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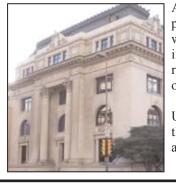
UNT Plans, For A Law School In Downtown Dallas

The University of North Texas System's plans for a College of Law in downtown Dallas received a major boost from the City Council, Dallas which recently approved expenditure of \$16 million for preservation of the Old Dallas Municipal Building.

The City of Dallas had earlier committed to offer the Municipal Building as the location for the College of Law and improvement pledged funds. The City Council today authorized city staff to go forward with repairs of the building roof and windows and to separate

candidate Barack Obama

says it's in the interest of



UNT System's Annex. proposed State funding will pay for the significant internal renovation, restoration, and furnishing of the Municipal Building. The presence of a major UNT college program in the downtown area will address the need identified See Law School, Page 6

Obama Tries To Reassure Israelis And Palestinians

By MATTI FRIEDMAN SDEROT, Israel (AP)



a lasting peace with the Palestinians.

Obama spoke at a press conference in Sderot, near the Gaza border. The city has been a frequent target of rocket attacks from Palestinian militants.

In Obama's words: "America must always stand up for Israel's right

to defend itself against those who threaten its people."

He also said that Jerusalem will be the capital of Israel, but the issue should be dealt with by the

> Americans. We love our cars. Different makes and models, most of us don't even care where and how they are made.

The parts and the tires are of no consequence to us, nor are the livelihoods of those tasked with their production. Where tires are con-Bridgestone cerned. Firestone is one of the top producers, a name that sponsors sporting

events and encourages Girl Scout troops.

Plantation

What is not promoted is the fact that Firestone has kept the cost of producing tires low through an organized and intentional system of exploitation in the African country of Liberia.

When the U.S. Firestone company came to Liberia, they must have been overwhelmed by the agricultural richness. What they found

Health Experts Discuss HIV and Other STDs **Among Black Women**

LOS ANGE-LES (NNPA) -Health advocates recently gathered at the New Orleans Vieux Carre Restaurant here to discuss causes

of skyrocketing new cases of HIV/AIDS and Chlamydia and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases among Black women. HIV/STD of the women reports indicate who make up that 2.8 million these new cases

are African-American. likely Hispanics and any other race to become infected with HIV/AIDS ing this life and other STDs. threatening factors Africanwith American women contract-See HIV Page 4

HIV/AIDS African-The influence virus, since subof alcohol and infections are American among women, women are more drugs are the but the majority than main

stances put them in bad situations where they make poor judgments about sex, say medical experts.



Developing The Edge For Success



Firestone — Signs of Victory and Hope By Nicole C. Lee

Israel's NNPA

parties involved. Obama donned a Jewish skullcap at Holocaust memorial on See Obama, Page 12

See Signs of Victory Page 4



Harrine Freeman

LaTonya Wiggins

LaTonya Wiggins is a

native of Union City, TN

where most of her family

still resides and supports

her in her efforts. She now

resides a few miles from

Memphis on the Stateline

She is not only a busi-

She is the owner of

ness owner but she gives

Shoestomakeadifference.c

om, a consignment busi-

ness that shares proceeds

with numerous children's

charities. In her spare time

of Mississippi.

back to our youth.

Harrine Freeman is the CEO and owner of ΗE Freeman Enterprises which provides credit repair services to help people restore their credit rating. She is an energetic speaker, author, personal finance expert, and freelance writer. She was once in \$19,000 in debt, only making \$21,000 a year and was successfully able to get herself out of debt with-

out filing for bankruptcy. Her knowledge and tips have helped her diverse clientele restore their credit. learn how to manage their finances and get totally out of debt.

As a guest speaker at regional and national churches and schools, national radio shows, organizations and Fortune 500 companies, Freeman's simple, yet effective methods positively impact the bottom lines of her clients. She has provided credit repair, debt management and business credit seminars to various audiences. As a panelist she participated in a number of national and local conferences. She has appeared in Market Essence Watch. Magazine, Pink Magazine, the Prince Georges Gazette, Bankrate.com, Creditcards.com, and Yahoo.com.

She is a member of the

for herself but to make sure

American Association of Daily Money Managers, Credit Professionals International, the National Association of Women Writers, and Toastmasters. She rejoices in her clients success stories and conprovides tinually encouragement and support to her clients. One of her clients had this to say, "You are very compassionate, caring, and committed – the three C's"

Her personal experiences with debt and her

LaTonya says "My focus is on getting the youth to recognize their potential in a society where there are many negative things to get into, instead of them getting into the negative, my aim is to have them to concentrate on all the positive things that are avail-

She is also an acappella gospel singer and has losing loved ones. When

business savvy have proven her to be an effective and competent speaker on personal finance and business credit issues. She is also the author of "How to Get out of Debt: Get An "A" Credit Rating for Free", a self help book on credit repair that provides consumers with a step by step plan on how to get out of debt, increase their credit rating and maintain their good credit. Her purpose and passion in life is to give back to her community and help

she lost two very close friends it sparked something in her where she wanted to give back.

Being the Founder of Shoestomakeadifference.c om has been a blessing for her because she gets to share with young people who may feel that there is nothing to life, when in fact there God giving gift is inside of them, but they just need someone sometimes to discuss with them about what they enjoy doing and hopefully then they can find that gift. She is able to talk to them about their goals because they others become savvy in personal finance. She currently lives in Washington DC.



know that she really cares about them. She is 100% dedicated to Shoestomakeadifference.c om and her goal in life is to benefit as many children charities through her consignment business as possible.

LaTonya also enjoys helping her client's by selling their high end designer items. She gives a portion of the organizations profits to charities who deliver children social services.

She is sure to change many lives through Shoestomakeadifference. com.

Dr. Peter J. Delfyett

Dr. Peter J. Delfvett is the President of the National Society of Black Physicists. NSBP is 600member professional association that promotes the professional well-being of African American physicists and physics students within the international scientific community and within society at large.

The organization seeks to develop and support efforts to increase opportunities for African Americans in physics and to increase their numbers and visibility of their scientific work. It also seeks to develop activities and programs that highlight and enhance the benefits of the scientific contributions that African American physicists provide for the international community. The society seeks to raise the general knowledge and appreciation of physics in the African American community.

she is also an internet mar-

keter. Her goal for both of

her businesses is not only

Originally from New York City, Dr. Delfyett received the Ph.D. degree from City University of New York in 1988 where his work focused on developing a real time ultrafast spectroscopic probes to study molecular and phonon dynamics in condensed matter using optical phase conjugation techniques.

After obtaining the Ph.D. degree, he joined Bell Communication Research as a Member of the Technical Staff, where he concentrated his efforts towards generating ultrafast high power optical pulses from semiconductor diode lasers, for applications in applied photonic networks. Some of his technical accomplishments were the development of the worlds fastest, most



powerful mode locked semiconductor laser diode, the demonstration of an optically distributed clocking network for high speed digital switches and supercomputer applications, and the first observation of the optical nonlinearity induced by the cooling of highly excited electronhole pairs in semiconductor optical amplifiers. While at Bellcore, Dr. Delfyett received numerous awards for his technical achievements in these areas, including the Bellcore Synergy Award and the Bellcore Award of Appreciation.

Dr. Delfyett joined the faculty at the The School of Optics and the Center for Research and Education in and Optics Lasers (CREOL) at the University of Central Florida in 1993, and currently holds the positions of University Trustee Chair Professor of Optics, ECE & Physics.

Dr. Delfyett is the Editorin-Chief of the IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Quantum Electronics, and Associate Editor of IEEE Photonics Technology Letters. He is a Fellow of the Optical Society of America, Fellow of IEEE/LEOS, and is a former member of the Board of Governors of IEEE-LEOS. He has also received the University of Central Floridas 2001

Pegasus Professor Award which is the highest honor awarded by the University. Dr. Delfyett has published over 275 articles in refereed journals and conference proceedings, has been awarded 12 United States Patents.



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that no child is without what they need to become successful in life. Her concentration is on Foster Care, children who are ill, and teens that are at risk. Even though she was diagnosed with a chronic

condition known as Fibromyalgia 15 years ago LaTonya states that the condition has definitely taken it's toll, but there is no way that it will keep her from fulfilling her dream of giving back to children who are in need of a better life.

able."

recorded two CD's entitled "You've Got a Comforter" and "You Can Make It Through", which a lot of the songs came about by



While you ponder that thought we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, Inc. formerly a Dallas based renaissance community tabloid, founded in 1991, has relocated to Plano, and changed our name to MON-The Gazette. In addition to moving our offices to Plano, our editorial coverage has also shifted to encompass Dallas' Northern Corridor. The Northern Corridor is clearly the fastest growing region in Texas, if not in America. MON-The Gazette believes that the engine to continue this and most visible of many area opportunities. As always, and true provide quality services. Should you dare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you dare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you dare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you fare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you fare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you fare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you fare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you fare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you fare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you fare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you pare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you pare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you pare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you pare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the provide quality services. Should you pare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the part of the services. The part

rn region or just want to know what is going on up north-Think of **MON-The Gazette** as your paper of opportunity!

