

North Dallas Gazette



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Reconciliation apparently not on the horizon

BY RUTH FERGUSON
NDG EDITOR

When two parties disagree open communication and dialogue is usually a good first step. *Usually.*

As reported in the *North Dallas Gazette's* February 9 cover story entitled, *Searching for Reconciliation*, last December 9 there was a

heated exchange between Korean American store owner Tommy Pak and Minister Jeffrey Muhammad of the Nation of Islam. It has resulted in a protest outside Pak's South Dallas convenience store six days a week since early January, which has gained national attention.

Efforts to schedule a meeting between Muham-



Minister Jeffrey Muhammad

mad, Pak and other community leaders were declined by the protestors. Their single request is for Pak to close his business located on Martin Luther King Blvd.

Last Saturday, the principals attended the same event, many likely surprised to see Muhammad on the agenda. And if they expected him to

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COVER STORY

The History of Hip Hop



Jazzy Jeff and Will Smith

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2011 Taxes – A second look

BY KEDRA A. WILLIAMS
NDG SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

I know you are thinking that after December 31, 2011, your tax position is set in stone. Though you may have passed the opportunity on some end-of-year strategies, there are a



few things to consider before you pass the baton to your tax professional.

Remember, contributions to your existing IRA account up to \$6,000 for

qualified individuals are deductible on your 2011 tax return as long as they are made on or before April 15. If you do not have an established account, speak with your certified public accountant (CPA) about adding that to your to-do list for 2012.

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Jersey Boys tickets go on sale Friday

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

COMMENTARY

White House 2013 Budget and Black Families

BY TOBY CHAUDHURI

Part One

We now face a make-or-break moment for the middle class and those trying to reach it.

After decades of eroding middle-class security as those at the very top saw their incomes rise as never before and after a historic recession that plunged our economy into a crisis from which we are still fighting to recover, it is time to construct an economy that is built to last. President Barack

Obama's 2013 Budget is built around the idea that our country does best when everyone gets a fair shot, does their fair share, and plays by the same rules.

We must transform our economy from one focused on speculating, spending, and borrowing to one constructed on the solid foundation of educating, innovating, and building. That begins with putting the Nation on a path to living within our means – by cutting wasteful spending, asking all American

See BUDGET, Page 3

District Attorney's Office agrees Richard Miles' Due Process Rights were Violated in 1995 Murder Trial

The Dallas County District Attorney's Office announced today that it agrees that the constitutional due process rights of Richard Miles were violated during his 1995 murder trial because there was exculpatory evidence that was never disclosed to Mr. Miles' defense counsel. On August 25,

1995, Mr. Miles was convicted by a jury for the offenses of the murder of Deandre S. Williams and the attempted murder of another Dallas man. He was sentenced to 40 years in prison for the murder and 20 years for the attempted murder.

Mr. Miles is scheduled to have a hearing on Monday,



District Attorney Craig Watkins

October 12, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. CST at the Frank Crowley Courts Building in the 282nd Judicial District Court, Judge Andy Chatham presiding.

"Our Conviction Integrity Unit is still investigating Richard Miles' claim of actual innocence, how-

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People In The News...



Steve Pemberton



Gina Smith



Jordan Blair, Sr.

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Steve Pemberton

Steve Pemberton is Chief Diversity Officer and Divisional Vice-President for Walgreens, the first such person to hold that responsibility in the company's 110 year history. Pemberton's journey to corporate America has been all but traditional. He is recognized as one of the nation's leaders on matters of diversity and inclusion and its importance to the growth of the American industrial com-

plex.

In 2006, *Fortune* named Pemberton one of the Top 20 Chief Diversity Officers in corporate America. In 2007, he was called to Capitol Hill to provide expert testimony on best practices in diversity recruiting and in 2008 he was named by *Savoy* as one of The Top 100 most influential African-Americans in corporate America.

Pemberton currently serves on several boards

including The Home for Little Wanderers and UCAN to provide guidance and inspiration to children in need. The Pemberton Fund For The Future has been established at The Home For Little Wanderers to assist children aging out of the foster care system.

A ward of the state for much of his childhood, Pemberton has made opportunity, access and equality pillars of his personal and professional life. His memoir, *A*



Chance in the World (www.achanceintheworld.com) was published by Thomas Nelson in January.

The book is his riveting autobiography that chronicles his difficult path through foster care and determined search for his

family. It is an inspirational story that crosses generations and cultures, but specifically whispers to those who have had the odds stacked against them. It is a true testament of faith, fortitude and forgiveness. *A Chance In The World* achieved a favorable Kirkus review, was recently featured in *People Magazine* earning 3.5/4.0 stars Pemberton is a graduate of Boston College. He is married and has three children.

Gina Smith

Attorney Gina Smith, principal attorney of Gina Smith and Associates, Dallas, is re-designing her current practice to focus on personal injury and criminal defense issues. A native Dallasite, Smith graduated from David W. Carter High School, received her B.A. from Howard University, and her law degree from the University of Texas at Austin. She is scheduled to graduate this May from Boston University with a Master's in Criminal Justice.

Attorney Smith has a passion for seeing wrongs

corrected. She worked as a federal investigator at HUD and the Department of Commerce in ferreting out discriminatory actions and policies as they related to housing and employment practices. She is an educator at heart, who believes everyone is entitled to any knowledge available to better their lives. A former professor at Paul Quinn, Dallas, and Adelphi Institute in Brooklyn, NY, she focuses on providing legal and spiritual guidance to persons who are seeking better pathways for themselves.

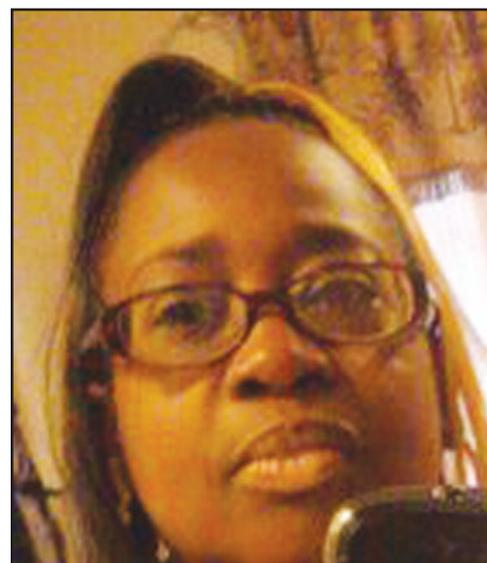
Currently, Smith, whose office is in down-

town Dallas, not only practices law, but is a major participant in several nonprofit efforts to assist persons become healthy and whole in a variety of areas. Not only does she assist in nonprofit formations, she provides direct assistance to nonprofit clientele through pro bono work wherever possible.

Attorney Smith is also a shareholder in Ticket Takers of Texas. This business was formed to help persons who are having problems with numerous traffic citations and the Texas Department of Public Safety. She, and several other attorneys, have created a network of

legal professionals who can assist individuals through the maze of re-gaining their drivers licenses, and avoiding points on their licenses and license suspensions.

A member of the Full Gospel Holy Temple Church in Dallas, Smith believes wholeheartedly a



spiritual structure supports everything in the natural

world. As such, she operates her practice in integrity and states, "Once an individual passes the State bar exam, he or she is deemed qualified to practice law. However, just as legal capability and competence are important in hiring an attorney, so is finding a professional who practices with honesty and a desire to truly be of service to his or her client."

Gina Smith and Associates office is 2201 Main St., Ste. 400-11 in Dallas. Also available by phone at 214-749-0040 or via email at GinaSmith-Law@gmail.com.

Jordan Blair, Sr.

An evening of celebration honoring DFW Elite News publisher, Jordan



"Randy" Blair Sr. on Thursday, February 16. The event will recognize Blair for over 25 years of dedicated service and exemplary leadership for the betterment of the community and the city of Dallas.

For the past 14 years, he has worked proudly as

the publisher of the DFW Elite News along the side of his father, William "Bill" Blair, who founded the newspaper in 1961 and serves as senior publisher. Considered "the official voice of the church and community," the DFW Elite News has continued to be one of Dallas' leading weekly newspapers.

As publisher, Jordan Blair always remembers his father's words, "The spoken word is like the air, but the printed word is always there." Standing on the solid foundation of proven success, he has worked to take his father's dream to the next level by serving the community with integrity and compassion.

A native Dallasite, Jordan Blair graduated in 1975 from David W. Carter

High School and continued his education at Prairie View A&M University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1981. He currently serves as the Trustee for District 3 on the Dallas County Schools Board. As a huge advocate for education, Jordan Blair has served in membership and as an officer of the Parent Teacher Associations for W. H. Atwell Academy, Thomas Tolbert Elementary and the Dallas Environmental Science Academy. He is also serves a member of numerous community, civic and social organizations.

Jordan Blair credits the goodness of God and hard work for his successes. He is a "member in good standing" at the Saint Paul

A.M.E. Church, under the leadership of Reverend Juan Tolliver, where he has been a member for over 45 years. He currently serves as the president of the Male Chorus.

As strong believer in family, Jordan Blair has been married to his lovely wife, Brenda for over 24 years. They have three children who are all currently studying at Prairie View A&M University, Jordan II, Harrison and Taylor.

