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# FTC field hearings tell tricks and traps of auto financing 54 percent of Black customers charged dealer kickbacks

By Charlene Crowell August is back-to-school

time; but it is also the time when car dealers tempt consumers with commercials that advertise slashed prices and seemingly too-good-tobe true deals to reduce inventories. Before taking a test drive, consumers would do themselves a financial favor

by learning about the tricks and traps that are built into the financing of many auto

For example, consumers usually do not realize that a dealer can "mark up" the interest rate on a car loan, over a lower rate a buyer may qualify for. Dealers say this increase compensates them for the time they spend in putting the financial deal together. As the dealer is not required to disclose the markup, it leads to the creation of a loan with terms that are most lucrative to dealers - instead of the con-

According to research by the Center for Responsible

National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) estimated that more than 54 percent of African Americans are

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## Lending (CRL), dealer markups will cause Americans who bought cars in 2009 to pay an extra \$25.8 billion over the lives of their loans. Earlier research by the

# Sales Tax Holiday begins Friday

By Tonya Whitaker NDG Staff Writer

Texas residents on the hunt for those last-minute school supplies will have a break this weekend when the 13th annual Sales Tax Holiday takes place Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Aug 19-21. State Comptroller Susan

Combs said Texas families have a big opportunity to save money when they shop.

"On that weekend, shoppers will pay no state or local sales tax on many school supplies, school backpacks and most children's and adults' clothing and shoes priced at less than \$100,"

Combs said. "The tax break helps out when the kids' back-to-school lists are long and money is short."

In Dallas, retailers such as Wal-Mart are preparing stores and employees for the anticipated holiday.

Daniel Morales director of community relations for

Wal-Mart, said the retailer's goal is to help Dallas customers receive all their backto-school and back-tocollege shopping needs in one place.

"Back to school is one of the busiest times of the year.

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# Irving's B.I.G. D.O.G.S. celebrates 10 years serving the community

Believing in God. Depending on God's Strength (B.I.G. D.O.G.S.) has enriched the lives of disenfranchised youth since 2001 and is inviting the community to help them celebrate with its 1st Annual B.I.G. D.O.G.S. Fundraising Banquet, "Find a Way" on Saturday, August 27 at 6 p.m.

B.I.G. D.O.G.S Youth Organization, Inc. is a

501(c)3 non-profit organi-



zation dedicated to equipping underprivileged youth with the resources and tools

necessary to achieve academic success. It also provides creative and constructive outlets through sports which foster team building, leadership, positive competition and development of life skills.

"This is the first time B.I.G. D.O.G.S has ever taken on something of this magnitude and undertaking," A.D. Jenkins, founder

of B.I.G. D.O.G.S., said. "This event will serve two purposes - raising awareness of the organization and celebrating 10 years in the Irving non-profit sector where the competition for funding is extremely tough.

Tickets to this historic event are tax-deductible start at \$40. Your purchase

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# **New investment** club sets out to create jobs in Dallas' southern sector



Linda Hayes See SOUTHERN, Page 9



## Do Brandy and Ray J have an older brother?

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

# **Rick Perry's Unanswered Prayers**

By Timothy Egan (NY Times) A few months ago, with Texas aflame from more than 8,000 wildfires brought on by extreme drought, a man who hopes to be the next president took pen in hand and went to work:

"Now, therefore, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Texas, do hereby proclaim the threeday period from Friday, April 22, 2011, to Sunday,

April 24, 2011, as Days of Prayer for Rain in the State of Texas."

In the four months since Rick Perry's request for divine intervention, his state has taken a dramatic turn for the worse.

Then the governor prayed, publicly and often. Alas, a rainless spring was followed by a rainless summer. July was the hottest month in recorded Texas history. Day after pitiless day, from Amarillo to Laredo, from Toadsuck

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# People In The News...



Nikki Ransom

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**Musiq Soulchild** 



Karen Morman

People in the News www.NorthDallasGazette.com

## Nikki Ransom

To some, Nikki Ransom's life could very well read like a storyline from the television network -- Lifetime. Once a teen mom, this Columbus native found herself in an emotionally and physically abusive relationship and was homeless at one point. Instead of allowing her circumstances to define her future, she decided to choose a different path for her life.

"I have overcome numerous obstacles such as low self-esteem, homelessness, teen pregnancy, domestic violence, and even murder to now have an abundantly blessed life and living out my dreams! As a Certified Life and Intimacy Coach, I am here to empower women from the Boardroom all the way to the Bedroom. Women rock!!"

Nikki chronicles her traumatic experiences in the novel, Hidden Butterflies: From the Honor Roll to the Stripper Pole. In her memoir, Nikki gives a deeply intimate account of how she survived an abusive marriage, suicide attempts and low self-esteem. The book



is a personal testimony of how she overcame these challenges to become a great mother, author, radio personality, and motivational speaker.

Today Nikki

Today, Nikki is a Certified Life and Inti-Coach. macy Most recently, she started the LoversEd LLC organization to help women who may have faced similar challenges and those who may

just need to find their confidence in the bedroom. "I have been very fortunate to

overcome numerous obstacles in my life such as low self-esteem, homelessness, teen pregnancy, and domestic violence," said Nikki Ransom, CEO of LoversEd. LLC. "All of these factors can take a traumatic toll on a woman's confidence - especially when it comes to intimacy with their partner. I became a certified life and intimacy coach to empower women to regain their confidence not only in the boardroom but also in the hedroom "

Lovers Ed, LLC not only offers a variety of classes to help women regain their sexual confidence but also helps couples reconnect on a more intimate level. The workshops are facilitated in private, comfortable settings and focus on a variety of topics ranging from Foreplay 101 to Erotic Massage.

In addition to the intimacy classes, Nikki teaches classes to help individuals discover their career passion and increase their confidence levels to assume leadership roles within organizations.

To learn more about LoversEd, LLC or author Nikki Ransom, visit www. nikkiransom.com

# **Musiq Soulchild**

Atlantic Records Recording Artist Musiq Soulchild recently announced his new role as ambassador for Susan G. Komen for the Cure Circle of Promise, a movement designed to further engage Black women around the globe in the fight against breast cancer. As an ambassador for the movement, Musiq will raise awareness about breast cancer so that younger women know the importance of early detection and why it's important to pay attention to their

bodies.

"Early detection is the key to winning the fight against breast cancer," said Musiq. "Too often, Black women are diagnosed in stage three and four when breast cancer is most difficult to treat. Some women are afraid to seek

treatment for fear of losing their breasts or their hair. One's physical appearance is much less important than



the will to live. It's time to remove the stigmas that are attached to this disease."

To put his cause where

his mouth is, Musiq Soulchild will feature a group of breast cancer survivors in his upcoming music video, "YES" from his sixth studio album, MUSIQINTHE MAGIQ. The video for the song will feature Musiq as a man who loves and supports his girlfriend through her battle with breast cancer. There will

be a special scene in the video that will feature a group of breast cancer survivors who show their support by wearing t-shirts, pins, and pink ribbons items associated with Susan G. Komen for the Cure®

Musiq Soulchild will also work with Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Circle of Promise to create awareness through social media outreach, television and radio appearances, as well as lend his talents for a fundraiser in October during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. "We couldn't ask for a greater level of commitment from someone who has such a strong connection to the target audience,"

said Katrina McGhee, Executive Vice President & CMO. "We are certain Musiq will both transform and save lives through his ambassadorship of this program."

Musiq said this cause is so dear to him, because his largely female fan base has been so instrumental in his success. "I care because they are at risk. They have always supported me and it's time that I return the favor and support them. I feel the need to make an impact before breast cancer impacts them and if my music can be the vehicle, then I am happy to serve."

# Karen Morman

J.W. Webb Elementary School Literacy Specialist



Karen Morman was named Region 10 Elementary Teacher of the Year by Region 10 Education Service Center, an organization that represents more than 80 districts in northeast Texas. She is the third

McKinney ISD teacher in the last five years to receive Region 10 Teacher of the Year honors.

"It is very humbling to be chosen for such an honor when there are so many talented and exemplary teachers in McKinney ISD and our Region who dedicate their lives to helping our students,"

said Morman. "This is a memory that I will cherish for a lifetime. I truly believe we each have a special calling in life, and teaching is definitely mine.

As an advocate for public education, I also hope to be able to share the good news about what is happening in public schools across Texas. Both of my children are products of the McKinney public school system, and the excellent preparation they received helped them both to graduate from college and go on to rewarding careers."

Morman was selected from over 50 participants throughout an intensely competitive region that includes all school districts in Collin County and surrounding areas.

Morman credits students' curiosity and enthusiasm for her success as a elementary teacher. Her dedication to finding new ways to provide the best instructional environment

possible set Morman on a journey to search for innovative ways to engage and motivate students.

"Every student deserves a teacher like Karen Morman, said J.W. Webb Elementary School Principal Kyle Luthi. "She truly represents everything that you would expect from a teacher of the year. She inspires each student to give their personal best in every endeavor and requires no less of herself. Karen fosters strong relationships with students and provides a classroom environment that is engaging and meaningful. I am incredibly appreciative of everything that Karen does for our entire Webb learning community"

Morman was named the 2011 McKinney ISD Elementary Teacher of the Year at the district's Teacher of the Year Ban-

quet held at Eldorado Country Club in March.

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# London's Calling, But **Are We Listening?**

By Dedrick Muhammad (NNPA) Last year, on my second day on the job as the new Senior Director of Economic Programs for the NAACP, I went to London with our President and CEO Benjamin Todd Jealous to at-

tend a conference on Global Youth Employment. Eight months later I, along with the rest of the world, am seeing images of economically disenfranchised youth throughout England rioting and re-

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## **Letter to the Editor**

story on the all White Irving School Board

I thought the school board was an elected position. So whats [sic] the problem? Can only people of the same ethnicity manage the duties of principals, students and teach-

In response to recent ers? I went to Irving schools in the mid sixties. We have come a long way baby. Do I hear a little race card being implied? Ethnic diversity does not always equate to quality. Diversity of intelligent thought does.