The North Dallas Gazette, formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones

"FICO 08 May Change Your Credit Score"

By Michael G. Shinn (NNPA)

FICO 08 is quickly becoming the new formula for computing credit scores in the U.S.

"The credit scoring formula has been periodically updated over the past 20 years, with changes in technology. FICO 08 will make the scoring system more sensitive to multiple late payments and less sensitive to isolated incidents of late payment or those that occurred a few years ago," states Craig Watts, Public Affairs Manager, for Fair Isaac Corporation, the creator of the credit scoring system.

Fair Isaac is changing the scoring model to help lenders be more predictive of the likelihood of borrower default, while still allowing good loans to take place.

Fair Isaac estimates that the new model will help lenders reduce default rates on consumer loans between 5 and 15 percent. For most borrowers, the general consensus is that those considered low risk, will see higher credit scores and those considered high risk will see lower credit scores.

Credit Scores

FICO Credit Scores are calculated based on information contained within an individual's credit report. Credit scores can range from 300 to 850, with 850 being the top credit rating. The FICO model scores creditworthiness based on five weighted factors:

• Payment History- 35 percent - Track record of timely payment on current and past credit accounts.

• Amounts Owed- 30 percent - The amount of outstanding credit in relationship to the maximum amount of credit available.

• Length of Credit History - 15 percent - In general how long your credit accounts have been established.

• New Credit - 10 percent - The frequency of applying for new credit in the recent past.

• Types of Credit- 10 percent - Considers the mix of credit cards, retail accounts, installment loans, mortgage loans, etc. Because the FICO formulas are proprietary, it is difficult to get a hard read on what has changed. However, Fair Isaac has announced some specific changes that will affect some borrowers:

The new scoring system eliminates the authorized user score advantage, as well as, a similar practice called "piggybacking."

Delinquencies- If a borrower is delinquent over 90 days on one account, but has a positive payment history on their other accounts, the system will be more forgiving. However, if a borrower shows delinquencies over several accounts, they will be more negatively impacted.

Population Segments-FICO groups consumers into populations segments ranging from high risk to good credit. The number of segments has increased from 10 to 12 groups. The thinking is that more segments will increase the accuracy of the scoring system overall.

There is no quick fix to improving a credit score, since your credit history is collected over time. Below are several steps that may help. • Get a copy of your credit reports. You can get a free copy from all three reporting agencies by going to www.annualcreditreport.com. You can also get your credit score for a small fee. Review your credit reports and look for errors, inaccuracies and negative credit items. Dispute items that you feel are inaccurate.

• Make a list of your current creditors, amounts owed, credit limits, interest rates and payment amounts. Develop a plan to reduce your total debt, interest rates and number of creditors.

• Apply and open new credit accounts only as needed. Shop for the best credit accounts. Look at www.bankrate.com for competitive rates.

(These websites are provided as a courtesy and are not under the control of Financial Network Investment Corporation)

FICO 08 may change your credit score, but the biggest impact will be made by you and your family's management of your personal finances.

Katrina Survivor Celebrates Reaching 100 Years Old Victory Over The Storm!

Lillian Although Thomas Simmons has lived in California, Illinois and Louisiana, those moves were totally her choice. Her move to Texas. on the other hand, was the result of Hurricane Katrina. Simmons who turns 100 years old on July 25, 2008 moved to Arlington, Texas-in the shadows of the new Dallas Cowboys stadium-two years ago and now sheepishly admits she likes being a Texan.

"I came here for a twoweek vacation and left a month later with keys to the kingdom," says the centurion, referencing the keys to her three-bedroom apartment in a senior living complex. Simmons, who is completely self-sufficient said, "Some days I can't believe I'm here [in Texas]. But that just speaks to the power of God." Simmons had no intention of leaving New Orleans. Not even when the levees broke or when food and water became scarce or when the city was devoid of everyday things such as trash pickup and safe drinking water. What finally moved her was her neighbor. "He packed up their car and packed me up too," said Simmons who is a slight woman with a ready smile.

Even though various family members had begged her to evacuate with them, Simmons refused. "I knew my next door neighbor would be around if I got into trouble but more than that I knew God was watching over me," states the centurion who enjoyed a successful career as a dressmaker before retirement and still enjoys sewing and crocheting

Through her neighbor, she landed in Baton Rouge to stay with relatives but by then most of the family had planted new roots in Dallas DeSoto. and Arlington. One visit to Texas and she abandoned thoughts of ever living in New Orleans again. "It [New Orleans] wasn't safe and I like having family nearby. This is where God wanted me to be, but when that time comes, I still want to be buried at home," laughs Simmons.

Given her excellent health and strong mind, that time may be awhile in coming. She credits her longevity to, "It's in the genes. My sister, Catherine lived 95 years and my brother, Lewis died in his 80s. It also pays to be good to people and have faith."

It is faith that caused her to lay down, the night before the category five hurricane destroyed the city, with a peace-filled mind. She reports she "slept like a baby," while most people were trying frantically to escape the city. When she woke the next morning, the only damage her house sustained was standing water on her back porch, proving that indeed God is her protector.

On Saturday, July 26 at 3:00 p.m. at The Claremont in Arlington, friends and family from all over the country will gather with Simmons to help her celebrate her birthday milestone. "I never thought I would reach 100 and I sure didn't think I'd be celebrating my birthday in Texas, but that's God!" said Simmons. The private party will also be a memorial marking her victory over Hurricane Katrina.

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Ms. Alinda Reyes

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Liberian Leader Rebukes Mugabe at Mandela Lecture

NNPA – Liberian Pres.



Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf expressed her solidarity with the people of Zimbabwe in a speech prepared for the sixth annual Nelson Mandela Lecture in Soweto earlier this month.

"All Africans must speak out about injustices in places such as Zimbabwe," said Madam Pres Johnson-Sirleaf.

The remark earned applause from Mandela and a Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf crowd of several hundred gathered in a community hall for the lecture. She also came out in support of a UN sanctions resolution proposed by the US.

Turning to Mandela, she said: "If someday I am remembered as one of the many dreamers who came in your wake, who, unable to fill your shoes, walked in your shadow to build a new Africa, then I can think of no better place to be in history."

Mandela, who addressed the crowd only briefly, called Johnson-Sirleaf "an inspiring example to Africa and the world...And if a 90-year-old may offer some unsolicited advice on this occasion," continued Mandela, "it would be that you, irrespective of your age, should place human solidarity, the concern for the other, at the centre of the values by which you live."

HIV, continued from page 1

Homosexuality within the African- American community is also putting Black women at risk due to male partners who engage in unprotected intercourse with other men without telling their female partners.

One speaker mentioned that prominent homosexual Caucasians are more likely to embrace their homosexual lifestyle than African-American men.

"We aren't talking to each other about this issue," Tony Wafford, National Director of Program for Action Network said. "Black men aren't talking to women, and we need more open and honest dialogue [among each other].

One woman said the Hip Hop culture has a big influence on sexual behaviors causing the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Black community and Wafford agrees. He said the Hip Hop culture speaks bluntly about sexual activities. Because of the misguidance of the Hip Hop culture embracing promiscuity and unsafe sexual behaviors among youth and young adults, HIV and STDs will continue to skyrocket. Wafford said Hip Hop is not the only genre that talks about sex in their music. He said other genres like Jazz and Rock n Roll talked about sex, but not in ways where sex is dehumanizing.

"We had music that talked about sex since the beginning of time," Wafford said. "But for example [when] Billie Holiday would sing, 'Come put a little sugar in my bowl, we knew what she was talking about."

Health Educator Erika Siever, Department of Public Health, said it's the lack of education and support inside the households and the mainstream media that does not own up to their responsibility about sexual intercourse.

"[Most of the time], parents don't know how AIDS is spreading," Siever said. "We also need to address them in schools, and movies could show some areas of responsibility when it comes to sex as well. We need to educate our kids about condoms. Show a guy actually putting on a condom [in the movies]. We need to show the image of responsibility."

Cleo Manago, CEO of the AmASSI Health Cultural and Leadership Training Center said Black people allow racism and other disparities to distract them from HIV/AIDS epidemic. He said Black people have experienced inner generational trauma and stress that has not been resolved. Because of the numerous distractions relating to racism in Black America, adults aren't talking to children about the significance of safe sex.

Since the 1980s, Blacks have yet to be sufficiently protected against HIV.

"We are too distracted by race methodology in this society to be focused and alarmed about HIV/AIDS," Manago said. "It shouldn't be based on statistics, but the quality of life we see among Black people."

Signs of Victory, continued from page 1

there was millions of acres of rubber trees that could be tapped in order to use the millions of barrels of liquid rubber to create tires.