As part of the 2012 Black History Month events, a host committee led by Mollie Belt, Larry Duncan, Claudia Fowler, Pat Hall, Dianne Gibson and Curtis Wilbert, felt it the perfect time to recognize one of the pillars of the Dallas community for his outstanding service and leadership. Jordan Blair has been in a courageous fight with cancer over the

past year.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Jordan Blair Celebrate The Recovery Fund with all

checks made payable to: Jordan Blair, PO Box 397925, Dallas, Texas 75339

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\$25 billion mortgage settlement seen as one step towards fairness

BY CHARLENE CROWELL

The recent mortgage agreement reached with the nation's five largest mortgage services brings the first major consumer victory after a nearly year-long effort. State attorneys general, working with the Departments of Justice and HUD together announced a \$25 billion settlement for consumers in 49 states. Participating banks are Ally Financial, Bank of America, Citigroup, JP Morgan Chase and Wells Fargo.

The largest share of the settlement – more than \$20 billion -- will be dedicated to financial relief for consumers. These funds will be used to assist homeowners with mortgages that are in

distress or foreclosure or underwater, now owing more than the home is actually worth. Today, nearly 11 million families with mortgages now owe more than their home is worth.

Additionally, mortgage servicers will pay state and federal governments \$5 billion in cash. Among these funds, \$3.5 billion will be used to repay public funds spent on the investigation and to fund housing counselors and legal aid. This funding for housing counseling and legal aid is critical to ensuring that homeowners obtain the loan modifications and refinances promised in the settlement. In addition, because the settlement does not affect individual law-

suits, the legal aid funding will help homeowners defend themselves against improper foreclosure actions involving mortgage fraud, servicer misconduct or other legal violations.

The remaining \$1.5 billion will establish a Borrower Payment Fund to provide cash payments to eligible borrowers whose homes were sold or taken in foreclosure between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2011. This specific initiative is in addition to restitution already administered by federal banking regulators.

The value of the settlement also will increase if negotiations with nine other lenders reach a successful agreement.

Commenting on the

agreement second in size only to the 1998 tobacco settlement, President Obama said, "No action, no matter how meaningful, is going to entirely heal the housing market. But this settlement is a start."

Mike Calhoun, president of the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) agreed, adding, "Despite its limitations, the settlement requires real reforms in the mortgage servicing industry to stop sloppy business practices and out-and-out fraud. It will also help stabilize housing markets and property values by giving more homeowners a chance to restructure or refinance out of unaffordable loans

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BUDGET, continued from Page 1

cans to shoulder their fair share, and making tough choices on some things we cannot afford, while keeping the investments we need to grow the economy and create jobs.

The Budget targets scarce federal resources to the areas critical to growing the economy and restoring middle-class security: education and skills for American workers, innovation and manufacturing, clean energy, and infrastructure. The Budget is a blueprint for how we can rebuild an economy where hard work pays off and responsibility is rewarded.

To construct an economy that is built to last and provide security for African American families, the 2013 Budget will: **Strengthen Anti-Discrimination Enforcement.** Even in these fiscally constrained times, the substantial investments that have been made by the Administration to strengthen civil rights enforcement against racial, ethnic, sexual orientation, religious, gender, and gender identity discrimination continue in the 2013 Budget.

The Administration proposes an increase for the Community Relations Service in the Department of Justice to fight hate crimes and provides a \$14 million, or 4 percent, increase over the 2012 enacted

level for the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission (EEOC), which is responsible for enforcing Federal laws that make it illegal to discriminate against a job applicant or an employee. This investment will allow EEOC to add staff to reduce the agency's backlog of private-sector discrimination charges.

Improve Higher Education for Students from Minority Backgrounds. The

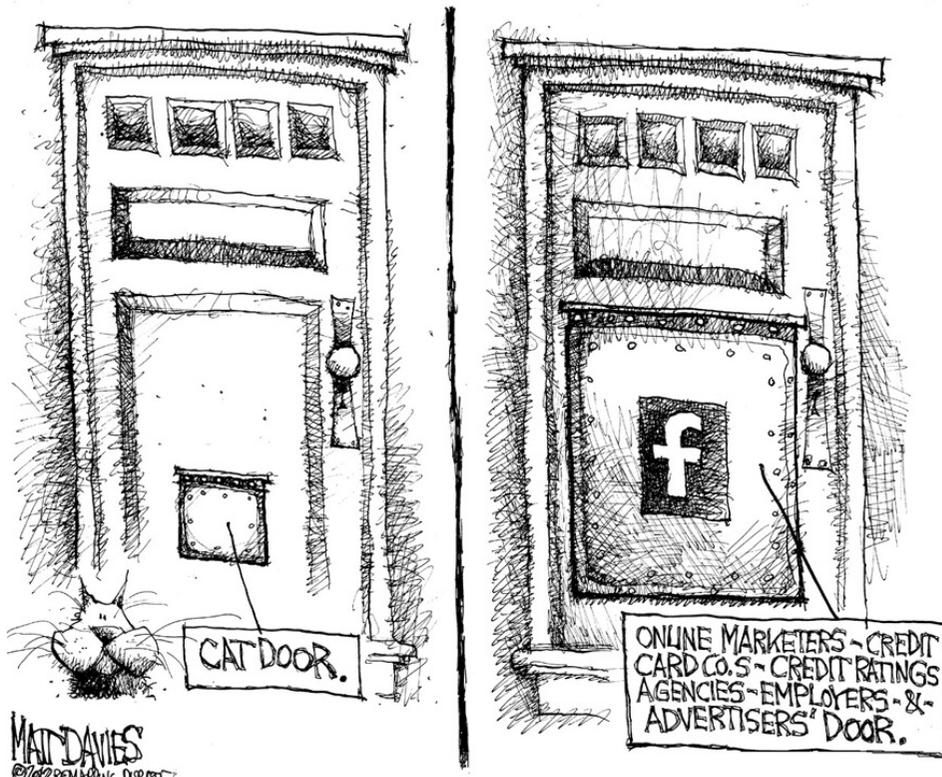
Budget invests \$55 million in a new initiative to increase college access and completion and improve educational productivity through an evidence-based grant competition, up to \$20 million of which will go directly to minority serving institutions.

In addition, the Budget provides \$30 million for a new competitive grant to improve and expand teacher education programs at minority-serving

institutions, a significant pipeline for preparing a diverse teaching force. Finally, the Budget maintains funding for programs administered by the Department of Education, the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation that fund Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Toby Chaudhuri handles strategic communications for White House Initiatives.

Guide to home security



Info to help reduce danger of falls for seniors

Many experiences and feelings stay the same throughout our adult life. But age does drastically change some life events, both in the way they affect us and the way we think about them. Falling is one of those experiences.

At 20, a tumble on a wet floor seldom causes much more than a red face and a fresh bruise. Five or six decades later, that same fall could lead to months of painful rehab — or even death. Fear of falling also takes a toll, causing some older people to cut back on their physical activity and take less pleasure from life.

Fall-related injuries are the most frequent cause of

both accidental death and nonfatal injuries for people 65 or older, with risk steadily increasing as we age. Do these statistics mean we have to sacrifice richness in life as a tradeoff for safety? The Texas Department of Aging and Disability (DADS) and the Texas Falls Coalition say no.

The award-winning national program, A Matter of Balance, provides older adults with the information they need to understand why falls happen, take steps to prevent them, and overcome fears that can lead to physical inactivity and greater risk of falling. The program is hosted through-

out Texas by DADS' affiliated area agencies on aging.

A Matter of Balance consists of eight two-hour sessions for people 60 and older. These sessions, led by volunteers, help participants reduce their fear of falling through group discussion, problem-solving strategies and increased physical activity.

For more information about A Matter of Balance classes in your area or training to become a volunteer coach (no prior medical or therapeutic background is required), call your local area agency on aging. Find the one nearest you by calling 800-252-9240.

Tips on Fall Prevention

In addition to the A Matter of Balance classes, DADS also promotes fall prevention awareness for all older adults, whether they live independently in their communities or in long-term care facilities. Here are some general tips for reducing the likelihood and seriousness of falls:

- Keep moving with strength and balance activities such as walking, water workouts or tai chi (a type of exercise that involves slow, coordinated, dance-like motion). Check community colleges, YMCAs and senior centers for such courses. Your doctor may also be able to refer you to a physical therapist.
- Wear the right kind of shoes (no high heels, slick soles or flip flops) and avoid walking in your stocking feet.
- Minimize home hazards by removing clutter on the floor, securing rugs, promptly mopping up spills, tucking electrical cords against walls and repairing loose rugs with double-faced tape.
- Use assistive devices when needed. These can include handrails for stairways, non-slip treads on stairs, raised toilets with arm rests and showers outfitted with a sturdy plastic seat and hand-held shower nozzle.

For more information, visit the Texas Falls Prevention Coalition website at www.texasfpc.org.

Dance, Health Screenings, and Heart Healthy Advice at Methodist Health System's 'Heart to Heart' Event at Uptown Village Cedar Hill

Methodist Health System will hold its annual Heart to Heart event for the Methodist Dallas and Methodist Charlton medical center communities on Saturday, Feb. 18, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Uptown Village in Cedar Hill. This free community event for women's heart health will feature healthy

advice from physicians and nutritionists; free health screenings; fun exercise demonstrations and advice from exercise experts; door prizes; sampling of healthy cuisine by various restaurants; and special deals and sales from merchants throughout the shopping center. Enjoy dance performances

of Samba, African dance and more, and get up and move with them. Methodist's Heart to Heart event is a fun-filled day to encourage women, their families, and friends to stay heart healthy and improve overall wellness — especially in view of the stark statistic that heart disease strikes one of

every two women in the United States.