Jerry Hibberd

# PRAYERS, continued from Page 1

to Twitty, folks greeted by a hot, white bowl overhead, triple-digit temperatures, and a slow death on the land.

In the four months since Perry's request for divine intervention, his state has taken a dramatic turn for the worse. Nearly all of Texas is now in "extreme or exceptional" drought, as classified by federal meteorologists, the worst in Texas his-

Lakes have disappeared. Creeks are phantoms, the caked bottoms littered with rotting, dead fish. Farmers cannot coax a kernel of grain from ground that looks like the skin of an aging elephant.

Is this Rick Perry's fault, a slap to a man who doesn't believe that humans can alter the earth's climate — God messin' with Texas? No, of course not. God is too busy with the upcoming Cowboys football season and solving the problems that Tony Romo has reading a blitz.

But Perry's tendency to use prayer as public policy demonstrates, in the midst of a truly painful, wide-ranging and potentially catastrophic crisis in the nation's second most-populous state, how he would govern if he became president.

"I think it's time for us to just hand it over to God, and say, 'God: You're going to have to fix this," he said in a speech in May, explaining how some of the nation's most serious problems could be solved.

That was a warm-up of sorts for his prayer-fest, 30,000 evangelicals in Houston's Reliant Stadium on Saturday. From this gathering came a very specific prayer for economic recovery. On the following Monday, the first day God could do anything about it, Wall Street suffered its worst oneday collapse since the 2008 crisis. The Dow sunk by 635

Prayer can be meditative, healing, and humbling. It can also be magical thinking. Given how Perry has said he would govern by outsourcing to the supernatural, it's worth asking if God is ignoring him.

After the worst week of his presidency (and the weakest Oval Office speech since Gerald Ford unveiled buttons to whip inflation), the best thing Barack Obama has going for him is this Republican field. He still beats all of them in most polling match-ups.

Perry is supposed to be the savior. When he joins the campaign in the next few days, expect him to show off his boots; they are emblazoned with the slogan dating to the 1835 Texas Revolution: "Come and Take It." He once explained the logo this way: "Come and take it - that's what it's all about." This is not a man one would expect to show humility in

Perry revels in a muscular brand of ignorance (Rush Limbaugh is a personal hero), one that extends to the ever-fascinating history of the Lone Star State. Twice in the last two years he's broached the subject of Texas seceding from the

"When we came into the nation in 1845 we were a republic, we were a standalone nation," says Perry in a 2009 video that has just surfaced. "And one of the deals was, we can leave any time we want. So we're kind of thinking about that again.

He can dream all he

wants about the good old days when Texas left the nation to fight for the slaveholding states of the breakaway confederacy. But the law will not get him there. There is no such language in the Texas or United States' constitutions allowing Texas to unilaterally "leave any time we want.'

But Texas is special. By many measures, it is the nation's most polluted state. Dirty air and water do not seem to bother Perry. He is, however, extremely perturbed by the Environmental Protection Agency's enforcement of laws designed to clean the world around him. In a recent interview, he wished for the president to pray away the E.P.A.

To Jews, Muslims, nonbelievers and even many Christians, the Biblical bully that is Rick Perry must sound downright menacing, particularly when he gets into religious absolutism. "As a nation, we must call upon Jesus to guide us unprecedented struggles," he said last week.

As a lone citizen, he's free to advocate Jesus-driven public policy imperatives. But coming from someone who wants to govern this great mess of a country with all its beliefs, Perry's language is an insult to the founding principles of the republic. Substitute Allah or a Hindu God for Jesus and see how that polls.

Perry is from Paint Creek, an unincorporated hamlet in the infinity of the northwest Texas plains. I've been there. In wet years, it's pretty, the birds clacking on Lake Stamford, the cotton high. This year, it's another sad moonscape in the Lone Star State.

Over the last 15 years, taxpayers have shelled out \$232 million in farm subsidies to Haskell County, which includes Paint Creek - a handout to more than 2,500 recipients, better than one out every three residents. God may not always be reliable, but in Perry's home county, the federal government certainly is.

# The Citizens for Irving **Entertainment Center Seek Support**

While the citizens of Irving voted for the Irving Entertainment Center years ago, the city has yet to appropriate the necessary funds for the project.

The complex, planned for development next to Irving Convention Center, is not only expected to bring commerce, restaurants and family-friendly entertainment. It is projected to create 2,000 -2,500 jobs. This is why advocates of the project are going before officials to

form a special purpose political action committee in order to save it.

The Citizens for Irving Entertainment Center will be holding a 60-day petition drive and need the signatures of 6,000 Irving residents to present to the Irving City Council.

Irving residents are urged to contact Anthony Bonds at 214-830-6719 or at aebond09@yahoo.com for literature and information about how to participate in the petition drive.

# Let's do lunch!

Back-to-school time will be here again soon, and for many of us that means we'll once again be packing lunches. BeWell caught up with Jennifer Robinson, PhD, manager of the BeWell Numbers Program, to gain some insight into lunchtime eating habits and how we all might improve our mid-day nutrition.

Packing lunch can be a

hassle. Why should I bother?

Here are a few reasons:

1. You have more control

- 1. You have more control over what goes into it.
  - 2. You save money.
- 3. You may eat less for dinner as you aim to save enough leftovers to pack for lunch the next day.

What common lunch mistakes do people make?

Many people think they

have to eat a salad in order to be healthy. Unfortunately, many of those "healthy salads" come loaded with salad dressing, cheese, and bacon bits — often making them as unhealthy as bacon-double-cheeseburgers. Conversely, some folks believe they should just eat the vegetables, but it is the protein (lean meats, fish or dairy in moderation) that actu-

ally help us to feel fuller longer. If we just eat vegetables, no doubt we will be hungry in just a few hours.

Are there easy ways to make lunches more nutritious?

1. Pack your kids' lunches at the same time as your own. You wouldn't think about giving your kids a lunch that wasn't nutritious, would you?

2. Make sure you include at least one fruit and/or vegetable and then foods from at least two of the other food groups (whole grains, low-fat dairy, or lean protein).

3. Prepare food in batches that you plan to eat for the week. For example, cut up veggie sticks on Sunday so you have enough to last you the whole week. Portion out

handfuls of walnuts into baggies or small plastic containers. (Who wants to do that every single day?!)

# What can I do about lunch boredom?

Ask yourself, "Could I add any more color to my meal?" If you eat out, are there other items on the menu that you

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# **CALLING,** continued from Page 3

belling. The ignition for these rebellions appears to be the fatal shooting of Mark Duggan, a young Black man, by the police.

Youth rioting and rebelling in economically disenfranchised areas in relation to possible racial discrimination and police brutality is something with which most Americans are all too familiar. In a BBC video clip in which Darcus Howe, a Black English migrant, is interviewed about the riots, Mr. Howe states that what is happening throughout England is similar to insurrections throughout the Arab world, where youth have been a leading force in street protests demanding change government. from their Where I agree with Mr. Howe is that these incidents of riots and rebellions from economically disappointed and disenfranchised youth are not limited to the context of London. or even England.

During the 2010 Global Youth Employment Conference in London, sponsored by the NAACP, CNBC, The Blackstone Charitable Foundation, the International Youth Foundation and others, leading minds highlighted the crisis of global youth unemployment. Between the years 2008 and 2009, global youth unemployment increased by almost seven million. This is about 35 times the increase that occurred before the recent global recession. As BusinessWeek wrote in its February 2011 article "The Youth Unemployment Bomb," "[A]n economy that can't generate enough jobs to absorb its young people has created a lost generation of the disaffected, unemployed, or underemployed -- including growing numbers of recent college graduates for whom the post-crash economy has little to offer." This relationship between youth unemployment and long-term social

and economic disenfranchisement, coupled with austerity budgeting, which threatens to lessen the opportunities and support provided to the youth of today, reminds me of the words of Dr. King: "The people will rise up and express their anger and frustration if you refuse to hear their cries. A riot is the language of the unheard."

Laurie Penny, in her article "Panic on the Streets of London," writes:

The people running Britain had absolutely no clue how desperate things had become. They thought that after thirty years of soaring inequality, in the middle of a recession, they could take away the last little things that gave people hope, the benefits, the jobs, the possibility of higher education, the support structures, and nothing would happen. They were wrong. And now my city is burning, and it will continue to burn until we stop the blanket condemnations and blind conjecture and try to understand just what has brought viral civil unrest to Britain.

The rebellions happening in Britain today - similar to what happened in France in 2005 and 2007, and in Israel with some of the largest demonstrations focused on growing economic insecurity - can serve as a warning to the United States. We must recognize that our current economy is one that can also breed despair that can easily turn to rage. The record-breaking global youth unemployment rate of 13 percent is far below the 2010 youth unemployment rate in the United States of 19.1 percent. Just like in England, American youth of color have even worse unemployment numbers. In the U.S., about 22 percent of both Asian-American and Latino -American youth are unemployed. For African-American youth the unemployment rate was 33.4 percent, representing just over a third of all African-American youth in the labor market.

There is a consensus as to how to address these types of challenges. In a 2010 report

on employment trends, the International Labor Organization notes that comprehensive training, as well as programs that include classroom and onthe-job training, technical and non-technical assistance, financial support for the employer and employee, and job placement services have all been shown to have the most success in advancing youth employment. These types of programs require private- and public-sector partnerships in order to properly function.

