to 95 percent of the students at the member institutions require financial aid and 50 percent come from families earning less than \$35,000 per year. The mission of UNCF is critical for these students, without the help of donor dollars, higher education and the opportunities it provides would be inaccessible to them.

These families were among those hardest hit by the economic downturn over the last year. Their parents faced reduced hours or layoffs, leaving seniors on the verge of graduation unable to pay the debt already incurred.

To address this problem the UNCF launched the Campaign for Emergency Student Aid with a goal of raising \$5 million.

The initiative was designed to help recession-impacted students enroll for their senior year and receive their college degree.



According to recent announcements UNCF is approaching the midway point at over \$2.3 million raised allowing them to assist over 1,200 students.

The monies raised are provided directly to the member schools, primarily to assist with their operating expenses. However, each institution determines their

efforts, to aide in securing federal funding from Washington.

The selection of Ambassador Ron Kirk as the keynote speaker shines a spotlight on the importance of student's preparation to engage and contribute in a global economy and workforce.

International students

ton mayor Robert Cluck; Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert is participating via video conference; and currently it is unconfirmed if Fort Worth Mayor Mike Moncrief will participate personally of if the Mayor Pro Tem will represent him.

Paul Quinn College will introduce Ambassador Kirk and the Texas College choir

is scheduled to perform during the lunch portion of the program.

Following the annual luncheon the next major event for UNCF is the Red, Hot and Snazzy Gala scheduled for Feb. 27, 2010 in downtown Dallas.

Sponsorship opportunities start at \$3,500. Reserved tables are \$1,500. Individual tickets are \$125.

To order tickets call UNCF office (972) 234-1007.

For more information and sponsorship opportunities, contact Diane Stephenson at diane.stephenson@uncf.org or visit www.uncf.org/dallas.

"Because a college education can open so many doors, we must do what we can to assist students who have trouble meeting tuition costs."

— Diane Stephenson

UNCF area development director

highest priorities and could elect to give more monies students in the form of scholarships.

In addition to providing funding to member schools, UNCF works in partnership with the institutions to strengthen them overall. They provide volunteer leadership training and technology tools. UNCF also helps with advocacy

equal about two percent of the population at UNCF member schools. Locally, Paul Quinn College is planning to launch a program abroad that will require study abroad for one year.

The luncheon's regional sponsor is AT&T and mayors from the local cities will serve as hosts.

The program will include remarks from Arling-



Michael Jackson's *This is It* is captivating

BY DWIGHT BROWN

(NNPA) - By the time he died, the media and his antics had obscured the most obvious. Michael Jackson was the greatest singer/entertainer/performing artist of his generation. Many could argue that point. But as you watch this work-in-progress documentary, with footage that was never necessarily meant to become a theatrical feature-length film, you have to ponder, "What pop artist was or is better?"

Elvis could sing, act and gyrate, but he couldn't dance. And his talent didn't extend into creating theater or video. Madonna takes elaborate shows around the world, but she has a voice only a mother could love. The Beatles have a catalogue of music that is unmatched to this day, but on stage they just stood there -- and could John Lennon moonwalk?

It's like Michael

stepped out of his grave to say, "You will not tarnish my legacy, and I'm going to give you the show of a lifetime!"

As *This Is It* starts, dancers convene for what was to be Michael Jack-



son's final rehearsals for a 50-night performance schedule in London. Some reveal how important it was for them to dance with him. In-between piqued emotion that's leading to tears, one hooper proclaims, "I was searching for something to give me meaning. This is it."

Skeptics would point out that Jackson is no Dalai Lama, L. Ron Hubbard or

Dr. Phil who warrants or don't warrant legions of followers.

But to put that quote in perspective, for a young pop dancer, performing on stage with the person who changed dance movement for the MTV generation, he in fact is talking about a pop music guru.

Footage, of the rehearsals, depicts a fit MJ; lean -- not emaciated, energetic -- not lethargic, lively -- not near death's door. He jumps, twists, turns and hops with the same gusto and precision as his back-up dancers. Only they are in their 20s and MJ is 50! That's right 50!

He often is not singing in full voice, as he tries to preserve his vocal chords for the up-coming concerts, and though some may say his vocals have been enhanced, he sings a whole lot better than some of today's top artists, like Justin Timberlake. When he goes full

out, he's pitch perfect, his voice is flexible and emotional.

