

North Dallas Gazette

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Dr. Ian Smith leading the march on the 'Makeover Mile' this Saturday

By Ruth Ferguson
NDG Editor

Historically, blacks and Latinos are disproportionately impacted by high blood pressure, diabetes and heart problems. That is why Dr. Ian Smith and CVS/pharmacy stores are partnering to host free health awareness events around the country.



Dr. Ian Smith

Smith is leading "The Makeover Mile" this Saturday, March 12. "The Makeover Mile" – a 1-mile community health walk will begin at 11 a.m. at Kiest Park and end at the CVS/pharmacy, 2323 W. Illinois Ave. where the pair is hosting "To Your Health" activities until 4 p.m. "This is literally a free

opportunity – and great opportunity – to turn their life around," Smith shared during a telephone interview last week. The health fair at the CVS store will include not only free health screenings but fitness demonstrations and healthy cooking demon-

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Richardson ISD announces UNCF scholarship program

Scholarships available for Richardson ISD students graduating this Spring

(NDG Wire) UNCF – the United Negro College Fund – and employees of the Richardson Independent School District (RISD) are pleased to announce a new fundraising partnership to create college scholarships for financially disadvantaged Richardson ISD students. In addition to a workplace giving campaign that will run on all RISD cam-

puses through March 15th, individuals, churches, civic organizations and businesses located in Richardson and the surrounding communities will also be encouraged to donate to the scholarship program at <http://give.uncf.org/RichardsonISDCampaign>

The Richardson ISD / UNCF scholarship will be open to Spring 2011 RISD



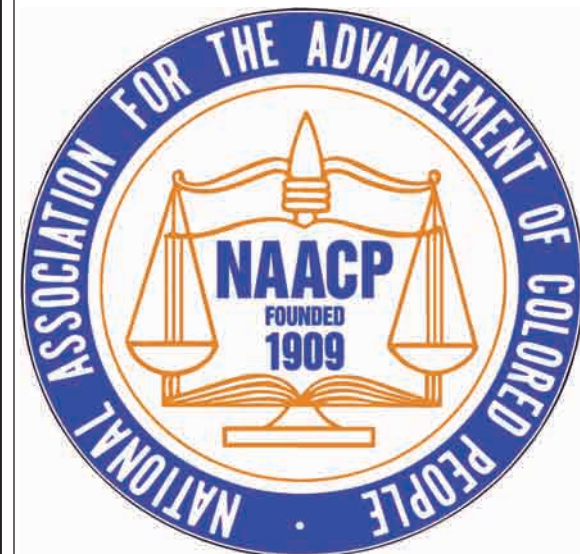
Diane Stephenson of UNCF and Dr. Kay Waggoner, RISD Superintendent at the campaign kick-off.

graduating seniors who will attend a UNCF member college/university or any other 4-year fully accredited U.S. college or university. Scholarships of \$1,000 each will be awarded to students who demonstrate financial need and academic potential. Students must have a cumulative

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COVER STORY

Tribune CEO, NNPA chair rebuke NAACP



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Boris Kodjoe appearing at local basketball tournament

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

COMMENTARY

Stop housing cuts

By Judge Greg Mathis
Once again, the Republican Party is showing that it cares very little about the average American and their struggles. While taking a stab and crafting a budget that will serve the nation in the long-term, Republican members of the House of Representatives proposed cutting \$5.7 billion from affordable housing programs. They also want to eliminate more than \$550 million from a program that offsets rent costs for low-income senior citi-

zens and do away with over \$200 million that helps people with disabilities pay for housing. If that weren't enough, they also want to end funding for a program that provides counseling to families fighting foreclosure.

The recession has seen an increase in the number of homeless people in this country. With so many Americans out of work or employed in low paying positions, rent is an expense that eats away at a large chunk of what-

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Hunger a growing concern for Texas elderly

by Ollie Besteiro
President, AARP Texas

For thousands of Texans, eating dinner tonight is not a foregone conclusion.

Texas has the fourth highest hunger rate among the elderly. As Texans fight tooth and nail for their legislative prior-

ities this session, many of the most vulnerable among us are losing a much more difficult battle – the fight against hunger.

During the month of March – National Nutrition Month – it is important to remember the nearly one in five

Texans at risk of going hungry. And the problem goes well beyond our borders. Of the 51 million Americans who struggle with hunger every day, more than 6 million are over the age of 60. This is a

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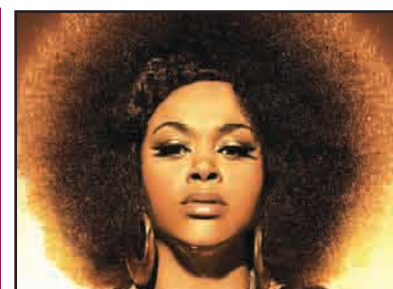
People In The News...



Richard Knight



Jason Terry



Jill Scott

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Richard Knight

Gov. Rick Perry has appointed four members to the Texas Southern University Board of Regents.

Gary Bledsoe of Austin is an attorney in private practice and a former assistant attorney general for the State of Texas. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas and Travis County Bar Association. He is also president of the Texas State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Branches, and a member of the NAACP National Board of Directors. Bledsoe received

a bachelor's degree and law degree from the University of Texas. He is reappointed for a term to expire Feb. 1, 2017.

Samuel 'Sam' Bryant of Austin is president of Bryant Wealth Investment Group L.L.C. He is a member of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, president of the Mt. Sinai Christian Academy Advisory Committee, and a board member of the Capital Area United Way and Westminster Manor of Austin. He is also a past board member of the Austin Community Foun-



dation and Boys and Girls Club of Austin, and a past advisory board member of the Central Texas Chapter of Communities in Schools. He served in the U.S.

Army. Bryant received a bachelor's degree from Tuskegee University. He is reappointed for a term to expire Feb. 1, 2017.

Richard Knight Jr. of Dallas is chairman and managing partner of Pegasus Texas Construction LP. He is a former city manager of Durham and Carrboro, NC and Gainesville, FL, and was the first African-American city manager of Dallas. He is chair of the Black Contractors Association and Frazier Revitalization Inc., a board member of the Dallas Children's Medical Center and

Dallas- Fort Worth Metroplex Salvation Army, and an executive committee member of the State Fair of Texas. He is also past vice president of the International City Management Association and past chair of Goodwill Industries of Dallas. He served in the U.S. Army. Knight received a bachelor's degree from Fort Valley State College and a master's degree in public administration from the University of North Carolina. He is reappointed for a term to expire Feb. 1, 2017.

Marilyn Rose of Houston is a certified public accountant, a registered Texas

assessor/collector, and an internal auditor for the Harris County Tax Office. She is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors, a board member of the Texas Organization of Youth Sports, and a past board member of the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America. Rose received a bachelor's degree from Prairie View A&M University and a Master of Business Administration from Texas Southern University. She is appointed for a term to expire Feb. 1, 2015.

These appointments are subject to Senate confirmation.

Jason Terry

Dancing, dinner and fond memories between fathers and their daughters will mark the debut of the annual Jason Terry Foundation Father-Daughter Ball, "A Royal Affair." The Dallas community is invited to share an evening to highlight and celebrate the importance of the father/daughter relationship while raising scholarship

funds for deserving high school students. This is near and dear to Jason Terry's heart, as he cherishes the bond he has with his four daughters and his commitment to assisting youth realize their dreams through his scholarship program.

Dads and daughters will have the opportunity to pose for photos, bid on fabulous silent auction items and have a chance to win prizes during this Fa-

ther's Day event.

"A Royal Affair" Father-Daughter Ball is an opportunity for fathers and daughters to enjoy a memorable night of fun, food, and dancing. Our intention is to put together a celebration that will highlight the special relationship between fathers and daughters that often get overlooked within families. I know that the four princesses in my life motivate me to be the best fa-



ther to them that I can be. I am blessed to be in a position where I am living out

my dream everyday and if I can use my celebrity to help others in need, it is my honor and responsibility to do so," said Terry.

Sponsors for the inaugural ball include: The Dallas Mavericks Foundation, Neiman Marcus Willow Bend, M & M The Special Events Company, Ghnii Designs and Superwife Productions.

"Neiman Marcus Willow Bend is proud to support the Jason Terry Foun-

dation's first annual Father-Daughter Ball. His foundation is making a difference in our community by helping under privileged children and by presenting scholarships to the youth of North Texas," said Marcus Wyss, Vice President/General Manager Neiman Marcus Willow Bend.

Scott Berk, Vice President and General Manager of M&M Special Events

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Jill Scott

After over 4 million records sold and numerous awards across music and film over the past decade, three-time Grammy Award winning singer/actress Jill Scott is proud to announce that she has entered into a distribution



deal with Warner Bros. Records. The unique relationship with the iconic label bolsters the Jill Scott brand into the next phase of her successful career. Jill's eagerly awaited fourth studio

album, *The Light Of The Sun* will be released later this year.

"I've always looked to empower my fans through my message of love, independence and strength," comments Jill. "A lot has gone on in my life since my last album, so I'm extremely excited to share the new music with all of the people that have supported me these past ten plus years. This album is very revealing, and I can't wait for everyone to hear it."

"As the music industry evolves, the relationship between artist, management and label is constantly changing," comments Shawn Gee of Sports & Entertainment Financial Group, Jill's business partner. "Foregoing the traditional formula and strategically creating a true partnership amongst us all, I have to commend Warner Bros. for recognizing Jill's worldwide brand and acting

on it."

Warner Bros. Records CEO Todd Moscovitz reveals, "Jill Scott is a masterful performer with a proven artistry across film, TV and music. We are thrilled at the prospects with this partnership and eager to steward the next phase of this uber-talented artist's career."

Currently in the studio putting the final touches on *The Light Of The Sun*, a sneak preview was most recently given to the hundreds of thousands that packed her widely successful 20-city national arena tour with Grammy Award winning singer Maxwell. The powerful duo sold out full arenas throughout the country, including New York City's legendary Madison Square Garden and Los Angeles's Staples Center. Fans can expect to hear even more off the new album when Jill headlines the upcoming Essence Music Festival alongside Kanye West and Mary J.