Recently, such a program was announced in New York City. Mayor Bloomberg announced a \$130-million project focused on Black and Latino men that will be funded by two private foundations and the New York City budget. This program will invest in job training, educational classes, paid internships, and paid

mentorship positions all aimed at young Black and Latino men. This type of local initiative is important but must be replicated on the national level and throughout countries across the globe. The global recession must be met by a global investment in our future, and this will mean targeting economically disenfranchised youth and, often, youth of color. The NAACP and its

new Economic Program department is dedicating itself to these type of initiatives, and in this globalized 21st century, we recognize that bridging racial and economic disparities is not a domestic challenge but an international one.

Dedrick Muhammad is the Senior Director of Economic Programs for the NAACP. More information can be found at www.naacp.org/econ.

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# Murphy named to Money's 100 Best Places to Live

Rank of 27 outpaces closest Texas city by more than 40

Money Magazine has released its 2011 list of the 100 Best Places to Live in America, highlighting small cities with under 50,000 in population, and has ranked the City of Murphy as twenty-seventh best of the thousands the magazine reviewed. The list appears as the cover story in the issue to hit newsstands on Aug. 19. The ranking is a validation of the work that the

Council, the staff and the residents have put forth to make Murphy the best it can be, said City Manager James

"Murphy is a community of neighborhoods that have, individually and collectively, expressed their desire to develop a place where the quality of life, public safety and economic vitality reflect the highest standards," he said.

"We are always striving to be the best we can be, and this national recognition confirms that we are going in the right direction.'

The magazine's editors compiled the list as it looked for communities with the optimal combination of job opportunities, fiscal strength, top-notch schools, safe streets, good health care, cultural outdoor activities and

even nice weather.

The magazine's article describes the 100 cities as standing out in the qualities American families care about most. It portrays Murphy as a "boom town" noting that the city's population has exploded from a few thousand to nearly 20,000 in just a decade's time. "One big draw," says the article is "homes that are more afford-

able than many in the area. Murphy provides commuters easy access to the city while serving as a quiet retreat."

Fisher pointed to a number of recent actions that ostensibly serve to prove the points highlighted in the arti-

"The 2008 bond election that changed the complexion and landscape of the parks and trails system in the City,

the decision to create a world-class community center, the vote to allow a major employer and retailer to come to town, and the many day-to-day decisions that the Council and the staff make to make Murphy stand out, all contribute to our forward movement," he said.

The closest Texas city on the 100 list is The Colony at 68, 41 places below Murphy.

# **Prairie View A&M Alumni-Dallas Chapter announces** 2011 Annual Athletic Scholarship & Stadium Gala

The Dallas Alumni Chapter of Prairie View A&M University has announced its 16th Annual Athletic Scholarship & Stadium Gala, which will be held on Friday, September 30, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at the Marriott City Center Hotel-Downtown Dallas (650 North Pearl Street)

The gala will be held the night before the annual Prairie View vs. Grambling State Fair Football Classic and will feature dinner, a champagne reception, silent auction, door prizes, live entertainment and dancing to the sounds of "VinJac"!

The event will feature Keynote Speaker, Patrick Briggs, Assistant Director at the AVID Center. There will also be a special performance by the internationally known "PV Black Foxes"

Seating is limited! Tickets for the gala are \$75.00 each and a table of ten (10) is \$750.00. Sponsorship and Advertising Opportunities are available, as well as special hotel rates at the Marriott City Center Hotel-Dallas

Proceeds will benefit the Prairie View A&M University Athletic Endowment Scholarship Fund, which to date has been presented with more than \$525,000 from the Dallas Alumni Chapter. New this year, some proceeds will also go to benefit the PV Stadium Fund to build a new 15,000 seat athletic stadium on the Prairie View campus

For additional information, please contact Gala Publicity Chair, Lalonni DuBose Hagerman at 972-342-4476 or via e-mail at LDHagerman@att.net or Co-Chair Dyorah Evans at 214-421-5200 or via e-mail at dae@dbcc.org. You may also contact Gala General Chair, Kimberly Runnels at Dallas PV Alumni Chapter, P.O. Box 397508, Dallas, Texas 75339 or call 972-289-9942 or 214-337-1845.

# Correction

It has come to the attention of the Gazette that our coverage of Bishop Neaul Haynes 80th Birthday Celebration (Pg.9, Cover Story, August 11, 2011) stated that Bishop Haynes became Bishop of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction in 1997. However, it was 1978, not 1997.

# **City of Irving launches** mandatory watering restrictions

Beginning Aug. 11, City or Friday of Irving officials is now enforcing mandatory watering restrictions as part of the implementation of Stage 2 of its Drought Contingency Plan. Until further notice, Irving residents and businesses cannot water more than twice per week on designated days, according to the street number address and other guidelines:

- Even-numbered addresses (those ending in 0, 2, 4, 6 or 8) may water on Tuesday and Saturday
- · Odd-numbered addresses (those ending in 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9) may water on Wednesday and Sunday
- · No irrigation may occur on Monday, Thursday

· No irrigation may occur between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on any day.

During Stage 2 restrictions, building foundations and landscaping may be watered by hand-held hose, soaker hose, bucket or drip irrigation for up to two hours on any day before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. Violators of the Stage 2 restrictions are subject to fines of up to \$2,000 per violation.

"Irving's daily water demand has been steadily increasing since early June from about 40 million gallons per day (MGD) up to a recent peak of more than 66 MGD," said Water Utilities Director Todd Reck. "Moving to the mandatory schedule in Stage 2 should reduce water demand and help maintain safe water levels."

Activating the mandatory restrictions is a proactive move intended to preserve the water supply and thereby protect public health, welfare and safety, as well as minimize the adverse impacts of water supply shortages. Cooperation with the restrictions will help ensure water is available for domestic use, sanitation and fire protection.

For more information, visit www.cityofirving.org, locate the "Departments" tab then select "Water Utilities," or call (972) 721-

# Fair Housing wants to hear from Garland residents

The City of Garland wants to hear from Garland residents about its fair housing programs and policies. Feedback options include an online survey and in per-

The City of Garland will hold a Public Meeting on Thursday, August 18, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at the South Garland Library, located at 4845 Broadway Blvd., Garland, Texas, 75043. This meeting is intended to inform Garland residents about the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), as well as provide an opportunity for all to participate in the AI planning process.

Entitlement communi-

ties like Garland are required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to complete an AI every five years. HUD defines an impediment to fair housing choice as any actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict, or have the effect of restricting, the availability of housing choices, based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

Persons living and working in Garland are encouraged to attend and provide input. Anyone unable to attend this meeting but wishing to make their views known may do so by submitting written comments

to: Mona Woodard, Garland Neighborhood Services, at 972-205-3310.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the City by writing or calling the following: Elaine Emmert at 972-205-3348 or by mail at 222 Carver, Suite B, Garland TX 75040.

Below is a link to a brief online survey. The purpose of the survey is to gather information that will allow us to evaluate and assess current housing choices within the City of Garland.

Please use the following link to complete the survey: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GarlandFair-Housing

# Dog-A-Poolooza Set for August 20

Splash day for pooches is right around the corner! Garland Pawsibilities is hosting Dog-A-Poolooza on Saturday, August 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Holford Park Pool, 2322 Homestead

This doggie pool party will also feature \$5 rabies vaccinations, \$1 City registration for sterilized pets and \$15 for unsterilized pets. Pet registration is required for all Garland residents. Microchiping services will also be available for \$5, plus \$16.99 for the product registration.

Admission for Dog-A-Poolooza is \$5 per dog and \$1 per human. Proceeds

from entry fees will support Garland Pawsibilities, a non-profit organization that helps find homes for adoptable animals at the Garland Animal Shelter.

For more information, visit www.GarlandAnimal Services.org or www.GarlandPawsibilities.org.

# **10th Annual ETHIOPIA DAY!**

The 10th ETHIOPIA DAY, produced by the Mutual Assistance Association for the Ethiopian Community in Dallas/Forth Worth, is a unique celebration held in the Dallas Metroplex. The free family event will be held Saturday September 3rd and Sunday September 4th, 2011 from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the Plano Center, 2000 East Spring Creek Plano, Texas

The ETHIOPIA DAY festival offers a variety of cultural and fashion shows as well as a whole range of sport activities, educational information and a lot of food, music, health and other workshops. This event is organized to preserve Ethiopian culture by nurturing cultural identity and to promoting understanding with the U.S. community at large.

For more details please contact: Ethiopian Community Office 11420 E. Northwest HWY Suite 93, Dallas, 75218 see http://www.maaecdallas.org

When we talk about back to school, we know what customers are looking for. We want our customers to get what they are looking for and get it for less.

"Our Dallas customers are shopping wiser because of the recession. They are sticking to their lists.'

Morales said in the addition to in-store sales, Wal-Mart.com will feature deals.

"With the busy lifestyles families hold, we want to offer flexible shopping options for our customers. Therefore, individuals who shop online at WalMart.com can have their purchases shipped to their local store free of charge," Morales said.

In addition, he said if cus-

tomers find an item advertised at a lower price from a Dallasarea competitor, they can bring in the advertisement and the retailer will match the price during check out.

'We want to be customers' one-stop shop. At the end of the day, we want them to leave fully satisfied and their lists are completed," Morales said.

This year, Combs predicts shoppers will save \$62.1 million in state and local sales taxes during the Sales Tax Holiday.

Lists of apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax free can be found on the comptroller's website at www.texastaxholiday.org.

# **Sales Tax Holiday Shopping Tips**

According to the Dallas Better Business Bureau (BBB), consumers are suggested to do their homework before taking to the stores. Here are the BBB's tips:

Take inventory. Before hitting the stores, take inventory of items you already have. You may have leftover supplies from the previous school year. Look around the house for reusable items such as backpacks, lunchboxes, calculators and rulers.

Set a budget. Decide how much you are willing to spend per person a few days in advance. Include children in the process of creating the budget to teach them responsible money management.

"Back-to-School Sale" doesn't mean tax-free. Retail stores may advertise back-to-school sales because they know consumers are buying items for the upcoming school year. Certain discounts will still have taxes applied to them unless the item appears on the state comptroller's tax-free list.