In 1926, the government of Liberia signed a concession with Firestone to lease one million acres of land for 99 years—at 6 cents per acre. Many Liberians, of course, already lived within these one million acres. They became serfs convenient slaves to work the land that Firestone calls the "Firestone Plantation".

Today, the "Firestone Plantation" has everything you would expect: Exploitation, child labor and environmental degradation. The workers must tap the trees to extract the rubber latex and then transport the 70 pound buckets to the factory, a distance which could be several miles.

Each "tapper" must meet a virtually impossible daily quota or risk their wages being cut. In order to meet the quota, wives and children are forced to work alongside the men.

There are no modern conveniences on the plantation: the workers use hand cranks, and if they are lucky, there may be the occasional wheelbarrow. There are no goggles or masks. Workers and their families are forced to breathe in pesticides both at work and at home.

Local water holes and rivers are polluted by the toxic sludge dumped out of the same weighing station to which tappers must walk for miles to dump the liquid rubber. The plantation affects the lives of these Liberians, both in the short term and in the long term. Firestone was barely impacted by the bloody

genocidal wars that rocked Liberia in 1989 and 2003. The "plantation" continued to function basically as it did in 1926. The workers were trapped in a medieval nightmare that never ended even as the world moved

l- or

Then something amazing happened.

Workers began to advocate for their rights. Families began to organize. Workers demanded a dignified life with fair wages and working conditions. Sure, a union existed, but it was management run -- more concerned about the interests of Firestone than of the workers. The workers needed a functioning union.

Then, a confluence of events occurred. In 2006, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf was elected president of Likely allies Liberia. across the Atlantic took notice and offered aid. Principally, Leo Gerard and Fred Redman of the United Steelworkers offered support to the group of Liberian workers struggling to form a democratic union.

The fortuitous confluence of events worked. In 2007, the union held the first free and fair elections in history of the plantation. As you would expect, Firestone initially refused to recognize the union. Having had the governmental structures in Liberia on their side for so many years, Bridgestone Firestone must have believed they could railroad through the justice system and kill the idea of the union. But a little democracy can do wondrous things. After six months and a strike by the workers, the Supreme Court of Liberia upheld the union's right to represent the workers. As we see the journey taken from so little, the workers have made truly tremendous strides.

Now the next phase of this fight begins. Most likely, Firestone will fight every benefit, every wage increase the union demands. But the workers will also continue to fight.

Nicole C. Lee is the Executive Director of TransAfrica Forum

South Africans Believe They Are Superior, Study Finds

(*NNPA*) – Two thirds of South Africans believe they are superior to people in other parts of Africa, finds a new study by FutureFact, a group monitoring South African attitudes for 10 years.

Eight in 10 South Africans worry about the influx of immigrants in the country, with 69 percent agreeing that: "Immigrants are a threat to jobs for South Africans and should not be allowed into South Africa."

In a web comment on the survey, Vanna Bonta wrote: "Liberians who were formerly colonized also thought they were superior than indigenous Liberians. It only goes to show what Steve Biko knew "the greatest weapon of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed."

A FutureFact Conference is scheduled to be held in Johannesberg, July 24. It



is titled South Africa: The 29th Day – Have We Reached Our Tipping Point? For more information,

go to www.futurefact.co.za



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NAACP President **Recevies Honor**

В. Williams, J. President NAACP Garland Branch was recently honored by the brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. as the recipient of the highly esteemed "Citizen of the Year" Award at its 75th Grand Conclave (i.e. National Convention) recently held in Birmingham. This recognition was a salute to Williams' many years of unselfish community service locally, statewide and nationally! In accepting this recognition, Williams stated: "My motivation has always been to leave my community a better place for others to live when I am gone, than it was when I got here. To whom much is given, much is expected. God is my guide."

The award was presented by Warren G. Lee (of Dallas), Grand Basileus, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc

At Risk Youth Honored at South Fork

Plano Texas Workforce Youth Division and Maximum Motivation Training Systems will honor and celebrate the educational achievements of the at-risk youth they service. Approximately 90 youths from the ages of sixteen and twenty-one from Collin, Decatur, Denton, and Hunt counties will be recognized for staying in school to obtain High-School Diplomas, GED's, other certifications, and for having been accepted to different colleges.

The students will be treated to a grand tour of the world famous South Fork Ranch, home of the hit television show, DAL-LAS. The tour will be followed up with a South Fork style smoked barbeque buffet and banquet. The students will be recognized for their achievements during the banquet. The evening will feature

On July 26, 2008, The and will be highlighted by magician and entertainer Bo Gerard.

> The Texas Workforce is among the leading nonprofit organizations assisting at-risk youth in education and career preparation through job readiness training. Services offered through the youth program include: tutoring, study skills, instruction leading to secondary school completion or equivalent, dropout prevention strategies, career counseling, job readiness training, career exploration, community involvement, leadership skills development, and job shadowing.

> Maximum Motivation Training Systems provides professional, personaldevelopment and job readiness training for adults and youth who are registered through the Texas Workforce. The company services the North Texas region of the Workforce. Texas DeWavne Owens is the

Fred Moses – A Trailblazer

news stories have focused on the historic nature of Senator Barack the Obama's race for the White House. However, in Texas is also making political history.

Fred Moses, the founding President of the African American Collin County Republican Club, and also a board member of the Texas Federation of Black Republicans is a trailblazer in Plano. At a meeting last Saturday was elected chairman of the Collin County Republican Party at a Saturday morning meeting of the party's executive committee. Moses becomes the first African American to serve in a countywide position

Many headlines and for Collin County. Members of the commu-

nity point to Moses' selection as another example of the Republican Party's efforts of outreach to the African American community.



& Fred Moses (Archive)

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Education

Law School, continued from page 1-

in every recent city planning study of downtown Dallas, which have all concluded that for Dallas to rejuvenate its downtown area, it must have a vital university presence. The success of such joint cityuniversity revitalization

projects in Chicago, Philadelphia, and other major American metropolitan areas are serving as models for the City of Dallas/UNT System partnership.

By establishing the UNT College of Law in the Old

Municipal Building, the location will promote partnerships among students, faculty, courts, law firmsand other businesses to serve the greater DFW community.

It is UNT System's goal to bring affordable, high-

in playwriting or those

quality legal education to the DFW region and the partnership between the City of Dallas and UNT System to accomplish this goal will also serve to revitalize downtown Dallas.

Teen

Volunteers Needed For Summit

Magazine and Teens Reaching Teens, Inc. are currently seeking volunteers to assist with its 5th annual "Keepin' It Real" Youth Empowerment Summit. The summit will be held Saturday, August 16, 2008 at Richland College located at 12800 Abrams Road in Dallas, Texas from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed from 8:00 a.m. approximately 4:00 p.m. to assist with setup, clean-up, serving, group leaders, registra-

Graffiti tion, and the overall functioning of the conference. If you are interested in volunteer-

ing contact Sharon Jones-Scaife at 972-496-9457 to sign-up no later than August 11, 2008.

For additional information about Teens Reaching Teens, Inc. (http://www.teensreachingteens.org); Teen Graffiti Magazine (http://www.teengraffiti.com) contact Sharon Jones-Scaife, Executive Director at 972-496-9457 or email sharonjs@teensreachingteens.o rg.



Writer's Garrett Invite you to Save the Date! Fall Classes

A new Season, and new classes with great instructors, some tried and true. some waiting to dazzle you. We'll have more details shortly, but mark your calendars now!

Playwriting I & II with ERIN BURDETTE

Back by popular demand, ERIN BUR-DETTE, playwright, freelance writer, and actor, whose work has been produced for the stage, will be teaching Playwriting I & II again this year. So check out these classes and save the dates, you could be the next Harold

Pinter! Playwriting I Wednesdays, 7-9 pm Sept. 10 - Oct. 15

An interactive inquiry into the nature of playwriting, this combination class and workshop is for experienced and beginning playwrights. Insights and techniques involving dialogue, characterization, structuring action, conflict, and more. Note: Open to all levels. Playwriting II

Wednesdays, 7-9 pm Oct. 29 - Dec. 10 (off Nov. 26) Playwriting II is for writers with a background

students who have completed Playwriting I with Ms. Burdette. Prospective students should submit a sample scene of 5-10 script format pages for review. Ideally, students should come to the first session with a first draft of a play, a few scenes written, or at minimum, a solid idea in mind for a play they want to write. The goal of Playwriting II is to take the fundamentals of theory learned in the first class and apply it by writing a play, requiring outside work on scripts to

St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church

July 26, 2008 | 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

School Alliance Coordinator at 214-860-3677.

IT ALL BEGINS HERE.

For more information contact Gerald Andrews, Mountain View College,

An equal opportunity institution. www.mountainviewcollege.edu

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best utilize the workshop format.