Blige, July 4th weekend.

Three-time Grammy Award winning singer-songwriter, New York Times Best-selling poet, and critically acclaimed actress are only a few titles held by Jill Scott. Before being named People Magazine's Top TV Breakout Star of 2010 and appearing on VH1 Divas alongside Aretha Franklin, the triple threat began her career collaborating with musical icons, The Roots, Will Smith, and Common in the late 90s. In 2000, she released her much anticipated debut record, *Who is Jill Scott? Words & Sounds, Vol. 1*, a double platinum album that earned Scott several Grammy nominations, including Best New Artist. Two more critically acclaimed albums followed, *Beautifully Human: Words & Sounds, Vol. 2* and *The Real Thing: Words & Sounds, Vol. 3* which garnered two more Grammy Awards and spawned multiple worldwide

tours.

Not just limited to music, Jill Scott is a true multimedia brand across books, clothing, TV and film. Most recently,

Jill was cast as the lead character in the HBO/BBC mini series filmed on location in

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North Dallas Gazette

3401 Custer Rd., Suite 169 • Plano, Texas 75023

Phone: 972-516-4191

Fax: 972-509-9058



Publisher's Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

opportunity@northdallasgazette.com

Editorial Department:

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

www.twitter.com/NDGEditor

www.facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette

Website:

www.NorthDallasGazette.com

STAFF

Chairman Emeritus

Jim Bochum

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Editor

Ruth Ferguson

Business Manager

Lora Cormier

Published By

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Production

Sharon Jones-Scaife

Staff Writer

Tonya Whitaker

Special Projects Manager

Edward Dewayne

"Preacher Boy" Gibson, Jr.

Contributing Writer

Jackie Hardy

Religious/

Marketing Editor

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Toyota Motor Company Disrespects and Devalues the Patronage of their Black Consumer

By Danny J. Bakewell Sr., Chairman, NNPA

I have recently been shocked and appalled by ads that I and other Black publishers saw in several major newspapers (The New York Times, Chicago Tribune, etc.) confirming that Toyota spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to advertise in white mainstream daily newspapers "THANKING" their general market consumers for their loyalty and patronage to Toyota during their time of major controversy and concerns over the safety of Toyota's vehicles.

Thanking their customers is a smart move on Toyota's behalf and one that I applaud. However, we can't overlook the fact that Black people represent almost 10% of Toyota's American market share, and with a \$1.2 billion annual advertising budget it is not unreasonable for the Black Press to always expect to have a stake in Toyota's advertising (including Black advertising agencies). Nevertheless, Black newspapers were left off Toyota's latest marketing campaign, sending a clear and direct message that the Black consumer is still being taken for granted and Black people are still being disrespected and undervalued. This is disappointing behavior from a company who was all too eager to send us their press releases and ask us to write stories and editorials to in-

fluence Black America to stay with them in their time of trouble. But now that Toyota's pain has been essentially eased (for now) by a report issued by the Federal Transportation Department and NASA that found no faults with Toyota's electronic accelerator controls, the Black press has once again been forgotten along with the Black consumer.

Toyota should note that it is going to take more than a passing grade on a Federal Transportation report card to bring back the consumer safety confidence enjoyed (for years) by Toyota from American consumers prior to one of the largest vehicle recalls in U.S. history.

So when the decision was made to advertise in mainstream newspapers from coast to coast "THANKING" their customers for their loyalty, where was Toyota's loyalty to the 10% of African-American consumers? **DON'T WE ALSO DESERVE A GREAT BIG THANK YOU?**

Historically, there has always been an imbalance between what goes out of the Black community and what comes into the Black community relative to retail goods, services and representation. Despite the fact that the buying power of America's Blacks is reported to be roughly \$1 trillion this year! And it is highly doubtful that Black-owned busi-

nesses will report revenue numbers that are the same and/or reap any of the benefits proportionate to our buying power.

However, the question still remains, why is Toyota undervaluing the Black consumer and showing our community such blatant disrespect?

Tried, True, and Tested — the NNPA (Black Press of America) remains the gatekeeper for reaching the Black community. Corporations and advertising agencies wanting and needing to reach the African-American consumer must understand the relationship of the Black Press with Black people. They must remember to place their advertising messages on the pages of Black newspapers throughout America, and Black consumers will respond in kind (Black advertising agencies could help them with this). The days of being silent and complaining among ourselves regarding these unethical and immoral business practices are over.

When Toyota wanted our help, it had no problem seeking all 200 Black newspapers in America to do just that. Their message to Black people was — **PLEASE HELP US, WE VALUE YOUR BUSINESS.** We do not want Toyota to use us for editorial coverage and then overlook us with their advertising dollars.

Black newspapers are

not afraid to demand fair representation and a seat to dine at Toyota's table, especially when their food is purchased with approximately 10% of Black consumer dollars. We are not interested in fighting with Toyota however, Toyota has enjoyed healthy African-American consumer support, and despite last year's set back we have remained loyal. If you want to thank Black consumers for our loyalty and keep our business, do it on the pages of the Black newspapers that Black people **READ, RESPECT, TRUST AND OWN!!**

As Chairman of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, I represent 200 Black publishers throughout America. I am challenging Toyota's Chairman and CEO to do the right thing and meet with me to discuss the future of their relationship with Black consumers and whether or not we as Black newspaper publishers should continue supporting Toyota or should organize a campaign to take the African American's brand loyalty to Toyota elsewhere. **WE WILL NOT BUY WHERE WE ARE DISRESPECTED... THAT IS A PROMISE!**

Danny Bakewell Sr. is the Chairman of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, parent organization to more than 200 independently owned Black newspapers.

CUTS, continued from Page 1

ever income they bring in. Without these government subsidies, we'll see more and more families forced into the streets. Similarly, foreclosure counseling has helped a great number of people stay in their homes. Without access to this service, more people will lose their greatest asset. Of all the programs the Republicans could look to cut, housing is the one area they should leave alone. It's inconceivable that a political party would fight so hard to extend tax cuts for the rich while working equally hard

to keep the poor down and to move the middle class into poverty and homelessness.

Congress has gone back and forth, arguing on a budget that would carry the federal government through the remainder of this fiscal year. There is a sense of urgency; if no agreement can be reached, the government will shut down and any 'non essential' government business would cease. Federal workers would be out of work and the services they provide no longer available,

creating frustration for all of us. Recently, the President approved a temporary budget that will keep the government running through March 18. But, he and Congress need to decide on a longer term budget, one that will keep the government funded through September 30.

Already, there is some dissatisfaction with the \$4 billion in cuts in the temporary measure. Indeed, America has to make some tough decisions about how it spends its money if the nation is to reduce the

deficit. Intellectually, most Americans understand and accept that truth. The progressive thinkers among us just don't want those cuts to come at the expense of the poor and working class.

Call your Congressman and express outrage over the Republican budget proposal. Tell them to keep their hands off housing programs. Demand that they stand up for the average American. Not sure how to get in touch with your legislator? Visit www.usa.gov to find out how.

Get Help Paying Your Medicare Costs

(NDG Wire) If you have limited income and resources, you could qualify for programs that pay some of the Medicare costs you are currently responsible for, as well as most of what you pay for your Medicare-covered prescription drugs. Many people qualify, and they don't even know it.

If you qualify for one of the Medicare Savings Programs, you could save hundreds or even thousands of dollars on your annual Medicare costs. The programs pay some or all of the Medicare Part A and B premiums, deductibles and coinsurances. The three programs for retired individuals are: Qualified

Medicare Beneficiary (QMB), Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB), and Qualifying Individual (QI). To qualify for a Medicare Savings Program, you must at least have Part A of Medicare.

Medicare's program for prescription assistance is called "Extra Help." If you

qualify, you will get help paying your monthly drug plan premium, annual deductible, and copayments for prescription drugs. You must be enrolled in either Part A or Part B of Medicare to qualify.

More than 9 million older and disabled Americans are enrolled in the Extra Help program. They

save an average of almost \$4,000 a year on their prescription drug costs.

People with limited income and resources should apply to find out if they qualify for one or both programs. Applying for Extra Help and the Medicare Savings Programs is free and confidential, and you can apply at any time.

Residents of Collin, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell and Wise counties can get more information and apply by calling the North Central Texas Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-272-3921 and ask for a benefits counselor.

Services help veterans with disabilities adjust to independent life as civilians

By Texas Health & Human Services

Each time a Texan enlists in the armed forces, he or she makes a solemn pact with the nation they serve. In exchange for their defense of America and the values it represents, we commit to honoring their service and supporting their transition back to civilian life.

The state of Texas does its part by helping veterans with disabilities learn new job skills and adapt to independent living. Here are some of the services available to qualified vets:

Vocational Rehabilitation Services - This Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) program works with the Department of Veterans Affairs to help vets with service-related disabilities prepare for, find and

keep a job. The program's vocational rehabilitation counselors work with veterans to match their abilities and interests with available options. Clients also receive counseling and guidance to help them set realistic career goals and readjust to the working world.

This help may include skills training in a variety of settings. Some participants may also be eligible for assistive devices (such as hearing aids), as well as medical treatment to reduce impediments to employment.

To qualify, an applicant must have a physical or mental disability that poses a barrier to getting or keeping a job. Evaluations are required to establish that applicants need the services for employment, and that they will be able to hold a job after they get it.

DARS Independent Living Services and Centers - DARS Independent Living Services provide veterans with resources and skills they need to "do it themselves" in their home or community. Program counselors help them find and obtain resources such as home and vehicle modifications; hearing aids; communication devices and computers; and assistive devices such as artificial limbs, braces and wheelchairs.

Participants may also be eligible for help paying for training and tutorial services, adult basic education, transportation and interpreter services.