One of the performers at Heart to Heart will be Vicki Woodlee with the Texas School Dancers. Woodlee, a former Dallas Cowboys cheerleader, Mesquite resident, and lifelong dancer, recently appeared on an episode of the popular TV show

"Glee" which is co-produced and choreographed by her son, Zach Woodlee. When her sons were young, Woodlee owned a dance studio in Mesquite called Juz' Danzin'. "Zach is the only one who followed in my footsteps by staying involved with dance," she says. The "Glee" episode where

Woodlee appeared as a member of a senior group of continuing-education students aired this past November.

For more information on Heart to Heart or to download a schedule of the day's events, visit www.Metho-distHealth-System.org/HtH.

Cardiac arrest survivor aims to help women avoid heart disease

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, heart disease is the leading cause of death for women in the United States. The CDC adds that approximately every 25 seconds, an American will have a coronary event, and about one person every minute will die from one, with women accounting for nearly 50% of heart disease deaths. With her new book, *Live to Dance* (published by AuthorHouse), author, motivational speaker, and cardiac arrest survivor Ellen S. Abramson aims to help women reduce the risk of heart disease.

"I had no idea that I was at risk for a heart attack until I had one," Abramson says. "I was 51 years young."

Aptly named after Abramson's experience two years following her cardiac arrest, she was able to live to dance at her daughters wedding. She also includes accounts



from her family and the emergency room doctor that revived her as they share memories of her frightening story of cardiac arrest.

Abramson, a motivational speaker for a weight loss company and an avid exerciser, notes that her heart attack was attributed to genetics, her debilitat-

ing habit of smoking, and missing years of check ups with her family practitioner. Shortly after her arrest, Abramson's local newspaper published an article entitled "America's most unhealthy regions for women's heart health," which ranked her hometown of St. Louis as second to last in heart health due to obesity, inactivity and smoking. Nashville was last on the list.

"Because of this article, I felt I had to do something," she explains. "I was also shocked to learn that one in three women die from cardiovascular disease and only one in five women even understand that cardiovascular disease is their greatest risk. I was one of those five!"

Since her experience, Abramson has made it her mission to educate women and every man who loves a woman regarding heart disease in hopes of helping to prevent needless deaths. She has learned that what loved ones really want for their birthdays, graduations and weddings is to spend time with them. "Women need to understand that life can be taken from them at any moment," she warns readers. "Take care of yourself for your loved ones."

Abramson purposely wrote a short book that was an easy read to reach a wider audience. It is sure to tug at the heartstrings of mothers and women as they read notes from her children and husband. *Live to Dance* is an ideal read for women concerned

with their health and taking the necessary precau-

tions to avoid heart disease.

Bring this ad in for 25% off your general wellness exam.



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Hospice social worker to speak at VNA Bereavement Luncheon March 1

Matt Wadsworth, a licensed social worker, will speak on "How to Ride the Grief Waves" at the March 1 bereavement luncheon hosted by the Visiting Nurse Association.

The luncheon is from

noon to 1 p.m. at the Saturn Road Church of Christ on 3030 Saturn Road in Garland. There is no cost to attend the luncheon, but reservations are requested and can be made through February 28 by calling 214-

689-2922.

VNA's bereavement luncheons offer supportive company from friendly and understanding people to individuals who have suffered the loss of a loved one.

Garland Mayor to deliver State of the City Address

Garland Mayor Ronald E. Jones will deliver his annual "State of the City Address" at the Garland Chamber of Commerce monthly lunch meeting on Monday, February 27, 2012 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Atrium at the Granville Arts Center in Downtown Garland. The Mayor will review milestones from

2011 and look ahead to exciting expectations for 2012. The Mayor will take questions from the audience at the end of his presentation.

To register to attend the Garland Chamber of Commerce luncheon, please visit www.garlandchamber.com or call 972-272-7551.

The Mayor's presentation also will be recorded for broadcast on the City's government access cable channel, CGTV, on Thursday, March 1 at 7 p.m. and will be available on demand via the City's website, www.garlandtx.gov. CGTV is available on Verizon FIOS channel 44 and Time Warner channel 16.

U.S. Senate Candidate Participate in Public Forum at the Belo Mansion

The public is invited to two public forums to hear from U.S. Senate Texas candidates. Each forum will be a 1-hour discussion.

The Democratic Forum will be presented on Thursday, March 8. The forum will be moderated by Bill McKenzie, a senior journalist with the Dallas Morning News.

The Republican Forum will be presented on Thursday, March 15. The forum

will be moderated by Paul Burka, Senior Executive Editor of Texas Monthly.

All candidates who have filed a primary ballot have been invited to participate.

Each forum will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. at the Pavilion at the Belo Mansion, 2101 Ross Avenue in downtown Dallas (garage parking available; enter from Olive Street). The event is free.

Sponsored by the Public

Forum Committee of the Dallas Bar Association, the programs are intended to educate the Dallas legal community and public of the backgrounds and philosophies of the candidates. The Dallas Bar Association is a non-partisan organization.

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

TAXES, continued from Page 1

Though you may have used the standard deduction in recent years, do not assume you do not qualify to itemize this year. Many taxpayers believe if they do not pay a mortgage and the applicable interest, they do not qualify for itemization. However, there are many other components to itemization that are worth considering.

Taxes you paid in 2011 for property owned and sales taxes on items you bought are both deductible when you itemize. Pull together the receipts for any county taxes paid on your personal residence or other real estate that you own. Remember, that time-share and vacation properties often charge your share of property taxes which you should include in your tax calculations. Sales taxes are typically calculated as a

percentage of your disposable income but you may also include additional sales taxes paid for large purchase items such as a new car, motorcycle or boat.

Medical expenses are another hiding place for missed deductions. When calculating the medical expenditures paid in 2011, review your checkbook for the obvious: basic co-pays, self paid premiums, and cost of prescription drugs. What you may miss are those fees you paid for the chiropractor, acupuncturist, allergy medications, and remedial reading expenses for a child with dyslexia. Be sure to present your CPA with any fees or purchases related to your medical conditions, they can advise you on their deductibility. Yes, even that mattress the doctor pre-

scribed for your back problems counts.

Other miscellaneous expenses that qualify for itemization include tax preparation fees, safe deposit box rentals, job hunting expenses, employee expenses for books, continued education, license fees, mileage, uniform cleaning and other unreimbursed expenses incurred in maintaining your job responsibilities.

As you well know, there are limits that apply to what is specifically deductible on your personal tax return. The best plan is to consult your CPA or give us a call at 469-449-9833 to see if you cannot recapture a few bucks through simply itemizing for 2011.

Kedra A. Williams CPA PC 3940 St. Francis Avenue Ste 103, Dallas, Texas 75228 or www.kedrawilliams.com

JJ Pearce Phantom of the Opera a box office sensation

JJ Pearce High School's performance of *The Phantom of the Opera* has nine performances remaining.

Flying by Foy, a Las Vegas-based company specializing in flying effects on stage for major theater, and other venues, was brought in to create the famous chandelier effect. The pyrotechnic specialist from Pyrotex offers a "wow" factor adding a professional effect pleasing to

any theater aficionado.

JJ Pearce is one of an elite few non-professional theater companies to be given the rights to perform *The Phantom of the Opera* during its 25th Anniversary. Judges from Dallas Summer Musicals will also be in attendance as JJ Pearce is up for an award in their first ever High School Musical competition. JJ Pearce is only the fifth school in the United States

given the rights to perform the record-breaking Broadway show in 2012.

The Phantom of the Opera will run through February 26, at 2 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. All performances will be held at the JJ Pearce Theater, located at 1600 North Coit Road, Richardson. Tickets are \$16 - \$5 and are available online at www.pearce theater.com.

Ivy League funds Support Dallas Public School Music

As institutions of higher learning grapple with today's economic challenges, what a surprise to find a university that donates money to projects of its alumni. Yale University School of Music (YSM) recently chose YSM graduate Rogene Russell, Artistic Director of Fine Arts Chamber Players (FACP), to receive a \$2,500 Yale Alumni Ventures grant to fund FACP's free musical outreach in Dallas ISD. This Yale grant intended "to advance the cause of music" will offset recent city and state budget cuts that threaten the continuation of FACP's free, skilled-based programs including an after-school

violin program at Lowe Elementary and free voice and piano lessons at Booker T. Washington and Carter High Schools.

Russell explains, "The students who participate in our free music classes have no family funds to spend on extras like voice or violin lessons. What a thrill to know that we have assisted talented DISD students to win college voice scholarships or that playing the violin is an option for children in an impoverished neighborhood. We are grateful to Yale for sharing our vision and so generously supporting our programs."



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North Texas Job Corps give students a glimpse at jobs

As the groundhog was searching for a glimpse of his shadow, North Texas Job Corps joined thousands of employers and students around the country taking part in Groundhog Job Shadow Day on Thursday, February 2. Since 1999, this initiative to engage students in the world of work has paired student “shadows” with “workplace mentors” to introduce students to the workplace and demonstrate the connection between academics and careers. The goal

of Groundhog Job Day is to match more than 1 million young people and workplace mentors.