Creative Nonfiction Wednesdays, 7-9 pm, Sept. 10 - Oct. 15, with MELISSA SHULTZ Fiction I Thursdays, 7-9 pm Sept. 11 - Oct. 16 with BRIDGET FOLEY

"Using Prose in Poetry" Workshop Sat., Oct. 25, 10 am-Noon with RON KLASSNIK

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Mountain View College

DALLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Record numbers expected at Hispanic consumer, health, education and green expo Viva Dallas!

Dallas-With more than 300 exhibitors and an expanded health and wellness pavilion, this year's Viva Dallas! Consumer, Health and Green Expo is expected to bring a record number of Hispanics to the Dallas Market Hall Aug. 9 and 10.

Presented by the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Bank of America, Viva Dallas! is expected to attract more than 25,000 Dallas area Hispanics who want to learn about important trends and innovations in health, the environment and education as well as sample innovative consumer products.

The expo is FREE and will take place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 10 Information will be available in English and Spanish

"This is one of the Hispanic chamber's most important events of the year because we are able to bring together the leading health and consumer companies for two days so that our community can learn everything they need to know to stay healthy and live better," said CiCi Rojas, president of the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. "We also have great entertainment, celebrities, giveaways, and food, which makes Viva Dallas! a fun event for the whole family.

This year, expo visitors will be able to get valuable tips on how to make their homes more energy efficient and what they can do to help the environment at the Going Green Pavilion sponsored by the Hispanic Contractors Association of DFW. Exhibitors will have information on environment-friendly construction supply companies, eco ideas for the home, recycling, energy savings, water conservation, going green in the bathroom, transportation, environment-friendly cleaning products, and much more.

the Education In Pavilion, sponsored by The University of Texas at Arlington, families will have the opportunity to speak directly with college and university representatives, who can answer their questions about admission requirements, scholarships, financial aid, and housing. School district representatives also will be on-hand to talk to students and parents about how to be successful in middle and high school and how to make a smooth transicollege. tion to Community-based organizations will provide information about the Dream Act .

Free health screenings for the community have always been a staple of the Viva Dallas! Expo, and this year, the Hispanic chamber's efforts to provide this service were greatly enhanced thanks to the sponsorship from CVS Pharmacy and Carnival Supermarkets-Start Life Healthy.

Expo visitors will be able to receive free mammograms and breast health information; participate in a blood drive; view exercise demonstrations on stage; and receive vision, spinal, kidney and dental screenings; blood pressure



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checks; surface EMGs; glucose tests; prostate cancer blood tests; poison prevention tips; cancer education and prevention information; childhood immunizations; and nutritional information

"We are very excited about this year's expo not just because it will be one of the largest Hispanic gatherings in North Texas, but also because of the wide range of services we are offering our community," said Frank Rosello, chairman of the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. "Thanks to everyone at the Hispanic chamber, our sponsors, and this year's event chair-Gloria Tostado, Regional Community Relations Manager for General Motors-the Viva Dallas! Expo is a one-stop-shop for all the information Dallas Hispanics will need to improve their health, their education, and the environment. Being able to bring together all these health care providers and representatives from various companies is very important to all of us at the Hispanic chamber because the better informed we are as consumers, the better choices we will make for ourselves and our families."

House Passes Highway Trust Fund Restoration Act

The House of Representatives this week passed H.R. 6532, the Highway Trust Fund Restoration Act, which will address a projected shortfall in the Highway Trust Fund, thereby safeguarding almost 380,000 jobs nationwide, including almost 30,000 in Texas. Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, who serves on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, was an original co-sponsor of the Highway Trust Fund Restoration Act. It passed by a vote of 387-37.

The Highway Trust Fund Restoration Act will restore \$8.017 billion in highway-user taxes to the Highway Trust Fund that were transferred from it to the General Treasury Fund in 1998. It will do so at a time when less money is being generated for the Highway Trust Fund, due to Americans driving less and purchasing less fuel. The legislation prevents a \$14 billion, or 34 percent, reduction in federal highway investment in FY 2009. Because the transfer of

intergovernmental, the transaction would not add to the national debt.

"Our Johnson stated, nation's Highway Trust Fund serves as the lifeblood for funding our nation's transportation infrastructure. Regrettably, the fund is facing an imminent shortfall due to decreased revenue into the fund. This shortfall comes at a most inopportune time as many states across the country are struggling to provide funding just for adequate highway maintenance-let alone new construction."

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County Community

Community Calendar

Ongoing African American **Republican Club of** Collin County meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm (Doors will open at 6:30 pm) Collin County Republican Party Headquarters 8416 Stacy Road, McKinney Call Fred Moses at 972 618 7027 or fred@tes.com for more information.

Collin County Black Chamber of **Čommerce** General Meeting is every 2nd Thursday, 6:30pm -7:30pm. McKinney Housing Authority 1200 N Tennessee St McKinney 75069 The general public is welcome. For additional information call 469-424-0120.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce Monthly Lunch & Learn every 3rd Thursday \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members, 11 am-1 pm, For general information and reservations call 469-424-0120.

DFW Financially Empowered Women

meet monthly for lunch or dinner and a fun, informative seminar on various financial topics. For more information call 469-952-0809 or

www.meetup.com/378.

Marriage Prep Class 1st Saturdays monthly 423 West Wheatland Road Suite 101, Duncanville 75116 \$10 fee for materials. For more info call Karen Duval at 972-709-1180.

No Limit Network **Business Networking** Lunch 1st and 3rd Thursday 11:30 am -12:30 pm every Thursday at Texas Land & Cattle Steak House 3945 N. Central Expressway Plano 75023 Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwor k.com or call Sylvia Williams at 972-898-5882.

SHARE! PISD **International Exchange**

Student Program is in the process of finding new host families to share their hearts and home with an exchange student for the 2008/2009 School Year. For more information on or how to become a host family, call 1-800-941-3738, or www.sharesouthwest.org.

The National Business Women Enterprise Network (NBWEN) hosts

monthly lunch and learn workshop and networking event giving members and guests the opportunity to network, build relationships, present information on their business and services, and most importantly, learn different ways to improve upon and grow their business. For more information www.nbwen.org or info@nbwen.org.

Wit Women Conference Call join this weekly conference call if you need encouragement, prayer, or inspiration. Dial in Tuesdays 7 pm - 7:15pm to 218-486-1616, Code 10984 (may change each week).

SUCCEEDING AT LIFE: "Developing the Winning Edge Community Success Series," free life-skills and personal-development workshops for ages 10 and older, 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays through Aug. 26, Gale Fields Recreation Center, 1701 Dairy Road. Register at www.davidlarricksmith.co m or at the center.

PARENT SUPPORT:

Group to help parents deal with family problems meets 7:30 p.m. Mondays, First Presbyterian Church, 930 W. Ave. B., Garland, 214-356-3879 or www.standupp.org.

NEW LIFE NEW

HOPE: Breast cancer survivors group meets 7 p.m. first Tuesdays, Room 103-105 of First United Methodist Church, 801 W.

STARGAZERS: Texas Astronomical Society sponsors free star parties with telescopes. First Saturdays on Jonandrea Lane, in Garland's SpringPark neighborhood. www.texasastro.org.

The Texas Renaissance Festival is located on FM

1774 between Magnolia and Plantersville, 45 minutes northwest of Houston.Group tours of the gardens and venues are held at 10 a.m. the firstSaturday of each month, March through September. Private tours can also be pre-arranged by calling the festival office, 1-800-458-3435, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.For more information please call 1-800-458-3435, email Shelly Lee at weddings@texrenfest.com visit our website at www.texrenfest.com.

July 24 - 25

New Beginning Center Teen Conference The conference is free for students and includes lunch. The conference will be held at North Garland Baptist Fellowship Church 5840 North Garland Avenue, Garland 75044. number is 972-276-0057. Throughout the week the teens will be learning about leadership skills, peer counseling and how to help prevent teen dating violence. For more information please contact Becky George at bgeorge@newbeginningcenter.org or call the 972-414-1494.

July 24

Vino 100 Offers Tasting of Fine Wines and Art **Recognizing Talents of** Local Artists "Art of Wine," a monthly exhibition featuring the works of talented local artists, while benefiting selected local charities. The distinctive works of this month's featured artist, Dallas- native and cancer survivor, Stacy Tomlinson, will benefit The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Ten

percent of the proceeds made from the sales of this exhibit will be donated to the local chapter of The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Vino 100 is located in Uptown Dallas at 2909 Mckinney Avenue, Dallas, 75204. www.vino100dallas.com . For additional information, call 214-969-9463 or visit

www.vino100dallas.com.

July 25 Kimbell Art Museum Evening Lecture: 'A Night On The Town With Toulouse-Lautrec' Explore the modern French painter Toulouse-Lautrec at the Kimbell Art Museum, 3333 Camp Bowie Boulevard in Fort Worth at 6:00 p.m. Admission to this educational event is free! Call 817-332-8451.