What was in the works was a very ambitious musical theater piece that included movie clips, elaborate sets (production designer Bernt Amadeus Capra, set director Donald Elmlad), provocative costumes and magical lighting. The most astonishing feat is MJ's insinuation into the movie *Gilda*, starring Rita Hayworth and Humphrey Bogart, for the song *Smooth Criminal*. A machine gun-wielding Bogart chases Michael, and in black and white footage—courtesy of a blue screen—you can see how the concert magic is being created. There is another song in which dancers cavort on frames like a construction site on the back of the set that is bathed in a warm moss green metallic light that is simply mesmerizing.

Jackson is heavily in-

involved in the creative process of this mammoth, ambitious show. Credit director Kenny Ortega for the visual splendor and day-to-day coordination, but as the footage attests, MJ is the captain of the ship. Both the choreographer and vocal supervisor Dorian Holley defer to him.

The Earth Song sequence is a patience-testing misstep. On film, in a setting that must represent the Amazon, a young child runs through a forest that is being demolished by bulldozers.

The moment is so sentimental and politically correct that it grates on the nerves and adds seven minutes to a 112-minute film that could have been a tad shorter. Edited down from hundreds of hours of footage, each second is crucial; this unfinished attempt at an eco friendly message should have been left on the editing floor.

Human Nature, *Billie Jean*, *Thriller*... the gloved one puts on a backstage show that is thoroughly entertaining—and in fact more compelling than if the production team had simply filmed the concert. Watching him create each song/performance on a sound stage is as captivating as him singing and dancing in front of a live audience.

There are some who will claim this documentary is ghoulish. I think haunting is a better word, as you fathom what the music world would have been like had he lived. This enlightening, behind-the-scenes documentary gives MJ a way of setting the record straight. If any performer is more talented than he, or has left more of a legacy on this generation, they should step up or shut up.

Visit Film Critic Dwight Brown at www.DwightBrownInk.com.

Pre-Thanksgiving gospel stage play set for Nov. 20 Garland's Plaza Theatre

(NDG Wire) Playwright Bridgette Monroe's smash hit *Honor Thy Mother* opens at Garland's Plaza Theatre on Nov. 20, 2009. The Garland Plaza Theatre is located at 512 W. State Street in downtown Garland. The performance begins at 8:00 p.m.

Honor Thy Mother is an electrifying blast from the past. It is a hilarious, inspirational, gospel stage play that deals with honor, respect and forgiveness. It will have your mind reflecting to back in the day with laughter and tears, as your heart longs for "Big Mama." The play introduces

Violet Louise Boyd, played by Mary Humphrey as a grandma who will keep the audience laughing, and may even make them cry as the reality of her story unfolds.

"I don't think there's gonna be a dry eye in the audience," said playwright Bridgette Monroe in an interview with Bill Wright of KKVI radio. And, there's also going to be a lot of laughter according to Wilfred Dalcour who plays the down on his luck Uncle Billy. Dalcour, a 1997 graduate of Grambling University was a star stand-out for the Tigers. The stage

is his home and on it he shines.

Humphrey's character also stands out as the hilarious grandma who uses mother wit, rules with an iron fist, and loves with a big heart.

The play, benefiting Cheryl Smith Silver, is sponsored by PhalconStar Communications, Jabez Entertainment, and the Garland Journal News.

Jabez Entertainment is the brainchild of Ms. Monroe, an Arkansas native, and began in 2000 with one simple goal in mind...to entertain while enlightening. The mission of the company is to bring historical social and spiritual issues that impact everyday life to the stage. "There's something in *Honor Thy Mother* for everyone in the family," says Monroe. "From mom and dad to the children."

For information call at (903) 691-5609 or (972) 227-6397.



Producer, playwright and director Bridgette Monroe (5th from left) with members of the *Honor Thy Mother* cast. Photography / GJN



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Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau announces new chairman

Don Freeman, services industry leader, assumes position at annual meeting

(NDG Wire) Donald S. (Don) Freeman, Jr., chairman of the world's leading provider of services for events and expositions, has been appointed by City of

Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert to serve as chairman of the Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau (Dallas CVB) for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

The announcement of Freeman's appointment was made by outgoing Chairman Laura V. Estrada at the Dallas CVB's annual meeting, held last week in the

new AT&T Performing Arts Center's Winspear Opera House in the Arts District.