Services for people who are blind focus on new ways to perform daily living tasks, adjusting to vision loss and readjusting to life in the community.

Centers for Independent Living are run by and for people with disabilities. Typical services include peer counseling, independent living skills training and help finding resources and services.

To be eligible for Independent Living programs, a vet must have a disability that impedes his or her ability to function independently. There must also be a reasonable expectation that services will lead to independence.

Medicaid Buy-In Pro-

gram for People with Disabilities - This program helps veterans and other people with disabilities who face loss of health coverage because their income exceeds Medicaid limits. Participants must be living on their own and meet specific income and resource requirements.

For more information about Medicaid Buy-In for people with disabilities — and other programs and services described in this article — call the DARS Inquiries line at 800-628-

5115. Or, go to www.dars.state.tx.us and click on Find Services.

Online Veterans' Service Listings Through 2-1-1 Texas - The 2-1-1 Texas information and referral super site is operated by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Among its many features is a Veterans' Services section that provides links to dozens of programs offering health care, employment, counseling, education, and many other services.

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problem we can solve.

AARP is leading the Drive to End Hunger program to help alleviate hunger problems among senior citizens. The campaign includes volunteer-led food drives, individual and corporate funding campaigns, and local SNAP ("food stamp") enrollment assistance. We hope to make a real difference for those most susceptible to hunger.

NASCAR Sprint Cup Champion Jeff Gordon and team owner Rick Hendrick are among those partnering with AARP. Through its Foundation, AARP has organized donations that will provide more than 146,000 meals for hungry seniors during the opening weeks of the 2011 NASCAR season. As the program grows in size and visibility, the likelihood of shrinking hunger risk

will also grow with it.

As Texans watch the Legislature decide the direction of our state, it is important to remember that the priorities and changes occur outside of the capitol as much as within it. The fight against hunger does not occur within party lines or in legislative committees. It is something that everyone can be a part of, no matter your age or political beliefs.

Donations to the Drive to End Hunger program benefit the hunger programs of the AARP Foundation. AARP is making fighting hunger a top priority, but we need the help of all Texans to make it to the finish line.

Across the state of Texas, food banks provide emergency aid for nearly 3 million people each year. Meals on Wheels programs give older and dis-

abled Texans the opportunity to stay in their homes without the fear of hunger. Any gift or volunteer time to these organizations goes a long way to stopping hunger.

As long as Texans go to bed hungry, the fight will march on. The AARP, food banks and hunger programs across the state will be available to make sure that the hunger issue never takes a backseat.

This National Nutrition Month, take time to think of our most vulnerable neighbors who struggle to find their next meal. Texas seniors are one of the groups across the country most susceptible to hunger risk. It's time to reach out a helping hand to the hungry.

To learn more and find out how you can help, visit: www.drivetoendhunger.org.



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Mother-Daughter Tea slated for March 26

(NDG Wire) – Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. - Chi Zeta Omega Chapter and Pearls of Service Inc. will host a Mother-Daughter Tea at 1 p.m. March 26 at Reflections on Spring Creek, 1901 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano.

The tea – themed Global Grace – will honor a

dozen 2011 Collin County seniors to be presented at the sorority's fifth annual Pearls and Ivy Cotillion, slated for April. The theme of the celebration also recognizes the bond between mothers and their daughters as the young ladies transition into women.

Tickets to the Mother-

Daughter Tea are available for \$25 per attendee. To purchase tickets for this event or the upcoming 2011 Cotillion, contact Mia Patterson at 972-248-3995 or POS.Fundraiser@gmail.com. For more information about the tea, contact Obinwa at 214-392-7224 or jobinwa@gmail.com.

Annual wine and food event raises funds for students and food bank



Celebrating Wine, Food, Spirits and the Arts

(NDG Wire) The 7th annual Savor Dallas, March 18-19, is a "Celebration of Wine, Food, Spirits and the Arts." The largest premium wine and food event in Texas is dedicated to showcasing the finest chefs in Dallas-Fort Worth, some of the world's best beverages, and the renaissance of Downtown Dallas and the Arts District while recognizing industry leaders.

"We are excited to announce this year's *Lone Star Awards* honorees, Dallas restaurateur Phil Romano and Fredericksburg vineyard owners Dr. Richard Becker and his wife Bunny," says Jim White, Savor Dallas co-founder along with his wife Vicki Briley-White.

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Botswana, *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency*, a Peabody Award winning show directed by the late Oscar Award winning director Anthony Minghella. Before that, Jill starred alongside Tyler Perry & Janet Jackson in the #1 national movie series *Why Did I Get Married?* as well as Lifetime Movie Network's *Sins of the Mother*, the made for TV movie which became the second-most watched premiere in the network's history.

A consummate writer at heart, she penned *The Moments*, *The Minutes*, *The Hours*, a compilation of poems that instantly became a New York Times bestseller. Scott also developed an intimate line for Ashley Stewart and founded *Blues Babe*, a registered 501(c)3 foundation which supports minority students pursuing college degrees.

Phil is being recognized for his success and leadership in the culinary world, and the Beckers are receiving the *Texas Spirit*

Award at Savor's prestigious Reserve Tasting on Saturday, March 19th.

The popular "Arts District Wine Stroll" sets the stage for the two-day festival on Friday, March 18th, 5-7pm, where guests can enjoy wine and food tastings in the Dallas Museum of Art, the Nasher Sculpture Center, the Meyerson Symphony Center; and the

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Plano organizations can apply for grant

(NDG Wire) To celebrate its 40th Anniversary, The Keg Steakhouse & Bar is donating \$1 million to the communities that have contributed so greatly to its success. And the public will

help decide which projects will receive the funding.

The Keg's Thanks A Million campaign will donate forty \$25,000 grants to fund community-based projects or initiatives in Keg

communities across Canada and select states in the U.S. Beginning on March 7 and running until April 30, ideas for community enhancement

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Texas Lottery Commission to participate in National Problem Gambling Awareness Week

(NDG Wire) Communities nationwide will observe National Problem Gambling Awareness Week (NPGAW) March 7-13. The Texas Lottery Commission announced today that the agency has joined the education and awareness efforts.

"This annual event attempts to increase awareness of the consequences of problem gambling and the availability of treatment," said Texas Lottery Commission Executive Director Gary

Grief.

"We are proud to take part in this worthy initiative. As always, we remind our players to enjoy our products responsibly and seek help when playing the lottery becomes more than a game."

Charitable Bingo Operations Division Director Phil Sanderson also reminded Bingo players to watch for signs of trouble. "Charitable Bingo provides important funds for worthy causes in Texas, but no cause is worth

the cost of problem gambling. If you think that you or someone you know may have a problem, we encourage you to seek out the help and resources you need."

The warning signs of problem gambling may include the following:

- A preoccupation with gambling
- Gambling to win back what you have lost
- Lying to cover up gambling
- Jeopardizing or losing relationships, jobs, education and/or other opportunities because of gambling

Anyone with concerns about this issue can reach a nationwide problem gambling help line at 1-800-522-4700. Help is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Additional information about NPGAW can be found at www.npgaw.org.

Texas Lottery® tickets and brochures feature the agency's "Play Responsibly" message. In addition, the "Play Responsibly" page online offers links to a variety of resources. For more information, please visit the official Texas Lottery website at www.txlottery.org or call

1-800-37LOTTO (1-800-375-6886) to speak to a customer service representative.

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Area school teams win 2011 African American Male Academic Bowl

(NDG Wire) In a battle of the brains, beating the buzzer and winning points was the focus of the 2011 African American Male Academic Bowl – the only event of its kind in Texas. Shouts of “I’ll take African-American history for 40 points!” or “We’ll choose science for 10 points!” rang through the



halls in the School of Management Building at the University of Texas at Dallas several weeks ago until two team champions and two team runners-up were crowned.

This exciting event – a cross between the academic bowls of TV from 40 years ago and today’s ever-popular “Jeopardy”

show – brought together a total of 23 4th/5th- and 6th/7th-grade teams representing several area elementary and middle schools who competed to win their divisions.

Teams representing the two age groups demonstrated their knowledge and skills. They beat the clock/buzzer, answered

questions and scored points in five categories: African-American history; science; mathematics; African-American “firsts”; and geography.

The winning “Express 3” team members for 4th/5th grade, representing Jerry Junkins Elementary School in Carrollton, were

See BOWL, Page 7

First Class Breakfast program implemented at Malvern Elementary

(NDG Wire) As part of its ongoing commitment to help improve the overall educational experience for students, McKinney ISD and ARAMARK, the district’s food service provider, are pleased to announce a new breakfast program at Malvern Elementary School, called “First Class Breakfast.” ARAMARK Education’s First Class Breakfast program was implemented at the school on February 11, 2011 and delivers students a convenient and nutritious breakfast right to the class-

room door shortly before the bell rings. The program is uniquely designed and requires very little classroom time or cleanup.

Malvern Elementary was chosen for First Class Breakfast due to the high percentage of enrolled students who qualify for benefits of the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. There was also a low participation rate of students at the school who were not utilizing the benefits of the School Breakfast Program. The district plans to roll this pro-

gram out to other campuses that have a high percentage of students on the School Breakfast Program. Finch Elementary is the next school that will implement First Class Breakfast.

While the benefits of breakfast and good nutrition are well documented, studies have shown that an alarming number of school age children do not eat breakfast each morning. According to the American Dietetic Association, more than 40 percent of girls and 32 percent of boys skip breakfast on a reg-

ular basis. ARAMARK and McKinney ISD are trying to decrease those numbers.

“Within the short period of time since our implementation we have seen a decrease in student tardies, a decrease in the number of students visiting the nurse in the mornings complaining of stomach aches, but most importantly we have gone from approximately 250 students eating breakfast in the morning to 500+ students eating breakfast in the mornings,” said Sandra Barber, principal of Malvern Elementary

School. “Our morning routines are smoother and our students are beginning the day with a healthy meal and a calmer start to their morning.”