TBAAL VIP Red Carpet Affair will take place at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex, 650 South Griffin Street Dallas, 75202 from 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Tickets sold online only at www.redcarpetaffair.org. Volunteers needed to help support this event. Email event@redcarpetaffair.org subject should read "volunteer". subject should read volunteer

July 25

Barack Obama Turning Red to Blue Fundraiser event located at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex 650 South Griffin Street, Dallas, 75202 from 6:00 – 11:00 p.m. Contact teresa@dfwobama.com now or visit www.DFWObama.org.

July 26

The Children's Film **Festival Presented by** People with a Message **Production** at the Magnolia Lounge at Fair Park 1121 1st Ave, Dallas, 75210 from 9:30 a.m. -

1:00 p.m. For ticket or vending information email larome@juno.com or 972 426-3400; visit www.dallasblackfilmfestival.com.

July 25

Jazz in Addison at Esplande Park, 5044 Addison Circle Drive in Addison. The Jazz will keep on playing from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Cost is free, email webmaster@addisontx.go v for more info.

July 31

Turn Down the Rates, Not the Lights sponsored by AARP. Help demand legislative and regulatory action to put an end to "electric shock" caused by utility rates from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the Ruthe Jackson Community Center located at 3113 South Carrier Parkway Grand Prairie, Texas 75051. Admission and Refreshments are free.

August 1

Break Through Praise Fest 2008 presented by City of Miracles Music Ministry. Break on through at the Gospel Music Workshop and Concert located at 1720 W Northwest Highway, #350 in Garland. The program begins at 7:00 p.m. Admission is \$15. Email rozbooker@yahoo.com or call 972-279-8266.

August 2

Hip Hop for the Homeless featuring: Big Daddy Kane with Little Brother and Strange Fruit Project A portion of the proceeds will go to All Church Home for Children. The concert will begin at 8:00 p.m. at the Granada Theater, 3524 Greenville Avenue. Admission is \$15. Call 214-824-9933. p.m. Admission to the event is \$15. Call 214-824-9933 for more information.

Symphonic Saturdays in Addison at Esplande Park, 5044 Addison Circle Drive in Addison.

Symphonic Saturday will begin at 8:00 p.m. and will last through 10:00 p.m. Enjoy Symphonic Saturdays presented by the city of Addison for FREE. For more information on the event email webmaster@addisontx.go

Harmony a fun-filled event featuring christian hip-hop artists Lecrae and the 116 Clique bringing love, peace, and harmony to the community. The event begins at 6 p.m. at the corner of Hampton and Bickers St. Call 972-689-5413.

Second Annual **Certification Seminar** and Business Expo, hosted by the Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce, will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn. 705 Central Expressway South, Allen, Texas 75013. The expo lasts from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm. Call 972-922-0806 or 469-424-0120 ext.4. Seating is limited.

August 3

Back to School Blast presented by Mentors in Motion will be located at 1530 Bonnieview Road in Princeton at the City Temple Adventist Church from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. This community event provides information and education in a fun fair environment featuring a free carnival. Email atomentoring@sbcglobal.net for more information, or, you may call 214-942-3870.

August 5

The Dallas County Juvenile Department hosts a community forum to discuss strategies to address Issues affecting our community. The event will take place from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at Friendship West Baptist Church at 2020 W. Wheatland Road, Dallas, Texas 75232. Call 214-698-4971 or 214-205-5378.

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Sponsored By:

Developing The Edge For Success

By Tessa Howington

Everyone wants to know how to be successful, happy, and rich, and everyone knows that besides winning the lottery, getting there is not easy.

Developing the skills and learning how to find the tools necessary to be a success in this life, however you define success, seems to be a secret that few people know or are willing to share.

Well no more.

The Developing The Winning Edge Community Success Series' goal is to "provide high quality selfhelp and personal development information" to the community. The Developing The Winning Edge Community Success Series seeks to teach particpants the skills needed and how to find and use the tools available so you can be happy, healthy, and wealthy.

The series is a twelve week course designed to "increase the vision of attendees and build their belief that life can be better" producing better citizens that are morally, spiritually, and financially stable productive members of our society. The series also encourages critical thinking and problem solving to help overcome challenges and achieve personal goals.

The Developing The Winning Edge Community Success Series is held once a week, every Tuesday, the classes launched June 17 and is slated to end August 26. Each Tuesday from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm, the meetings are held at the Gale Field Recreation Center, located at 1701 Dairy Road, in Garland, Texas. The program invites citzens ages 10 and up to come and participate in the weekly sessions. During

these sessions, which the program refers to as "Weekly Continuing Education Workshops," participants listen to speakers who offer helpful insight and advice to achieving success, participate in group and individual activities. The Workshop uses "time tested" tools to help participants focus on what they want and how to achieve their goals. Attendees are also given beneficial "homework" to help utilize the tools they learned each week in their lives.

The Series began with a Juneteenth Success Mini-Conference, held June 14th, at the Gale Field Recreation Center where participants had a full day of speakers, activities, door prizes, and a catered lunch by Eddie Dean – a sponsor and guest speaker.

However, if you are interested in joining the series but did not attend the mini-conference or previous classes there are still spots available and a wealth of knowledge to be learned. To make sure you are not behind, or miss out on any important information, a summary of the previous weekly workshops can be found on the series website (www.davidlarricksmith.com, click on "The Winning Edge").

The series has many sponsors, a few appear also featured as guests, or a "positive life models and mentors," and other local area business leaders participant. Either way, the sponsors of the event, who include Eddie Deen's Catering, Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament, Emotional Wellness, Inc., Dr. Jason Fisch of the Garland Family Medical Center, Mr. Carlos Clark of Liberty Mutual, Chipotle, Subway, Cheddars, Chuck

E. Chesses, Peter Piper Pizza, Chili's, Olive Garden, On The Border Mexican Cantina, Whole Health Chiropractic, Garland Independent School District's African American Advisory Committee. Firehouse Subs, and The City of Parks Garland and Recreation Department, have a vested interest in the program which will produce better citizens and workers that will help the overall health of the community and our society economically.

The event is produced by the David G. and Alyce P. SMITH Foundation for Excellence. The SMITH Foundation's mission "is to help as many people as possible succeed in the game of life." Their goal is to bring their message of "hope and life's possibilities" to 10% of the world's population.

While ten percent is a tough goal, David Larrick Smith, the Foundation's creator and the series' workshop facilitator, realizes that if he can reach just one person, that he has made a difference. "If I get one kid out of 500, it's a success" he says. "It's a hard pill to swallow" he adds, but he hopes that with hard work that one person will turn into the ten percent goal.

And while he may be only reaching a few people at a time, Smith is still "exceptionally passionate about the workshop." Smith believes, "The only limitation is the individual." The information provided in the workshops are universal, and can be just as beneficial for a 10 year old, or a 57 year old; no matter the gender, race, or background of the participant.

We live in an age of

information, and, as Smith believes, "the information age is the innovation age." People can create the change needed to better their lives if they know how to use the right tools. Teaching people these tools is what The Developing The Winning Edge Community Success Series is all about. So if you are ready for a change, or just need a little help achieving your goals, stop by on Tuesday night.



David Smith points students in the direction success.



Smith answers questions (Pictured above and below)



Teatro delle Muse Artistic Director Goes to Broadway



Sarah VC Henderson, the Artistic Director at Teatro delle Muse was recently selected to attend a workshop on Broadway. As artistic director, Ms. Henderson was allowed to choose two students to accompany her and participate in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The students, Cam Wenrich and Alexis Henderson, no relation to Ms. Henderson, have both been previously written about in this column as standout talents.

I sat down recently with Ms. Henderson and interviewed her about her experiences on Broadway.

Ms. Henderson, why was this particular workshop so important for you?

"I consider myself first and foremost, an educator. The purpose of this workshop is to help educators, such as myself, to better prepare students who have the desire and talent to work on Broadway. I was able to learn the ins and outs so-to-speak of making sure my students have the best chance for success. Let's face it, the odds of making it in this business are astronomical and I want my students to have the best possible shot."

So as a theatre professional what was it like working on Broadway?

"Well first of all, the fact that it takes place on Broadway, which is the pinnacle of the performing arts, just defies description. As Artistic Director at Teatro delle Muse. I have been fortunate over the last year to work with many gifted actors. In fact, a few of these actors you may very well find on Broadway in the near future. But personally, as a theatre professional, it's very humbling to look

around the room and realize you're working with all these gifted award-winning individuals.

Like whom?

We worked with Stephen Schwartz (Wicked, Enchanted, Pippin) Courtney Young Frankenstein) (Young Casting Director Justin Huff and Musical Director Kimberly Grigsby (Spring Awakening, Grease) Lin-Manuel Miranda (In The Heights) Angelina Avallone (Young Frankenstein). We also had talk-backs with Harvey Fierstein (A Catered Affair) Tom Wopat (yes the one from Dukes of Hazzard but more recently A Catered Affair). The list just goes on and on. I feel like one of those actors accepting an award and trying to remember all the people to mention. There's just too many to name."