"As chairman, Don brings unmatched expertise in convention and exhibi-

tion services, and Freeman is a respected name throughout the industry," said bureau President and CEO Phillip Jones. "He's the perfect person for this

role as we move toward the opening of our Omni Dallas Convention Center Hotel in early 2012 with an ambitious goal for room night bookings and citywide."

Dallas awarded \$80M of federal funding for employment and transportation projects

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson announced the Texas Mezzanine Fund and the Dallas Development Fund will receive a total of \$80,000,000 in tax credits from the U.S. Department of Treasury. The Texas Mezzanine Fund will receive \$25,000,000 under the Treasury Department's New

Markets Tax Program, and the Dallas Development fund will receive \$55,000,000 under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

"These tax credits will make it easier for community-based financial institutions to invest in economic development projects that

improve economically-distressed areas of Dallas," Congresswoman Johnson said. "I am confident that this funding will help revitalize lower-income communities by attracting businesses, creating jobs and providing access to affordable housing options. Commercial enterprise, employment opportu-

nities and affordable housing options are all essential to encouraging economic development in Dallas."

The Dallas Development Fund is administered by the City of Dallas and is intended to provide capital to build community facilities and support job-generating projects in lower-income

areas of Dallas. The Fund prioritizes projects that are close to light rail stations in order to allow more residents to take advantage of the City's mass transportation options.

The Texas Mezzanine Fund is a community development financial institution that gives loans to job-creat-

ing and service-providing businesses and non-profits, with an emphasis on minority-owned businesses. The funding will be used primarily to make low-interest loans to businesses that employ blue-collar workers and nonprofits that provide basic services to residents of lower-income communities.

NAR urges congress to continue using housing tax credit

BY MONTE L. BROWN
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

(NDG Wire) Consumers are just starting to see the first glimmers of a bright future for the housing market and the overall economy. It is up to Congress to make that glimmer a reality by building on the momentum created by the \$8,000 home buyer tax credit.

One of the key ways to do that is for Congress to extend the home buyer tax credit, said National Association of Realtors® First Vice President Ron Phipps last week to the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee during a hearing on "The State of the Nation's Housing Market."

"The data on the present



home buyer tax credit show that the credit has had its intended impact—sales have jumped in recent months to a projected 5.1 million for the year and housing inventory has been trimmed, thus stabilizing home prices noticeably," Phipps said. He also pointed out that each home sale generates approximately \$63,000 in additional economic activity, providing a tremendous economic boost to the national economy.

"But it is a fragile recovery, and now is the time to build on home sales momentum by extending the tax credit throughout 2010 and expanding it to all home buyers," he said. The present credit, due to expire on November 30, cannot help new purchasers now who write a contract today—they won't be able to close before the deadline, and will lose out on the credit, said Phipps. "Without congressional action now, the market and our national economy may freeze again—possibly as soon as this month."

Phipps called upon Congress to take action on a number of additional fronts to strengthen the recovery. First, make the FHA and

Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac loan limits permanent; these are set to expire on December 31. "Maintaining current loan limits would ensure that families have access to low-cost financing to purchase homes and can refinance problematic loans into safer, more affordable mortgages," Phipps said.

In addition, Congress should continue federal government involvement in the secondary mortgage market. "Without the government's involvement in the secondary mortgage market, market participants will have no incentive to reach out to lower income, creditworthy consumers. We must ensure that the housing market works in all markets and at all times, and

that mortgage capital is provided to all potential and qualified purchasers in a way that promotes sustainable homeownership," said Phipps.

Congress must also adequately address:

- The lack of liquidity in the jumbo mortgage market;
- Tight credit in the commercial real estate market;
- The Home Valuation Code of Conduct's unintended side effects that are hindering sales;
- Increased funding to help FHA upgrade their technology and for Congress to ensure that funding be included in the final version of the FY2010 appropriation for HUD;
- Administration incen-

tives and uniform procedures for speeding short sales under a new Foreclosure Alternative Program; and

• The potential for significant spikes in interest rates or disruptions to the flow of mortgage capital as the Federal Reserve unwinds the mortgage-backed securities purchase program to ensure that this does not happen.

Monte L. Brown is a Real Estate Consultant (Residential and Commercial) for Prudential Ultima Real Estate located at 9550 Forest Ln., Ste. 715, Dallas. His mobile number is 214-335-1105 and fax is 214-260-0780. Also available at monte@ultimare.com or www.montebrown.com.

