

# North Dallas Gazette



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## Could Racism Undermine Nov. 4 vote?



By Hazel Trice Edney  
NNPA Editor-in-Chief

U. S. Sen. Barack Obama has moved yet another step closer to becoming America's first Black president after an arguably bland debate Monday night that gave

him strong leads over Sen. John McCain in several key polls.

But, some political observers say the polls may not reflect a racial undercurrent among Whites that could hurt Obama's election on Nov.

See OBAMA, Page 12

## TXU Energy, Sponsors "Dash for Dignity"

From staff reports

Citizens Development Center is calling on runners in the Dallas/Fort Worth area to participate in this year's TXU Energy Dash for Dignity, a 5k and approximate 1-mile fun run benefiting Citizens Development Center, a

nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower men and women with disabilities to achieve their highest level of employability.

For more than 10 years, the nonprofit organization has hosted the Dash for Dignity, which celebrates men and women with dis-

abilities who achieve their highest potential in the workforce, as well as the organizations that recognize their abilities.

"The TXU Energy Dash for Dignity is a great opportunity to get out and truly make a difference in the lives of adults with disabilities right here in

the local community," said Gaylord Thomas, executive director of Citizens Development Center. "Individuals with disabilities have many talents and abilities, and when given the opportunity, can be valuable, capable employees for any company."

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## ACLU calls new Irving ordinance Unconstitutional

From staff reports

Today, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Texas calls on the City of Irving to repeal regulations passed Thursday night in the name of "cleaning up crime" when in fact they

can only be interpreted as an attack on the privacy of landlords, renters and low-income families.

"At a time when our economy is fragile, when poor families are struggling with higher gas prices and difficulty obtaining loans to buy

houses, the City of Irving is proposing to make it even more difficult for low paid working class families to rent housing," ACLU of Texas Executive Director Terri Burke said.

It appears Irving City Council passed new regulations that will require

apartment managers and owners to obtain a license from the city to operate, to conduct criminal background checks on all new tenants, and to participate in a crime-free training program. The ordinance will give police the power

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COVER STORY

## America's Best Kept Secret



Lyle Burmeister

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Play critic previews  
upcoming productions

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[www.northdallasgazette.com](http://www.northdallasgazette.com)



BLACKONOMICS

## The Greedy Trample on the Needy

By James Clingman  
NNPA Columnist

"Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income." - Ecclesiastes 5:10

In recent history, there has been no better time than now for us to see the chasm between the so-called have's and the have not's. We are wit-

nesses to the biggest rip-off since the Great Train Robbery. As if Halliburton and all the rest of the Iraq war crooks were not enough, the bar has been raised even higher now with the housing/mortgage/banking crisis.

A couple of years ago folks were making so much money, via unethical and illegal means, so

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## People In The News...



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Gil Michel



Angela Hucles

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## Deidre Johnson

For the past three years, Deidre Johnson has enjoyed an all-expenses paid trip to Hawaii, a well-earned reward for building one of the most successful teams of independent consultants with d'essense, an LMS Fragrances Company.

For Johnson, the bonus was a long time coming. The Arlington, Texas-based mother of three has spent more than 20 years working in direct selling, and had found the enticements put forward by other companies riddled with gimmicks and hur-

dles. Not so with d'essense.

"It's a day and night difference working with d'essense compared with those other companies," Johnson says. "The compensation structure at d'essense is completely different - they blow the competition away."

d'essense is the trade-name for LMS Fragrances Inc., a company that has been working to create a new standard of conduct in direct selling. Founded in 2004 by husband-and-wife team Susan and Robert Suh, d'essense has

provided women and men in Texas and across the U.S. with an entrepreneurial opportunity that allows them to enhance their families' incomes at their own pace and schedules.

What distinguishes d'essense from other direct selling companies is the Suhs' commitment to building a company that is based on the highest ethical values and standards of conduct. Consultants who join them participate in one of the most generous and friendly compensation plans in the direct selling industry.

"That's tremendous," Johnson says. "That compensation plan really

entices a person to make this their full-time business. Many people in direct selling hold onto another job for health insurance, but you don't have to with d'essense."

d'essense perfumes contain 28 percent essential oils - among the highest concentration of fragrance in the perfume world. That means that users of d'essense perfumes can enjoy their fragrances for hours without needing to re-apply.

Since joining d'essense, Johnson has built a team of more than 200 consultants across seventeen states, including Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas,



Louisiana, Florida, Illinois, and Ohio to list a few, and even in Canada and the Virgin Islands. Together they generate an average of almost \$30,000

of sales a month.

The money that Johnson has earned is helping to put her kids through college. But Johnson's unique story of success -- especially in today's economy, where falling home prices, rising foreclosures and a bear market are all stoking fears of recession - is particularly special since she has been able to help the families of her sales team as well through her achievement.

"No one else in direct selling offers a package comparable to that of d'essense," Johnson says. "d'essense is setting a different standard."

## Gil Michel

Gil Michel is a small business accountant and financial expert in the area of personal finance and financial management. Mr. Michel is the founder and president of the Caleb Group, Inc., the parent company of BlackMoneyMatters.com. BMM was launched in September 2005 and is one of the fastest growing Black websites on the internet. Mr. Michel has a wide range of experience

from his tax work at Crowe Chizek & Co., the nation's 9th largest accounting firm in the United States, to his extensive work as manager of business operation at the University of Notre Dame's prestigious Kellogg Institute for International Studies, to helping working families maximize and make the most of their incomes. From multi-national corporations to non-profit

organizations, Gil has been depended upon to help manage others' finances.

Gil is currently featured on Sheridan Broadcasting Corporation's syndicated radio network, SGN The Light, called Faithful Finances, which serves a market of over 4 million people. (SGN The Light consists of 48 radio stations nationwide, including New York City.) Mr. Michel also produces a financial vignette called Black Money Minute™ which is carried on one of



the longest running syndicated programs,

Inspirations Across America, on over 100 radio stations across the country. He is frequently requested as a speaker on financial subjects, and especially to motivate youth toward financial literacy.

Mr. Michel started the non-profit organization, TACTT, Inc. (Teens Achieving Community Through Training) to address the widening literacy gap and to motivate youth toward intentionally affecting their financial destinies. He also

serves on a number of boards of organizations that he is passionate about such as Entermission, Inc., Haiti Arise, and Wellsprings World Outreach.

Gil Michel holds a BBA in Accounting from Hofstra University in New York, and an MBA in Human Resources and Management from Indiana Tech in Fort Wayne, IN. Although a New York native, he currently lives in South Bend, IN with his wife and daughter.

## Angela Hucles

Angela Hucles is a two-time Olympic gold medalist (2004 & 2008) and is a five-time U.S. national soccer team member (2002-present).

She began her training with the USA National Soccer Team in 2001 and earned her first nine caps of her international career in 2002. She started two games and scored her first international goal against Costa Rica at the CONCACAF Women's Gold Cup, helping USA qualify for the 2003 Women's World Cup. In 2003, Angela earned a regular spot on the National Team starting 6 of 15 games she played while

making the 2003 World Cup roster. In 2004 Angela earned a spot on the Olympic Team and played in two matches in Greece earning a gold medal. Angela played in 7 matches in 2005 including all 4 at the Algarve Cup, moving her over 50 career caps. In 2006, Angela played in 7 games, starting in 4 of them. Hucles played in 11 games in 2007 and was a member of the 2007 FIFA Women's World Cup Team. 2008 has been Angela's best year as she has played in 18 games heading into the Olympics scoring 3 goals.