The North Texas Job Corps students shadowed in a wide range of employer venues: 1) military personnel at the local US Army Recruiting Company in McKinney, 2) the McKinney Chamber, 3) Bridal Fair Expo, 4) ITT technical Institute, 5) VYW Enterprises, etc.

Lana Kite, Center Director at the North Texas Job Corps states that “we are ex-

cited to join with our community partners and provide a showcase for our highly skilled students to give back to our community.”

“Groundhog Job Shadow Day provides a unique opportunity to make the world of work come alive for our young people—and “that’s what Job Corps is all about. Each year, Job Corps teaches approximately 60,000 students the skills they need to become employable. Job Corps understands the importance of making the con-

nection between center classrooms and employer workplaces, and Groundhog Job Shadow Day offers our students another opportunity to do just that.”

Specifically, the North Texas Job Corps Culinary Arts students served as hospitality host for a Bridal Fair Expo, Business Administration and Accounting students toured the ITT Technical Institute campus, security cadets shadowed officers in the army. Also, students shadowed the McKinney

Chamber staff, and not least some students enjoyed the privilege of shadowing staff at the North Texas Job Corps.

Seven students from the Culinary Arts trade had a job shadowing experience where they got to work with the hospitality side of their training. They collectively stated that it was a good experience. Chrystiana and Domingo stated that they got to do a lot of networking; talking to the caterers, and exchanging their career goals with the people in the business. Ms.

Lora Cormier with Trucast Media stated that the students “were an absolute joy to work with, well-mannered and willing to roll up their sleeves to help. I mentioned to a few catering companies and other companies at the expo how great the students are. I introduced the students to some of the owners and gave them the Job Corps contact information. Thank you so much for allowing your culinary students to shadow at our expo!”

TRIAL, continued from Page 1

ever, at this point there is no question that his constitutional rights were violated and that he definitely did not get a fair trial back in 1995 because of the evidence that was withheld,” said Dallas County Criminal District Attorney Craig Watkins. “As with every case we handle, we will conduct a thorough investigation and leave no stone unturned in our pursuit of the truth.”

The facts of the case reveal that on May 16, 1994, Deandre Williams was fatally

shot and another man was shot and permanently injured at a local gas station in Dallas.

There were two police reports that were never turned over to defense counsel. One undisclosed report regarded detailed information from an anonymous phone caller to the Dallas Police Department claiming to have knowledge that a person other than Richard Miles had committed the crimes. The call was made approximately three months prior to Miles’ trial

and provided detailed information about both the offense and the individual involved, who according to the caller was not Mr. Miles.

The second undisclosed report involved an altercation between the victims and a third person that occurred five days before the shootings took place. Neither of the reports was disclosed to defense counsel. The State has an affirmative duty to disclose all material, exculpatory evidence to the defense under *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S.

83, 87 (1963). In the interest of justice, the State agrees with Mr. Miles’ claim that this information was definitely exculpatory and would have constituted impeachment evidence within the purview of *Brady*, and thus timely disclosure of this evidence should have been made.

Additionally, because the prosecutor is charged with the duty to learn of any favorable evidence known to others acting on the government’s behalf, such as the investigating

law enforcement agency, and because there is at least a reasonable probability that had the evidence been timely disclosed to the defense, the result of the proceedings would have been different. Thus, the probability of a different outcome had the information been timely disclosed to the defense is sufficient to undermine confidence in the outcome of the case.

Although a decision has not been made yet regarding retrying Mr. Miles’ cases, the State agrees he is entitled to a

new trial in both cases due to the *Brady* violations.

The Dallas County District Attorney’s (DA) Office is located at the Frank Crowley Courts Building in Dallas, Texas, and is led by District Attorney Craig Watkins, who took office on January 1, 2007. The DA’s Office represents the State of Texas in the prosecution of all Dallas County criminal cases.

For more information about the Dallas County District Attorney’s Office, please visit www.dallasda.com.

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Col. George S. "Spanky" Roberts

Lt. Col. James A. Walker

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Wells Fargo is proud to celebrate Black History as we honor the legacy of the Tuskegee Army aviators and the contributions that African Americans have made in enriching our company and encouraging us all to reach new heights.

To learn more about the heroism of the Tuskegee Army aviators, check out *Red Tails* – in theaters now.

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Community invited to Brown Bag It on March 6 and help VNA Meals on Wheels

The second annual "Brown Bag for VNA Meals on Wheels" campaign is asking individuals to take their lunches to work or school on March 6 and donate what they would usually spend eating out to the Visiting Nurse Association's Meals on Wheels program.

The effort is one of many events scheduled across the U.S. in March to show support for Meals on Wheels and the importance of the program for the homebound elderly in our communities.

"The amount of money that a person typically spends on lunch could cover the cost of Meals on Wheels for two or three seniors," notes Robert Carpenter, president and chief executive officer of the Visiting Nurse Association. "By donating that sum instead to VNA Meals on Wheels and taking a 'brown bag' lunch to work on March 6, we can help ensure that home-delivered meals will continue to reach our frail elderly in Dallas

County."

This year's "Brown Bag for VNA Meals on Wheels" campaign is especially im-



"Brown Bag for VNA Meals on Wheels" on March 6 and help ensure that no senior goes hungry.

portant because of the growing requests for Meals on Wheels and the increasing financial support required to meet these needs.

"Brown Bag for VNA Meals on Wheels" also seeks to encourage volunteer support from individuals, businesses, community service organizations, and churches

to deliver Meals on Wheels.

March was chosen for the campaign because it was during this month in 1972

that the Older Americans Act of 1965 was amended to create the first national nutrition program for the elderly.

For additional information about "Brown Bag for VNA Meals on Wheels," contact Kim Peters with the Visiting Nurse Association at (214) 689-2211 or petersk@vnatexas.org.

UT Dallas honors MLK, as students, educators remember his struggle

UT Dallas senior Jeffrey Okonye says he witnessed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy first-hand last August when he volunteered at the dedication of the civil rights leader's memorial in Washington, D.C.

"The celebrities, political figures and corporate sponsors who came to show their appreciation of the path that he paved for us definitely showed me that this memorial is more than just a way to honor his legacy. It is in fact a beacon of hope," Okonye told a crowd of 250 people at a celebration breakfast held in King's honor at UT Dallas last month.

"That memorial promises all of us that Dr. King's hard work will never be lost in the annals of time and will continue to inspire mankind to be conscious of the way we treat each other."

Okonye, a neuroscience pre-med major, was one of two young leaders who spoke



Brandi Richards, president of the National Urban League Young Professionals, said King's struggle is still relevant to current day fights for justice.

at the event, which carried the theme "The Man, The Monument."

Brandi Richards, the president of the National Urban League Young Professionals, told the audience that her background and personal experience fighting for justice in her job paralleled King's upbringing and his willingness to participate in the struggle for civil rights.

Richards said she has studied the life of King and his writings, which helped her

understand why he persisted with his non-violent movement for equality.

"What only a study of his life can share is the human drama of leading in the face of life-threatening obstacles," she said. "For this, he is most deserving of his feat on the Potomac. Dr. King's decision to lead a movement was pivotal."

"So few people have the opportunity to truly change

See STUDENTS, Page 11

North Dallas Ques host a Talent Hunt Program

Alpha Iota Iota graduate chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. sponsored its 21st annual Talent Hunt program at the Garland Plaza Performing Arts Center. Sixteen (16) outstanding high school students showed off their vast reservoir of talents and captivated the audience.

Performers showed their talents in various categories:

- Speech, vocalist, instrumental and interpretive movement dancers.
- Three (3) professional musicians, Reynolds Barnes, Trenea Hicks, and Norman Williams served as the adjudicators.

Program chairman Bro. Horace Satisfield presented the awards to the 4 winning contestants and certificates to other contestants.

Selected winners are

- 1st Place, Angel Dye, speech, Jack E. Singley Academy

- 2nd Place, Niaps Spain, interpretive movement, Booker T. Washington Performing Arts Center

- 3rd Place, Elliott Skinner, vocalist/instrumental,



(Left to Right): Niaps Spain (2nd Place), Angel Dye (1st Place), Marvin Sorey, Basileus, Elliott Skinner (3rd Place), Horace Satisfield Talent, Hunt Committee Chairman, Xavier Wilson (3rd Place)

Booker T. Washington Performing Arts Center

- 3rd Place, Xavier Wilson, Booker T. Washington Performing Arts Center

Special music performances were provided by pianist Karis Cooks; Boys Scout Troop 120 (presentation of the American Flag); K 5 Range (singing the national anthem), and Dynasty (Step Team, Shepton High School).

The program was enjoyed by the audience, which included family,

friends, community supporters, sponsors and brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. The chapter has a commitment and tradition of providing a positive outlet for student/performers and has produced several 9th District winners.

This exceptional community service program has been chaired by by Brothers Wayne Williams, Lawrence Carriere, Ron Silas, Wayne Powe, Michael Hartman, and the talent hunt chairman, Horace Satisfield.

Such an amazing tournament we had to add a day in the year to do it right... Leap into the

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Ongoing

Every two weeks on Monday the Plano City Council holds its **City Council Meeting** at the Plano Municipal Center, Council Chambers, 1520 K Avenue, Plano, from 7pm – 9:30pm. FREE and open to the public. Info: planotx.org.

Harwood 609, 609 Harwood Street, Dallas, has **Salsa Night** every Thursday night starting at 9:30pm. Info: harwood609jazz.com or 214-740-0609.