TWU's Veterans Day celebration to focus on women in the military



(NDG Wire) Texas Woman's University - the nation's largest university primarily for women - will celebrate Veterans Day by focusing on women in the military, both past and present.

TWU's "Salute to Veterans" will begin at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 11, in the

Southeast Ballroom of Hubbard Hall, located on Administration Drive on the Denton campus. For a map of the campus, visit www.twu.edu/maps.asp. The event is free and open to the public.

The celebration features an interactive panel led by

Dr. Katherine Landdeck, TWU associate professor of history and leader of TWU's American Democracy Project Civic Agency Initiative. Current TWU students Kim Strachan, a U.S. Marine Corp reservist, and Kat Sokolova,

See **MILITARY** Page 13

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GEORGE, continued from Page 1

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Cities like Madrid, where members of the Di-aspóra walk the cobblestone streets, propelled by the sounds of flamenco music.

(Bet you didn't know that flamenco is really just Spanish blues music. On a recent trip, I even saw a dancer moon-walking to its infectious rhythm.)

The BlackAtlas online community is all about travel: what to do, what to see, where to eat. But we go one step further: it consid-

ers the unique needs of African-American travelers. Let's be real: we've all asked, before going somewhere new, "Are there black folks there?"

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made to cities around the world. That futuristic-looking building at the Los Angeles International Airport? It was designed by Paul Williams, an African-American architect. And that's just one example.

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destination for African-American travel, whether you're looking for an African dance company in the Hamptons, a barber with fade skills in Rome or soul food in Paris.

The journey begins at www.blackatlas.com.

I'm Nelson George.

Catch you in the airSM.

BROOKE, continued from Page 2

the sixties, and was on former president Ronald Reagan's panel to investigate those same riots. Senator Brooke was also involved when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was enlisting people to join the cause for civil rights. Sen. Brooke opposed three of former president Richard Nixon's Supreme Court nominees and was the

first senator in either party to call for Nixon's resignation.

"It took a man like you to become the Obama of the 20th century," said Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton. "The hurdles you jumped were so high."

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer said that "some played on bigotry for

political gain. But Brooke saw what was best in American and strove to represent it. You have honored the principles and values of our country," he said.

In a room fully integrated with Blacks and Whites, the event was a gentle reminder of the accomplishments that the country has made. Senator

Brooke was proud to receive the honor and thanked the Kennedy family that sat in the front row for their love and support throughout the years.

"Politics is not a bad thing," said Brooke. "When used properly it could do good things." Senator Brooke took the opportunity to explain to the audi-

ence that this country still has much more growing to do.

"There is nothing congress can't do that it can't correct," he said.

The audience continued to applaud as Senator Brooke offered to give his own prized medal up if Congress would pass the D.C. House Voting Rights

Act, a bipartisan legislation that would bring congressional voting representation to DC residents for the first time ever.

"He was a model back in his day and even today we see he still has the power to bring people together," said Sen. Mitch McConnell (R- Mass). "And that is a legacy to be proud of."

STYLE, continued from Page 3

abandoned it when his aim was to attract Republicans to his side; then he split the difference when polls showed a majority of the American people supported it.

Here, he was using not just objective deliberation, but a strong dose of pragmatic politics. I can hear Rahm Emanuel shouting that while it's nice to lead

from principle, Obama must keep his eyes on the larger objective of coming out of the health care debate with something – anything they can face elections with in 2010 and 2012.

Presidential leadership is complicated by the fact that any president must perform effectively in the three-legged stool of the Executive Branch, Con-

gress and the public to get much done. In the Congress, President Obama can play a different game of leadership, giving the ball to the party leaders and supporting their calls when they are consistent with his political strategy.

However, as the health care bills come out of both the House and Senate, there is a moment when he will

have to exercise decisive leadership in the conference and then we will see whether pragmatic politics or principle will hold sway.

As leader of the Executive branch his style also permeates the agencies under his direction and it is likely to be here that one can get the clearest sense of his style of leadership. One of the lessons that we must

learn from the past, is that for a nation as large as this one, with as many critical roles it has to play, leadership style is vital to the President's success and that of the nation.

The public likes him, but is lukewarm on his handling of some issues. Whether his deliberative style changes will depend upon the damage conserva-

tive Democrats and Republicans are able to do to his agenda.