Hucles was a member of



the Boston Renegades in 2005 and 2006, a franchise of the Massachusetts Premier Soccer (MPS). Previously, Hucles was a midfielder for the Boston Breakers of the now-defunct Women's United

Soccer Association (WUSA). She had her best Breakers season in 2003 when she started all 17 games in which she played while scoring one goal with four assists to help the Breakers to the playoffs for the first time. She was then named to the All-WUSA Second Team. Hucles scored the first goal in Breakers history during preseason, and she recorded her first multiple-score match with a goal and an assist versus the Atlanta Beat on April 20, 2002. In 2001, Hucles was selected in the 12th round and finished the season with two goals and four points and started in 19 of the 21 games of the season.

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## COMMENTARY

# Why Not Bail Out the Unemployed?

By Julianne Malveaux  
NNPA Columnist

The United States economy is shedding jobs the same way faster than a grooming dog sheds fleas. Payroll employment has been dropping for nine months in a row with 159,000 fewer jobs on the books in September than in the month before.

So far this year, payrolls are down 760,000, and 969,000 in the private sector. The unemployment rate has held steady at 6.1 percent for the past two months, but it is up 1.4 points during the past year. Nearly 10 million people are "officially" unemployed, which means they are officially looking for work. These numbers do not include those who have dropped out of the labor force, in other words people with jobs who have just stopped looking.

It also doesn't include people who are underemployed, or working at jobs that they are overqualified for. The Bureau of Labor Statistics develops several rates of "labor utilization", including one that includes people who work part time because they can't find full time work, and those "marginally attached".

With such a measure the unemployment rate would double to 11 percent. And, surprise, surprise, African American workers are doing much worse than other workers in the labor force. While the unemployment rate was 5.4 percent for whites, it was 11.4 percent for African Americans.

If the white unemployment rate were 11.4 percent, someone other than humble columnist would be asking about a bailout for the unemployed. But because we are simply looking at a black unem-

ployment rate, there has been little discussion about what to do about excessive unemployment. According to the Economic Policy Institute ([www.epi.org](http://www.epi.org)) all of the gains African Americans made in the 1990s were wiped out by job losses in the last several years. The report, written by Algernon Austin, suggests that African American workers have been among the hardest hit by our economic downturn. There's nothing for black folks, but plenty for banks.

We saw our Congress rush to action to provide a bailout for financial markets. It was said that it was an emergency, that we had no choice, that the \$850 (up from \$700) billion bailout was a matter of life and death for the nation's economy. Ask the person who has been unemployed for the last six months how they feel about life and death. Some of these folks have exhausted their unemployment insurance. Some have lost their homes and their families.

One in five unemployed people have been unemployed for at least six months, the highest share of long-term unemployment in three years. Yet these people have been virtually ignored by policymakers. Furthermore, the number of people who are involuntarily part time, or who would rather work full time, has skyrocketed.

The number grew by 300,000 in September, and by 1.6 million in the past year. Six million people who hold part time jobs want and need full time jobs, the largest number in fifteen years! Again, we keep hearing about markets, but the focus is on every market except the labor market.

Just about every sector of



Early morning commuters arrive by ferry to Wall St. and New York's financial district Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2008. Wall Street looked to recover Tuesday from a huge sell-off the previous session after the Federal Reserve unveiled plans to buy massive amounts of short-term debt to reanimate the credit markets. (AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

the economy is experiencing job losses, from factory jobs, to service jobs, to jobs in the financial services industry. Only in health care and government services to jobs continue to grow. There is barely a safe haven for those who are losing their jobs. The economic policy institute cites one piece of legislation as providing possibilities for those at the bottom.

The Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program that extends jobless benefits an extra 13 weeks. That provision has run out and can be renewed by Congress. That's the least a group of bailout-focused lawmakers can do for ordinary people who also need a hand. Realistically, though, lawmakers aren't likely to do much more. They are rushing home to get involved in a close election, and leaving the

employment mess until after November or, more likely, after January.

Yet if trends continue as they have, we will have lost at least a million jobs this year, and we will have experienced an indifferent congress that can be whipped into fearful bailout submission by Treasury Secretary Paulson. Who speaks for workers? And will working people get a bailout?

When your Congressional representative comes home to campaign, ask what they will do for workers. It's a fair question to raise as our economy continues to spiral out of control. Dr. Julianne Malveaux is President of Bennett College for Women.

She is also on the Board of Directors of the Economic Policy Institute. She can be reached at [pre-soffice@bennett.edu](mailto:pre-soffice@bennett.edu).

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### Is the sky clearest on the day it is most blue?

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, Texas, 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 growth is the airport expansion in McKinney, which is the largest and most visible of many area opportunities. As always, and true to tradition, MON-The Gazette will be there carving a world of opportunity for those seeking to provide quality services. Should you dare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the southern 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

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

The North Dallas Gazette has recently conducted research on Wells Fargo Bank and their lending practices within the minority community. If you would like to offer any special comment regarding your interactions with Wells Fargo Bank – pro or con – please contact our Publisher, Mr. Thurman Jones at [publisher@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:publisher@northdallasgazette.com). Please include "Wells Fargo" in the subject line of your email. You may also send any comments to P.O. Box 940226, Plano, Texas 75094-0226.

# U. S. Military Plans for Africa Losing Steam

NNPA

The highly-touted U.S. Africa Command known as "AFRICOM" becomes operational this week but appears to have lost significant support and funds.

When the command was unveiled in 2007, President Bush said it would help channel US aid in Africa.

But its detractors are growing, both in Africa and the United States.

"US Africa Command is nothing more than a device to ensure that the US oil industry will have unfettered access to Africa's vast supplies of oil," said Mark Fancher of the US-based National Conference of Black Lawyers.

"If anyone in Africa interferes with US oil operations, we suspect that they will be given the terrorist label and then targeted for military attacks," he said.

Several African governments, including Algeria and Nigeria, have refused to host the headquarters of the command.

This month, more than a third of the \$389 million the Pentagon requested for the new command were cut, in part because the project has failed to establish a presence in the continent. Only Djibouti hosts a permanent U.S. base although Liberia has agreed to house a base there.

## Breast Cancer: Increase Your Knowledge and Reduce Your Risk

From staff reports

NNPA - Do you know someone affected by breast cancer? Maybe an aunt, sister, mother, or friend?

If so, you are not alone. One in eight women born today will learn they have breast cancer in their lifetime, according to the National Cancer Institute (NCI). This can seem frightening as most people still equate any cancer diagnosis with a death sen-

tence.

However, thanks to decades of research, as of 2004, there were over 10.8 million cancer survivors across the United States, nearly a quarter of whom are breast cancer survivors. Despite progress, not all women are benefiting equally from breast cancer research advances. Sadly, over 40,000 people will lose their battle with breast cancer this year. More unsettling, a disproportion-

ate part of this number will be African-American women, who are more likely to die from breast cancer than any other racial group.