Be Fit Frisco presents weekly **Fitness in the Square** sessions Thursday evenings 6:30pm – 7:30pm at Simpson Plaza in front of City Hall, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd, Frisco. FREE. Info: friscotexas.gov.

The Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood Street, Dallas, hosts **Jazz in the Atrium** every Thursday 6pm – 8pm. Performance included with general admission \$10 and under. Info: dallasmuseumofart.org or 214-922-1200.

Harwood 609, 609 Harwood Street, Dallas, hosts an **All You Can Eat Sunday Brunch with Smooth Jazz Sounds of Majik Touch** every Sunday at 11am. Info: harwood609jazz.com or 214-740-0609.

Want to become a better public speaker? **Toastmasters International** has helped people for decades in a mutually supportive, positive, and fun environment. See what it is like for FREE!!! Mtgs are every Monday at 5:45 p.m. Info: 214-566-4086 or <http://texins.freetoasthost.org/>

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce general membership event, Monthly every 2nd Thursday, 6:30 p.m., at various locations within Collin

County. Speakers, Power Networking, Business Referrals, and more! www.ccblackchamber.org or call 469 424-0120.

Through February 11

“Death By Chocolate” by Garland Civic Theatre’s Granville Arts Center Info: www.GarlandCivicTheatre.org or call 972-485-8884

Through April 2

Intermediate Sign Language Classes will be offered on Monday nights from 5:30-6:45 p.m., in the Britain library, 631 Edmondson. Classes are free to families of deaf students, \$10 for district employees and \$20 for all others. For more information, call 972-600-3821

Through December 8

New Life Skills Certificate program for African Women each Saturday morning from 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Audelia Branch Library located 10045 Audelia Rd. (at Church St.) in Dallas. Info: hellen.fissahaie5@gmail.com

Through April 29

Texas Discovery Gardens’ gallery space unveils a new exhibition, **“Echoes of Remembered Gardens,”** by Dallas artist Susan Lecky; admission applies. \$8/adults, \$6/ages 60+, and \$4/ages 3 to 11. Free for members or on Tuesdays (butterfly house admission regular price).

Through February 26

The Secret Lives of Girls on stage at the Dallas Children’s Theater Center www.dct.org

February 17

Old School 94.5 Love Train Tour featuring the OJays, Chaka Khan, and hosted by Tom Joyner slated for American Airlines Center at 6 p.m.

www.ticketmaster.com.

February 18

Teen Scene Summit by The Baker Idea Institute: “It Gets Better” A youth theater Speaks Up, Acts Out, Steps Forward from 9:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Info: www.bakeridea.org

Garland Symphony Orchestra Concert V at 8 p.m. at Granville Arts Center – Brownlee Auditorium in Garland call 972-205-2790.

February 19

African American Read-In at the Carrollton Public Library at Josey Ranch Lake (1700 Keller Springs) and offered free to the public; call 972-466-4800.

Arts-N-Lyrics Festival of Plays at the Plaza Theatre in Garland at 4 p.m. Tickets: www.artsnlyrics.com or at the door. Online: \$17.50 Door: \$20.

February 20

Social service funding applications due to the City of Lewisville at noon, info: Grants Specialist Sheena Jackson at 972-219-5026 or sjackson@city-of-lewisville.com.

February 22

Black Hairitage Read-in 7-9 p.m. at Pan African Connection Bookstore at 828 4th. Ave., Dallas, children are free, adults \$5

Hand In Hand is a program designed for adults to enjoy with their preschooler. Each week enjoy stories, music, activities and c... Dallas Museum of Natural History. 214-428-5555

DFW Writers Workshop For over 30 years, members have met to read and critique each others work. 817-685-1649

“Barbed-Wire Art, Border Myths and Immigration Violence” with Maria Herrera-Sobek, professor of Chicana/o and border studies at the Univ. of California Santa Barbara; Josiah Heyman, anthropology prof at the University of Texas El Paso, and Roberto Villalon, sociology prof at St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. 5:30–7:30 p.m., SMU McCord Auditorium, 306 Dallas Hall

February 23-26

Dallas Black Dance’s Cultural Awareness Series at Dee and Charles Wyly Theater, Tickets: www.dbdt.com

February 26

Lady Diamond performing at **House of Blues Gospel Brunch** at 12:30 p.m., 214-978-2583.

February 25

Fine Arts Chamber Players’ FREE Bancroft Family Concert at the Dallas Museum of Art at 3 p.m. at 1717 North Harwood, Dallas. Info: 214.520.2219 or www.fineartschamberplayers.org

Biology of Butterflies is 10 a.m. to noon - Go beyond the butterfly basics at Texas Discovery Gardens Cost: \$15; \$10 for TDG Members; Info: http://texasdiscoverygardens.org/events_and_classes.php

February 28

The North Texas Tollway Authority’s Vendor Outreach Symposium in Denton from 4 – 6 p.m. at the Martin Luther King Recreation Center, 1300 Wilson Street. Info: 972-447-3333 or VendorOutreach@NTTA.org

March 2 – 22

GISD Senior Art Show at Granville Arts Center Gallery in Garland

March 24

“Sharia: Threat or Hype?” - Open House at Islamic Center of Irving from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at 2555 Esters Road in Irving. Food and refreshments will be served. Also includes mosque tour. This event is FREE and OPEN to the public of all faith backgrounds. Pre-registration at <http://outreach.irvingmasjid.org> or call 972-812-2230, ext. 1005.

March 3

Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez’s **Wine and Cheese Fundraiser** from 4- 6 p.m. Info: msnilknarf22@att.net

March 11

“Preach Woman Preach” & “The Pastor’s Wife” at 7:30 p.m. at the Plaza Theatre in Garland Bridgette Monroe’s two-in-one gospel music stage tickets available at www.JabezEntertainment.ws are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Info: 214-259-6052 or 214-607-2363.

March 8

The DBA Democratic Forum at 5:30 p.m. at the Pavilion at the Belo Mansion, 2101 Ross Avenue in downtown Dallas

March 15

The DBA Republican Forum at 5:30 p.m. at the Pavilion at the Belo Mansion, 2101 Ross Avenue in downtown Dallas

March 16-17

Lewisville Summer Musicals season will kick off with **“His Eye in on the Sparrow: The Ethel Waters Story.”** This powerful musical drama by playwright Larry Parr is based on the heart-wrenching tale of Ethel Waters and her early life in Philadelphia. Tickets and info: www.Texasfamilymusicals.com or 800-547-4697

March 29

“Elections, the Law and Languages at the Border” discussion by Luis Fraga, director of the Diversity Research Institute and political science professor at the University of Washington; Luis Plascencia, social and behavioral sciences professor at Arizona State University; and John Lipski, professor of Spanish linguistics at Pennsylvania State University. 5:30–7:30 p.m., SMU McCord Auditorium, 306 Dallas Hall

April 2

“What is New About Immigration in the United States?” Nancy Foner, a Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Hunter College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York, will present SMU’s 2012 George and Mary Foster Lecture in Cultural Anthropology. 5:30–7:30 p.m., SMU McCord Auditorium, 306 Dallas Hall

April 4

“Screening of El Norte, with Commentary by SMU Distinguished Anthropology Professor Caroline B. Brettell.” The 1983 documentary *El Norte*, directed by Gregory Nava, is the story of two Guatemala Mayan peasants, a brother and sister, who flee their country because of political persecution and head north. 6:30–8:30 p.m., SMU McCord Auditorium, 306 Dallas Hall

April 26

“Environmental Justice and the Maquilladora Murders” presented by Daisy L. Machado, dean of Academic Affairs and professor of church history at Union Theological Seminary in NYC. Evelyn Parker, associate professor of practical theology at SMU Perkins School of Theology. 6:30–8 p.m., Prothro Hall at SMU Perkins School of Theology, 5901 Bishop Blvd.

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The History of Hip Hop

BY TAYLOR HARRIS
NDG SPECIAL
CONTRIBUTOR

During Black History month, students are bombarded with facts about the important attributions African Americans have contributed to society. We learn that African Americans were not just main contributors to the civil rights movement, but in government, engineering, and the medical field as well.

One aspect we need not leave out while reviewing black history is music. From the African drums to the blues, gospel, jazz and funkadelic era came a genre diverse and unique in its own way (other wise known as rap.) People will argue the in-

originators of rap, and Clive Campbell *a.k.a.* DJ Kool Herc is always at the top of the list. Jamaican born Campbell was one of the first DJs to display break dancing in 1975. The eccentric Afrika Bambaata is credited with coining the phrase “hip hop” as referring to a culture and establishing the four elements of hip hop: deejaying, emceeing, graffiti and dancing.

Another father of rap music and self proclaimed “bluesologist” was the late Gil Scott Heron. He recorded poetry over a beat in the late 1970s, inspiring many artists after him. The group that made speed rapping popular was Treacherous Three. One of the first female MC’s was Sha-Rock who made her



Naughty by Nature

the Funky 4 + 1. If you ask your parents, the name, Kurtis Blow might be familiar, as he was the first rap artist to sell a gold record, *The Breaks*.

Videos are basically standard with every popular song in 2012, but the first artist to make a rap video was the Whodini with *Magic’s Wand* in 1982. As far as films are concerned, *Wild Style* and *Krush Grove* were among the first films and documentaries created about rap.