Ron Walters is the Professor of Government and Politics Emeritus at the University of Maryland College Park. One of his many books is: African American Leadership, with Robert Smith (State University of New York Press).

MALES, continued from Page 6

"Guidance is not something you get as young man," McGrew said. "It has to be reinstalled in you in junior high school, high school, and again in college." A part of the Nyumburu Black Male Initiative means reaching out to youth at middle schools, high schools and juvenile facilities to prepare them for the college culture.

But, many who make it in still slip through the cracks.

In 2007, Aaron Bradshaw was in his third semester at Howard University. He never thought it would be his last. After his second semes-

ter he was put on academic probation and he was not able to get his GPA high enough in his third semester. "I blame myself first," Bradshaw said. "I had horrible study habits, I wasn't focused, and I wasn't prepared."

Bradshaw said that although most of the blame for his failure to matriculate successfully is on him, he would like to see a stronger support system for Black men at Howard. The graduation rates for African-Americans at Historically Black Institutions (HBCUs) both male and female differ greatly



from the graduation rate of African-Americans at top ranked predominately White institutions.

In 2007, Yale and Harvard respectively reported having a 96 and 98 percent

graduation rate for its African-American student population. While in the same year Fort Valley State University, which is part of the Georgia State AAMI program had a graduation rate of 22 percent.

HBCUs are working on the problem. In the school of communications at Howard, there is the Man Up program, founded in 2005 to focus on the retention rate of Black Males. If a male student's GPA falls below a 2.0, he is required to join Man Up.

"If they need help and we can't give it to them we find it for them, we make sure

they get it," said academic advisor Lincoln Brown. "Man Up is a platform where they can come to address the issues that they are facing."

Still, Brown said that he has encountered many different issues where men do not return to the university. Some of the reasons offered as to why African-Americans are not graduating at higher rates from HBCUs as well as non-HBCUs is that many of them come from lower income households and they are not prepared for collegiate academics.

Many of the African-Americans who attend uni-

versities like Yale and Harvard are coming from backgrounds where they are getting the preparation to succeed in college. "A lot of Black men are not coming from the same type of schools or households that their counterparts are coming from," Comissiong said.

"The issue is that when they get to college they don't have the skills they should have gotten at home and in the classroom. This happens with Black men at colleges and universities across the board whether it is a predominantly White school or an HBCU."

Down to Business: the First 10 Steps to Entrepreneurship for Women by Clara Villarosa with Alicia Villarosa

(NDG Wire) In today's troubled economy, more and more people are finding themselves out of work and not knowing where to turn. Twenty years ago, Clara Villarosa was one of those people. At 52 years old, after years of climbing the corporate ladder, the business maven found herself out a job. Desperate to make a living, Villarosa thought of the one thing she could do to dust herself off--she launched the ground-

breaking The Hue-Man Experience, the largest African-American bookstore. In her new book, *Down to Business: The First 10 Steps for Entrepreneurship for Women* (Avery Books; \$17.00), she teaches others how they can become successful entrepreneurs by providing a 10-step blueprint for starting their own businesses.

Now a sought-after career coach, Villarosa has led dozens of career workshops

and is the recipient of more than thirty awards, including the National Minority Entrepreneur of the Year. In *Down to Business*, Villarosa gives budding entrepreneurs clear, step-by-step tips on starting their own businesses--covering everything a woman needs to launch the small business of her dreams, including:

- * How to develop realistic business ideas by researching the industry;
- * Analyzing a competi-

tor's marketing approach;

* True economic empowerment, from recruiting investors to using loans wisely;

* Scouting the ideal location;

* Clear, targeted, step-by-step instructions for creating a business plan--and beyond.

Packed with stories of businesswomen at all stages of the game--from a beer connoisseur-turned-brewer to an avid reader-turned-

literary agent--*Down to Business* brings together inspiring, real-life stories illuminated by Villarosa's

award-winning business savvy and serves as a timely response to an uncertain economy.

MILITARY,

continued from Page 11

member of the U.S. Air Force, will join TWU alumna Michelle Ferrell, a recently retired 20-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force, and speak about what its like to be a woman in the military.

Dr. Landdeck also will give a historical perspective by presenting a talk about the WASPs (Women Air Force Service Pilots), who were the first women to fly in combat in U.S. history.

The TWU Blagg-Huey Library holds the WASP archives and will have an exhibit on women in the military Nov. 11.