First Class Breakfast provides students with 25 percent of the recommended daily allowances for: calcium, vitamin A, vitamin D, protein, iron and calories. Students who consume First Class Breakfast are getting a balance of the essential vitamins and nutrients for growth and development.

“The ARAMARK staff

was extremely efficient in supporting our campus in implementing the program and greatly contributed to the success we had in transitioning from the traditional cafeteria line serving of breakfast, to the “breakfast in the classroom” program,” Barber said.

For more information on First Class Breakfast or school nutrition at McKinney ISD please contact James Shoemaker 469-742-4261 or visit www.mckinneyisd.net/departments/nutrition/.

Dr. Hazel Washing Partee passes

(NDG Wire) Long time educator and resident, age 91, departed this life on March 6, 2011 in Dallas, TX. Born May 27, 1919 in Calvert, TX, the daughter of Annie Bell and Charlie Washington and sister of Charlie (Davis/Payton), she married local educator Cecil James Partee in 1943. Dr. Partee attended elementary school and B.T. Washington High School in Dallas; and received her bachelor’s degree from Bishop College in Marshall, TX, a master’s from North Texas State University, and a doctorate from Nova University. She was a life-long member of Salem Institutional Baptist Church.

Hazel devoted her life to educating young people. In a career that spanned five decades beginning at the age of 19, Dr. Partee taught in the Grand Prairie and Wilmer Hutchins school districts before beginning her tenure in the Dallas Independent School

District (DISD) from which she retired in 1990. Her career was highlighted by a number of firsts, including first African American female principal of a predominantly white school (Nathan Adams Elementary School), and principal of the then largest elementary school in Dallas (William Brown Miller).

Dr. Partee’s community and volunteer activities included serving on the boards of the Maurine F. Bailey Cultural Foundation, Cedar Crest Home Owners Association, African American Museum and the Municipal Library. She was Executive Vice President of the Metropolitan Board of Directors of the Y.W.C.A., and chairperson of Maria Morgan Branch Committee of Administration. She served as the president of the Dallas Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority for two terms, as a member of the National Nominating Committee representing the

South Central Region and as president of the Dallas chapter, and regional officer, of Jack and Jill of America.

Her professional affiliations included: Dallas School Administrators Association, Phi Delta Kappa, National Association of Black Administrators, Association for Childhood Education, Elementary School Principal Association, Texas State Teachers Association, and International Reading Association. An ardent church member, she served in numerous capacities, including superintendent of the Salem Church Sunday school, teacher, and pianist; first female trustee; Women’s Day Speaker, and representative at six National Sunday School conferences, and District and State Baptist conventions.

Preceded in death by her husband (Oct. 31, 1974) and son Cecil Partee, Jr. (Dec. 5, 1998), she

See PARTEE, Page 12

UNCF, continued from Page 1

GPA of 3.0 or higher. Additional requirements will be detailed on the application site hosted by UNCF.org after April 1, 2011.

“This is an effort that we are proud to support because it takes the district’s goal of making sure students are college ready when they graduate to another level,” said RISD Superintendent Dr. Kay Waggoner. “It’s an opportunity for us to show students we are sincere about wanting them to succeed, and we are willing to continue investing in their future. I’m grateful to all our employees for their participation.”

UNCF’s Area Development Director Diane Stephenson said, “We are excited to begin this partnership with Richardson ISD as this scholarship program has the potential to help many deserving young people pursue their dream of a college education. UNCF continues to play a critical role in the future of our North Texas and national communities by preparing students with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in today’s competitive workforce. We

could not do this without the generosity of our donors and salute RISD employees and other donors who will invest in UNCF and the future leaders of tomorrow.”

To contribute to the scholarship program visit: <http://give.uncf.org/RichardsonISDCampaign> or send

checks to UNCF – Attn: Richardson ISD Scholarship Program, 501 Elm Street, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75202. For more information, call the UNCF North Texas office at (972) 234-1007.

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100 ex-offenders honored at The Potter's House graduation ceremony



photo credit: Autumn Bruce-Curd, Autumn Photographic

(NDG Wire) In Texas, some 70,000 prisoners are released each year with more than half of those returning to prison within three years—but The Pot-

ter's House of Dallas is working to decrease that number.

The Potter's House of Dallas celebrated with 100 ex-offenders on Feb. 26,

who are graduated from the Texas Offenders Re-entry Initiative (T.O.R.I.) program. Bishop T.D. Jakes delivered the com-

See CEREMONY, Page 11

MacArthur announces parade for State Champs



Texas 5A State Girls' Basketball Champions MacArthur Lady Cardinals Girls Basketball Team

(NDG Wire) In recognition of winning the Texas 5A State Girls' Basketball Championship, MacArthur High School will host a victory parade for the MacArthur Lady Cardinals Girls Basketball Team at 3 p.m. March 11.

The parade will begin at the school and travel east along Northgate to O'Connor. The parade will then turn east on Metker Street, then will turn north on North MacArthur Blvd., and return to the school.

The Lady Cardinals defeated Midland High School 55-40 in regional playoffs February 26 to become Region I champions. At the state tournament – hosted in Austin at the Erwin Special Events Center at the University of Texas March 4-5 – MacArthur defeated Wagner High School from San Antonio 64-51 in the semifinal game. In the championship game, MacArthur defeated Georgetown High School 74-51. Junior Alexis Jones was named Most Valuable Player in the championship game. Jones, Junior Ayriel Anderson, and Senior Karmyn Jackson were named to the Conference 5A All-Tournament Team.

BOWL, continued from Page 6



"Born to Lead" 6th/7th-grade team members, officials and State Sen. Royce West



Students from Faith Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Ife Onubogu, Mauricio Sneed, Myles Boateng and Robert Mitchell; runners-up Armondo Griffin, Kellan Poole, Tylan Foreman

and Kirk Riley were the "Express 2" team, also representing Junkins Elementary.

The winning 6th/7th-

grade team, "Faith Cumberland Presbyterian Church," included members Jihad Thomas, Antwoine Yarbrough and Solomon Thomas, who all attend the KIPP School in Dallas; and Jaryon Johnson, who attends St. Anthony Academy in Dallas. Runners-up "Born to Lead" 6th/7th-grade team members were Rahsuan Stewart, Marlund Harvey, Christian Washington and Julius Hill. Stewart attends Bush Middle School in Irving; Harvey and Washington attend Holmes Middle School in Dallas; Brown is enrolled at Kennemer Middle School in Duncanville; and Hill attends Greiner Middle School in Dallas.

Partners for the program included the Dallas County Community College District (which created the bowl last year), the University of Texas at Dallas, Project Still I Rise Inc., State Sen. Royce West's office, Pat and Emmitt Smith Charities, National Society of Black Engineers, Merit Provisions, AT&T, Nationwide Insurance, the University

of Texas at Austin, Jackson State University and Time Warner Cable.

For information, contact David Robinson, the event's director, who also

serves as coordinator of outreach for DCCCD, at (214) 378-1728.

TxDOT BOP SMALL BUSINESS BRIEFINGS



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FOR MORE INFO ON BUSINESS OUTREACH AND

PROGRAM SERVICES CALL: 1.866.480.2518, Option 2

FOR MORE INFO ON THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LOG ON TO: www.txdot.gov

Ongoing

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

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

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

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch 1st Thursday at 1 pm in Plano Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com or 972-898-5882.

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

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

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

Business Empowerment Sessions. Learn to grow a successful small business. 1st Thursday of each month at

Christian Chapel Temple of Faith, 14120 Noel Rd., Dallas. Call 214-942-6698 for details.

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

Through – March 11

Texas Sculpture Association's Annual Membership Exhibition at The Oak Cliff Cultural Center.

Through March 26

The PDNB Gallery, 1202 Dragon St. in Dallas, will host **Neil Leifer: For the Love of the Game**, every Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Photographs Do Not Bend Gallery. Leifer, a longtime *Sports Illustrated* photographer, showcases the greatest moments of professional sports since he began shooting pro football at the NFL Championship Game in 1978. The exhibit is free.

The **Bath House Cultural Center**, 521 E. Lawther Drive in Dallas, will present the comedy **The Housekeeper** by James Prideaux at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Call 214-532-1709 for reservations. www.bathhousecultural.com

Through March 27

The Art Centre Theatre, 5220 Village Creek Drive in Plano, will present **Peter Pan**. Performances will be Thursday, March 10 at 7:30 p.m., March 11 and March 25 at 7:30 p.m., March 12 and March 26 at 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m. and March 27 at 3:30 p.m. Thursdays are half-price. Ticket prices are \$12 online or \$15 at the door. Advanced online purchases (before opening) are only \$10 with coupon code "PAN." www.ArtCentreTheatre.com

Through April 1
3rd Annual Spring Flower

Fund Raiser to Benefit the Network of Community Ministries Dental Clinic in Richardson is accepting flower orders now. Choose from a variety of flowers including Begonias, Periwinkles, Dusty Miller, and many others in flats of 18 four-inch pots. The benefit sale is hosted at Loveable Smiles, 1410 N. Plano Rd., Suite 200, Richardson. Contact Loveable Smiles for an order form by phone at 972-231-0585, email info@loveablesmiles.com, or download at <http://www.loveablesmiles.com>. Pre-order deadline is Friday, April 1. Orders will be ready for pick up on Friday, April 8, 4–6 p.m.

Through April 2

The **Garland Civic Theatre** will present Harper Lee's **To Kill A Mockingbird** at the Granville Arts Center, 300 North Fifth St., in downtown Dallas. Thursday performances are slated for March 10 and March 17 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for all shows except the March 10 show (\$15). Friday and Saturday evening shows start at 8 p.m. and matinees at 2:30 p.m. Call the Arts Center Box at 972-205-2790 for tickets.