What valuable lesson did your students learn from the experience?

"No matter what anyone says, you really can make it on Broadway. And by the way, this is something we constantly tell all of our students. We met with Jeff Bowen and Hunter Bell, the writers and composers for [title of show] which is a great musical about the hopes, dreams and of course fears of making it on Broadway."

How has this workshop made you a better teacher?

"I learned some great new spins on the standard theatre lessons. I came away with new and creative ways to challenge and inspire my students. But just the experience of learning from the best and talented most on Broadway will definitely go a long way in helping my students reach their potential and at the same time reach for the stars.

And Ms. Henderson quickly adds, "If you want to know more, just sign up for my classes starting in the fall."

Rick A. Elina is a playwright based in Plano, Texas and is the Theatre Critic for the *North Dallas Gazette*.

Dark Knight' Sets Records

An executive at Warner Brothers says the "The Dark Knight" a Batman sequel has taken in \$155.34 million making it the best opening ever at the box office. This puts it ahead of "Spider-Man 3" which earned \$151.1 million in May of 2007.

"The Dark Knight" is the first time a live-action Batman film did not use the word "Batman" in the title. The director Christopher Nolan indicated the film would continue the themes of Batman Beings such as justice vs. revenge and Bruce Wayne's father issues. The sequel "The Dark Knight" finds the superhero, Christian Bale, as Batman coming face to face with his nemesis the Joker played by Heath Ledger. The premise for the film is Batman becoming more of a detective joins with Lieutenant James Gordon and District Attorney Harvey Dent to round up criminals plaguing Gotham City. They will battle with a mysterious criminal mastermind known as The Joker



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C A T E R I N G

HUB Expo Helps Businesses Compete For State Contracts

(AUSTIN) — Womanand minority-owned businesses can improve their bottom line by seeking contracts to provide goods and services to state government, Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said today.

At the Comptroller's free 2008 Procurement Connection Seminar and Expo, owners of Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs) can get valuable information about the state procurement process and can also network with purchasers from state agencies, universities and state contracting partners. The event is scheduled Aug. 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Aug. 6 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the State Capitol Extension auditorium, Room E1.004.

"I am committed to making Texas' HUB Program the premier program in the nation," said Combs, whose agency began managing state procurement and the Statewide HUB Program in September 2007. "I strongly encourage woman- and minorityowned businesses to

New Book Offers Advice to Minorities to Navigate and Succeed in Corporate America

After more than 25 years, Keith Wyche knows a thing or two about surviving in the workplace, and in his first book Good is Not Enough: And Other Unwritten Rules for Minority Professionals he shares must-hear advice on climbing the managerial ladder as a minority in the rigorous world of corporate America.

From the power of perception to unavoidable double standards, Wyche exposes the realities about corporate thinking and culture, and provides essential advice on meeting these challenges head-on and winning.

Wyche details in his book that in corporate America today there is 'the way it is' and 'the way it should be.' "In many, many ways, we are much closer to 'the way it should be,' he says. "Yet in certain ways, today's minority professionals -- all of them -- still have to reconcile their corporate advancement strategies with 'the way it is' in their corporate cultures, while still holding strong to their cultural integrity and core values "

Simply possessing a top degree and letting one's work "speak for itself" won't get the key to the executive suite. For minority professionals to continue scaling the ladder, it takes acknowledgement of the unwritten rules in the corporate workplace and strategic planning.

Some of Wyche's strategic pointers include:

* Know how others see you -- because their perception can become your reality

* Stay current to remain relevant -- being a continuous learner is a must

* Always have an "exit strategy" -- it's better to have one and not need it than to need one and not have it

become certified as HUBs and enroll on the state's Centralized Master Bidders List so they can be notified of state contract opportunities and have a chance to bid."

Approximately 11,600 businesses are certified in the Statewide HUB Program, and Texas awarded more than \$1.8 billion in contracts and subcontracts to certified HUBs in fiscal 2007. State agencies and higher education institutions are required to make a good-faith effort to contract with HUBs for construction, services and commodities purchases.

V i s i t www.window.state.tx.us/pr ocurement/hubexpo08.htm l to learn more about the HUB Expo and to register online.

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OBAMA, continued from page 1

Bv MATTI FRIEDMAN SDEROT, Israel (AP)

Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama says it's in the interest of Israeli security to arrive at a lasting peace with the Palestinians.

Obama spoke at a press conference in Sderot, near the Gaza border. The city has been a frequent target of rocket attacks from Palestinian militants.

In Obama's words: "America must always stand up for Israel's right to defend itself against those who threaten its people."

He also said that Jerusalem will be the capital of Israel, but the issue should be dealt with by the parties involved.

Obama donned a Jewish skullcap at Israel's Holocaust memorial on Wednesday and vowed to preserve America's close ties with Israel in a dramatic visit to the Holy Land in which he also promised the Palestinians to push vigorously to win them a state.

Obama clearly was trying to allay fears on both sides on how he would tackle their stubborn conflict

Many Israelis are concerned that Obama - a first-term U.S. senator with little foreign policy experience — would push Israel too hard in negotiations with the Palestinians. His family's Muslim roots have added to the unease, even though Obama is a Christian.

doubt Palestinians Obama or any other U.S. leader would reverse what they see as Washington's bias toward Israel.

"I'm here on this trip to reaffirm the special relationship between Israel and the United States and my abiding commitment to Israel's security and my hope that I can serve as an effective partner, whether as a U.S. senator or as president," Obama during a visit to the official residence of Israeli President Shimon Peres.

A 30-minute drive away, in the West Bank town of Ramallah, Obama assured Palestinian leaders he'd get moments of warmth and involved in the Mideast conflict quickly, a top Palestinian official said.

In his meeting with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Obama confirmed "that he will be a constructive partner in the peace process" and would not "waste a minute" if elected, Abbas aide Saeb Erekat said.

Obama is visiting at a time of great political turmoil in the region that has jeopardized prospects for Mideast peace. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert is under investigation in a corruption probe that threatens to topple him. And the Palestinians are deeply divided, with Abbas' forces in charge of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip ruled by Islamic Hamas militants.

Obama plunged into the intricacies of the region's longest-running conflict with a packed schedule of meetings with Israeli and Palestinian leaders.

At Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial, he laid a wreath of white chrysanthemums and lisianthus and lit a memorial flame. "Despite this record of monumental tragedy, this ultimately is a place of hope," he said.

"At a time of great peril and torment, war and strife, we are blessed to have such a powerful reminder of man's potential for great evil, but also our capacity to rise up from tragedy and remake our world," he wrote in the visitors' book.

American tourists who passed by him at the told memorial him "Remember what you see here," and he replied, "Yes, I understand, I understand," said Yad Vashem's director, Avner Shalev.

Security guards at the memorial kept back the few American and European visitors who had hoped to get a closer glimpse of the presidential contender.

But the somberness of the occasion at Yad Vashem also gave way to

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lightheartedness.

Peres gave him an effusive welcome, saying he had read Obama's two books and was "moved" by them. The Israeli president handed Obama an English translation of a book he wrote, "The Imaginary Voyage: With Theodor Herzl in Israel." Obama asked him to sign and dedicate the book, Peres' office said in a statement.

Obama praised Israel's accomplishments 60 years after its creation, and he complimented the 84-yearold Israeli president on his youthful appearance.

"I also want to get his recipe for looking as good he does," Obama quipped.

An aide to the president said Obama showed a "strong grasp" of regional affairs and that "he said he came to listen and learn." The aide spoke on condition of anonymity because the meeting was not open to the public.

Earlier in the day, Obama met with Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak and parliamentary opposition leader Netanyahu, Beniamin whose Likud Party takes a hard line against the Palestinians. He was to meet with Olmert in the evening, after visiting a southern Israeli town that's

VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT COMMEMORATES 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF INTEGRATION OF ARMED FORCES

The Library of Congress Veterans History Project (VHP), a program of the Library of Congress American Folklife Center, is commemorating the 60th anniversary of the historic integration of the United States armed forces on July 26.

"All served, all deserve our thanks, and the stories archived in the VHP collection represent the service of veterans from all races, all ethnicities," said VHP Director Bob Patrick.

Visit the VHP Web site at www.loc.gov/vets, and click on "View Featured Interviews" to listen to the firsthand accounts of veterans from all backgrounds, including African and Asian Americans Pacific Americans Veterans representing other minority groups will be featured during coming months.

Pearle W. Mack Jr. is one of the 11 African Americans featured in "African Americans at War." He served in the segregated U.S. Army of World War II and went on to a lifetime career in the armed forces. In his interview, Mack talks about the changes in the attitudes toward race that occurred during his 30-year career.

'The Next Generation" features Willie Boyd, who served two tours of duty in Vietnam as the only black man in his platoon. Boyd recalls: "Once you get with a unit and you start working as a team, color never comes up."