Shop with a list. After taking inventory, create a

shopping list and stick to it. This will help you stick to your budget, avoid costly impulse purchases and ensure nothing is forgotten.

Know what your child's school allows. Schools will often provide parents with a list of required items for the school year which can help determine what you need to purchase. These lists are also available at many retail stores and on school websites. Additionally, many schools have specific dress codes, so keep these restrictions in mind before spending money on clothes the school may not allow.

Check for refund and exchange policies. Be sure you can exchange or return items purchased during this time period. Keep in mind some items may be non-refundable or have restocking fees associated with a return.

# Small class sizes and state-of-the-art educational opportunities an option for Dallas students

While many public schools are facing a dreary 2011-2012 school year in the wake of budget cuts, teacher lay-offs, and overcrowded classrooms, Evolution Academy Charter School is preparing to unveil its state-of-the-art campus additions and low student-teacher ratios.

The latest expansion includes a two-building campus, boasting more than 50,000 square feet, which includes a science lab, fitness center and wellness program, piano lab, culinary arts program, and full-service cafeteria. The public charter high school can hold up to 600 students and open enrollment is going on now. School starts on August 22nd

During the 2011-2012 academic year, the school will also serve free breakfast and lunch to all students, provide DART passes for transportation and will also offer music business courses where students will learn to write, produce and record music in the newly added stateof-the-art music studio.

Founded in 2002, by Cynthia A. Trigg, a school administrator with 20 years of experience, Evolution Academy is focused

opportunities to equip its students with tangible

on providing vocational teaching and learning con- merous teaching tech- of Texas. With a low stutinues," said Trigg, chief executive officer. skills that can be used in have a great staff that is

## CHARTER SCHOOL

the real world. "Despite the challenge we face over the next two years with education budget cuts, our commitment to maximum

dedicated to teaching every student and a new building with new technologies and an exciting

emy has an academic offering that is unmatched by other public, charter, or private schools and is dedicated to reaching and de-

niques to utilize with our

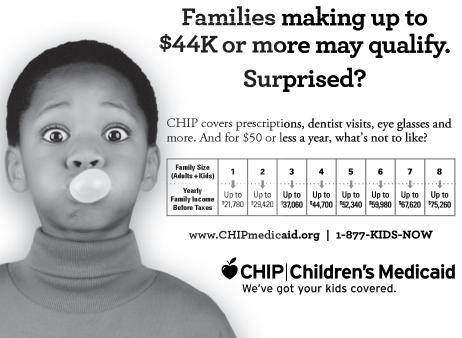
changing population of learners. The mission of Evolution Academy Charter School is to enable its students to achieve academic, social and career success. With its mission at the forefront, Evolution Acad-

dent-teacher ratio of 18:1, the progressive charter school is able to offer the one-on-one attention and instruction that many stu-

dents need to advance them to the next level.

For more information, call 972-907-3755 or visit evolutionacademy.org.







# Teen Graffiti's Keepin It Real! 2011 empowers hundreds of youth



Dr. Leonard Garrett, Keepin' It Real! Keynote Speaker.



Rachel Webb performs at Keepin' It Real! 2011.



Tamme Gaddis presents Your Personal Brand You Did What workshop to students at the 8th annual Keepin' It Real! Youth Empowerment Summit.



Youth participants walk through Youth Village of vendors representing colleges, universities and non-profit organizations

# Go for launch



Instructor Alejandro Sealey and students in the Experience Aviation STEM Academy at the University of North Texas at Dallas watch as their classmate launches a rocket they assembled Aug. 11.

A model-rocket launch marked the end of a unique summer program at the University of North Texas at Dallas Aug. 11.

Nine local public school students in the Experience Aviation STEM Academy at UNT Dallas launched three model rockets in front of a cheering crowd of family and university staff, despite the Texas heat. Students assembled and painted the rockets the previous day.

The students spent the past four weeks using a flight simulator and learning about aviation and rock-

ets in the summer course. The program ended Aug. 11 with the rocket launch followed by a reception.

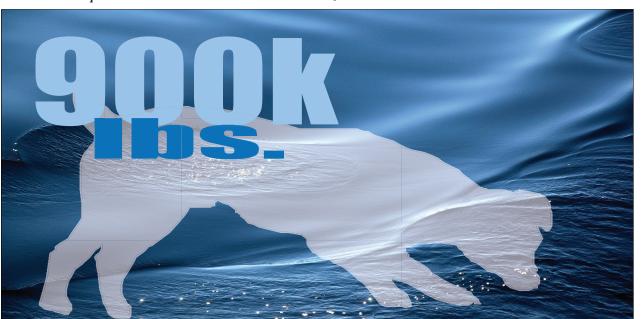
In partnership with Experience Aviation Inc. of Opa Locka, Fla., UNT Dallas hosted the program for middle and high school students July 19 through Aug. 11. Designed by Capt. Barrington Irving, the youngest person ever and first African American to fly solo around the world, the purpose of the program is to motivate youth and address the shortage of technically skilled professionals in aviation, aerospace and

# **CELEBRATES,** continued from Page 1

will afford local youth regardless of socio-economic background access to services free of charge, help provide enrichment programs and sustain a local facility to provide these necessary

services.

For tickets and information call A.D. Jenkins at (214) 789-9037 or email him at ad@bigdogs.org. You can also visit the website at bigdogsyouth.org.



# Fact:

1.2 million registered dogs in DFW produce an estimated 900,000 pounds of waste Pet waste can daily. pollute the storm drainage system, including area creeks, lakes, and the Trinity River, potentially harming plants and aquatic wildlife.

## Tips:

- +Pick up after your pet during walks.
- +Choose at least one day a week to collect pet waste in your yard.
- +Dispose the waste by flushing it down a toilet or double bagging it as trash.

Visit us at www.wheredoesitgo.com



## **Ongoing**

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

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

**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.TheNoLimit-Network.com or 972-898-

The National Business Women Enterprise Net-work (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. www.nbwenorg.ning.

North Dallas Texas Democratic Women Regular Me-etings 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-fri-endly activities celebrating Latino arts and culture. Come in for one hour, or stay the whole day.

**Business Empowerment Ses**sions. Learn to grow a successful small business. 1st Thursday of each month at Christian Chapel Temple of Faith, 14120 Noel Rd., Dallas. Info @ 214-942-6698.

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.

Oak Cliff Cultural Center. 223 West Jefferson Blvd. in Dallas, offers Tango classes every Wed-nesday from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person or \$15 per couple per class. www.tangocanyenguedallas.com

## **Through August 30**

Plano Children's Theater performs Disney's Mulan. Tickets are \$7.00 in advance or \$9.00 at the door, 1301 Custer Rd, Suite 706, Plano, TX 75075. Call 972-422-2575 or planochildrenstheater.

Celebrate the final days of summer with Arboretum August Dollar Days at the Dallas Arboretum, 8525 Garland Road, Dallas, TX. Everyone pays \$1 admission everyday throughout August. Info: 214-515-6500. dallasarboretum. org/special events/Dollar-Days.html

**Cool Thursday Family Expe**rience hits the Dallas Museum of Art 1717 Harwood Street Dallas, TX with half-priced admission (\$5) and activities for the whole family every Thursday until the end of August. Info: 214-922-1200 dallasmuseumofart.org/ Family/FamilyCelebrations/index. htm#SummerThursdays

## **Through August 31**

The Malcolm X Grassroots Movement is holding a series of political educational classes in the month of August in honor of Black August at the Juanita Craft Civil Rights House, 2618 Warren Avenue, Dallas, TX from 6-8pm.

## **Through October 27**

Watters Creek hosts Bike Night every Thursday night 7pm – 10pm with live music sponsored by Harley-Davidson of Dallas. Admission Free. Watters Creek at Montgomery Farm, US 75, Allen, TX 75013. 972-747-8000.

## **Through September 1**

The Irving Arts Center is hosting performances by Mongolian dancers as part of Genghis Khan: The Exhibition at 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving Info: 972-252-7558 or www.KhanIrving.c om. Mongolian dancers perform each Tuesday-Sunday at 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 p.m.

## **Through September 2**

"Citizens at Last: The Women's Suffrage Movement in Texas," at The Women's Museum, Dallas

## **Through September 4**

The Fort Worth Community Arts Center, 1300 Gendy Street, Fort Worth, TX 76107, presents Motherhood - The Musical. Tickets \$45. Info: 817-840-5920 and motherhoodthemusical.com/events/fo rt-worth

## **Through September 6**

"Seen and Unseen" Pastel Exhibit by Sue Parks at the Garland Granville Arts Center Gallery is a retrospective collection of pastel and watercolor paintings created from 1990 to 2011, from Monday thru Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and during all perform-

## **August 19-21**

Tax-free weekend

## **August 19 – 21**

The 24th Annual Lions Club Balloon Festival and Fair comes to Copperas Branch Park, 100 Copperas Branch Rd., Highland Village, TX, 75077 with rides, bounce houses, hot air balloons and fun for the whole family. Admission: \$5 donation per car for parking. Info: 214-618-8494 and hyballoonfest.com

For Better or Worse plays at the Addison Theater Center, 15850 Addison Rd, Addison, TX 75001 at 3pm (8/20, 8/21) and 8pm. Tickets \$15 (presale) and \$20 (at the door). Bring a ticket stub from any play this year and receive \$5 off ticket price. Info: anivramproduction.com

# The Broadway hit Hairpray plays at Casa Manana, 3101

Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth, TX, 76101 at 8pm. Ticket start at \$40. Info: 817-332-2272 and casamanana.org.

## August 20

AnyEvent Event Planning Services is hosting Event Planners Boot Camp at UTA, 701 S. Nedderman Dr. Arlington, from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Info: Teri Robinson at 214-376-6530, teri@anyevent.org or www.anyevent.org.