It doesn't have to stay that way. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Use it as motivation to learn more about breast cancer risk factors, screenings, and treatment. The more you know about how to reduce your risk and make informed decisions, the better prepared you can

be to confront the disease and survive it.

One of the best places to turn for answers is the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the nation's cancer research agency. While there is a lot of misinformation out there on breast cancer, you can always be sure that the information from NCI is comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date.

On [www.Cancer.gov](http://www.Cancer.gov), just click on "Breast

Cancer" under the "Types of Cancers" section or type "Breast" in the search box. From there, you'll arrive at a Web page with the information you need. From breast cancer prevention and screening to treatment and clinical trials, everything is right at your fingertips. You can access a variety of helpful publications, such as the popular "What You Need to Know about Breast Cancer" booklet. Not sure how to find what

you want? To chat online with a Cancer Information Service (CIS) specialist, who can help you find the books, tools and resources, just click on "Live Help online chat" on [www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov).

The National Cancer Institute is the nation's cancer research agency. For more information about cancer research and resources, visit [www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov) or call toll-free 1-800-4CANCER.



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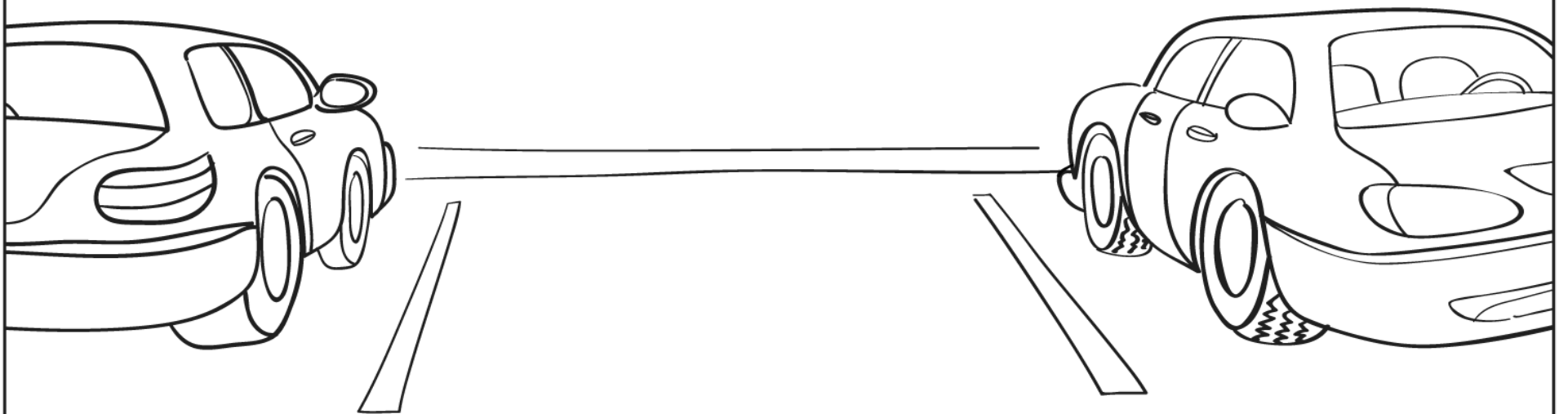
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# Eastfield College to Enroll High School Drop-outs

From staff reports

Community is key. That's the Wal-Mart way, and that's the goal of a new \$300,000 grant from the corporate giant's foundation awarded to Eastfield College, which will use the start-up funds to launch a program for Mesquite and Garland Independent School District high school dropouts.

Through this new partnership, Eastfield will become the only college in north Texas and only one of three in the state participating in the Gateway to College National Network. The network - a group of education entrepreneurs who are working together to reconnect dropouts to education and future success - currently comprises 18 colleges, representing 12 states and 62 school districts. The group expects the network to include 23 colleges by 2009.

Gateway to College, which is modeled on a solution created by Portland Community College in Oregon, is designed for young adults, ages 16 to 20, who have dropped out of high school or who are at a very high risk of dropping out. The program enables them to complete their high school diploma requirements as they simultaneously earn college credit toward an associate's degree or certificate.

That's where Eastfield comes in. Through its established dual credit programs and partnerships with area school districts, the college can help those high school dropouts build an educational foundation for their future.

"The Gateway to College grant provides Eastfield College with a wonderful opportunity to enhance our collaboration with Garland and Mesquite ISDs by creating pathways that provide students with ways to create a brighter, more successful future. We

are honored to be chosen as one of three community colleges in the nation to receive the grant in order to implement the Gateway to College program this year," said Dr. Carol Brown, president of Eastfield College. "The grant enables us to support the educational needs of students from this area."

"The entire staff at Eastfield showed great enthusiasm for Gateway to College. College and school district leaders showed a serious commitment to serve young people who were not successful in high school.

We saw evidence of a strong culture of collaboration, and we look forward to working with everyone in the community," said Laurel Dukehart, executive director of the Gateway to College National Network.

Along with funding from partner school districts, the grant will provide support staff and services for a total of 300 students from Mesquite and Garland ISDs who left high school without a diploma.

"Students must meet specific criteria for entrance into the program, and they will be enrolled in dual credit courses in their school district and with Eastfield College until they complete their high school diploma or reach age 21," said Jenny Matthews, who is coordinating the grant for Eastfield.

During their first term, the students take classes exclusively with other Gateway to College participants, including a "college survival and success" course that focuses mainly on study habits, time management, test-taking strategies and other techniques for succeeding in college. After the first semester, the students then are mainstreamed into courses with other Eastfield students.

Nationally, Gateway to College graduates earn an average of 46 semester credit hours as well as their high school diploma - which means that students who participate, on average, are more than two-thirds on their way to a college degree when they

complete the program.

The Gateway to College National Network is part of the Early College High School Initiative, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, in partnership with Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Ford Foundation and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

For more information about Eastfield's Gateway to College grant, call Jenny Matthews, EFC office of the president, at (972) 860-7207 or visit [www.gatewaytocollege.org](http://www.gatewaytocollege.org).

# Miller Urban Entrepreneur

Entering its ninth consecutive year, the Miller Urban Entrepreneurs Series (MUES) continues to expand and evolve. Providing opportunities to win one of four \$25,000 business grants or the grand prize \$50,000 grant, aspiring entrepreneurs—tomorrow's business moguls—can take their businesses to the next level. To date, Miller has awarded nearly one million dollars in grant money to viable businesses.

The two-part MUES program, consists of a

Business Plan Competition and Seminar Series, which this year has morphed into a Webinar series, as Miller continues to change with the times, reaching the next generation of urban entrepreneurs through viral communication methods.

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Early voting for the November 4th election begins on Monday, October 20th. Registered voters can vote at any early voting location in the county where you live AND/OR are registered to vote in during the early voting period 10/20 - 10/31. They are expecting a record turnout so this is a way to beat the crowds on November 4th.

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**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](mailto:fred@tes.com) for more information.

**Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce General Meeting** is 2nd Thursday monthly, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm. 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, 11:00am-1:00pm. 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](http://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 a [www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com](http://www.TheNoLimitNetwork.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.share-southwest.org](http://www.share-southwest.org).