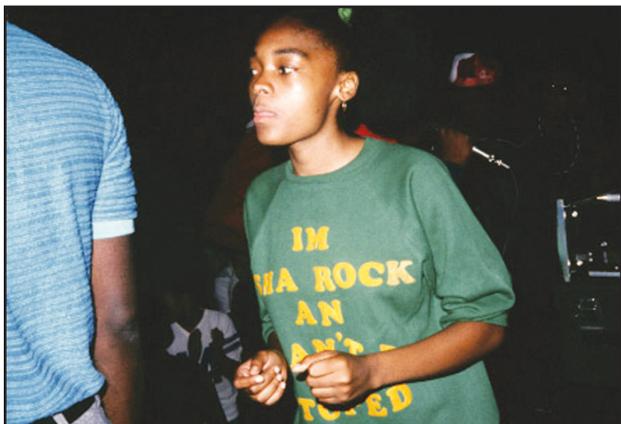
Although it did not

gain much fame, the Funky 4 +1’s record King Tim III Personality Jock

first artist, LL Cool J. As far as the underground scene for rap, Erik Sermon

When *Yo MTV Raps* aired in 1989, the audience for rap music was no longer simply inner city youth. No longer new to the music industry, rap music made its mark proclaiming it’s here to stay. Flowing for arguably to a 30-year beat, with new rappers, styles, and sound, the game is constantly changing. While it continues to change, we cannot move on and forget the pioneers, just as we cannot forget our ancestors.

As we celebrate Black History Month to honor the accomplishments of African Americans in the rap industry, civil rights, and all aspects of life, we must remember celebrating Black History month is not to capture our minds from the last day of January to the first day of



Sha Rock

fluence of rap music as positive and negative forever, but the magnitude of the impact of rap is not up for discussion.

Now that we have entered 2012, rap music is now almost over the hill. No longer just the young people’s racket, it is now established as age defiant and color blind as well. Avid fans can recite the Martin Luther Kings of rap music, but let us not forget the Julian Bond’s and Dave Dennis’ either.

Music lovers list many different people as the

mark with a group called



Gil Scott Heron

was one of the first mainstream rap songs. It was Grand Master Flash’s *The Message* that led to the transition of mainstream rap from a party focus to a music that provided a voice for the frustrations of a generation. The music spotlighted the poverty in the inner city during the 1980s. Meanwhile Def Jam, the music label established by Russell Simmons in 1984, signed its

of EPMD was one of the originators.

Rap music hit the jackpot when DJ Jazzy Jeff and Will Smith (then known as The Fresh Prince) won the first Grammy for best Rap Performance in 1988. The winning song was, *Parents Just Don’t Understand*. Later the duo Naughty By Nature, won best rap album for *Poverty’s Paradise* in 1996.

March, but to recapitulate the history of an accomplished people.

“If a race has no recognized or recorded history, its achievements would be forgotten and finally claimed by other groups.” Dr. Carton Woodson, father of Black History.

Taylor Harris is a senior at Duncanville High School in Duncanville, Texas.

Goin' To Chicago

The Story of America's Great Migrations

Goin' to Chicago is a moving tribute to a generation of African-Americans who struggled and *triumphed* over odds as great or greater than other immigrant groups.

To celebrate Black History month Black Cinemathèque Dallas is calling everybody whose folks left the South and went North seeking sanctuary from the Jim Crow terrorists on Sunday, February 19 at 3 p.m. at Pan

African Connection 828 Fourth Avenue in South Dallas. Admission price is donate what you can.

The 60 minute film shares the bitter recollections of sharecropping --- owing half of each crop to the landowner, the backbreaking labor in the fields from sun up to sun down, the total disrespect and the loss of life and limbs.

Once in Chicago every-

thing was not all roses but Black people had some breathing space to raise a family, make a living, play the blues and check Mr. Charlie when necessary. On the South Side Black people built a vibrant city-within-a-city of thriving black businesses and civic institutions, proudly referred to as "Bronzeville."

For more info call 214-426-1683 or Pan African Connection 214-943-8262.

No one is safe in Safe House but they are entertained

BY RUTH FERGUSON
NDG EDITOR

Denzel Washington does bad boys with a twist very well.

Washington and Ryan play a cat and mouse game in *Safe House*

In *Safe House* Washington plays Tobin Frost, a rogue CIA agent who went off the reservation nearly 10 years ago. However, when some very heavily armed



Washington and Ryan play a cat and mouse game in *Safe House*

killers are in hot pursuit he turns himself in. Frost clearly figures better to deal

live another day to deal with legal consequences than face the ruthless killers on his tail.

At least that is what Frost wants the government to think.

Frost is taken to a "safe house" for his interrogation in South Africa where a rookie agent named Matt

See **HOUSE**, Page 13

Jersey Boys tickets go on sale Friday

Tickets will go on sale Sunday, February 12 at 10 a.m. for the Dallas return engagement of the Tony, Grammy and Olivier Award-winning hit musical *Jersey Boys*, the story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, playing the Winspear Opera House for five weeks only, June 12 through July 15, 2012.

Directed by two-time Tony® Award-winner Des McAnuff, *Jersey Boys* won the 2006 Tony® Award for Best Musical, the 2006 Grammy Award® for Best Musical Show Album, the 2009 Olivier Award for Best New Musical, the 2010 Helpmann Award for Best Musical (Australia), and continues to break box office records on Broadway and across North America. *Jersey Boys* worldwide has been seen by approximately 13 million people (as of July 17,

2011). *Jersey Boys* is written by Academy Award® - winner Marshall Brickman and Rick Ellice, with music by Bob Gaudio, lyrics by



Jersey Boys

Bob Crewe and choreography by Sergio Trujillo.

Jersey Boys is the story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons: Frankie Valli, Bob Gaudio, Tommy DeVito and Nick Massi. This is the story of how a group of blue-collar boys from the wrong side of the tracks became one of the biggest American pop music sensations of all time. They wrote their own songs, invented their own sound and sold 175

million records worldwide - all before they were thirty.

Jersey Boys will appear in Dallas at the Winspear Opera House June 12 through July 15, 2012. The performance schedule is available on line at www.attpac.org/jerseyboys.

Tickets for *Jersey Boys* begin at \$27.50 and can be purchased online at www.attpac.org/jerseyboys, by phone at 214.880.0202, or in person at the AT&T Performing Arts Center Box Office at the Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora Street (Monday through Saturday, 10 am - 6 pm; Sunday 11 am - 4 pm), or at the remote Box Office at Park Place Lexus Plano at 1025 Preston Road. For more information, visit www.JerseyBoysTour.com or www.attpac.org/jerseyboys.

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STUDENTS, continued from Page 7

the world for the better through their leadership, and Dr. King is one of those people who managed to do that," said UT Dallas President David E. Daniel. "I think it's appropriate and wonderful that we celebrate the legacy of Dr. King and we get reminded of the wonderful principles that were the foundation of the movement he led and that we never forget that."

The crowd stood and several attendees sang along with

Dee Lambert, UT Dallas assistant director of Enrollment Services, when she performed the Negro National Anthem. UT Dallas housing operations staffer Donna Blouin led the invocation by singing "Amazing Grace," for which she received a standing ovation. Aundra Smith, with the Sacred Dance Ministry at St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church, performed a celebration of dance.

Dr. Magaly Spector, UT

Dallas vice president for diversity and community engagement, ended the event with remarks on King's impact.

"I would like to take the opportunity to remind you that there are a lot of kids out there in poverty that need our help to make it to college," she said. "That really to honor King, we should help those kids, those people that still have to see how they can make it in life."



Sports Talk with Spider

Why does the typical pro-athlete career consist of the rags -to-riches-to rags story. This despite the athlete receiving millions of dollars through endorsements, investments and a decent salary. I cannot understand how these professional athletes are completely broke and in the unemployment line within six

Another one bites the dust

years after being in front of the cameras each week.

The latest victims to bite the dust include the flamboyant Terrell Owens, former NFL wide receiver who was passed up by 32 teams during the 2011 season; and Antoine Walker a three time NBA All-star who played in Boston, Dallas, Miami, Memphis and Puerto Rico.

Owens the former Dallas Cowboy receiver who was quoted in a recent article ad-

mitting he has blown \$80 million during his fifteen-year career. He acknowledged spending millions of dollars on exotic cars and homes that he did not need or afford. The child support payments to four different women did not help his financial stability either.

"I hate myself for letting this happen," Owens told GQ. "I believed that they had my back when they said, 'You

See DUST, Page 13

MORTGAGE, continued from Page 3

that are underwater."

For consumers and communities seeking financial relief and fairness, the settlement offers three key takeaways:

1. Bank accountability: The settlement preserves the right to pursue claims of criminal violations. State attorneys general can also initiate cases related to fair lending abuses and securities fraud.

2. A stop to robo-signing and other mortgage servicing abuses: Banks are required to review foreclosure documents individually. Before a foreclosure can lawfully proceed, other options must be exhausted. Settlement payments for each family affected by robo-signing could receive \$2,000. Even if a payment is accepted, homeowners who have already lost their homes to foreclosure could still sue the bank for damages.

3. Strong enforcement: An independent monitor will regularly assess bank performance against a series of measures related to loan modifications and foreclosure. Any violations found will trigger penalties up to \$1 million per violation or up to \$5 million for certain repeat violations. Joseph A. Smith, most recently the North Carolina Commissioner of Banks, will oversee implementation of the new servicing standards.