Denton Mayor Mark Burroughs is scheduled to speak at the event, and the honor choir from Denton's Woodrow Wilson Elementary School will perform patriotic songs.

The celebration also includes:

• The TWU student organizations Helping Hands will make "Welcome Home" banners and Kappa of Texas will assemble care packages for troops;

• The TWU Student Veterans Association will distribute backpacks and ask attendees to make and sign cards for veterans;

• The U.S. 2010 Census Bureau will distribute information on the census;

• A bootcamp workout where participants will run around campus chanting traditional military cadences; and

• The TWU Athletic Department will salute veterans during the TWU basketball game at 7 p.m. at Pioneer Hall.

For more information and a detailed schedule of events, visit www.twu.edu/commuter/5518.asp.

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**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF
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Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

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

Dist/Div: Fort Worth

Contract 6201-89-001 for CALL-OUT RELECTORIIZED PAV MRKNGS & MRKS in TARRANT County, etc will be opened on December 08, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$589,816.80.

Contract 6202-95-001 for ROADSIDE MOWING in TARRANT County, etc will be opened on December 09, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$667,951.04.

Contract 6203-00-001 for ROADSIDE MOWING in TARRANT County will be opened on December 08, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$401,817.08.

Contract 6203-01-001 for ROADSIDE MOWING in TARRANT County will be opened on December 08, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$451,966.52.

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

NPO: 31213

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division

200 E. Riverside Dr. | Austin, Texas 78704

Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

Fort Worth District | District Engineer

2501 Southwest LP820 | Ft. Worth, Texas 76133

Phone: 871-370-6500

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

Church Happenings

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES November 2009

8:30 am – 11:30 am

Visit Helen's House every Monday and Friday to receive, to give, to comfort and most of all to fellowship. The give-a-way of food, love and household items is given freely to all those who could use a little touch.

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

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November 3-December 15,
Tuesdays only,
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Come to a FREE YWCA Financial Empowerment Workshop. Refreshments will be provided and there will be prizes for graduates. You could win a \$25 gift certificate. To register for the workshop call 214-584-2344.

Pastor Terrence Autry,
701 E. Centennial Blvd
Richardson, TX 75081
214-991-0200

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and 972-649-0567.
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November 25, 9 am-10 am
Leadership Conference
with speaker Bro. Gary
Finney in Room 205.

November 25
10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Join us for our Ushers,
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Strippers Annual Day in the
Sanctuary.

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

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November 15, 1-4 pm
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Pastor C. Paul McBride,
4396 Main Street
The Colony, TX 75056
972-625-8186

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November 14, 8 am-1 pm

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Prayer & The Fellowship
of the Holy Ghost. This is
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Pastor Derrick Wilson, Sr.
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817-615-6282

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November 6, 6 pm-10 pm
Our Singles' Ministry
presents: Living Single,
Faithful to the End, Eccle-
siastes 3:1; and "A Night
of Jazz" at the Verona,
13330 Noel Road (across
from Dallas Galleria), Dal-
las, 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, Di-
vorce and Single Parenting
at our main campus. Call
Rosilyn Johnson for fees
and details @ 972-241-
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Pastor Robert Townsend,
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Dallas, TX 75229
972-241-6151

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am.

Pastor Robert Price, Sr.
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November 22, 4 pm
Come and celebrate our
70th Church Anniversary
with us as we continue to
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munity.

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November 20-22, 2009
Come to our Unity & Faith
Full Gospel Association
1st Annual "Bridging The
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dynamic speaker Pastor
W.L. Stafford, Sr., M.Div.
from Fellowship Baptist in
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U7FFGA CA State Youth
group.

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Dallas, TX 75227

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November 8, 3:30 pm
You're invited to our 125th
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bration with our dynamic
guest Pastor Denny Davis
and the St. John Choir and
members.

Pastor Isiah Joshua, Jr.
920 E. 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

November 5, 7 pm
Join us for our anointed 1st
Thursday Night Live Serv-
ice to be encouraged by

Words from Heaven.
November 7, 10 am-2 pm
Bro. Roy & Sis. Leslie
Taylor Hare will conduct
their 1st Marriage Semi-
nar, the "Alpha and the
Omega." Come out to
learn how to have a beau-
tiful relation with your mate
or future mate. Call for di-
rections or fee.