March 10

Willson Lecture Series at SMU features Chaplain Stephen Rankin on *Seeking a Better Way: SMU as a Leader in Church-Affiliated Higher Education* at 11:30 a.m. reception, noon for lecture in the Ballroom Hughes-Trigg, 3140 Dyer Street, Dallas. The cost is FREE. Info: 214-768-4502; www.smu.edu/chaplain

March 12

UT-Southwestern Medical Center and Friendship-West Baptist Church presents **My Sista's Keeper**, a program to inform the community of the increasing rates of HIV on Black women and girls in the Dallas area, is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 2020 W. Wheatland Road in Dallas. Guest speakers include the Rev. Sheron C. Patterson, sen-

ior pastor of Highland Hills United Methodist Church in Dallas. Call 214-456-0461 for reservations by March 4.

FREE "The Makeover Mile" – a one mile community health walk will begin at 11 a.m. at Kiest Park in Dallas. It will end at the CVS/pharmacy on 2323 W. Illinois Avenue, Dallas and end at 4 p.m. Info: 888-604-0333 or visit www.cvs.com/toyourhealth

The 1st Ladies of Verity Teddy Bear Brunch will feature food, fun and inspiration on from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Cascade Event Center 5909 Stone Creek Drive The Colony, Texas 75056. Everyone will have the opportunity to make their very own cuddly friend... complete with birth certificate and take home carrier! For more details and ticket information, go to www.NoahsArkTeddyBearWorkshop.com or call 214-614-8468.

March 14-March 18

Texas Discovery Gardens, 3601 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Dallas will host the **Spring Break Blitz** from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. this is a "come-and-go" activity filled day with talks, crafts, and more. Ages targeted are 3 to 12; all ages welcome. Activities are free with paid admission (\$8/adults, \$6/seniors 60 and older, and \$4/children 3-11). Adults must be present with children. www.texasdiscoverygardens.org

March 15

Essilor Vision Foundation and the **Kids Vision for Life Coalition** will host **KidsVisionFest** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe, 2215 Ross Ave. in the Dallas Arts District. Free and open to the public, the event will offer free eye exams and glasses to qualifying children, ages 4 – 12, plus free vision screenings to all children. www.essilorvision.org

March 16

Eldercare volunteer training is from noon to 1 p.m. at the Visiting Nurse Association's headquarters on 1440 W. Mockingbird Lane in Dallas. Info: Nancy Jellinek, VNA Eldercare Friends manager, at 214-689-2209 or jellinek@vnatexas.org.

May 21

Dallas Free to Breathe® 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Walk 6:45 a.m. – Event day registration begins at Oak Point Park and Nature Preserve located at 2801 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano. Fees range from \$15 - \$25, info at <http://www.freetobreathe.com/>

March 21 & 28

SMU's **Godbey Lecture Series** features Ezra Greenspan, professor of English discussing *Researching and Writing African American Biography: The Life and Writings of Williams Wells Brown* at 11:30 a.m. lecture, noon lunch at the Maggiano's at NorthPark Center, 8687 N Central Expy, Suite 205, Dallas, \$45 for members, \$65 for nonmembers for individual lectures. Info: 214-768-2905; www.smu.edu/Dedman/AboutDedmanCollege/GodbeyLecture

March 25

UTD Spring Lecture Series: **"When Couples Become Parents: Keeping your Marriage Strong for Your Child"** by Dr. Karen Prager

March 30

Real Girls Real Women - East Texas Annual Awards Luncheon - Doors open at 11:30 a.m. at Hollytree Country Club, Tyler

April 2

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., Psi Chapter will hold its annual **Business Month Education and Scholarship Luncheon** from 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at Crowne Plaza Market Center, 7050 N. Stemmons Freeway Dallas

April 8-9

WINGSPAN THEATRE COMPANY and **ONE THIRTY PRODUCTIONS**, in partnership and in cooperation with The Bath House Cultural Center will present **Horton Foote's The Carpetbagger's Children**. This partnership production is part of a two month long celebration of the late legendary Texas playwright Horton Foote. The Horton Foote Festival is slated to run March 14 - (Foote's birthday) through May 1. During this time, various arts organizations in Dallas and Fort Worth will be presenting plays, screening film adaptation of his work, and presenting insights into his life through readings, and other related events. All performances will be at The Bath House Cultural Center on White Rock Lake, 521 East Lawther Drive, Dallas, Texas 75218. Ticket prices are: \$5.00 for matinee performances and \$10.00 for evening performances. Info: 214-675-6573 or via: www.wingspan-theatre.com. One Thirty Productions 214-532-1709 or via: www.bathhousecultural.com.

April 17-24

Dr Pepper Dallas Cup XXXII Info: www.dallas-cup.com

April 26

Garland City Manager's Quarterly Meeting 7 p.m.

April 29

UTD Spring Lecture Series: **"Play Dates and Peer Groups: Forming Friendships across Childhood"** Dr. Lisa Rosen.

May 19

Garland Chamber of Commerce 2nd Annual Business to Business Expo Noon - 3:00 p.m.; 520 N. Glenbrook Dr., Garland, TX 75040

May 20

UTD Spring Lecture Series: **"Helping Adolescents Use Electronic Communication for Good"** Dr. Marion Underwood.

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Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community

Tribune CEO, NNPA chair rebuke NAACP

Tribune Staff Writer
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The NAACP has been criticized for not including Black newspapers in a recent advertising campaign.

The NAACP inserted its 42nd NAACP Image Awards Magazine in the *Philadelphia Daily News*, however the advertisement was not included in The Philadelphia Tribune and other markets (*Los Angeles, Atlanta, Texas, New York, New Jersey and Chicago*).

The magazine insert serves to highlight the Image Awards and the respective honorees.

"In (Thursday's) *Philadelphia Daily News*, the 42nd NAACP Awards Magazine was inserted and not one copy was inserted in the *Philadelphia Tribune*, America's oldest and America's largest daily newspaper serving the African-American community," said Robert W. Bogle, president and CEO



Benjamin Jealous, President of the NAACP

of the Tribune.

"This action is an insult to the men and women who work at the *Philadelphia Tribune* and should be an insult to Black Americans in this country. The very right of full inclusion and participation of African Americans has been denied by the organization that purports that African Americans should be fairly included in all aspects of American life."

The National Newspaper Publishers Association

(NNPA), which represents over 200 members of the Black press, is conducting an investigation to determine whether the practice has happened in other markets. Members have been asked to monitor whether the general publications in their areas are carrying the NAACP Image magazine.

"We are quite dismayed and disappointed that the

slighting and disrespecting the Philadelphia Tribune and when you disrespect one of our papers, you disrespect all of our papers," said NNPA Chairman Danny Bakewell.

Bakewell says the Black press has continuously supported the NAACP.

"Whenever they have a need the Black press carries their message without question or qualification because we believe in the mission, and it seems as though, from this action, that the NAACP under Mr. Jealous is losing their way and that troubles me greatly," he said.

"You have to ask the question of who are they trying to get to watch the Image awards. It is a Black program. It is without question a quality program, and is it something

that they are trying to get white people to watch, taking for granted that Black

people will watch it?" said Bakewell, who publishes the *Los Angeles Sentinel*.

ment by the Tribune's deadline.

"At the end of the day

"Whenever they have a need the Black press carries their message without question or qualification because we believe in the mission, and it seems as though, from this action, that the NAACP under Mr. Jealous is losing their way and that troubles me greatly," he said.

Danny Bakewell, NNPA President

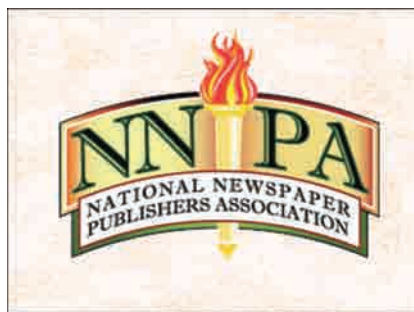
The *Los Angeles Sentinel*, which is the city's oldest and largest Black newspaper, did not carry the insert either.

"This is not the first time that something like this has happened. We would expect that the NAACP would without any hesitation ensure that the Black press is the primary vehicle for communicating its message about the Image Awards or any other issues that come up," Bakewell said.

NAACP officials could not be reached for com-

this is not just about communication, this is about economics. The fact that they are buying the message from the white papers and they want us to convey the message free in Black papers is insult to injury," Bakewell added.

"We have supported them and we will continue to support them in the future but this has got to stop. We want a full explanation and a declaration of what the NAACP's actions will be towards Black newspapers in the future."



NAACP has, it appears, blatantly overlooked the value of the Black press in

Did the NAACP snub the Black press?

(NNPA) Does the NAACP, the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization, truly believe in economic inclusion?

Is the NAACP deliberately snubbing the Black press when it comes to delivering its advertising messages?

Considering recent action taken by the NAACP, or others working on its behalf or using the organization's name, one has to wonder.

News was a glossy 64-page insert advertising the

American newspaper in the nation.

"This is not the first time that something like this has happened. We would expect that the NAACP would without any hesitation ensure that the Black press is the primary vehicle for communicating its message about the Image awards or any other issues that come up,"

Bakewell said.

NAACP's 42nd annual Image Awards Magazine. However the insert was not placed in the *Philadelphia*

Danny Bakewell, chairman of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) which represents over 200 members of the Black press, is conducting an investigation to determine whether the practice has happened in other markets. The *North Dallas Gazette* is an NNPA member.

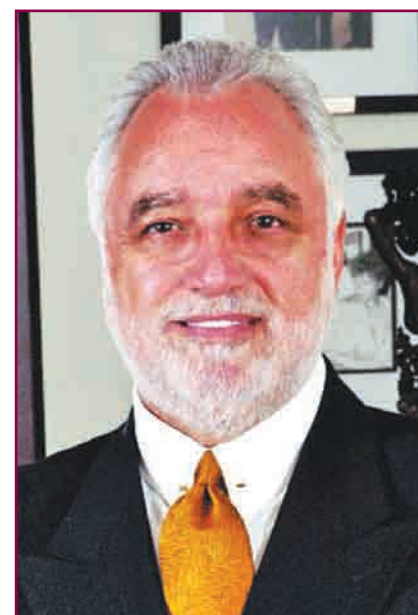
Phone calls to several other African-American newspapers, including the *Amsterdam News* in New York, The Washington and Baltimore Afro American newspapers, and the *Los Angeles Wave* and *Los Angeles Sentinel* revealed that not only did these newspapers not receive the insert, but they did not receive any advertisements at all about the Image Awards.