In June 2010, CRL research found that African-American and Latino homeowners with mortgages lost \$350 billion of family wealth through foreclo-

sures. A 2011 foreclosure update by CRL again found that these communities of color continued to suffer disproportionate losses. Even when African-American and Latino consumers had high credit scores of 660 or more, they were still three times more likely than similar white consumers to receive a high-cost loan with risky features.

Wade Henderson, president and CEO of the Lead-

ership Conference on Civil and Human Rights said of the settlement, You cannot put a dollar value on the suffering of these families but we can seek progress. And today's settlement is a step in the right direction."

Charlene Crowell is a communications manager with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at: Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org

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Love Field showcases modernization program to news media

Dallas Love Field Airport recently showcased progress on the Love Field Modernization Program, taking members of the news media on a tour of the facility under construction, and providing an overview of the renovation plan. An estimated eight million people use Dallas Love Field Airport annually.

Love Field's renovated and updated lobby and security checkpoint in Terminal 2 was completed on Jan. 18. Interim Director of Aviation Mark Duebner said the new ticket wing will open this fall and the first 12 gates of the new terminal will open in spring and summer of 2013.

With expiration of the Wright Amendment in October 2014, the remaining eight gates and the new baggage claim will be open to accommodate the planned increase in the number of flights arriving and departing Love Field. The final installation of public art will also be in place. The \$519 million modernization program has created approximately 9,000 jobs.

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HORIZON, continued from Page 1

deliver a conciliatory message, they were surprised again. Throughout his speech Muhammad reiterated his concerns about the state of Black America, and outlined how others take advantage of Blacks throughout history and today.

The occasion was the 1st Annual Special General Meeting and Leadership conference of the 24th Federation of Korean Associations of America at the Omni Hotel. Following a luncheon, the event was kicked off with remarks from Eugene Yu, President of the Federation of Korean Associations, USA. Yu is serving in his first year. He reminded the members that life in America finds enjoying the benefits of the best form of government in the world –

whether city, local or federal.

“We clearly understand what the red stripe [in the U.S. flag] is for. It is the blood shed in America and in Korea,” Yu said making reference to American lives lost during the Korean War in the middle of the last century.

Korean Americans are one of the fast growing demographics in the U.S.; he shared, with their numbers currently over 3.5 million. Their influence is seen in the arts, academic and engineering industries.

Over the last several months, Yu and Benjamin Jealous of the National Association of Colored People (NAACP) have held discussions regarding the signing of a Memorandum of Un-

derstanding (MOU). Their goal is to encourage Korean Americans to become members of the NAACP. It is hoped through working together the two communities can address misperceptions each hold of the other.

Yu reminded the audience to remember, “First and foremost, we are Americans.”

Following remarks from other officials with the association, Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings welcomed the convention attendees to Dallas. He pointed out the Dallas/Fort Worth community is the 4th largest in country and one of the fastest growing.

Rawlings credits the growth to the multi-cultural community, “We understand people want opportunity. So

many have come and built a great life.”

Acknowledging he does not know the facts related to the disagreement between Muhammad and Pak, Rawlings encouraged the parities to address the situation, “intellectually honest.” He extended his willingness to be of assistance if needed.

Muhammad opened his remarks with the caution that the Koreans and others can never understand African Americans, “if you do not know what has happened to us.”

When it comes to the idea that President Barack Obama's election in 2008 ushered in an era of America being post-racial, Muhammad said that is not the case at all. America is not post-racial, “because a few have

been bought out.” It is impossible for the country to be post-racial when the majority of blacks are still in poverty.

“It is not alright to have one Michael Jordan, Oprah and Michael Jackson.”

He bluntly stated that Korean Americans are reaping financially from African American women who are taught, “their kinky hair is ugly. You are sucking billions from our community,” referring to billions African American women spend on hair care products annually to straighten their hair.

However, Muhammad pointed out to the audience African Americans are not asking Korean Americans for anything, “We want the same things you want.”

Alluding to the MOU

between the Korean Federation and the NAACP, Muhammad described the NAACP's willingness to accept dues from them as “a sellout and it is wrong.”

In reference to Mayor Rawling's comments regarding economic development opportuneness, Muhammad said, “we are not asking for an economic development plan within our community.” Instead the access to loans is what he feels is needed, “Not just to a select few of us. We want it for all and we can do it for ourselves.”

Earlier this week, Mayor Rawlings announced a privately funded economic development plan for South Dallas and pledged to personally remain engaged in the project.

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Job fair at UNT in March

WOW: World of Work Career Fair is scheduled for March 1 at the University of North Texas in Dallas (UNT), 4-7p.m., in Building 1 of the Atrium. Meet a diversity of UNTD students and faculty as well as other students from the surrounding community

colleges and universities. Employers can offer opportunities for full-time and part-time employment, internships, volunteer and service learning opportunities.

Cost is for two reps with one six foot table with tablecloth and skirt and two

chairs: for profit organizations is \$75; for nonprofits it is \$35

To register visit Jaguar Jobs at <http://dallas-unt-csm.sym-licity.com>. Choose employer and log in with your user name and password.

HOUSE, continued from Page 10

Weston (Ryan Reynolds) is anxious for his first real assignment. Instead, for the last 12 months Weston has been twiddling his thumbs in what his beautiful girlfriend thinks is a hospital. After complaining about wanting a job opening in Paris, Weston settles in for what he thinks is going to be another mind numbing day in this complex alone.

However, shortly after a team of agents lead by Daniel Kiefer (Robert Patrick) show up with Frost at the proverbial safe house, so do the killers and a blood-bath ensues. Before Weston realizes it he is on the run

with Frost to stay alive. A partnership Frost is not very keen on.

Safe House excels in two areas: action packed and the relationship between Weston and Frost. The car chase scenes are on the edge of your seat good, which thrilled the pre-opening screening audience.

In addition to the top notch, chase scenes and shootouts, the audience will delight with the cat and mouse game. Washington and Reynolds have a good chemistry of as the wise old pro and the new kid still wet behind his ears.

Back at the "farm" which is Langley the home of the

CIA, there is a bit of a power struggle going on between David Barlow (Brendan Gleeson) and Catherine Linklater (Vera Farmiga). Managing the team is Sam Shepherd's Harlan Whitford, who is keeping his eye on the political fallout at all times too.

This flick is not quite *Training Day*, Washington is not even in it as much, but it is a flick that provides solid entertainment. The movie should help Reynolds rebound from a few recent disappointments. The final scene especially seems to leave the door open for the possibilities of a sequel.

It is rated R for strong violence and language.

DUST, continued from Page 11

take care of the football, and we'll do the rest.' And in the end, they just basically stole from me."

It's baffling to me that these athletes create these situations after the history of past athletes like Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Tony Dorsett, Michael Ray Richardson, and André Rison. There is a long list of athletes who were taken by agents, financial advisers, bankers and other money-sucking vampires.

What is it? What will it take for them to learn? Are they irresponsible, careless, clueless, or what?

Making a lot of money does not make you smart or financial successful if do not

educate yourself with finance/accounting 101. You must be able to count and manage your own money. The monies these two guys blew total \$190 million during their careers. This equals the budget for some South American countries and would feed a third world country for 20 years.

Are we to feel sorry for these guys and start a collection plate for their stupidity and extravagant lifestyle? Or should we just continue our daily lives of 8 hours work equal 8 hours of pay, while we keep the checkbook balanced?

You can listen to Donald "Spider" Willis on Sport Talk

with Spider each Sunday from 7:00pm to 9:00pm CST on fishbowlradionetwork.com or email him at dwillisdw@yahoo.com. For suggestion and show topics call 469-335-668.

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Call 972-423-8833 for AFFECT, Inc. or email: AFFECTxInc@aol.com for counseling services, resources and assistance for job readiness and training programs for individuals. For couples we offer services for marital relationships and for ex-offenders we offer programs for getting back into the work force.

February 23, 12 Noon

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

Brother Ramon Hodridge, Minister
1026 Avenue F
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8833
www.avefchurchofchrist.org

BIBLE WAY COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

February 19

Join us in Sunday School at 9:35 a.m.; and Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. as we worship and praise God. The Word of God transforms lives.

February 22, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Bible Class as we study the Word of God and give Him honor and praise.

Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Sr., Senior Pastor
4215 N. Greenview Drive
Irving, TX 75062
972-257-3766
www.biblewayirving.org

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES

February 2012, New Days, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Visit Helen's House Tuesdays and Fridays (exceptions are bad weather and holidays) to receive, to give, to comfort and 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

EIRENE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

February 19, 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Join us in Morning Worship as we honor and praise God for His blessings.

February 22, 7:30 p.m.

You're invited to Bible Class as we study the Word of God and give Him honor and praise.

Pastor Autry
701 E. Centennial Blvd.
Richardson, TX 75081
972-991-0200
www.followpeace.org

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "The Ship"

Monday – Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

TheShip3C's Prayer Lines for those in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567 or they may be submitted via email to: prayerline@theship3c.org

February 19, 9:30 a.m.

Join us and experience the joy of praising and worshipping God to the fullest at Story Elementary School, 1550 Edelweiss Drive, Allen, TX. We will praise God for His blessings.

February 22, 7:00 p.m.