Veterans who share personal histories with the Veterans History Project often do not specify their race or ethnicity. Patrick said: "As we mark this important anniversary, I encourage all veterans who share their personal histories to indicate their heritage as part of the interview process to ensure the diversity of those who served America is fully represented in the VHP collection.'

The Library of Congress, the nation's oldest federal cultural institution, is the world's preeminent reservoir of knowledge, providing unparalleled integrated resources to Congress and the American people. Founded in 1800, the Library seeks to further human understanding and wisdom by providing access to knowledge through its magnificent collections. The Library seeks to spark the public's imagination and celebrate human achievement through its programs and exhibits. In doing so,

the institution helps foster the informed and involved citizenry upon which American democracy depends. Many of the rich resources and treasures of the Library may be accessed through its award-winning Web site www.loc.gov and via interactive exhibitions on a new, personalized Web site at www.myLOC.gov.

The Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center was created in 2000 by Congress to record the firsthand accounts of American service personnel in major conflicts beginning with World War I, and it actively collects veterans' personal accounts of the Global War on Terror. While the project seeks interviews from all American war veterans, there is a timely need for interviews from veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. VHP seeks interviews from female veterans from all conflicts, veterans representing all minority communities, as well as Merchant Marine, Coast Guard, National Guard and Reserve veterans in order to build a more balanced and representative collection.

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Basketball and Soccer League. Registration deadline is May 24th 2008. Registration fee: \$25.00 per youth. League starts June 7th -July 31st We are in need of referee's and coaches for our league if you are interested please send your resume to one of the following: Rich_etta@n2ne-ym.com, penny@n2ne-ym.com, or kdedmon@cokecce.com

For more information, please contact: Founder/CEO - Rich Etta Weathersbee (469) 223-5618 or VP - Penny Francis (214) 793-7178.



Alcoholism & Drug Addiction Teenage Pregnancy & Self Preservation, etc.

Lake Highlands Recreation

Learn, Not "Burn" From Your Mistakes

By Dante Lee

We all have made bad business decisions. Some of them were quite dumb, others were just bad instincts. Maybe you lost money, wasted time, or even both. Despite this, you must recognize that making business mistakes is a natural part of building your career as an entrepreneur.

Here's the key: When you do make a business mistake, learn from it. Start by fully accepting the blame and responsibility, and not putting it on others. There are very few cases when you can place the blame on someone else other than yourself, and this is very easy to determine

All you have to do is ask yourself: "Was there something I could have done to prevent this?" If the answer is yes, then it was your fault. If the answer is no (which it rarely is), then it wasn't your fault.

The point is that the minute you accept full responsibility, that's the same moment that you actually learn something valuable from your mistakes. As a mature adult, your brain is automatically trained to not make the same unwise decisions over and over again. However, your brain is waiting for you to admit that it was you who actually made the mistake.

Some people, however, end up "burning" from their mistakes. Instead of admitting that they were at fault, they blame other people or factors. They say things like "he screwed me over", instead of "maybe I should have looked closer at the contract." They say things like "he stole my idea". instead of "I should have better protected my idea through patents and trademarks." Or even "he didn't do what he said he would do", instead of "I should have gotten that in writ-

They "burn" from their mistakes because in the future when they face a similar scenario, they will make the same mistake again...and again and again. Why? Because their brain is telling them that last time it wasn't their

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purchase@ci.garland.tx.us

www.garlandpurchasing.com

fault, so there's no reason to proceed cautiously this time.

Please believe that the only way to grow in business is to learn, not "burn" from your errors. We all make bad decisions, but our response determines our success.

0

\$8.00 per

hour

For College

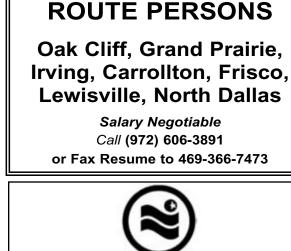
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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S) Dist/Div: Fort Worth Contract 6179-62-001 for CLEANING AND SEALING CRACKS in TAR-RANT County will be received on August 12, 2008 until 10:30 am and opened on August 12, 2008 at 11:00 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$293,956.62. Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with biddingproposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, atthe applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 daysprior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalificationmaterials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for theabove contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov andfrom reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 27267 State Office Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540 Dist/Div Office(s) Fort Worth District District Engineer 2501 Southwest LP820 Ft Worth, Texas 76133 Phone: 817-370-6500 Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will bepart of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminatedagainst on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin

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Church Happenings

DESTINY PLACE MINISTRIES

August 6, 2006 2008 Women's Conference presents "Lord Prepare Us for a Spiritual Explosion" with Dr. Cindy Trim, Elder Kathy Moffitt, Monica Johnson and Michelle Murphy, in the Conference Room @ the Marriot Quorum Hotel in Addison, 14901 Dallas Parkway.

Destiny Place Ministries Rev. P. Matthew Mitchell Founder/Pastor 3500 Parkwood Blvd., #704 Frisco, TX 75024 972-712-1130

FAITHFUL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

July 26, 2 pm 2008 Homegrown Gospel Celebration featuring James Fortune & Fiya; Brian Courtney Wilson; Apostle Darrell Yancey; Amie; Gaye Arbuckle; Tommye Young West and more! Vote for 2008 Homegrown Gospel Artist of the Year @ khvnprize@winning.com

Faithful Missionary Baptist Church

Rev. Cecil T. Smith, II

Experience the Light!

9314 ELAM RD

(214) 391-3430

DALLAS, TX 75217

6255 Bonnie View Road Dallas, TX 75241 972-225-7383

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

July 23-25, 6:30 pm Join us for our exciting VBS @ the church.

Fellowship BC of Allen Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr. M. Div., Senior Pastor 200 Belmont Drive Allen, TX 75013 972-359-9956

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK (FIRST CHURCH)

Now-September 12, 7 pm On Friday Nights Our Athletic Ministry Bowling nights @ the AMF Bowling Center in Richardson.

First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park Dr. Gregory Foster Senior Pastor and Rev. Anthony Foster, Pastor 300 Phillips Street Richardson, TX 75081 972-235-4235

EBENEZER WORSHIP CENTER

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Sunday Worship Service11:00AM

Sunday School9:30AM Thursday Night Live At The Light7:00PM

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SUNDAY

10:00 am: Sunday School

11:00 am: Morning Worship

MONDAY

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm: Men of Power and Women of Power

TUESDAY

7:00 pm- 8:00 pm: Bible Study & Worship Service

HOPEWELL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

to celebrate this great day.

Call the church for details

VBS close-out meeting for

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New Mount Zion Baptist

Church of Dallas

Senior Pastor

214-341-6459

Dr. Robert E. Price,

9550 Shepherd Road

NORTH DALLAS

COMMUNITY

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CHURCH

Wednesdays, 12 Noon-1 pm

Bring your lunch and a friend

Come to "TEE TIME" a

Bible Study during lunch.

to our Sherman Campus

Fellowship Hall. Pastor

Roche Coleman, Th.M.

North Dallas Community

Bible Fellowship Church

Dr. Leslie W. Smith,

1010-1020 S. Sherman

Richardson, TX 75081

Senior Pastor

972-437-3493

teacher.

Street

Dallas, TX 75243

and ideas for VBS 2009.

August 2, 9 am

August 3, 10:45 am Come worship and celebrate our 80 years of serving the community with Reunion Sunday, "Bringing Hopewell Together."

Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church Rev. Michael Hubbard Senior Pastor 5144 Dolphin Road Dallas, TX 75223 214-823-1018

> NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF DALLAS

July 25, 6:30 pm Join us for our Pre-Women's Annual Day activities for an evening of fellowship with all sisterhood.

July 26, 10 am Continuing with Pre-Women's activities, brunch @ 10 am with pampering and praise for the sisterhood.

July 27, 2008 We are preparing for 200 plus women to participate in the Women's Chorus. Get ready

PRIME BURIAL LOTS FOR SALE

One, two or three lots for sale at Restland in North Dallas; located in the beautiful and peaceful Serenity Gardens Section (Southeast corner of Greenville Avenue & Restland Road.) Market value \$3450 each, but selling price negotiable. View plots by appointment only. Call 972-606-3878, 972-416-6109, or 469-235-5808.



"A Kingdom Building Church"

OAK CLIFF BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

August 15-16, 2008 2008 National Men's Conference by the Promise Keepers' Dallas event. "Manhood: Let the Truth Be Told" featuring Franklin Graham; Author Josh McDowell; Coach Bill McCartney; David Bryant; Kenny Luck; and Comedian and impersonator John Morgan. Also Dan Seaborn, Richard Blackaby, Don Davis, Rick Rigsby and Mike Silva. To register call 1-866-PROMISE.

Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship Dr. Tony Evans, Pastor 1808 W. Camp Wisdom Dallas, TX 75232 972-228-1281

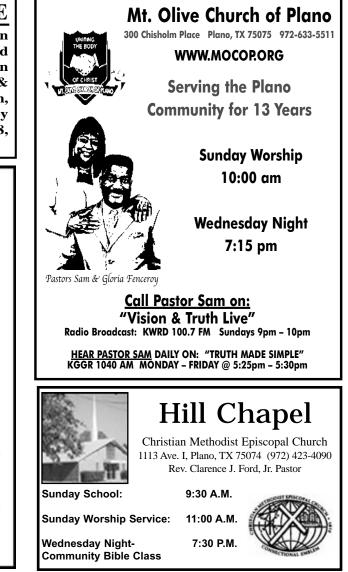
SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, GARLAND

July 26, 10 am-3 pm Annual Community Day Block Party and Youth Fest. Meet city leaders, Garland citizens and youth groups. For details on registering to perform in the Youth Fest, directions, FREE transportation to Worship Service on the Shiloh Shuttle, or other questions call Deacon Paul Taylor at 972-272-8008. Shiloh MBC in Garland Dr. V. K. Jones, D. Min Senior Pastor 105 Grant Street Garland, TX 75042 972-272-8008

WOMEN PRAYING FOR CHRIST MINISTRIES

July 25-26, 11 pm (For Women Only) 2008 Prayer Crusade. Theme: The Lord's Response to Prayer (Back to Holiness) (a) Open Bible Fellowship Church; 701 Briarwood Drive, Plano, Texas. Friday night, Doors close @ 12 Midnight. Doors re-open @ 6 am on Saturday morning. FREE admission; but you must pre-register. Fast: July 21 thru 24, 2008, no food till after 12 Noon, then eat light. On July 25th no food after 6 pm. Call 214-450-7634 for details and to register. Women Praying for **Christ Ministries** Dr. Angela King, Founder P. O. Box 863766 Plano, TX 75086

972-450-7634



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Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor

Sister Tarpley



"And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, He (Jesus) went out, and departed unto a solitary place, and there prayed." Mark 1:35

With the dreadful state of our economy, the costof-living ever increasing, abuses and stress at home and in the work-place, sickness and death among us, there are plenty of individuals that can feel dishearten or down-in-the dumps.

What happens when your automobile is getting close to running out of gas? You look for a gas station to get the car refueled. It doesn't matter the price of the gasoline; you may even comWhat to Do When You Feel Dishearten plain about the high price of the fuel (I know I have at times but, some good advise from

my pastor, Elder Philip White, thank God that you have money to buy the gas); eventually you will get gas or your car will stop running!

When most people are hungry, they eat; when they are thirsty, they drink some liquid (water, soda, juice, etc.); when they are sick they see a doctor; and when they feel pain, they take aspirins or other medications. As Christians when we feel that we are spiritually drained, we refuel our spiritual lives by praying to our Heavenly Father.

When Jesus was on earth, He was both spirit and human. Everything He did was based upon receiving specific direc-

tions or instructions, and power from His Father to do them. At the time He was not operating as God, but as a human being with the same limitations that

you and I have. Jesus knew one of the key ways to refuel His mind, body and spirit was by spending time in prayer to His Heavenly Father. Jesus is our example, our role model.

No one had a schedule as demanding as Jesus. He healed the sick; delivered people from demons. He traveled from town to town, often walking miles between many towns and cities. He spent a lot of time with people. His body and His spirit became fatigued. It was draining, I am positive, to minister for extended periods of time. Praying is a critical discipline for every follower of Jesus if we expect to have power and victory in our Christian walk. Each of us need to find a solitary place to focus upon the Lord, His Word, and His input for our lives on a daily basis.

If constant praying is not a part of your daily experience, why not start now (today or early tomorrow morning) with a few minutes of focused time of reading and praying. You will be encouraged and inspired with the new spiritual focus you will have by making this a priority in your life. If you find that difficulty to do, ask God to help you have a servant spirit. First begin by thanking Him for all that He does in your life and all that He has given you. Then ask Him to help you to become a faithful steward of what He has entrusted you with. Ask God for grace to walk through

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changes in advance.



Picture of The Week: Sis. Elizabeth White, 1st Lady @ Love Chapel COGIC with UniverSoul Circus Ringmaster, Casual Cal (Calvin Dupree, Jr.) in Dallas August 5-10 2008

your trials and tests victoriously so that you may prove that you are a faithful servant and a godly witness for Him

Things To Ponder: The measure of a life, after all, is not its duration, but its donation. -Corrie Ten Boom. Go to the Bible to meet Christ . . . He is its author, its subject matter, the doorway to its treasures, the full-throated symphony of which Adam and the Prophets heard just the faintest tune. -Andre Trust the past to Seu God's mercy, the present to God's love, and the future to God's providence. -St. Augustine of Hippo.

Easy Ways To Protect Yourself From Financial Fraud

(SPM Wire) It seems like identity theft and financial fraud are running rampant nationwide.

Whether you use credit or debit cards, it's always a good idea to take some basic precautions -- when you are out shopping or at an ATM, as well as in your own home.

Here are some fraud prevention tips from the experts at PULSE, one of nation's the leading ATM/debit networks:

* Shred all financial documents and records before disposing of them. * Destroy unused or

expired credit, ATM and debit cards.

* Remove mail promptly from your mailbox.

* Match receipts to monthly billing statements.

* Memorize PINs, passwords and Social Security numbers - do not store them in your purse or wallet

* Use longer, more complex passwords and PINs, and change them periodically.

* Sign all credit cards and debit cards immediately upon receipt.

Notify account Virtues of A Redeemed Life: A Study of the Fruits of the Spirit

"TEE TIME"

Bible Study During Lunch

Bring your lunch and fellowship with us around the word of God.

When:

Time:

Each Wednesday beginning May 14, 2008 Sherman Campus Fellowship Hall Where: 12:00 ~ 1:00 p.m. Teacher: Pastor Roche Coleman, Th.M.

North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship 1020 S. Sherman St. | Richardson, TX 75081 | 972.437.3493 ext. 100 | www.ndcbf.org Dr. Leslie Smith, Senior Pastor For more information e-mail: Roche Coleman at rcoleman@ndcbf.org

. CONTEM sene! * Immediately report a lost or stolen card and any unauthorized activity on * Never use your PIN as PERIENCE For more tips on card safety, as well as fraud and 701 E. identity protection, visit Centennial Blvd. Richardson, TX 75081 www.eirenecf.org Ph. 972-991-0200 Pastor Terrence Autry Morning Worship - 10:00 am Wednesday Bible Study - 7:30 pm Friendship Baptist Church 4396 Main Street The Colony, Texas 75056 (972) 625-8186 website: www.fbc-online.net Schedule of Services: Sunday Early Morning Worship-8:00 a.m. Sunday School Classes-9:30 a.m. Morning Worship-11:00 a.m. Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor Wednesday

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

Study - 7:30 p.m.

Morning Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.

Prayer Meeting and Evening Bible



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Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church



www.pulse-eft.com.

Church Directory

World's Largest Hair Art & Fashion Show Benefiting the Helpless and Homeless Charity

"Shops & Salons NET-WORK" to host the first annual "World's Largest Hair Art and Fashion Show," on July 27th at American Airlines Center benefiting Haircuts for the Helpless and Homeless Charity (HHH). This event will introduce a new phenomenon of advertising to the world called Hair Art Advertising and is also launching a brand new celebrity endorsed charity called Haircuts for the Helpless and Homeless. Hosts include: the Talented and Entrepreneur Extraordinaire Mr. Ronnie Mac, the Sexy Goddess Rhona Bennett of En Vogue and the Jamie Foxx Show, and Heart Throb Mega Movie Star Morris Chestnut.

Haircuts for the Helpless and Homeless, Inc. (HHH) was conceived in 2000 and was established June 2008 by Mr. Ronnie Mac, owner of the Shops and Salons NETWORK in Dallas, Texas. He is a master barber who has been in the hair industry for 16 years professionally. His desire to help and make people look, feel, and act better

has been the driving force to this nonprofit corporation. He has witnessed the effect his haircuts and hairart and hair styles overall has had on thousands of customers which further backed his theory and reason for starting Haircuts for the Helpless and Homeless, Inc.

This program consists of mobile barber and beauty

salons on trucks going out to locations that need service such as homeless shelters, battered women and children shelters, orphanages, boys and girls homes, half-way houses, etc...the list goes on and on. The employees consist of barbers and stylist from barber shops and beauty salons nationwide that are signed up under the Shops and

Salons NETWORK.

Ticket prices range from \$30 for upper seats to \$150 for the VIP floor seats.

To support the Haircuts for the Helpless and Homeless from any part of the world, register to view the live online web broadcast of the hair show for \$3 dollars, go to www.hairartshow.com.

Rev. Anthony Foster

Pasto

Wednesday

Night Service

8:00 pm



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