"We are quite dismayed and disappointed that the NAACP has, it appears, blatantly overlooked the value of the Black press in slighting and disrespecting the Philadelphia Tribune — and when you disrespect one of our papers, you disrespect all of our papers,"

said Bakewell.

Bakewell points out that while the Black press has always supported the NAACP, the relationship has not been reciprocal.

At press time the *Tribune* had not heard from the NAACP. We would like to hear the group's explanation for how an organization that rightly criticizes corporate America for minority exclusion can justify the same prac-



Danny Bakewell, President of the National Newspaper Publishers Association

tices when it comes to the Black press.



In the Thursday edition of the *Philadelphia Daily*

Tribune or to our knowledge any other African-

'Round About DFW

Through March 12



Boris Kodjoe

The Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC)

men's and women's basketball tournaments will be held at the Special Events Center, 4999 Naaman Forest Blvd. in Garland. Featured guests for events associated with the tournament include actor Boris Kodjoe and radio personality Tom Joyner. www.swachoops.com

March 16

Singers **Melanie Fiona** and **Marsha Ambrosius** will perform at the Palladium Ballroom, 1135 South Lamar, in Dallas at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$35. www.thepalladiumballroom.com



Melanie Fiona

March 18

The **Garland Symphony Orchestra** continues with its 2010-2011 season with *A Symphony for All Seasons* in the Linda Brownlee Auditorium at the

Granville Arts Center, 300 N. Fifth St. The GSO presents "Celebrate Spring!" at 8 p.m. Season Tickets are priced as low as \$53 and single tickets are priced at \$15, \$25, and \$35. All are available by telephone (972-205-2790), fax (972-926-0811), or email (info@garlandsymphony.org). Group discounts are also available, call 972-926-0611).

March 18-March 19

Comedy Night at the Muse featuring **Darrell Banks** is coming to Clarence Muse Café Theatre, located in the Dallas Convention

Center Theatre Complex at the corner of Canton and Akard streets. Admission is \$15. www.tbaal.org

March 18-March 19

The **South Dallas Cultural Center**, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. in Dallas, and the **Black Cinematheque** Dallas will host the **Black Women's Film Festival** starting at 7 p.m. at the theatre. Cost is \$5 per screening. www.dallasculture.org/SD-CulturalCenter/

March 19

The first **Dallas Blues Festival** will bring the blues

to the Dallas Convention Center at 7 p.m. World-class blues entertainers **Bobby "Blue" Bland**, **Sir Charles Jones**, **Mel Waiters**, **Floyd Taylor**, **Jay Blackfoot**, **Theodis Ealey** and **Shirley Brown** will all share the stage for a night of unforgettable performances! Tickets can be purchased at all Ticketmaster outlets, ticketmaster.com or charge by phone 1-800-745-3000.

Read more entertainment online at www.northdallasgazette.com. Submit entertainment announcements to assignmenteditor@northdallasgazette.com

Gazette Gossip: Is Bobbi Kristina a chip off the old block?

By Tonya Whitaker
NDG Staff Writer

I just do not want to believe the *National En-*

trying to draw line between socialization and personal responsibility. True to the form of an addict, she even has the ex-

cuse-making attitude down pat. Bobbi claims in a statement released March 3 (coincidentally her 18th birthday) that she was set up by an ex-boyfriend who was bitter over their breakup. Let me get this straight, he told you to pose for the camera acting like you are sniffing lines of a white powdery substance? I will pray for that child.

M.I.A. Mo'Nique

I know there were many African Americans who were upset with the lack of black talent recognized in the Oscar nominations. Word is that

Mo'Nique failed to show up to the gala as a form of protest — or was it over money? In a statement to *USA Today*, Mo'Nique's husband, Sidney Hicks, said his was filming episodes of *The Mo'Nique Show*. Online sources are saying she skipped the Os-

cars because she did not get paid to appear on the Oscars. If the latter is true, she was wrong.

Hard times

It is only three months into 2011, and singer **Christina Aguilera** has found herself in a heap of

embarrassment. *TMZ* is reporting that the singer's friends are asking the singer to check into rehab after she and her new beau, Matt Rutler, were arrested in West Hollywood on March 1 for DUI. That is not what a girl wants!



Whitney Houston & Bobbi Kristina

quirer story about **Bobby and Whitney's daughter, Bobbi Kristina**, snorting cocaine. But, how many of are not shocked? Could it be that Bobby and Whitney passed their junkie habits to their child? If they did, shame on them. According to *Straight From the A.com*, Whitney banned her daughter from My Space because photos of the then 14 year old surfaced smoking weed and drinking. Then, last year, photos surfaced on the Internet of Bobbi Kristina partying it up with friends. I just dismissed them as a teen being a teen. Since the latest round of photos of Bobbi badly behaving have surfaced, I can am

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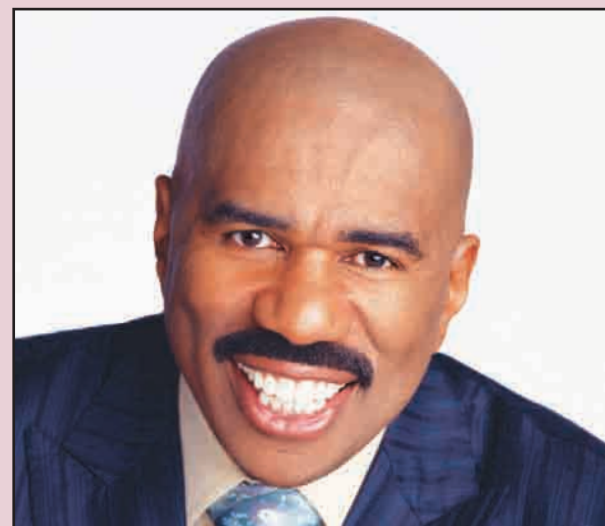
Meet Your Choice Hotels Rising Star Shane A. and download 'My Angel' for free

Each free song download sponsors a \$1 donation (up to \$10,000) to The Steve Harvey Foundation

(NDG Wire) Choice Hotels International, Inc. and The Steve Harvey Morning Show recently teamed up for The Choice Hotels Rising Star Music Challenge, looking to benefit both aspiring musicians as well as communities across the country through The Steve Harvey Foundation. Well the people have spoken and Shane A. of Newark, N.J. was named the Grand Prize winner for his original song "My Angel."

Selected as the winner by consumer voters, Shane A. was one of three finalists selected from among hundreds of video submissions and thousands of votes.

Shane A.'s "My Angel" will be available for consumers to download for free at ChoiceHotelsMu-



Steve Harvey

sic.com during the month of March. Each time his song is downloaded for free, Choice Hotels will donate \$1 to The Steve Harvey Foundation up to \$10,000.

As the winner of the Choice Hotels Rising Star Music Challenge, Shane A. not only receives the opportunity to have his music heard by millions of listeners, but will also re-

ceive a professional home recording package.

Choice Hotels Music, launched in August 2010, brings together the emotional power of music while supporting great causes to raise charitable funds for national nonprofit organizations. Choice Hotels Music is an innovative initiative from

See ANGEL, Page 11

Small Steps to Get on Track

By Farrah Gray

(NNPA) Fear is a primary obstacle that prevents people from becoming entrepreneurs. Many of us are not living our dreams because we are living our fears. Fear is a disease. It cripples effective decision-making and most of the time accounts for the illogical actions that ensue. Our

country is now deep into a historic financial crisis that has most people in fear of losing their jobs, healthcare, and life savings. Learning to manage your fears can help you weather negative situations during hard times.

Many aspiring entrepreneurs have the dream of finding security by starting

their own home-based business, but maybe 2-5% of these people will actually apply their knowledge and unique talents. We should begin to discuss some of the techniques for entrepreneurs to learn how to manage and conquer their fears.

Think about what you want. When you doubt yourself by spinning the

wheels in your mind on a worst case scenario, turn it around and focus on what you DO want. Visualize yourself building the new business. Create a new truth. Your mind will play powerful tricks, if you let it. So, stop being your own roadblock and get back on track. See yourself talking to the interested person as

they become a part of your business. You get what you focus on.

Change the voice. When you hear yourself telling you that you're not good enough - you're going to fail. Just change the voice from yours to that of Mickey Mouse or something silly that would hold little weight with you any-

way! Who cares if Mickey Mouse thinks you're not good enough? Is Mickey Mouse an entrepreneur?

Voice fears to a trusted friend or associate. Hopefully you have been able to find some level of support from at least one other entrepreneur. Ideally, you have a significant other that

See STEPS, Page 13

ANGEL, continued from Page 10

Choice Hotels International that supports signature causes and artists by introducing new music to millions of listeners using the power of the company's leading edge marketing and distribution channels. Each song produced directly benefits a featured cause or charity through donations per download from choice-hotels.com, and all music is produced to the artist's cre-

ative specifications and remains the ownership of the artist.

The mission of the Steve Harvey Foundation is to share and teach the principles of manhood to young men to enable them to achieve their dreams and become better men who are emotionally, politically and economically strong. Our signature program, The Steve Harvey Mentoring

Weekend for Young Men's goal is to break the misguided traits of manhood and instill the importance of dream building that will leave an impression on boys that will carry them through the rest of their lives.

To download Shane A.'s "My Angel," the newest Choice Hotels Music song, visit www.ChoiceHotelsMusic.com today.