You're invited to our Wednesday Night Live in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall on Belmont Drive. Also, come to our Corporate Prayer and our Kidz Zone (an environment to equip children to grow and to show God's love.)

Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr., Ed.D. Senior Pastor
1550 Edelweiss Drive
In Allen for Sunday Morning Worship.
Admin. Building Address
Is 200 W. Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956
www.theship3c.org

MT. PISGAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH "The Rock"

February 19, 10 a.m.

Join us in Sunday Worship as we give God excellence praise without excuse.

February 22

Come to our Noonday Bible Study to learn more about the Word of God; and at 7 p.m. for our Wednesday Night Bible Study.

Pastor Robert Townsend
11611 Webb Chapel Road
Dallas, TX 75229
972-241-6151
www.dallasmtpisgah.org

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

February 21, 6:30 p.m.

There are Reading and Math tutoring classes for grades 1-6, call for details and bring your children.

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

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

February 24, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Single Parent Support Group. Call Pastor Cooper at 972-437-3493, Ext 104 or email him at rcooper@ndcbf.org for details.

February 25, 12 Noon

For those in need, come to our Grief Recovery Support Group. Call Tera McFarland at 972-437-3493, Ext 111 or email her at tmcfarland@ndcbf.org for details.

Dr. Leslie W. Smith, Senior Pastor
1010-1020 S. Sherman Street
Richardson, TX 75081
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www.ndcbf.org

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVERS COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE (PACE)

February 25, 9 a.m.

Pace has partnered with Bubb's Fundraiser in the Ultimate Recycling Program to benefit high school graduates with scholarships. You can help by donating your recyclables at 2000 Denton Drive in Carrollton, 75006 and get a tax credit for your generosity. For details go to www.pacedfw.org

ROCKBRIDGE CHURCH February 19

Join us in Prayer with Pastor at 8:30 a.m. and stay for Worship Celebration at 10 a.m. as we honor and praise God for His blessings.

February 22, 7 p.m.

You're invited to Bible Study and Awana as we worship and praise God.

Timothy Jones, Lead Pastor
21 Prestige Circle
Allen, TX 75002
214-383-9993
www.rockbridgechurch.com

SAINT MARK MBC IN MCKINNEY

February 16 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Wellness Ministry as we honor and praise God for His goodness.

February 19, 9:30 a.m.

Join us in our Education Ministries; and stay for our Worship Celebration at 10:45 a.m.

February 19, 3 p.m.

You're invited to our 15th Annual Black History program and the Harriet Tubman Trailblazer Award Celebration. Our theme: Looking at our History through Gospel Music. Our guests will include the Terrell Sisters. Refreshment will be served immediately following the program.

Dr. Charles Watley, Senior Pastor
1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX 75069
972-542-6178
www.saintmarkbc.com

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

February 19, 8 a.m. And 11 a.m.

Join us in our Morning Worship times and stay for our Sunday School at 10 a.m.

February 22, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Midweek Service as we worship and praise God.

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr. Senior Pastor
920 E. 14th Street, Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org

THE INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH

February 19, 7:30 a.m.

Join us as we worship, honor and praise God's Holy name.

February 20, 7 p.m.

Come to Monday School as we study the Word of God and worship and praise His name.

Pastor Rickie Rush
7701 S. Westmoreland Road
Dallas, TX 75237
972-372-4262
www.ibocjoy.org

THE NEW LIGHT CHURCH

February 19

You're invited to worship with us on Sunday Mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Sunday School and 11 a.m. in Morning Worship as we celebrate, praise and worship God.

Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor
9314 Elam Road, Dallas, TX 75217
214-391-3430
www.newlightchurchdallas.com

VICTORY BIBLE CHURCH INTERNATIONAL, (VBCI DALLAS)

February 19

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WORD OF LIFE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Early Prayer

Join us in prayer early in the morning at 6 a.m. on Monday - Friday at 1-661-673-8600, Code # 142219 and please put your phone on mute. Prayer will change people, things and situations. God is moving in powerful ways in early Morning Prayer.

February 19, 11 a.m.

Join us for Morning Worship as we honor and praise God for His goodness.

February 21, 7:30 p.m.

You're invited to our School of The Prophets as Pastor Voss; who is also a prophet, bring the Word of God; and we worship and praise His Holy name.

February 23, 7:30 p.m.

Join us in our Gift Stirring Night as Saints of God bring God's Word and reveal their God-given talents.

February 26, 6 p.m.

In conjunction with the Christ Communication Connection Organization (CCC), we invite you to celebrate Black History month with us in Carrollton, Texas.

Dr. Gregory E. Voss, Senior Pastor
2765 Trinity Mills Road, Building 300
Carrollton, TX 75006
214-514-9147

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Story Elementary
1550 Edelweiss Drive
Allen, TX 75002
9:30 AM

Wednesday Night Live Service
200 Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
7:00 PM



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- Sunday School for all ages 8:30 am
- Sunday Morning Prayer 9:30 am
- Sunday Service 10:00 am
- Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm

www.mocop.org

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Sister Tarpley

It is said that Black History is a continuing strength in our society.

I concur; it makes society aware of the great contributions made by Black Americans and it encourages young Black Children to use math and science more; and to do more than sing and dance in the entertainment world.

The true meaning of Black History Month is honor and respect for another person and his/her contribution to society.

Here are some distinguished Black Americans: Richard Allen, an organizer and the first Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME). James Armistead an American spy; but he was born a slave and later he became a valuable intelligence agent during the Revolution War by gathering information concerning British forces at Portsmouth, VA.

George Bonga was a Black American trader of considerable wealth; he served as interpreter at the signing of the Chippewa Treaty of 1837. Ambrose Caliver was a senior specialist in the education of African Americans in the U.S. Office of Education from 1930 to 1946.

Also, Caliver initiated

and directed the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) which President Herbert Hoover created in 1932, it was later replaced in 1935 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA).

FERA gave loans to the states to operate relief programs. But its main goal was alleviating household unemployment by creating new unskilled jobs in local and state government.

WPA emergency education programs under the New Deal created and directed "Freedom's People" a series of nationwide radio broadcasts on the participation of Blacks in American life.

George Carruthers, a Physicist, was one of the two naval research laboratory persons responsible for the Apollo 16 lunar surface camera/spectrograph which was placed on the lunar surface in 1972.

Elmer Simms Campbell was a master cartoonist of sophisticated humor for Esquire and Playboy magazines. His art also appeared in hundreds of newspapers and magazines as a syndicated feature. Albert Cassell, an Architect, he worked on the construction of five buildings at Tuskegee Institute and as a draftsman he was responsible for designing an industrial plan for the man-

ufacture of silk. William Tucker was the first Black child born in America on January 3, 1624 in Jamestown, Virginia, James City County. He was the son of Slaves Anthony and Isabella. He was baptized there and was sold at Fort Monroe to an English sea captain named William Tucker.

Captain B. Collins patented the portable electric light in 1938. Prince Hall petitioned the city of Boston to establish schools for Black children equal in quality to those for white students in 1787. John Rock, an attorney, was the first Black to practice before the U. S. Supreme Court in 1865.

Frederick McKinley Jones, born in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1893 and orphaned at the age of nine, is best remembered for devising a method to refrigerate trucks carrying perishable food, an idea expanded to include air coolers for ships, planes, and trains. As a result of this method called pre-fabricated refrigerated construction, meat, fruit, vegetable, and butter could be transported long distances.

Peter Hill, born a slave was a highly skilled clock maker; only the most skilled craftspeople could create one. Two of the clocks Hill made still exist.



Sister Lahoma Gipson, she is continuing to do God's work in the community of Carrollton, Texas after moving from Amarillo, Texas

One is in the Westtown School in Westtown, Pennsylvania. The other is in the National Museum of History and Technology at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

Andrew Jackson Beard lost his leg by crushing it between two railroads cars, while linking them together. Beard then created a device to hook cars together automatically; it became the model for a national standardized linking mechanism. Beard also patented a new form of plow and a rotary steam engine.

Paul Boli in 1955 invented the first heart pace-

maker. However, Otis Boykin created an electrical mechanism as a regulating unit for it. Raised in Dallas, Texas, Boykin device uses electrical impulses to maintain a steady heart beat.

Frederick M. Jones in-

vented the motor, the ticket-dispensing machine in 1939, the Air Conditioning Unit in 1949, the thermostat control in 1960 and the portable x-ray machine. As a born Texan, I know I thank Frederick M. Jones.

A suggested book list for Black History Month and beyond

By DR. THEMAN R. TAYLOR, SR.

I recently attended the 30th Anniversary Scholarship Gala of the Dallas-Fort Worth Association of Black Journalist (DFW/ABJ), December 1, 2011 at the Fair Park Music Hall. Texas State Senator, Royce West, in his remarks reaffirmed what John Russwurn and Samuel Cornish had in mind in their inaugural edition, of the first Black newspaper in 1827, *Freedom's Journal*; the distinguish Senator stated that "we must tell our own story."

As a Historian, I shall

only add that in order to tell our story we must know our story. The following is a suggested list of books, inspired by the Senator's comments at the DFW/ABJ, which will help US to learn our story in order that we will be prepared to 'tell it.'

The recommended books are:

Mis-Education of the Negro: Carter Goodwin Woodson

The Negro Revolt: Louis E. Lomax

To Kill A Black Man: Louis E. Lomax

See BOOK, Page 16

Black Heritage

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What Color Was Jesus?: Perkins
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