The National Black United Front – Dallas Chapter sponsors the "Hands Off: Bold Black Leadership Rally!" from 10am - 7pm at 828 Fourth Avenue, Dallas TX 75226 with black leaders from America, bounce across houses, soul music and African drums and dance. Admission: FREE. Info: 214-460-7672, nbufdallas@gmail.com or nbufdallas.org.

## August 21

Celebrate good music, food and community at the Marcus Garvey Festival at Beckley Saner Park, 101 W. Saner Avenue, Dallas, TX 75219 at

## August 24

The fourth annual diversity luncheon DFW Today! will feature former Texas State Demographer Dr. Steve Murdock's new census analysis at the J. Eric Johnson Central Library, O'Hara Room, 1515 Young St, Dallas, TX 75201. The luncheon begins at 11:30am. Tickets are \$25. Info: 972-661-2764.

## August 25

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra presents Steve Martin and the Steep Canyon Rangers for an evening of bluegrass and jaw-dropping harmonies. Tickets start at \$60.00. Go to dallassymphony.com/season-tickets/single-tickets/live-at-themeyerson/productions/ stevemartin.aspx

## August 26

City of Dallas Councilwoman Carolyn R. Davis invites the community to the 2011 Heart

and Soul Tour. Tour departs 1:45pm from the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 South Fitzhugh at Second Avenue. FREE. Info: gaytha.davis@ dallascityhall.com and 214-926-3799.

## **August 25 - 28**

The Arlington Improv presents comedian Guy Tory. 309 Curtis Mathes Way, Arlington, TX 76018. Tickets start at \$15. Info: 817-635-5555

## **August 26 – 27**

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters presents The Jazzy Sounds of Jeniffer Criss at the Clarence Music Café Theater located in the Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex. Tickets are \$10. Info: 214-743-2400.

Women of Faith presents **Over** the Top at the American Airline Center, 2500 Victory Avenue, Dallas, TX. 10am -3:30pm and 7pm - 10pm (8/26). 9am – 5pm (8/27). Tickets \$89 - \$99. Info: 888-49-2484 and womenoffaith.

## **August 26 – 28**

The African American Museum at Fair Park, 3536 Grand Avenue, Dallas, TX 75315. hosts the 9th Annvual Tulisoma South Dallas Book Fair and Arts Festival. Info: Tulisoma.org

## August 27

The Addison Conference Centre, 15650 Addison Road, Addison, TX 75001, hosts the 2011 Dallas Chocolate Festival. Adult tickets \$15 (plus tax) in advance and \$20 (including tax) on the day of the even and includes ten samples. Child tickets include three samples and are \$15 (plus tax) in advance and \$6 (including tax) the day of the Conference. Info: dallaschocolate.org.

## **August 27 – 28**

Hit up the Garland Convention & Reception Center, 1906 E. Miller Rd, Garland, TX for The Ladies Roundtable Conference and Expo. Tickets start at \$10. Info: 888-907-2203 and theladiesroundtable com

## August 27

Grammy-winning R&B/Urban soul artist Jill Scott performs at the Gexa Energy pavilion, 1818 First Avenue, Dallas, TX. Info: 214-421-1111. Jillscott. com/

## August 28

Renowned, African American chefs feature their talents to benefit scholarships for local students at the 3rd Annual National Hookup of Black Women North Texas Chapter Iron Chef Cook-off at the Milestone Culinary Arts Center, 4531 McKinney Avenue, Dallas, TX 75205. Tickets are \$50. Info: Denise Woodson at 215-906-2480 or wood5@att.net

## September 10

It's My Park Day 8 a.m. noon hosted by City of Dallas

## September 15-18

Addison Oktoberfes Grape-Fest in downtown Grapevine

## September 17

Garland NAACP 21st Annual Freedom Fund Brunch and Silent Auction begins at 9 a.m. with brunch starting at 10 a.m. at the Doubletree Hotel, 1981 N. Central @ Campbell Rd., Richardson. Info: 972-381-5044, voice box

www.garlandtxnaacp.org

## September 23-24

Jazz by the Boulevard in the Cultural District in Fort Worth

Mexico 2000 Ballet Folk-"Mexican Influlorico ences"; 6:30 p.m. at the Granville Arts Center Brownlee Auditorium Tickets \$15 general admission and \$12 seniors and children under 7 years old. Info: Alex Palencia at 972-429-1082

## September 30

State Fair of Texas opens at

## October 22-23

Fort Worth Alliance Air Show

Sponsored By:



# Proud To Be An Active at&t Partner In The Community

# New investment club sets out to create jobs in Dallas' southern sector

By Shirley Tarpley *NDG* Staff Writer

The newly formed Southern Communities Investment Club (SCIC) has a purpose: Create jobs and opportunity for its members.

Linda Hayes, a successful realtor and longtime Dallas resident, is setting out to transform the southern sector of Dallas into a booming, economically robust community that has long been ignored and passed over. Hayes said she is concerned about the direction of the nation's economy with the recent down grading of its bond rating, a Black unemployment rate of more than 16 percent – twice the national rate and a Black male unemployment rate of more than 17 percent.

"Everywhere people are talking about jobs, jobs, jobs," Hayes said. "The fact is we haven't seen anything for job creation in the southern sector. We've heard about businesses bringing jobs here, but I haven't seen it."

Instead of waiting for government officials or private companies to bring the jobs, Hayes founded the investment club to empower its residents to take control of their own destinies. Unlike past economic development efforts, the goal of the club is to pool financial resources of members to invest in new businesses directly helping the residents of the southern sector - including south, west and east Dallas, Oak Cliff, Red Bird, Lancaster, Wilmer, Hutchins, Glenn Heights, Red Oak DeSoto Duncanville, Cedar Hill, and Grand Prairie.

She has spent the past several months talking to residents and business owners in southern Dallas who say they are tired of getting passed over.

"We hope when people start looking at relocating companies, they'll look at the southern sector instead of Legacy Park, Plano or Las Colinas."

Hayes' vision is clear; she wants to create a multicultural version "Black Wall Street," reminiscent of the early 20th century Tulsa community that was bustling with Black-owned restaurants, banks, hotels, night clubs and other businesses. That Tulsa community became an oasis for many Blacks from the Deep South who fled their homes anyway they could to build a new life. The business district had humble beginnings, starting with a rooming house by O.W. Gurley, a wealthy Black Arkansas businessman who moved to Tulsa from Mississippi. Once in Tulsa, Gurley purchased a huge tract of land where he began to build one of the most historically significant African American communities the nation had ever seen. Within a few years, he built additional office buildings and homes for the growing population of Blacks. The community was rich with successful

riots, and the celebration of the success of those businessmen.

Hayes said the southern sector of Dallas - rich with a large housing stock, solid available land, African American middle and upper classes and growing Latino population - has all the right ingredients to become a vibrant community where residents can benefit from the best of all businesses and services, just like those businesses and services available in north Dallas.

The plan to address joblessness could not have come at a better time. The recent downgrading of the U.S. credit rating from AAA to AA+ by Standards & Poor's rating agency has created a greater need to generate jobs. The weaker credit ratings will make it more difficult for minorities to obtain loans and jobs. In the President Barack Obama's "Strategy for American Innovation,' he calls for "innovationbased economic growth will bring greater income,

thinkers.'

She said that innovative creators of ideas and plans united together can make a tremendous difference.

"Yes, I love my fried chicken, soul food, my car kept clean at the community car wash, and I frequently get my hair done at the beauty shop," Hayes said. "Such businesses do create jobs and are a part of our daily lives. However, I am referring to visions that are one of kind that offer needed solutions or services that transcend the community.

"It's time to stop living as major consumers of products and services and become a community that owns early-stage interest in companies. Companies that we help start and also provide products and services to the world."

Individuals interested in becoming members can attend one of two meetings slated for Saturday, Aug. 20 at 9 a.m. and 10:30 am at the Cedar Hill Recreation Center, 310 E. Parktential businesses that the club is evaluating. bSecurity Systems LLC, founded by Dallas inventor Ray de Beasley, has there is a need for better methods to protect consumers from the misuse of social security numbers.

Hayes said she has



Linda Hayes

been called one of the most innovative inventions designed to help protect people's social security numbers. It has the potential to create more than 200,000 jobs and estimates that it could generate \$148 billion annually, according to analysts' projections.

Hayes says she has spent many hours researching the company and talking to de Beasley to learn how this invention, if fully supported, could have a profound impact on the southern sector and the country.

ID management and fraud has become an increasingly troublesome problem for the country. The Federal Trade Commission reports that 9 million Americans are victims of ID fraud and reports that all categories of ID fraud are on the rise over the past two years. The agency has received 300,000 more complaints in 2009, up from 2007. Millions of Americans are losing money, time and even credibility as they try to recover from ID theft. Recently, the Presidential Identity Theft Task Force recommended to the public and private sector that

begun to review other businesses, particularly firms that will create jobs and economic development to the southern sector.

"We don't want any idea, especially if it's not going to help in southern Dallas," she said. "If we think it's something good for our community, we'll go with it."

Hayes is quick to caution those who are looking for a fast-buck investment scheme or some kind of multi-level marketing scenario – this is not the right fit for them. She said this is an investment club for those interested in long term, solid investments in the community.

"This is a small investment in the future of our community," Hayes says. "I'm excited about the possibility of the changes. I'm praying that God will let me see the changes, and having southern Dallas look like north Dallas. I believe it's going to happen."

For individuals or businesses interested in learning more or presenting their ideas to SCIC, call 214-988-9226 or toll free 800-349-7187.



businesses and a community full of pride until whites burned it down during what has become known as the nation's worst race riot in 1921. This year, the remaining survivors and other locals commemorated the 90th anniversary of the horrible

higher quality jobs, and improved health and quality of life to all U.S. citizens."