**Watermarks Invitational Exhibit** runs through April 12th 9 am - 8 pm Mondays through Thursdays, 9 am - 5 pm Fridays, and 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Saturdays. FREE Collin College 800 E. Spring Creek Parkway. For more info call 972-881-5873, or visit [www.ccccd.edu](http://www.ccccd.edu).

**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](http://www.nbwen.org) or [info@nbwen.org](mailto: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).

**September 30 - October 19**

**Oprah Winfrey Presents The Color Purple** at Fair Park featuring stars of the Broadway production, Jeannette Bayardelle, Felicia P. Fields and Angela Robinson, along with American Idol alum Latoya London. Tickets are \$25-\$77 at the Box Office or any Ticketmaster. Call 214-631-ARTS.s

**October 10**

**COOL JAZZ @ THE PARK®** with Dallas jazz guitarist, Montrose, fea-

turing vocalist Rhonda Nicole at 6 pm on October 10, 2008 in the Christian Life Center of the Hamilton Park United Methodist Church (11881 Schroeder Road, Dallas, Texas).

**Fit for Life Expo 2008**

Open to the community and will give you tips, ideas, and education to help you in the health crisis in America. Come out and visit with the vendors, Red Cross, Kidney Foundation, McKinney Spine Office and many, many, more vendors. Admission Charge: Children-\$3.00, Seniors-\$4.00, Adults-\$6.00. Contact for more information: Gifted Errand Runners, P.O.BOX 278, COPPELL, TEXAS-(817) 571-5362 OFFICE (817) 721-8258 CELL or visit [www.giftederrands.com](http://www.giftederrands.com).

**October 11**

**Girls Empowerment Luncheon** Saturday, October 11, 2008 11am - 2:00pm

Believe IT is Possible Single Ticket: \$20 girls/parents/individuals of all ages, colors and creeds are invited to attend Doubletree Hotel Dallas Near the Galleria 4099 Valley View Lane - Dallas, TX 75244 (635 & Midway Rd) . For more information please call Leslie@ 214-457-3026

**Plano Community Forum 27th Annual Awards Banquet.** Our theme is "Education: The Key to Success" This event will highlight the achievements of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Awards recipients, and recognize the special contributions of individuals in the community for their personal service to achieving the goals of the Forum. This Banquet will be held on Saturday October 11, 2008, 6:30 pm, at Southfork Hotel, 1600 north Central Expressway, Plano. For additional information call 972-260-4208.

**The City of Garland will**

**host a preparedness information booth** at Firewheel Town Center on Saturday, October 11 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The booth will be located in the Park Plaza area of the Firewheel Town Center. Citizens who visit the booth may register to win a free Weather-Alert Radio donated by Radio Shack. Visit [www.garland-oem.com](http://www.garland-oem.com) or call (972) 205-2605 to request information.

**October 15-18**

**The Marriage Boot Camp** Wednesday - Friday 6pm to 11pm and Saturday, 10am-11pm. An interactive workshop that uses experiential games, drills and competitions to improve relationships. Admission Charge: \$400 per person for basic training; \$600 per person for advanced training. Call 214-641-3866 or visit [www.marriagebootcamp.com](http://www.marriagebootcamp.com)

**October 18**

**Douglass Community Center Fall Talent Showcase** invites local rappers, singers, poets and dancers to showcase their talents 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 18, Douglass Community Center, Outdoor Basketball Pavilion 1111 Avenue H, Plano, for more information, call: (972) 941-7174.

**Cancer Awareness Seminar** 10 a.m. - Noon at Douglass Community Center 1111 H Avenue, Plano, TX 75074 Cancer survivors will conduct a free workshop to discuss information about survivors' battles and their victories with Breast Cancer. A Fashion Show featuring cancer survivors will follow the workshop. Call 972-941-7174

**The Urban League of Greater Dallas "Project-4-Victory"** & Dallas Leadership Foundation Celebrates ex-offenders and their families 12:00pm to 6:00pm Celebration in the Park will be held at Exall Park at the corner of Live Oak

and Adair There will be live entertainment and free food. For additional information, contact Tikeya Calhoun at 214-372-1063.

**October 18-19**

**The Trinity River Audubon Center** will hold its grand opening, Natural Connections, on Saturday, October 18, 2008. The community is invited to join in the activities all weekend for free. Events are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. each day. Trinity River Audubon Center; 6500 S. Loop 12, Dallas, TX 75217. Admission is free opening weekend, admission beginning October 21 TRAC members: free, \$6 adults (ages 13-59), \$3 children (ages 3-12), \$4 seniors (ages 60+). Free on the third Thursday of each month and closed on Mondays. Information: 214-370-9967

**October 19**

**Lyn Ford shares "Home-Fried Tales"** at 2:30 p.m., Allen Public Library, 300 N. Allen Dr. This free program of stories spiced with humor, hope and wisdom for all ages is sponsored by the Friends of the Allen Public Library Bach to Books Cultural Arts Series and the Allen Public Library. No reservations are required. For information, call 214-509-4911.

**October 23-25**

**Girls Night: The Musical** a tell-It-like-It-Is look at five friends as they re-live their past at the Eisemann Center. Visit <http://www.eisemanncenter.com/tickets/>

**October 24**

**Dallas Black Chamber Of Commerce 82nd Anniversary Awards Banquet** Friday, October 24, 2008 Reception-6:00 P.M. / Dinner Program-7:00 P.M. Dallas Convention Center - Ballroom A. Tickets \$60, (214) 421-5200 or log onto the DBCC Website at [www.dbcc.org](http://www.dbcc.org).

**October 25**

**Frisco Arts Gala** Supporting all the fine arts In Frisco Funding grants and scholarships at the Westin Stonebriar Resort. Visit <http://www.eisemanncenter.com/tickets/>

**Garland Neighborhood Summit** Saturday, October 25, 2008 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Atrium at the Granville Arts Center 300 N. Fifth Street. The cost is ONLY \$15 for Garland stakeholders and \$20 for those outside of Garland (this includes the continental breakfast and lunch). Registration ends October 20. For more information, call 972-205-3864 or e-mail [fconner@ci.garland.tx.us](mailto:fconner@ci.garland.tx.us). You may also register online at [play.garlandparks.com](http://play.garlandparks.com).

**October 27**

**Charity Golf Tourney** at the Cowboy's Golf Club In Grapevine, Texas. The money raised will provide scholarships for Latino Students In the DFW area. Registration deadline is September 19, 2008. Call 202-296-5400.