Ditto Boutique moves to Lakewood's Hillside Village

Resale Chanel, Chloe, Prada and other designer and vintage clothing and jewelry are available at the Hillside Village resale store. Consignments of gently worn and new items are accepted daily.

(NDG Wire) Expanding on its mission of celebrating both designer and vintage clothes, Ditto Boutique recently moved to Hillside Village. The 2,500-square-foot Lakewood shop at 6465 E. Mockingbird Lane is owned by Jane DeNike, a stylist with more than 20 years of experience selling luxury brands.

"Ditto's popularity has grown so much that its former home on West Lovers Lane in Bluffview just wasn't enough," said DeNike, who formerly worked for Macy's and Jeremy's in San Francisco and Wilkes Bashford. "The new store allows us to offer even more luxury items and more clothes, shoes and accessories from famous designers, including Marc Jacobs, Chanel,



elvy, sunglasses and other accessories.

"I also have Marc Jacobs handbags and shoes by Tory Burch, Burberry, YSL, Miu Miu, Prada and Manolo Blahnik," DeNike said.

Lower-priced, new items directly from the clothing markets also are available, and Ditto

Jimmy Choo and others."

Ditto also expanded its hours. It's now open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

"Whether it's a Chanel skirt or a Gucci bag, we know customers shop at Ditto to find something special to add to their wardrobes," said DeNike, who plans to expand the store again in a year or so.

Ditto carries a wide selection of clothing in sizes 0 through 16, as well as few items in larger sizes. There's also a wide selection of jew-

sells Roma boots.

Ditto welcomes consignments year round. Spring, gently worn pieces and items with price tags still attached are accepted from January through June; fall items are received July through December.

"We use a scale of fair-market value for pricing all items," DeNike said. "We have a constant need for smaller sizes in designer clothing, and for Chanel accessories, especially sunglasses."

For more information, call 214-370-4444.

GRANT, continued from Page 5

projects can be submitted at kegsteakhouse.com. At the same website between May 16 until June 14, members of the public have the opportunity to vote for the entries they believe should receive the grants. The Keg will announce the winners on June 29.

"For 40 years, The Keg has been committed to the communities in which we operate and where our success has taken root," said David Aisenstat, President & CEO, The Keg Steakhouse & Bar. "The Thanks A Mil-

lion campaign is our way of giving back to those communities and showing our support in an even more tangible way while encouraging others to become involved in their community."

This opportunity is not only open to charities, but other organizations and individuals who need funding for a community project or initiative. Projects can be submitted for any Keg community, and can be charitable, community-focused, or educational in nature. A list of all Keg locations is avail-

able at www.kegsteakhouse.com/en/locations.

The Keg has a long history of giving back to the communities it serves. The tradition of giving has been engrained in The Keg's culture from the very beginning; it started at a grass-roots level, with employee involvement in community events. In 2001, The Keg Spirit Foundation was created to coordinate and focus The Keg's charitable efforts. The Thanks a Million campaign continues this tradition of giving.

CEREMONY, continued from Page 7

mencement address and Cory Williams, an ex-offender who got his life back on track with the support of the church, shared his post-prison experiences.

"Ex-offenders need counsel, care and direction," said Williams. "T.O.R.I. does just that by providing a multitude of services that help ex-offenders like me overcome the obstacles and former mindsets with practical programs that help us get

re-established as caring, contributing members of the community."

Founded in December 2004 by Bishop Jakes, T.O.R.I. is an intensive 12-month case management program that offers six core services: employment, housing, education, family reunification, health care and spiritual guidance. Since its inception, T.O.R.I. has served more than 7,000 formerly incarcerated individuals returning to Texas.

Texas has one of the largest prison populations in the United States with the number of inmates increasing 61.5 percent between 1995 and 2000. The American correctional system is also expensive—costing tax payers \$60 billion each year. In Texas the cost to incarcerate offenders is \$49.40 per inmate per day, versus only \$.98 per day to rehabilitate ex-offenders through the T.O.R.I. program. The U.S. recidivism rate is also very

high with 67 percent of former prisoners re-arrested and 52 percent re-incarcerated within three years of their release, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The T.O.R.I. program recidivism rate is at a low eight percent. Due to the program's success rate and high need for the program's services, T.O.R.I. is working to expand to include even more ex-offenders. It has kicked-off a year-long campaign to

raise money.

"With the more than 70,000 prisoners released each year and the demand for our services is greater than our current resources," said Tina Naidoo, a licensed social worker and executive director of T.O.R.I. "The best way to get ahead of the demand is for individuals, corporations, and foundations to rally around T.O.R.I.'s mission and support it so we can expand our services, serve more

people and end the cycle of incarceration indefinitely."

"The proof of T.O.R.I.'s effectiveness is clearly indicated in its extraordinary low recidivism rate," said Bishop T.D. Jakes, senior pastor at The Potter's House and founder of T.O.R.I. "We are proud of our graduates for completing this program and our alumni who apply the lessons learned and continually work hard to beat the statistics."

WINE, continued from Page 5

Winspear Opera House.

Several new features are expected to draw special food, wine, and art lovers this year, including "The Ultimate Friday night pARTy" at Gables Park 17 following the kick-off event, The Arts District Wine Stroll on Friday, March 18th; and a cooking class with Stephan Pyles at his namesake restaurant as well as a pairing of wine and cheese seminar at The Mansion on Turtle Creek with the Mansion's Michael Flynn and Mozarella Company's Paula Lambert on Saturday, March 19th.

The Sheraton Dallas Hotel in downtown Dallas is the scene of Savor Saturday mainstays, March 19th, including a wine panel showcasing the top

winemakers appearing at Savor Dallas, the Reserve Tasting of ultra-premium wines and spirits, and the gourmet highlight of the Savor Dallas weekend -- the "International Grand Tasting" (7-10pm). The Grand Tasting features a sampling of signature cuisines from over 60 top Dallas/Fort Worth chefs and tasting of more than 400 premium wines, spirits, and imported beers.

In addition to the Friday night Gables Park 17 event presenting an exhibition of the work of local artists, the International Grand Tasting on, Sat., March 19th will hold an auction of ceramic and glass tableware created by professional artists from North Texas. All auction proceeds will benefit

EASL (Emergency Artists Support League), a North Texas not-for-profit that coordinates with Communities Foundation to provide grants to artists who are in temporary distress because of an unforeseen medical emergency or other catastrophic event.

Savor Dallas donates proceeds from a fine wine silent auction to the North Texas Food Bank and funds a scholarship for a deserving chef to attend culinary school, which is administered through the Greater Dallas Restaurant Association. The Art Department at Booker T. Washington High School receives profits from the sale of student artwork at Savor Dallas.

Ticket prices for the individual events range from

\$35 to \$125. Weekend passes also are available at an overall cost saving. Parking will be \$5 per car in the Winspear Opera House Lexus Red Parking in the Arts District the entire evening of March 18.

Parking for March 19 will be \$6 self-parking in Sheraton Dallas Conference Center Garage or valet \$18.

For a complete schedule of events, ticket prices, times, locations, a list of

participating restaurants for the International Grand Tasting, parking instructions, etc., or to purchase tickets, go to www.SavorDallas.com or call 888-728-6747.

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TERRY, continued from Page 2

"M&M The Special Events Company is thrilled to be a part of Jason Terry's Father Daughter Ball. "The motivation behind the Jason Terry Foundation and what they stand for is amazing, and to put that effort into an incredibly special evening for fathers to connect with their daughters is truly special. M&M The Special Events Company is a family owned business and we are thrilled to be a sponsor

for this pro family evening. "A Royal Affair" is going to be an event that these young ladies will remember and M&M is incredibly honored to be a part of it."

"I am honored to participate in this philanthropic effort Jason has set forth to recognize fathers and daughters. This will be a night to remember", said Heather Antoine, President of Ghnii Designs.

Proceeds from this

evening will benefit the Jason Terry Foundation (H.O.O.D.) Helping Others Obtain Dreams scholarship program. Ten scholarships in the amount of \$3100 will be granted every year to hardworking high school seniors.

To reserve your seat at the Ball, log onto www.jasonterryfoundation.org or Ticketleap.com at <http://jason-terry-foundation.ticketleap.com/royalaffair2011/>.

PARTEE, continued from Page 6

is survived by daughters Glenda Partee Bardonille (Harold) and Pamela Lucas; sister-in-law Eva McMillan; grandchildren Kali-Ahset Strayhorn (Robert), Sabrina Bardonille, Lotoya Lucas, Jules and Cecil Partee (III); a host of cousins, nieces and nephews; and great granddaughter Xiomara Strayhorn.

Visitation with the family is scheduled 7:30 - 8:30 p.m., Thursday, March 10, Black & Clark Funeral Home, 2517 E.

Illinois Ave, Dallas, TX. Funeral services will be held 11 a.m., Friday, March 11 at Salem Institutional Baptist Church,

3918 Crozier Street followed by interment at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery.

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STEPS, continued from Page 11

supports you. If not, then you should have some kind of support network from your team or community association groups that you can get advice. However, don't go looking for support to all those people who doubted you and told you it was crazy to go out on your own. They will rarely understand the entrepreneur.

Build a personal development library. I draw tremendous support from my library. It is not just filled with how to resources, but also stories of others who conquered their fears. You should begin to email your friends that might recommend sources of personal development something based on your own description of your circumstances.

Take baby-steps to build confidence. Sometimes just making the smallest step will help get you back on the right track enough that the fear of not doing something can go away. Just starting the process can create enough momentum to see it through. Visualize the result, but make the action the goal. There is a subtle difference here for the entrepreneur. Of course, you want the result, but maybe that's not in your direct control. Visualize the result in your mind, but make your goal the consistent and persistent action of the entrepreneur. The action will eventually produce the result and you can certainly achieve that goal.

Entrepreneurship and the dream of owning your own business is a powerful concept. As a business owner, you are in charge of the decision making process, the direction of the company's products and services, and realizing the

benefits of your own hard work. At the same time, the factors that drive entrepreneurship can be equally frightening for many potential self-employed people. To get your own business going and growing, it's necessary to overcome your fears.