When asked about President Obama's interest in job creation Hayes says that, "The door is wide open for progressive minded innovative erville Road in Cedar Hill.

During the meetings, executives from bSecurity Systems will share the business testimonial of the b-System Identity Management Systems LLC to SCIC attendees and to answer questions. The company is one of several po-

# **NDG** Gossip: Brandy and Ray J have an older brother?

NDG Staff Writer Danyelle Brown, an up-and-coming rapper, claims a DNA test confirms that he is the eldest

son of Willie Ray Norwood father of singers Brandy and Ray J.

For more details and other gossip info visit www. northdallasgazette.com.



# "Sounds of Lewisville" books three bands for fall series

Lewisville" concert series, a free family favorite since 1991, will present three bands during October in the courtyard of the Medical Center of Lewisville Grand Theater, 100 N. Charles Street in the heart of historic Old Town Lewisville.

Shows are Bodie Powell on Oct. 4, Spector's Gun Collection on Oct. 11, and

The popular "Sounds of Naked Lunch on Oct. 18. the MCL Grand. Beverages All three concerts start at 7 p.m. Powell is a former winner of the Sounds "People's Choice" award.

> Food and beverages are available for purchase at the event through the MCL Grand concessionaire. Outside beverages are prohibited at the concert series due to a new TABC license covering alcohol beverages at

must be purchased from the on-site concessionaire.

Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs for their comfort. Well-behaved pets on a leash are allowed at the shows

For more information, call 972-219-3401 or visit www.soundsoflewisville.co

# **Chris Walker's single "I Got That Love"** hits Top 20 on Urban AC Charts

Pendulum Records in association with Walker Davis Entertainment recording artist Chris Walker returned home from his European tour dates to the news that his single "I Got That Love" broke



top 20 with a bullet on the URBAN AC charts. The information came just in time for his upcoming promo tour to commemorate the forthcoming release of his 4th solo offering "Zone", which drops on August 29.

"It's encouraging and uplifting to have radio embracing my new project", says Walker of the news. "Zone" will take listeners on a journey lyrically, musically and touch the deepest emotions of women." This week, Walker kicks off a 15 city promotional tour where he will be visiting early supporters of the record in various markets. The first stop is a visit to BlackAmericaweb.com, for a live performance. Later this month, Walker can be found sharing the stage with the likes of Avant, Jagged Edge and Melanie Fiona at "Road To Circle Of Sisters", a part ber 3rd, Chris Walker will of WBLS' Summer Concert Series in New York on August 28th, 2011. On Septem-

join Brian McKnight, Jen-

**See WALKER, Page 16** 



# You are invited to help celebrate

Pastor Charles S. Wattley's 28th Pastors Anniversary

Sunday, Sept. 11, 2011

at 11:00 am Guest Speaker:

Pastor Billy Mathews

and

Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011

at 3:30 pm

**Guest Speaker:** 

Pastor Franklin Wilson

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**Sports Talk with** Spider

I was recently looking at the salaries of television anchors, late-night talk show hosts and others in mainstream television. salaries resemble those of professional athletes, with huge bonuses and incentives, and the build up for the next contract before the ink is dry on the current one.

"Why not roam the sideline and see old friends without getting injured?" said Tony Siragusa who last played for the Baltimore Ravens before becoming a sideline analyst for FOX Sports. He earns more than \$400,000 a year, a good salary for a former football player who brings persona and insights to NFL games.

What's trending on the Internet is Today show host Matt Lauer, who recently renewed his contract for \$17 million per year? Wow! What a contract for a guy who is on your TV set each morning for two hours or 83 minutes if you count the

# Who's really getting paid?

commercials. Mr. Lauer's daily salary comes out to \$141,000 a day and that's without meal per diem.

Pro Bowl linebacker James Harrison signed a sixyear, \$51 million contract with some clauses that will never be attain because the incentives are made up of "Monopoly" money. It will be restricted a least twice before it expires.

The NFL stands for "No Financial Leverage" because there are no guaranteed contracts for a very violent

These guys are the superstars in their profession and generate dollars for corporations and shareholders.

Performance on the field is almost always used to identify athletes' salaries. Mainstream sports media, however, is only concerned about the issues of the player and why did he just sign this astronomical contract only to prove to be a disappointment to the team. Or, that he only plays during his contract year. I agree with those comments, but let's not throw rocks in a glass house when it comes to those with huge contract too.

Do the media gurus ever survey why David Letterman is making \$20 million a year? Letterman isn't funny at times. He should take a pay cut, find some new material or get traded to another network.

Where are the critics when Conan O'Brien's show is worse than before? Why isn't he reimbursing the advertisers for his low ratings? I now understand why TV executives do not want to give Regis Philbin a new contract at 79 years old. Even though his ratings are good, advertisers are committed to attracting the 20- to 42-age

So the next time you hear a late-night talk show host joke that a professional athlete is overpaid, have him to look at their own salary.

You can listen to Donald "Spider" Willis on Sport talk with Spider each Sunday from 7 to 9 p.m. CST on fishbowlradionetwork.com. For suggestion and topics call 469-335-6668 or email dwillisdw@yahoo.com



Urban League of Greater Dallas



"We're Going All The Way" Saturday, August 27, 2011 Hilton Anatole Hotel 2201 Stemmons Freeway Doors Open 7:00 p.m. Honorees

Ms. dianne gibson, Whitney M. Young Jr. Award State Farm Insurance Companies, Buddy J. Minyard Award

> For Ticket Information Call 214 915-4600 or Register Online at www.ulgdnctx.com For Hotel Reservations call Hilton Anatole at 800 955-4281











# **HEARINGS**, continued from Page 1

charged dealer kickbacks, compared to only 31 percent for white customers – even after accounting for differences in credit risk. The extra cost to a buyer was significant too: NCLC found that in Washington, DC, the same transaction that would cost White customers \$255; but Black consumers, \$857.

In recent years, NCLC's findings led to settlements of class action lawsuits against the lending arms of major auto manufacturers including Chrysler, Ford, General Motors, Honda, Nissan and Toyota. These settlement terms limited the markup auto dealers could charge; but those caps have all expired now. Further, those caps still provided extensive discretion for dealers to mark up interest rates for some customers over others. So the problem of dealer markups remains

During the formation of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), the auto dealers fought hard to gain an exemption from oversight. However the debate did give legislators more awareness about common auto lending and sales abuses. As a result, Congress provided the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) with stronger powers to oversee auto dealers.

These new powers led the FTC to begin a series of roundtable discussions this year that focused on abuses in auto sales and finance. Open to the public and webcasted, the first of these roundtables took place in Detroit in April, focusing on consumer protection issues involving dealership sales and financing. On August 2-3 in San Antonio, the roundtable examined the particular auto sales and financing issues of military consumers, financial literacy and fair lending. A third roundtable is planned for later

The Roundtables have been effective in showing the kinds of hidden charges and hidden incentives that cost consumers," said Chris Kukla, a roundtable participant and Senior Counsel for Government Affairs at CRL. "The forums have also brought to light many abusive practices that clearly go beyond 'a few bad apple'. We hope that this will lead the FTC to take strong and swift action to eliminate the abuses in the auto market."

The ongoing abuse in auto lending is one more illustration of how existing fair lending laws have yet to fully or consistently benefit people of color. Regardless of whether a financial product is a payday loan, mortgage, or auto loan, every American has a right to be treated fairly. Our financial transactions should be transparent with full disclosure of all terms and costs.

To learn more about auto financing, visit CRL at: http://www.responsiblelending.org/other-consumer-loans/auto-financing/

If you or someone you know would like to comment on auto sales or finance, register your concerns directly with FTC at: http://rspnsb.li/oVYNbw

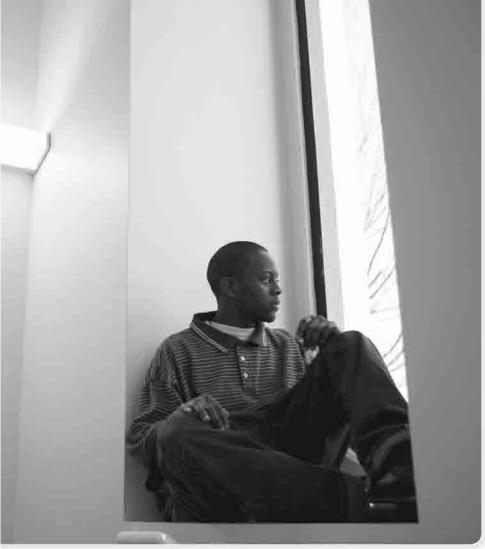
Charlene Crowell is the

Center for Responsible Lending's communications man-

ager for state policy and outreach. She can be reached at:

Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org





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# TWU Library exhibit highlights the 50th anniversary of TWU's integration

books and other items that tell

the story of our nation's his-

tory, including scenes from

organized sit-ins and voter

registration assemblies, the

Freedom Riders and a snap-

shot of integration among

other Texas college cam-

"A Historical Retrospective: 50 Years of Integration at TWU" exhibit featuring items chronicling the desegregation of Texas Woman's University will be on display Aug 15-Sept. 23 in the Blagg-Huey Library on the TWU Denton campus.

In 1961, the TWU Board of Regents voted to change the admissions policy to allow black women to apply to the university. In September 1961, Alsenia Dowells became the first African-American woman to enroll at

TWU, and by the next year six more African-American students were accepted to the university. In 1966, TWU had its first African-American graduates.

The exhibit captures this transition time in TWU's history, tells the stories of TWU's first African-American students, and profiles campus life and student activities amidst the Civil Rights Movement and the tumultuous times of the 1960s. The exhibit features photographs, newspaper articles,

# **Request for Sealed Bids**

898-3701.

tions, visit www.twu. edu/li-

brary/hours.asp or call (940)

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is soliciting bids for combining into one book an English and Spanish version of KnoWhat2Do guidebooks and to print and bind the books. Also requesting bids on the printing of a kid's activity book. Bids are for 45K of the guidebook and 15K of the activity books. Sealed bids are due in NCTCOG's offices no later than 3 p.m. (CT) August 29, 2011. To obtain a bid packet visit http://www.nctcog.org/aa/RFP.asp or call 817-695-9109.