**November 1**

**The Boys and Girls Club of Collin County Chrysalis Ball** featuring Fan the Flame with LeAnn Rimes at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Frisco, TX. <http://fanthe-flamegala.com/sponsorshiplevels.html>

**Entrepreneur & Small Bus. Expo** 9AM - 3PM, Eirene Christian Fellowship, 701 E. Centennial Blvd. Richardson, TX 75081 972.991.0200 [www.followerpeace.org](http://www.followerpeace.org)

**Texas Discovery Gardens at Fair Park**, 3601 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Dallas, TX 75210. Garden Walk starts at 10 a.m. and Plant Sale is from 11 am to 2 pm. Adults \$3, seniors (60+) \$2, children (ages 3-11) \$1.50. Call 214-428-7476 or [www.texas-discoverygardens.org](http://www.texas-discoverygardens.org) November 7-9

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# "America's Best Kept Secret"

By Tessa Howington  
Special to North Dallas  
Gazette

"You can get so much more done when you operate from a position of respect." That's how Lyle Burmeister, the North Texas Job Corp Center Director, describes why respect is such a large focus of Normative Culture at the North Texas Job Corp Center (NTJCC) in McKinney.

Normative Culture is a behavioral medium taught and implemented at the NTJCC since January. Overall, this behavior system uses "positive peer pressure" from other students and staff to help teach students how they are expected to act, what is and is not acceptable on campus, or in the work force. Since its inception, Mr. Burmeister says that "the tone of campus has changed in a year."

Peter Calvo, the VP of Operations for Horizons Youth Services, the organization that oversees the operation of the NTJCC for the Department of Labor, says that the program has "been pretty interesting to watch." He also says that the program not only educates students, but "empowers" the students.

The Normative Culture program is actually a pilot program for the NTJCC. If it succeeds it will be implemented or modified so it can be used in all Job Corp Centers in the U.S. The program itself is an adapted version of the system that has actually been perfected in Glen Mills School in PA, a type of court appointed reform school, where the program is very successful.

The Normative Culture system itself is based on a belief that there are certain "norms" that are constant and benefit everyone. The 4 "norms" that are used at the NTJCC are respect, responsibility, safety, and achieve-

ment of goals. As Calvo says, these "4 goals are good because they are the best basis for any missions statement" whether that's a personal mission statement or one for a business.

The idea behind the program is that if students behave in a way that respects their selves and others, takes responsibility for their actions, and behave in a safe manner, or make their learning and work environment safe, that they will easier define and achieve their goals. Additionally, following these norms will make the campus a better place and be more beneficial to everyone involved with the campus.

Along with the four norms, the Normative Culture program also focuses on eight behavior expectations, which they call "Career Success Standards." These eight expectations are also skills that students should learn to better succeed in life or in the work place. These standards are: Workplace Relationships and Ethics, Personal Growth and Development, Communication, Interpersonal Skills, Multicultural Awareness, Information Management, Career and Personal Planning, Independent Living, Continuous Learning, and Problem Solving and Critical Thinking.

For a student to meet these expectations, they must be willing to accept and practice the original four norms of respect, responsibility, safety, and goals. Adhering to these goals means that students will have to change their lives, not just their everyday behavior. Mr. Calvo says that with the implementation of this program, it's "no longer staff vs. students. They all have a common goal of safety and conduct."

The program works by

teaching and adapting to a behavior where people confront everything and associate themselves with their surroundings. The confrontations are pointed out in a positive way and including the person who should be corrected. For example, instead of rules, where you would discipline a student by saying "do this" or "do that" in an authoritative dictating tone, both students and staff now confront issues by saying things like, "Around here, we like to do this, instead of that" in a positive tone. These small confrontations allow students to build self esteem, and teach students how to not be defensive when confronted with any type of issue.

For some, the communications skills learned alone are invaluable as some students have never had actual conversations with an adult before. Students learn how to positively and respectfully deal with their peers and how to communicate with other people, and eventually effectively communicate with their future employers.

The Normative Culture is also taught using peer to peer groups, teams of staff and students, and daily individual or small group sessions. Students are not graded, but are aware of their progress as they are grouped, again, by their peers and other staff members, as either "positive, neutral, or negative." Depending on which grouping a student's attitude falls in will depend on how much other peers and staff work with that person to bring their attitude up to a positive level. Ideally, every student will achieve this positive level of behavior thus creating an excellent work and learning environment.

So does the Normative Culture work?

According to Burmeister, change could be seen on campus in the first week it



was implemented. The goal of the first group of staff was to have a more quite and calm dining hall. Within a week of about 40 staff members using the Normative Culture program with their students a "noticeable" change was made.

Now, since most of the campus has adopted the program, changes can be seen in students' attitudes with one another and with staff, in the dorms, and in the campus facilities. Now, instead of walking through campus and being met with "cold, hard, stares" you are greeted with smiles and verbal "Hi"s and "Hello"s.

The NTJCC also has a "Longhorn Club" made up of all positive students and student leaders. Currently, there are about 600 students at the NTJCC and about 100 of them are in the Longhorn Club. The students who are not part of this club are being influenced by positive peer pressure and are working hard to become members. As Mr. Burmeister says, "They want to be the best."

Since the inception of the

program, there have also been some statistical improvements at the NTJCC. Completion rates are up, drop out rates are down; job placement and vocation training has also seen a rise. Overall, the center has gone from a rank of 107 to the lower 90's, almost 80s in just over eight months.

Coval says that he has even seen improvements in staff moral and that the "overall outcomes are significant." At the time Horizons Youth Services took over operation of the Job Corp Center, two years ago, it was consistently designated by the Department of Labor as "a historically poor performance center." Now, the Department of Labor is looking at the NTJCC's progress and noting its methods to hopefully implement some of the success into other centers.

Ideally, Calvo would like to see the NTJCC be ranked in the top 50, while Burmeister thinks that they could easily reach the top 30 in the nation.

The goal of the Job Corp program has always been to

produce productive citizens and well educated members of the workforce. Calvo says their mission is to produce "skilled students and turn them into good employees and make an economic impact."

Unfortunately, in the past, there have been some negatives in the NTJCC's program and has not been well received by the community. Hopefully, with the implementation of the Normative Culture and the successes they are having that will soon change.

Horizon's Youth Services, as well as the Center's Director, are both working very hard to change the community outlook and trying to get the word out about the improved performance and programs at the center. Calvo describes the Job Corp program as "America's Best Kept Secret."

However, if the improvements continue, the North Texas Job Corp Center will be one of the best Job Corp Centers in the nation. And that will be something to talk about.





by  
**Rick Elina**

First, here's a thought for the day. It's one that's hotly debated anytime a multi-generational discussion ensues regarding art. Two opposing camps quickly emerge, vigorously taking disparate sides regardless of the art form in question; music, painting even theatre. At the heart of the debate, the central question becomes, which school of thought best serves the basic human need to self-express? Is it the classic school of thought or the modern school of thought? Or simply put in the language of today, old school or new school? The classic treas-

ures have been around and have withstood the test of time. But there are many new gems out there waiting to be discovered. In the next few months, Dallas will play host to a variety of offerings; everything from the ancient treasures of King Tut to several exhibits featuring new age modern art. The same diversity can also be found in the upcoming productions of two local theatres. So whether you prefer the security of old school Shakespeare or feeling adventurous and wanting to discover something new, the month of October should provide plenty of choices.

Shakespeare in The Park presents The Merchant of Venice throughout the Month of October. According to Shakespeare, "Dallas, Greed and prejudice tell the story of The Merchant of Venice, Shakespeare's suspenseful,

dark comedy. In Venice, Bassanio asks the merchant Antonio for a loan which Antonio must borrow from the moneylender Shylock. While Bassanio is facing certain death, he must rely on his friends to save him from Shylock's revengeful demand of "a pound of flesh." Visit [ShakespeareDallas.com](http://ShakespeareDallas.com) for more details.