November 3, 7 pm
Don't want to miss this
anointed and spirit-filled
service with world
renowned Bishop Jude
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Pastor Gregory Voss,
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8:15 AM: Story Elementary
10:45 AM: Story Elementary
1:55 PM: Fellowship - Allen, TX

Wednesday Night Live
Med Prayer Service / Bible Study
7:00 PM
280 Belmont Dr - Allen, TX



Pastor W.L. Stafford Sr.
LaSha Stafford

Thanksgiving Revival

**"Giving Thanks in
Turbulent Times"**
"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this
is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
1 Thessalonians 5:18

November 22 - 25, 2009

Make plans to worship with us!


Sunday, November 22nd - 8:00 p.m. - Reverend Dwight Oliver
Monday, November 23rd - 7:00 p.m. - Reverend Cleophus Wilson
Tuesday, November 24th - 7:00 p.m. - Reverend Robert Brown
Wednesday, November 25th - 7:00 p.m. - Reverend Lisa Brown

What are you Thankful for?

We'll have a special reception following
Wednesday Night's service.
Waiting for you to fellowship with us.

New Light Church
9384 Elm Road - Dallas, Texas 75217
Church Phone: 214-891-3480
www.newlightchurchdallas.com

"Orbade and see that the Lord
is good." Psalm 34:8



Pastor Shawna Fabb

MOCCP MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO (MOCOP)
300 Chisholm Place Plano, TX 75075 972-933-5511

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His International
interdenominational
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NIGHT

Last Sunday, Every Month
7:00 pm
Sunday Morning Worship
10:00 am
Wednesday Nights
7:15 pm

Call Pastor Sam on:
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Broadcast on KWRD 100.7 FM **THE WORD**
(Sundays 9 pm - 10 pm)

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





"Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands." Job 14:15 (JV).

Your talent, what you love to do, and what you are good at doing, was given to you by God even before you were born. He created you with all you need to do the work that he has for you to do. There is something inside of you that makes you excited when your 'creative juices' starts flowing. God is the source of your

passion. However, your career path may require you to take many side steps before you reach the work that God ultimately created for you.

The psalmist says, "Thine eyes did see my substance yet being unperfected; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them." Psalm 139:16 (KJV)

When the ark of the covenant was to be designed to contain the sacred ten commandments, God prepared a man to perform the important work.

"And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship. And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: and in the hearts of all

are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee;" Exodus 31:1-6.

Not much is known about Bezaleel, but you can be sure that he had a lot of jobs leading up to his most important assignment. He was also the first man mentioned in all of the scriptures to be "filled with the Spirit of God."

When your work, job or assignment is empowered by the Spirit of God you will be hand-picked for some of the most important assignments known to man. God says, "He that hath a bountiful eye shall be

blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor." Proverb 22:9 God will make certain that Christian's skills will be used for His ultimate purposes. This is the call of God for each Christian, to be fulfilled in his or her work and to use his or her talent or skill to fulfill His purposes on earth.

"He sealeth up the hand of every man; that all men may know His work." Job 37:7

The Season of Giving – Often, our fall season of the year is associated with giving money to charitable organizations, the elderly, the homeless and the sick, be-

cause the need is so great. People are encouraged to give as much as they can. Do not feel guilty if you don't have much money to give. Learn to give what God has blessed you with. What you have may be your treasure, your talent, or even your time. It is all about the act of giving itself and thinking about others.

Giving will not only bless the recipient (receiver) but also the giver. Be blessed by sharing what God has blessed you with to help make someone else happy. It may do more good than you think.

CAMPAIGN, continued from Page 1

for every dollar spent the church will receive up to \$1.30 in value.

The announcement culminates a wave of downtown revitalization, including the opening last month of the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts and ongoing construction of the Dallas Convention Center Hotel and Trinity River Project. The new First Baptist campus will enable the church to enhance its ministry to Dallas while completing the circle of resources meeting the mind, body and spirit needs of downtown residents.

"For more than 140

years, God has put First Baptist Church at the center of Dallas, the nation's fastest-growing city in the heart of America," Dr. Jeffress continued. "Jerry Jones recently unveiled a new \$1.2 billion 'temple to sport.' In these tough economic times, why can't we use our gifts to build a church building that provides a spiritual oasis and matches the splendor and majesty of God?"

Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert, a member of the congregation and champion for the revitalization of downtown, gave the offertory prayer at the later service. At

a press conference following he noted this project will not only benefit church members, but will benefit everyone in the community, by providing an open and inviting atmosphere and additional parking.