Accepting Applications and Testing for

# **Police Officer**

Application Deadline: September 23, 2011

Written & Physical Exam: October 1, 2011

For More Information and to Apply: www.cityofallen.org/departments/police

# LUNCH, continued from Page 4

haven't tried before? Consider trying a new eating venue on campus. Plan a potluck with your co-workers or just arrange a day to swap lunches.

Finally, do you have any suggestions for finicky children?

Research shows that children need to be exposed to a food a number of times before they acquire a taste for that food, so be gentle but persistent. Some options include a "no thank you" portion. Deter-

mine an amount of food that would be acceptable for the child to try, and if he/she doesn't like it, the child can politely say "no thank you."

Consider giving children some ownership in the mealmaking process. Set up some amount of "directed control" by providing the child with options and then letting him/her decide. As children get older, they also become great helpers in the kitchen and the garden.

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## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

## Dist/Div: Fort Worth

Contract 0014-02-047 for PAVEMENT REPAIR, GRINDING AND MARKER in TARRANT County will be opened on September 08, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office. Contract 0094-02-117 for LANDSCAPING in TARRANT County will be opened on September 09, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office. Contract 1068-01-198 for SLOPE REPAIR, CONC RIPRAP FILL ERODED AREAS in TARRANT County will be opened on September 08, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office. Contract 1068-01-200 for HMAC OVERLAY in TARRANT County will be opened on September 09, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office. Contract 2374-05-076 for REPAIR FAILURES, UTBHMWC AND STRIPE in TARRANT County will be opened on September 09, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 37488

State Office
Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr. | Austin, Texas 78704 | Phone: 512-416-2540

<u>Dist/Div Office(s)</u>
Fort Worth District | District Engineer
2501 Southwest LP820 | Ft Worth, Texas 76133 | Phone: 817-370-6500

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

# GARLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

## **ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**



Are you looking for a job or a career?

The Garland Fire Department is looking for men and women interested in a career as a firefighter/paramedic. You must be between the ages of 18 and 35 with a high school diploma or GED. Starting salary is \$45,900. Applications accepted online only at www.garlandfire.com

APPLICATION DEADLINE September 9, 2011 5:00 pm.

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972-205-2415

KHVN Radio is seeking a fulltime sales professional, preferably with Christian radio sales experience. Applicants should be knowledgeable in creating, managing and maintaining accounts as well as being a self-motivator with excellent communication skills. All interested parties should fax their resume to 214-331-1908 or you may mail your resume to the attention of KHVN office manager at 5787 South Hampton Road; Suite 285, Dallas, TX 75232.

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## Mondays - Fridays

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

## August 21, 3 p.m.

Join us for an Annual Elders and Deacons Appreciation Day. Our Elders are Bowditch, Hodridge, Kelly and Strong; our Deacons are Batts and Spencer. "Render to all what is due them; tax to them tax is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor." Romans 13:7 (NASB)

## August 28

Join us for early morning worship at 8 a.m.; Morning Bible Classes at 9:45 a.m.; Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m. and afternoon Worship at 3 p.m.

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

## **BIBLE WAY COMMUNITY** BAPTIST CHURCH

## August 21

You're invited to our Sunday School at 9:35 a.m. and Worship Service at 11 a.m.

## August 24, 7 p.m.

Join us for our Midweek Bible Study as we learn more about God's Word.

Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Sr. Senior Pastor 4215 N. Greenville Drive Irving, TX 75062 972-257-3766 www.bwcbc.com

## EIRENE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

## August 21

You're invited to our Couples Ministry at 8 a.m.; our Morning Worships at 8 a.m.; 8:45 a.m. and our 11 a.m. service.

# August 24, 7:30 p.m.

Join us for Bible Study as we study the word of God; and give Him honor and praise

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

## FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "The Ship"

## Monday - Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

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

## August 17, 7 p.m.

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

**September 2, 8:30 p.m.**Join us for "Spiritual First Friday's Open Mic Night!" at First Baptist Church of Allen's Youth Building, 303 E. Main Street in Allen. There will be food, poets, singers, rappers and more. Open to all ages. For information, email OpenMic@the-

ship3c.org. *Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr.*, Ed.D. Senior Pastor 1550 Edelweiss Drive In Allen for Sunday Morning Worship. Admin. Building Address Is 200 W. Belmont Drive Allen, TX 75013 972-359-9956 www.theship3c.org

## HOPEWELL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

## August 26, 3:30 p.m.

You're invited to our Pre-Anniversary Service for "A Man Chosen by God for a Spiritual Vision" from Jeremiah 3:15.

## August 31-September 2, 7 p.m. Join us in a nightly revival as we worship and praise God for His many blessings

## September 3, 3:30 p.m. You're welcomed to "The Big Celebration" as we honor our pastor and wife for 10 years of faithful service to God and mankind at our church. Our pastor is "A Man Chosen by God for a Spiritual Vision" from Jeremiah 3:15

5144 Dolphin Road Dallas, TX 75223 214-823-1018

## MT. PISGAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH "The Rock"

## August 21, 7:45 a.m.

You're invited to our early morning worship service as we praise and worship God.

## Wednesdays in August, 7 p.m. August 24, Pastor C. Ramont Morris, Morning Star MBC, Kankakee,

IL; and August 31, Pastor Clinton McFarland, Mt. Pleasant MBC, At-

August 19 & 21, 5 p.m.
Join us for our Back-2-School Drive; we will distribute supplies to Herbert Marcus Elementary students. Also, our Women's Ministry Fabric of Faith Clothes Closet will collect new or gently used uniforms for students that are in need. Donations will be accepted through August 12th. Call the church for details or contact Kameka\_West@yahoo.com.

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

## NEW LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST MINISTRIES

## August 19, 7 p.m.

Join us this Friday as we worship and praise God.

## August 21

You're invited to our Sunday School Service at 9:30 a.m. and our Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

## August 24, 7 p.m.

Come to our Wednesday's Bible class as we study God's Word and praise Him for His goodness

Pastor A. L. Felton, Jr. Senior Pastor 17720 Dickerson Street Dallas, TX 75252 972-380-4100 www.nlijcm.org

## SAINT MARK MBC IN MCKINNEY

## September 10, 12 Noon

All Senior Saints are invited to our Double Nickel (55 and above) Luncheon @ the Newsome Center on Amscott Street in McKinney. Activities include lunch, bingo and door prizes. Come and bring a friend. If you are homebound, we will deliver to you. Please call 972-542-6178 no later than the Friday, September 9th this month) before the luncheon and leave a message with your name, address, phone number and how many meals you need.

Dr. Charles Wattley Senior Pastor 1308 Wilcox Street McKinnev TX 75069 972-542-6178 www.saintmarkbc.com

## NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF DALLAS

## August 21, 10:30 a.m. Join us for Fellowship Ministry (Hospitality, Nurses and Ushers)

Dr. Robert Price, Sr. Senior Pastor 9550 Shepherd Road

Annual Day.

## Dallas, TX 75243 214-341-6459 www.nmzb.org

## NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP **CHURCH**

## August 19, 7 p.m. You're invited to our Single Parent Support Group. Call Pastor Cooper at 972-437-3493, Ext 104 email him rcooper@ndcbf.org for details.

## August 20, 12 Noon

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

## August 21

Our Theater Arts Ministry will conduct a 6-Weeks Creative Artist Workshop for Poets, Writers, Actors, Storytellers, Poetry and Praise. Call the church for details.

## September 11, 3 p.m.

Join our Founder's Day Talent Show. Call Tammy Barnes at 972-306-8452 for details. Spaces are limited.

Dr. Leslie W. Smith, Senior Pastor 1010-1020 S. Sherman Street Richardson, TX 75081 972-437-3493 www.ndcbf.org

## SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

August 24, 7 p.m. Join us for our Midweek Service as we worship and praise God. Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr. Senior Pastor 920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX 75074

972-423-6695 www.smbcplano.org

## THE NEW LIGHT CHURCH

August 21 You're invited to worship with us on Sunday Mornings at 9:30 a.m. for Sunday School and 11 a.m. for Morning Worship as we praise and worship God.

Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor 9314 Elam Road Dallas, TX 75217 214-391-3430 www.new light church dall as. com

## VICTORY BIBLE CHURCH INTERNATIONAL, (VBCI DALLAS)

## August 21, 9 a.m.

You are invited to a Life Transforming Service that will change your life as we praise and worship

1100 Business Parkway, **Suite 1007** Richardson, TX 75081 972-679-9138 or 214-394-6164

## WHITE ROCK CHAPEL INDEPENDENT METHODIST

## **CHURCH** August 21, 3:30 p.m.

Join us for Family and Friends Day at a State of Texas Historical Church as we worship and praise God.

> Rev. Billy Forward, Sr. Senior Pastor 5555 Celestial Drive Addison, TX 75001 972-980-0164

## WORD OF LIFE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

## **Early Prayer**

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

## August 23, 8 p.m.

You're invited to our Pastoral Care Night as Pastor Voss bring the Word of God; and we worship and praise God.

## **NEW LIGHT CHURCH**



9314 ELAM ROAD - DALLAS, TEXAS 75217 www.newlightchurchdallas.com Office: 214-391-3430

"O' Taste and See that the Lord is Good."



## **Our Soul Food Buffet:**

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.