Among the new works being offered, is Losing Daniel by local playwright Lon Rogers. Matthew Shelton, a famous American playwright, loses his 17-year-old son Daniel to death in a tragic automobile accident. In an attempt to assuage his grief and give his dead son a touch of immortality, he writes a play about him but finds the story too painful to submit for production. For twenty years the manuscript remains buried in a trunk in the basement of Matthew's

home. Then, after stumbling upon it by accident, he decides at last to push the play for production, but only if he can choose the actor who plays the young Daniel.

Set in Colorado, in the mountain home of Matthew and Nora Shelton, the play opens with Tommy newly arrived from New York to win Matthew's approval in the role of Daniel. Tommy bears an uncanny resemblance to the deceased Daniel, which rekindles Matthew's mourning for his lost son. As the story

unfolds, the margins between reality and fantasy become blurred for Matthew, until in his mind Tommy becomes Daniel—with disastrous consequences.

Losing Daniel is the story of a playwright who has devoted his life to the smoke and mirrors of the stage, only to become entangled in his own blurred inner narrative. As such, Matthew's story reminds us that we, all of us, in our attempts to grasp the imponderables of love and loss, find truth elu-

sive. Perception becomes Truth, our truth, for it is the only reality we know.

Losing Daniel is presented by Teatro delle Muse and opens October 17th at the Art Centre Theatre, in Plano, Texas. Visit [TeatrodelleMuse.us](http://TeatrodelleMuse.us) for more details.

Time-tested literature of William Shakespeare provides us all with a degree of security, insight and entertainment. But I believe there is a gem waiting to be discovered in this upcoming new work, by Lon Rogers.

## North Dallas Gazette & Teatro delle Muse

auditioning for a play to premiere in December.

DONKEY IN HORSE HEAVEN By Rick A. Elina Presented by Teatro delle Muse Directed by Sarah VC Henderson Callbacks, if needed, will be on Sunday, October 5th Auditions and all rehearsals will be held at ArtCentre Theatre, where Teatro delle Muse is the resident company, 1028 East 15th Place

About the Show: Poor little Horace has found himself in Horse Heaven. And he doesn't belong there. This is a fact that Horace is reminded of all too often. For one thing, Horace is a donkey and donkeys simply don't go to Horse Heaven. To add to his troubles, Horace finds himself among the most famous horses in history. As one character explains, "...war horses and race horses, a veritable who's who of horses." This is a morality play about acceptance and how even the simplest of gestures from the unlikely of sources can affect the world.

Cast Requirements: All roles are open. No appointment necessary. There are not costs to audition or fees to be in the shows. All roles may be played by any age and/or gender. Ages 10 to adult may audition. A stipend will be paid to all actors regardless of age. Preparation: Please bring a resume/headshot with you and attach a list of ALL conflicts through December 21st. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Script is available for perusal at STAGE. Please come prepared with a 1 minute contemporary monologue. Rehearsals: Script pickup and info meeting will be on October 14th from 5-7pm. Rehearsals will begin on or about November 3rd through November 25th. All actors will be off for Thanksgiving Break from November 26th - December 6th. Technical Rehearsals will begin December 7th through 11th. All actors must be able to attend these rehearsals. No exceptions. Weekday and weekend rehearsals. Rehearsals will not be every evening during the above dates and every actor will not be called to all rehearsals. They will work with conflicts if we know about them in advance. All weekday rehearsals should be around 9pm. Performance dates are December 13th through December 21st.

[http://teatrodellemuse.us/  
auditions@TeatrodelleMuse.us](http://teatrodellemuse.us/auditions@TeatrodelleMuse.us)

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## CAR REVIEW

## Volkswagen Tiguan battles other small SUVs

By Stu Livingston  
Special to North  
Dallas Gazette

The 2008 Volkswagen Tiguan (pronounced "tee-gwan") little brother to the Touareg is aiming to lock horns with popular compact sport-utilities like the Acura RDX and Honda CR-V. This "Micro SUV" is packed with driver friendly features and is about as technologically advanced as anything VW has ever come up with. With a new entertainment system that features options from regular AM/FM radio to satellite and there's even an auxiliary port where you can plug in your favorite MP3 player. There's navigation system that comes with a 6.5-inch color touchscreen and a 30-gigabyte hard disk drive. You will also be assisted in parrell parking with the the rear backup camera. The 08

VW Tiguan, starting around \$24,000, provides buyers with an affordable alternative to more prestigious entries such as the BMW X3. With seating for five the Tiguan has spacious interior. The overall look of the Tiguan is muscular at 174.3 inches in length, 71.2 inches in width and 66.3 inches in height. The Tiguan has an award winning 2.0 TSFI four-cylinder engine that can get as much as 207 pounds per foot of torque, eclipsing every other four-cylinder SUV in its class and it even has 2200 pounds of towing capacity. The Tiguan also leads its class in fuel efficiency, getting more than 20 miles per gallon on the highway. With that said, the '08 Volkswagen Tiguan is also an extremely safe car to drive, safety features included are six airbags and electronic stability control.

## TXU, continued from page 1

In the Metroplex, there are more than 600,000 people with disabilities—enough men, women and children to fill Texas Stadium nine times. Approximately half of those individuals are at employment age but face an unemployment rate six to seven times higher because of discrimination in the hiring process.

To raise awareness of this issue and in recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness month, teams of employers, families or individuals can run, walk or roll in support of a friend or coworker with a disability or a Citizens Development Center client. The event will include a one-mile fun run and a timed 5K race for competitive runners.

"We are honored to partner with sponsors like TXU Energy and collec-

tively make positive strides in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex together," said Thomas. "We hope to see a record number of participants race in support of this cause."

In addition, TXU Energy will donate 25 trees, through its Committed to Community Growth program, to the city with the most runners who participate in the TXU Energy Dash for Dignity in ratio to the community's total population.

Registration and packet pickup begin at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 11 at Winfrey Point at White Rock Lake in Dallas.

To register prior to the event, visit <http://getmeregistered.com/DashForDignity>. Early registration is \$20. After October 7, registration is \$25. For more information call 214-906-3356.

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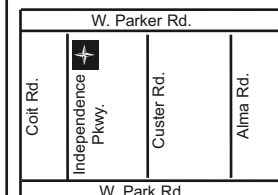
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# OBAMA, continued from page 1

4. A National CNN poll at the conclusion of the debate – which focused largely on the economy – had 54 per cent of voters saying Obama won the debate, versus McCain at 30 per cent. Likewise, a CBS poll favored Obama at 39 percent to 27 percent among uncommitted voters with 35 percent claiming the debate as a draw.

Moreover, Gallup, among the most credible polling agencies in the world, reports Obama actually leading McCain by more than 10 percentage points in a national poll asking voters who they favor.

“Barack Obama has opened up a nine-point lead over John McCain, 51% to 42%, in the latest Gallup Poll Daily tracking,” states an explanation on Gallup.com. “That matches Obama’s largest lead of the campaign to date.”