"This is a critical and important investment in downtown Dallas," Mayor Leppert said. "It will have an impact on this community and what we're trying to accomplish of creating more of an urban setting that is vibrant and exciting and brings people downtown.



See CAMPAIGN, Page 16

Artist Rendering of First Baptist Dallas' New Campus

Avenue F Church of Christ
1026 Avenue F • Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8833
www.avefchurchofchrist.org

Early Sunday Morning8:00 am
Sunday Bible Class9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship10:45 am
Evening Worship3:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 pm

Radio Program @ 7:30 am on
KHVN 970 AM Sunday Mornings

Ramon Hodridge, Minister

Friendship Baptist Church
4396 Main Street The Colony, Texas 75056
(972) 625-8186
website: www.fbc-online.net

Schedule of Services:
Sunday
Early Morning Worship-8:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes-9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship-11:00 a.m.

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

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

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Monday & Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday ... 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday Closed

Contact Info: Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75228
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Wednesday Night Bible 7:30pm

CAMPAIGN, continued from Page 15

This is going to be exciting effort, not only in terms of Sunday but all the other different activities and what it will contribute."

The proposed plan, designed by innovative Dallas-based architect firm, The Beck Group, will physically change the landscape of the Dallas skyline, galvanizing a clear presence of the church at the center of the city. The campus, which will be certified by the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System, will include a newly built 3,000-seat worship center, provid-

ing an intimate setting including the latest in audio-visual technology.

Senior adult education space will be below the worship center along with 300-parking spaces, which will provide easy access for the older generation. Across from the worship center and connected by a sweeping glass concourse, will be an expansive six-floor education building for the preschool, children and youth ministries; including play areas, two side-by-side gymnasiums and an outdoor patio. An adjacent, enclosed parking structure with 500-

plus spaces will provide convenient drop-off for young families.

At the heart of the new campus will be a fountain plaza complete with gathering places that will add one acre of new green gathering places, and an oval pool with a stone water tower topped with a cross at its center. The church's historic steeple, taken down in the 1960s because of safety concerns and then installed in the Criswell Center multipurpose facility in 2006, will be restored to its original height. The current sanctuary, which dates to 1890, will be retained as a

site for weddings, funerals and other special events. The Truett Building and the Veal Garage, inadequate to meet today's needs will be torn down to make way for these new structures.

"Through the years, our campus has been built in stages, resulting in a hodgepodge of buildings," Dr. Jeffress said, noting the design priority to combine state-of-the-art facilities with the church's legendary past. "Some of these, while representing significant history and memories, are worn down and deteriorating. This new plan will help to main-

tain the historic elements of our campus, including the original sanctuary, while establishing new, energy efficient buildings that can become a part of Dallas' future for generations to come."

As a part of the next steps, First Baptist will ask its members to make a three-

year commitment, above and beyond their regular contributions, to the building program, with the total committed being announced on May 16, 2010. If all goes according to plan, construction will start in the fall of 2010 and be completed debt-free in 2013.

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Sunday Services: 7:30 am, 10:00 am, 12:30pm.
Monday School: 7pm
Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00pm



Pastor Robert G. Beck

Website: www.ibccjoy.org


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Dr. Leslie W. Smith,
Senior Pastor

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Praise, and Participation

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Service: Every 3rd, 4th, and 5th, Sunday at
10:45 a.m.
AWANA: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Contact Information: 972-423-6895
www.smbcplano.org




New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas

Sunday Service
Morning Worship
7:50 am & 10:30 am
9:00 am Sunday School

Monday Service
Men's Ministry 7:00 pm
Women's Ministry 7:00 pm
Young Adult Ministry 7:00 pm

Wednesday Service
Intercessory Prayer 6:15 pm
Bible Study 7:00 pm



Dr. Robert E. Price, Sr.
Senior Pastor




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Dallas, TX 75243

www.nmzh.org (Website) • newmzhbc@aol.com (Email)

Worship Services
7:30am & 10:30am
Sunday School
9:30 am

Wednesday
Night Service
8:00 pm

Dr. Gregory Foster Senior Pastor
Rev. Anthony Foster Pastor

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To fulfill The Great Commission until Christ comes.

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Senior Pastor

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Worship Celebration
10:45 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
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7:00 p.m.



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