Evening Service - First Sundays - 6:00 p.m. Thursday Night Live (Prayer, Praise and Proclamation) - 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Shaun Rabb & **Co-Pastor Marian Rabb** 



# FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH A Kingdom Building Church 200 BELMONT DRIVE - ALLEN, TX 75013 (972) 359-9956 -www.theship3c.org Sunday Morning Worshi Story Elementary 1550 Edelweiss Drive Allen, TX 75002 9:30 AM Live Service 00 Belmont Drive Allen, TX 75013 7:00 PM





Sister Tarplev

The Apostle Paul wrote a second letter to Timothy and said, "Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me: For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry." 2 Timothy 4:9-11. (KJV)

Adversity molded Apostle Paul into the greatest warrior for Christ the world has ever known. However, there were times in Apostle Paul's life when adversity and disappointment took its toll on this rugged warrior. Saints of God should be able to sense Paul's hurt and discouragement in his letter. Perhaps you have once felt this way when others have disappointed you. Twice Paul urges Timothy to come to him. Can you feel his anguish when he twice speaks of being deserted by his friends?

In most of his letters, Apostle Paul seems to have

# When Others Disappoint You

an invincible spirit. Yet, he was a man who suffered, felt betrayed and was at times, However, very lonely. Apostle Paul chose to look at life from a Heavenly perspective. He wrote to Timothy, "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body." Corinthians 4:8-10. (KJV)

Apostle Paul had experienced a level of opposition and suffering what I believe, Christians scarcely imagine. People said they would do things for him but did not follow through. He found that he could not depend on certain people. Apostle Paul was hurt but not crushed and he refused to give in to despair. He viewed his life as a continual process of dying. His goal was to live in such a way that the life of Jesus would be revealed in his response to his trials. This is the way all Christians should live on a daily bases.

Christians should also be careful of placing too much expectation on others. What they must realize is that people will let you down from time to time, after all, "They are only human" as people will say. But, all Christians should be like Apostle Paul and don't let that impact your faith.

Trust God to work through these disappointments; because God is in control. There is nothing in Heaven or on earth that is outside of His rule and His authority. God does not react to events, but He alone ordains or permits them to run their course. His goodness and wisdom can be trusted. Moreover, God love everybody and want them to be saved. After all, He gave His only Son for the salvation of the world which proves without a doubt that He loves each person unconditionally. This truth stands firm despite the fact that many reject God's gift of His only Son.

Christians must also be careful that they are not guilty of making judgment about others. Jesus said, "Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and



Pastor Eddie & First Lady Elaine Seals, New Outreach COGIC in McKinney. Pastor Seals has 20 years of ministering under the leadership of Bishop T.W. Johnson and Supt. Norris Booth in the Greater Fellowship District in Dallas.

ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven. Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6:37 &

38. (KJV)

Have you ever made a judgment about a person or situation only to discover how wrong you were in your assessment? Christians should always be a follower

of Christ and a follower of His way. Before Christians judge a situation, they should consider that their judgment might not be an accurate assessment of the situation.

# **Camp for grieving children**

Grief is hard work for mature adults. It can be especially troubling for children.

Myths abound that children don't feel a loss as keenly as adults, or that they don't understand death, that they lack the experience to process grief, or that natural resiliency will help them bounce back.

Losing a loved one can be devastating at any age. How children experience the death and their subsequent grief varies according to age, developmental stage, and their relationship to the deceased. It is estimated that one in 20 children under age 15 will suffer the loss of a parent.

Professionals at Home Hospice of Grayson, Cooke and Fannin Counties know that if a child is old enough to love, he or she is old enough to grieve. While there is no one right way to process the unique sadness of losing a parent or someone close, there is help at Camp Dragonfly.

Camp Dragonfly is a camp for children who have lost a parent or someone close to them within the last two years. It is sponsored by Home Hospice of Grayson, Cooke & Fannin Counties. On October 7, 8, 9, children between the ages of eight and twelve will gather at All Saints Camp on Lake Texoma with one thing in common. They are grieving.

The three-day camp emphasizes healing through thoughtfully designed activities that are meaningful, fun, and often, life changing. "He really enjoyed the camp," said one mom about her son. "It was good for him to be around kids going through the same thing"

The deadline to apply to the camp in Friday, September 9. Applications are available on the Home Hospice website, www.homehospice.org or you may pick one up at the Home Hospice office, 505 W. Center Street in Sherman or 1001 E. Broadway in Gainesville.

Each child is invited to participate in games, art activities, nature hikes, conversations with counselors, and special ceremonies. "The camp is more about life and living than about death and dying," said camp director Jolene Senek, LBSW, "We help kids experience a healing journey and also provide tools for dealing with their loss."

Children report that the camp is "really fun" and that they found value in making memory boxes, learning new ways to trust, and in meeting "nice and funny" people. "It's amazing that kids can be serious and very focused while working on clinical matters and then be ready to 'play' as activities shift," said Vicky Smith Lindsey, LCSW. She said that some children come to camp after showing behavior problems at school or a hesitancy to be away from the remaining parent. Others simply become more quiet and reserved.

Qualified staff and volunteers are carefully screened and trained in the grief process. They spend time getting to know each child. "Their stories break your heart, but it's easy to become

attached to the kids," said one volunteer.

When parents or guardians arrive on Sunday, they learn more about how to help their children in an informative session hosted by Lindsey. It is sometimes surprising to discover that, after the death of one parent, children may become especially protective of the remaining parent. One mother, whose son attended camp, realized that she was so caught up in her own pain that she didn't give enough attention to his grieving. Many parents want to know if a child's behavior is normal.

The camp is held twice a year. "I think it's an awesome program," said one camper. "I have nothing more to say except, just thank you to everyone!"

Cost of the camp is \$25. Scholarships are available. Children need not be Grayson County residents to participate. For more information, contact Senek at 903-868-9315 or toll free at 888-233-7455.



# Harley-Davidson celebrates African American riders with Iron Elite Story Contest

African Americans have had a defining impact on the culture of motorcycling throughout history. Some of these stories have made it into the history books, while others are still begging to be told.

Through a unique online contest that ends August 31, Harley-Davidson Motor Company is giving voice to the camaraderie and influence of African American riders by asking them to submit their stories to Iron Elite, a Harley-Davidson web site created to showcase the rich history, inspiring stories and custom bike culture of the African American riding community.

The winning stories selected from the Iron Elite contest entries will be featured in the African American Motorcycling Exhibit,

opening

"Behind every motorcycle is a passionate rider with a great story to tell," said John Comissiong, director of



which will debut at the Harley-Davidson Museum in Milwaukee, Wis., during Black History Month in Feb. 2012. The Motor Company will fly the five winners to Milwaukee for the exhibit

African American outreach marketing, Harley-Davidson Motor Company. "Through the Iron Elite story contest, Harley-Davidson hopes to give voice to the many untold stories we know are waiting to be told and provide an opportunity for motorcycle enthusiasts everywhere to connect with the motorcycles and the brotherhood of African American and Harley-Davidson culture."

Throughout the month of August, visitors to the site can choose one of the following three topics to share their stories in 2,500 characters or less:

Second to None – What makes Harley-Davidson the best? Why is it the only bike you would ride?

How We Ride – Harley-Davidson is about bringing together like-minded people to share a special bond. How does H-D bring you closer to other riders in your world?

Ride Proud – There is a special feeling you get when people stop to admire you riding your Harley-Davidson. Describe that sense of empowerment or pride you feel.

Visit www.harley-davidson.com/ironelite for official contest rules.

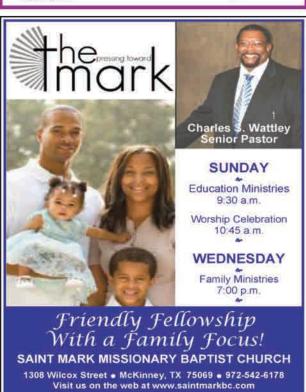
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Dr. Timothy J. Wilbert, Sr.
Senior Pastor

Www.bwcbc.com

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# **WALKER,** continued from Page 10

nifer Hudson, Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds and Keith Sweat, amongst others, at the 2011 Tom Joyner Family Reunion in Orlando, FL.

Serving as the musical director for the likes of Al Jareau and Regina Belle respectively, the Houston native knows a thing or two about musicality and he skillfully assembles it, passionately on "Zone". Walker takes his listeners on a journey with his conversations about love and life. "I Got That Love", produced by Walker, is a culmination of

some of the influences Walker credits with his love of music including Donny Hathaway and Marvin Gaye. Paying homage to one of his favorite late great influences, Walker has his own soulful rendition of Luther Vantross' "Zone" will be available everywhere August 29, 2011. For a preview of the album visit: http:// thetouchradio.com/goout.asp?u=http://www.pendulum ... For more information visit: www.pendulumrecords.com or www.chriswalkermusic.com



# **Avenue F Church of Christ** 1026 Avenue F • Plano, TX 75074

J26 Avenue F • Plano, TX /50/4 972-423-8833 www.avefchurchofchrist.org

Early Sunday Morning	8:00 am
Sunday Bible Class	
Sunday Morning Worship	10:45 am
Evening Worship	3:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Class	7:00 pm

Ramon Hodridge, Ministe

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

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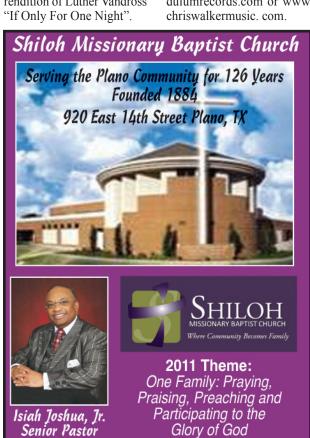
Worship Services

Rev.

Contact Info

Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church 11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229 Office: 972-241-6151

Email: info@dallasmtpisgah.org Website: www.dallasmtpisgah.org



Worship Times: 8 and 11 a.m.

Mid-week: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

AWANA: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Contact Information: 972-423-6695

Youth Church: Every 3rd, 4th, and 5th

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Sunday at 11:00am

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