University of Maryland Political Scientist Dr. Ron Walters called the polls astounding, but says Blacks should shave off at least five points to account for the racial factor that can go undetected until after people vote.

“I’m saying to myself, ‘Wait a minute, this is okay, but I don’t think it’s that high,’” Walters says. “You have to respect the polling. But, you have to discount it a little.”

For example, Walters says although Gallup reports a more than 10 percent Obama lead, that should be thought of as more like five percent to account for racial and other prejudices that may factor in the voting booth.

The so-called “Bradley effect”, recalls the 1982 gubernatorial race between an African-American Democrat, Tom Bradley, and a White Republican, George Deukmejian.

Though major polls placed Bradley well ahead of Deukmejian only days and hours before the election, Bradley narrowly lost. This discrepancy between how Whites say they will vote and how they actually vote was also observed in the 1989 Virginia governor’s campaign between African-American candidate L. Douglas Wilder and White candidate Marshal Coleman. Wilder won, but by less than a percentage point – only a few days after polls gave him as much as an eight point lead.

Walters says because the Bradley race was more than 25 years ago and the Wilder race nearly 20 years ago, racial attitudes have changed. Newer and younger voters must now be factored in and it’s no longer unique for an African-American to be running for public office.

Still, the Obama camp

appears to not take polls for granted, working vigorously in so-called battleground – or unpredictable – states to now excite registered voters to go to the polls

Nov. 4. The outreach appears to be working. In states considered especially hard for Democrats, such as Virginia, Obama is ahead 49.9 to 45.1. n

Florida, he is up 48.3 to 45.3 and in Pennsylvania, he is up a whopping 51.2 to 39.2, according to RealClearpolitics.com.

# BLACKONOMICS, continued from page 1

much so that they must have thought their gravy train had no caboose. Now they realize that the light at the end of the tunnel was that of an oncoming train.

I have long been amazed at the arrogance of the powerful, and the greed they display in their endless quest for filthy lucre. Anything goes. No holds barred. No rules. No ethics. Many of those who benefitted tremendously from their financial shenanigans, making billions of dollars along the way, are now wringing their hands and whining about how we have to fix the problem that they created.

Yes we do need to fix the problem, but all indicators point, once again, to the fact that the needy will suffer because of the misdeeds of the greedy.

How long do you think this country will be able to get away with the way it

treats and mistreats those most in need? How long will we last under corrupt, money-grubbing, profit-at-any-cost shysters and politicians who couldn’t care less about our children’s future? How long will America survive, perched high upon its throne of world leadership, if it continues to arrogantly thumb its nose at “the least of these”?

Over the past decade, we have seen some of the worst behavior by some of the worst characters, perpetrated upon those who can least afford another financial blow in their lives.

Greedy corporate executives who rape and pillage their companies, get away with their dastardly acts with a bundle of cash in their bank accounts, while the needy watch their 401-K’s deflate. Greedy political insiders cut deals and

structure contracts that fatten their pockets while the needy try to figure out to pay the rent and stay warm this winter.

If these are not signs of societal decadence in its highest form, I don’t know what is. Right now, no one, virtually no one, is running this country. George Bush is an afterthought to most folks in Washington and around the world now; Cheney is living out his “bunker mentality,” and only God knows where he is; Cabinet members are shopping their resumes to find that next job; and Congress is too busy with one-upsmanship, as they jockey for position in the next administration. In other words, brothers and sisters, we are definitely on our own.

The greedy are certainly sticking it to the needy, and most of us feel like there is

See BLACKONOMICS Page 16

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## ACLU, continued from page 1

to decide who can and cannot lease apartments. The new ordinance includes a vague section apparently allowing evictions for those accused, but not convicted, of crimes at properties deemed to be in "poor condition." Property owners who lease to tenants with previous arrests or convictions of certain crimes could face misdemeanor penalties.

"The ACLU of Texas is extremely disappointed Irving City Council passed these new regulations, and we question the constitutionality of subjecting low-income people to a differ-

ent set of standards for attaining housing than for those who can afford better maintained housing," Burke said. "The new ordinance is an intrusive, unnecessary invasion of privacy for both landlords and tenants, and places an

undue burden on landlords to act as unpaid police officers."

The ordinance will also undermine public safety by driving renters underground and will complicate re-entry into their families and communities for citizens who have paid their debt to society.

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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: Dallas

Contract 6169-45-001 for GENERAL ROUTINE MAINTENANCE in DALLAS County will be opened on November 05, 2008 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$24,029,670.63.

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](http://www.txdot.gov) and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.  
NPO: 27786

##### State Office

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

##### Dist/Div Office(s)

Dallas District  
District Engineer  
4777 E. Hwy 80  
Mesquite, Texas 75150-6643  
Phone: 214-320-6100

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.



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**Hobby Lobby is a leader  
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[www.hobbylobby.com](http://www.hobbylobby.com)

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[www.garlandpurchasing.com](http://www.garlandpurchasing.com)

## Church Happenings

### AVENUE F CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 19, 6 pm

Come for an evening meal and fellowship as we worship with Plano East congregation, 3939 Merriman Drive, Plano, TX 75074.

**Avenue F Church  
Of Christ**  
Brother Ramon Hodridge,  
Minister  
1026 F Avenue  
Plano, TX 75074  
972-423-8833

### DFW INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

October 25, 12pm – 10pm

Join us for Addison's World fest, as TURANT (Turkish American Association of North Texas) presents TurkFest. Call Tulin Pirkul for activities, ticket prices, directions and details @ 972-562-8405.

### EIRENE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

October 23, 2008

Join us for one of two services for morning worship. One @ 8 am and the other @ 10:30 am.

Eirene Christian Fellowship  
Rev. Terrence Autry, Pastor  
701 E. Centennial Blvd.  
Richardson, TX 75081  
972-991-0200

### FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

Wednesdays in  
September & October

Come and get your praise on for our Wednesday Night

Live (WNL) @ our main campus, 200 Belmont Drive in Allen. Call the church for details.

**Fellowship BC of Allen**  
Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr.  
M. Div., Senior Pastor  
1550 Edelweiss is our  
(Service Location)  
200 Belmont Drive  
(Church Address)  
Allen, TX 75013  
972-359-9956

### FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS INTER- NATIONAL CHURCH ASSOCIATION

October 11, 5pm

Join us for our 5th National Holy Convocation 2008 theme: Living a Kingdom Life, Empowered, Equipped and Positioned with Bishop D.C. Thompson of Miracle Temple Church of Deliverance in Dallas @ 3121 Nandina Dr., Dallas, TX 75241. Call Sis. Sheaniqua Batty @ 214-780-7856 for details.

**Bishop G.D. Crawford**  
Presiding Prelate  
214-780-7856

### GOSPEL SEARCH OF AMERICA 2008, TRAKO ENTERTAINMENT

October 10-11, 2008

Be the winner of the 2008 Gospel Search of America; hosted by Gerald Henry, creator of BET's Lift Every Voice, at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Downtown Dallas. The winner will receive cash, a 12-City Tour of The House of Blues Gospel Brunch,

Gospelcity.com Promotions, UrbanRoundup.com Promotions, Marketing by TRAKO and more. Catering to Gospel Music's Independent Community; bring family and friends to a VIP luncheon and gospel brunch; get VIP tickets to see the finalists, seminars and concerts. For ticket prices and information call 214-295-5531.