Many fear a personal lack of knowledge. While not everyone is an expert in public relations, sales and marketing, accounting, law, production, and distribution, these seemingly lofty skills can be learned or contracted. Books and Internet research resources are

FREE at the public library and courses are readily available that teach hands on practical skills. Lack of knowledge and information is only limited by your imagination. You may even discover that you know more about business than you had previously thought possible.

Never, ever quit. I hate to even use that "q" word. Keep seeking new ways to solve challenges. Listen and learn from others experiences. If you do quit in fear, you cease to be an entrepreneur - otherwise you're not beaten, you are

moving ahead living your dreams of building your own successful business.

Dr. Farrah Gray is the author of The Truth Shall Make You Rich: The New Road Map to Radical Prosperity, Get Real, Get Rich: Conquer the 7 Lies Blocking You from Success and the International best-seller Reallionaire: Nine Steps to Becoming Rich from the Inside Out. He is chairman of the Farrah Gray Foundation. Dr. Gray can be reached via email at fg@dr-farahgray.com or his web site at http://www.dr-farahgray.com.



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March 17, 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

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On Going, 7 p.m.

Wednesday Night Live in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall on Belmont Drive. Corporate prayer starts at 7 p.m.

March 11, 9 p.m.

Join our youth for a Friday Night Spiritual Open Mic in our Youth Center at 201 East McDermott Drive in Allen.

Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr.,

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March 12-13

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On Going

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March 20, 11 a.m.

Join us as we view and discuss displays of miniature inventions by African Americans that have benefited mankind world-wide. These displays have been compiled (some items have even been hand-made) and recorded by Mrs. Doris King from the historical community of Hamilton Park.

April 3, 4 p.m.

You're invited to our 3rd Church Anniversary. Come to hear a message from God and the exciting things that He has done for Word of Life these past three years.

On Going

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 and things.

Thursdays, 7 p.m.

You're invited to hear anointed men and women bring the Word of God.

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Senior Pastor**
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Thursday Night Live (Prayer, Praise and Proclamation) - 7:00 p.m.

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



Sister Tarpley

Down through history, Black women have made contributions to our society. Unfortunately, most of the time, you will not find their stories in America's history books.

Cathay Williams, because of an error in correctly understanding her name, became **William Cathay** (a male soldier) according to the Army doctor; William Cathay enlisted in the United States Regular Army as a Buffalo Soldier in 1866. An Army surgeon examined William Cathay, the recruit, but failed to realize that William Cathay was a female and not a male; the surgeon determined the recruit fit for duty and assigned William Cathay to the 38th U.S. Infantry; it was established in August 1866.

Cathay Williams (the female) was 22, 5'9" with black hair and black eyes and black complexion. The surgeon did not realize William Cathay was a female.

In March 1869, after William Cathay's disability discharge in 1868, the 38th and 41st Infantries were consolidated into the historically familiar African-American 24th and 25th Infantries.

National Women's History Month Continues

Cathay Williams carved a small, but symbolically important place in the history of American women, in the history of African American women and in the history of the United States Army. She was the only woman to serve in the U.S. Regular Army in the 19th Century. To date, she is the only documented African American woman who served in the U.S. Army prior to the official introduction of women.

Nannie Helen Burroughs was one of the best known and well-respected African Americans of the early twentieth century. She was called 'The Black Goddess of Liberty'. She was an educator, institution and organization-builder and a major figure in the Black church and secular feminist movement.

In 1900, at the annual meeting of the National Baptist Convention (NBC) in Virginia, Burroughs gave a speech, "How the Sisters are Hindered from Helping." This oration gained her national recognition and served as a lightning rod for the formation of the largest Black women's organization in the United States, the Woman's Convention (WC) an auxiliary to the NBC.

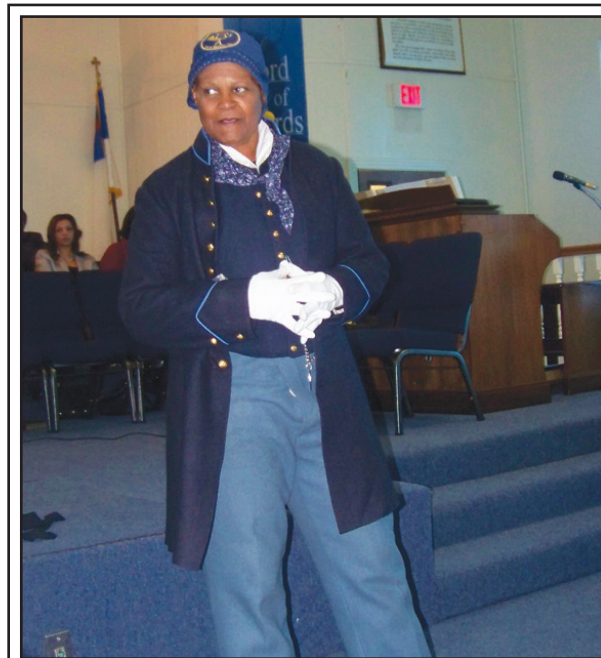
Furthermore, in 1896, Burroughs joined other women and formed the Na-

tional Association of Colored Women (NACW) to promote political mobilization of Black women. Burroughs became a much sought after participant, particularly by the Republican Party. When Herbert Hoover was elected President in 1928, he chose Burroughs to head a fact-finding commission on housing. In 1909, she founded the National Training School for Women and Girls, which was renamed the Nannie Helen Burroughs School in 1964.

Zora Neale Hurston was a novelist, folklorist, and anthropologist; she was the prototypical authority on Black culture from the Harlem Renaissance. In this artistic movement of the 1920s Black artists moved from traditional dialectical works and imitation of white writers to explore their own culture and affirm pride in their race. Hurston pursued this objective by combining literature

with anthropology. In 1935, her book, *Mules and Men*, which investigated voodoo practices in Black communities in Florida and New Orleans, brought her kudos.

Annie Onieta Plummer was dubbed The Dictionary Lady; she was born in 1936; the fifth of twelve children. In 1992, she noticed that many school children in Savannah, Georgia were not carrying any books. On her own initiative, she invested 50 dollars in 30 pocket dictionaries and proceeded to hand them out on the street corner. Her project gained nationwide attention and was emulated in other areas and mushroomed. Always aware of the value of education, she went back to school at the age of 42. In each dictionary she handed out, she inscribed the motto of the United Negro College Fund, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste," supplemented by her personal



Ms. Rosie Lee Reed, a 2005 Inductee into the National Cowboys of Color Museum and Hall of Fame, portrays Cathay Williams and William Cathay during Black History Month.

message, and "I challenge you not to waste yours."

"I saw the children with no books. I wondered what I could do to help." "Children need to know that people of all races have

made contributions to society. That should be integrated into all curriculums, every day—not just during Black History Month in February." --Annie Onieta Plummer.

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SMITH, continued from Page 1

strations.

"Exercise is an important way to combat weight gain and obesity, which can contribute to many chronic diseases," Smith said. "The Makeover Mile' walk will encourage people to get out and take active steps toward better health. The 'To Your Health' screenings will give adult participants critical information about their health status and risk for chronic disease."

Smith has served as the medical/diet expert for six seasons on VH1's highly-rated *Celebrity Fit Club*, is the creator and founder of The 50 Million Pound Challenge and is a medical contributor on the nationally syndicated television show, *Rachael Ray*. Smith was recently appointed by President Barack Obama to the President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition. He is also the author of eight books, including the New York Times Bestsellers, *The Fat Smash Diet*, *The Extreme Fat Smash Diet* and *The 4 Day Diet*. His eighth book, *EAT*, will be available in April 2011.

Smith launched the popular 50 Million Pound Chal-

lenge program in April 2007 after seeing several studies declaring the rampant obesity problem in the country.

"What can we do rather than just tell them? What can we do proactively to get Americans to begin making healthier choices," Smith said.

This led him to develop online resources and seek out key strategic partners. Smith believes the "To Your Health" events offered by CVS last year were a good fit for the objectives of the 50 Million Pound Challenge. More than 800 health events are slated throughout the country for 2011.

When asked what are his proudest achievements of the 50 Million Pound Challenge program so far, Smith cited 1.8 million registered program participants, more than 6 million pounds lost and lower blood pressure for participants. Smith said he receives satisfaction when individuals share their success story with him during events around the country.

Despite the achieved success, Smith acknowledges challenges remain before real-

izing the goal of a healthier African-American population. These barriers include lack of awareness about the current state of their health; options to facilitate improvement; and resources available to manage chronic conditions.

"People need to be informed on how to make the proper choices. They need access to health care," he said.

Smith is also hopeful the CVS "To Your Health" fair following the walk will provide much needed motivation to jump start a healthier regimen for participants.

The launch of Makeover Mile in Houston last weekend signaled the beginning of the next phase of the 50 Million Pound Challenge program. Learning more about their health risks is a key component of the Makeover Mile events. "To Your Health" attendees are offered more than \$150 worth of health screenings, including eye exams, blood pressure checks and cholesterol screenings.

Osteoporosis is not a condition commonly discussed in the African-American community but Smith believes it is

something the community should be concerned about. He indicated, "We should take the necessary bone density screenings." These will be available at the health fair Saturday.

Although health screenings are not available for children, they are invited to enjoy face painting and age appropriate activities designed to increase their awareness of healthy living options.

Once the event is over, the push for awareness and improved health does not end. CVS will host more than 80 events throughout DFW between now and November. These events will help individuals determine their risk for chronic diseases and provide resource information.

To learn more about "To Your Health" activities planned call 1-888-604-0333 or visit www.cvs.com/toyourhealth. Information regarding the Makeover Mile or to register, visit www.makeovermile.com or www.twitter.com/makeovermile. Participants who pre-register are eligible for prizes to be distributed at the event.

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