**Gospel Search of  
America 2008**  
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### GREENVILLE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 17-19, 2008

Register for our Singles Retreat 2008, we will play, relax, explore and fellowship. Speakers include Brother J.K. Hamilton from Church of Christ at Mountain View and Sister Angela Clay from Greenville Avenue C of C. Theme is "Things We Lost in the Fire."

**Greenville Avenue  
Church of Christ**  
Brother S.T.W. Gibbs III,  
Senior Minister

1013 S. Greenville Avenue  
Richardson, TX 75081  
972-644-2335

### HAMILTON PARK UMC

October, 2008

Wednesdays, 7 pm - 9 pm

It is not too late for those interested in learning Black history, be blessed with a FREE 28-Week African African-American History Class with instructor John Ross. Mr. Ross is an anointed instructor and is well-versed in African History. He will give an in-dept view of our glorious past and present.

For information contact: John Ross @ 972-230-9096 or you may register at the church.

**Hamilton Park UMC**  
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11881 Schroeder Road  
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972-235-4633

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214-341-6459

### NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

October 12-19, 2009

Join us for World Changers Week and hear testimonies from people impacted by God. Call the church for details.

**North Dallas Community  
Bible Fellowship Church**  
Dr. Leslie W. Smith,  
Senior Pastor  
1010-1020 South  
Sherman Street  
Richardson, TX 75081  
972-437-3493

### TRANSFORMERS YOUTH MINISTRY OF SPIRIT AND TRUTH CHURCH, INC.

October 11, 8am – 10am

Come to an All You Can Handle Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser @ Applebee's, 3426 Illinois Avenue, Dallas, TX 75211, 214-339-8115 call Adrian at 972-279-1559 for details.

## Children's Choir seeks new voices

Date: Oct 26, 2008 at 09:00 AM

Location: The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration  
Date: 14115 Hillcrest Road at Spring Valley  
Dallas, TX 75254

This choir gives boys and girls a strong introduction to the joys of singing and worshipping at Transfiguration. Rehearsals are held during Children's Chapel time at the 9:00 service. For more information, contact director Kim Eder at keder@transfiguration.net.

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Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.  
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 A.M.  
Wednesday Night-Community Bible Class: 7:30 P.M.





**Sister Tarpley**

## Accepting God's Design for Our Country

"But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone; As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumbling stone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed." Romans 9:31-33.

This has been an unusual election year, to say the least. But what has surprised me more than anything is how un-informed people in the United States are about our political

process, especially Christians; I say Christians because most of my mornings at home and my driving time to my office and back home is spent listening to a Christian station.

Prior to leaving home on Monday morning, I was listening to the radio; a listener called and asked a DJ to explain to her what the Electoral College process is all about in the U. S. The DJ stumbled with his words. He couldn't even tell the lady how many Electoral College votes it takes to be President of the U. S.

Please note that presidential elections years cause more people to vote than in a non-presidential election year.

This was on the heels of a week earlier when a caller stated that anyone that didn't vote for her candidate was stupid and didn't have any sense. That statement was followed closely by another listener saying that he was instructed not to wear a T-shirt with the same candidate's name on it to the election poll to vote and he didn't know why. The DJ said he didn't know either. This prompted me to call the station to explain why voters couldn't wear T-shirt to the polls with any candidates' name and face on it. At every election poll there are signs posted stating that it's against the law to go beyond a certain point campaigning.

It is easy to see that one

presidential candidate has caused excitement in our country about voting. But most people don't realize that the popular vote doesn't elect the president! I admit that it should, but I believe that when the process was put in place and became law, there was no way they could accurately count the actual votes in a reasonably time limit and elect a president, therefore, the Electoral College was put in place.

Make no mistake, it is very important to be an informed register voter and to vote in elections. I often tell folks that my father (Lloyd David Demus) was a register voter; he paid a poll tax and voted. Therefore, he highly encouraged (really



Sister Tarpley and 1st Lady Elizabeth White; its State Fair time!

demand) his children to be an informed register voter since we don't have to pay a poll tax, like him, his father (Deacon David N. Demus) and his grandfather (Minister Nicholas Demus) did, which are listed in the county records in Freestone County.

I became a voter my freshman year at Prairie View A & M University and I have voted in every election since; on the city, county, state and the federal level.

It's important to be an informed register voter and

to vote. Voting touches every facet of our lives. Your informed vote on the city, county, state and federal level will affect who the Electoral College votes in as president, and how the president will respond to the people of the United States.

With that being said, as Christians we MUST pray to God and ask that His Will be done this election year. We can all agree that our country is in a mess and Only God knows who will be the best president for the USA!

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

**Contact Info**

**Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church**  
11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229  
Office: 972-241-6151  
Email: info@dallasmtpisgah.org  
Website: www.dallasmtpisgah.org

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

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

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

**"The Church with a Vision"**

Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor



# BLACKONOMICS, continued from page 12

nothing we can do about it. Well, there are things we can do about it. We have to muster up the will to act on basic economic principles to protect against economic predators and the hazards of being dependent on folks who have no interest whatsoever in our wellbeing.

In light of the tremendous amount of resources we have at our command, both financial and intellectual, we can do more for ourselves by working closer together and sharing those resources with one another.

Black people across this

country should set up bartering groups through which goods and services can be traded instead of being purchased with U.S. dollars. It makes sense that if the value of the dollar is dropping, we will need more of them to purchase the necessities of life.

How do we get more dollars? Barter a portion of our goods and services with one another. Especially now, in a time of financial uncertainty when banks are on the ropes, Black folks should form Collective Banking Group Chapters across this country and leverage

reciprocity from the banks that we often complain about.

Churches must get together across denominational lines and beliefs to take care of their business. It makes no sense to complain about anything that you are not willing to do something about.

Black folks should establish their own investment pools and loan funds in order to create and grow Black businesses. How can we expect to advance in this country if we don't create and maintain jobs for our children? Are they to grow up and continue the cycle of seeking jobs from others rather than creating jobs for themselves and their peers?

It's one thing to rail

against the greed and corruption that has overtaken this country; it's another thing to act appropriately to take care of ourselves, despite the actions of the greedy.

Collectively we have already demonstrated that we can do whatever we want and need to do. The

lessons are there for us to use over and over again. We must follow them.

The greedy will continue to trample the needy; that is, if they are allowed to do so. It's time to rally around the economic principles that led our ancestors to own and control economic enclaves all across this country. Get busy!

"Teaching the Word with Compassion, not Compromise!"



Pastor Dave Jenkins, Jr.



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7:30 am & 10:30 am  
9:00 am Sunday School

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

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



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**Avenue F Church of Christ**  
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Sunday Bible Class .....9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship .....10:45 am  
Men Bible Class .....5:00 pm  
Women Bible Class .....5:00 pm  
Evening Worship .....6:00 pm  
Wednesday Bible Class .....7:00 pm  
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[www.avefchurchofchrist.org](http://www.avefchurchofchrist.org)

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Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00pm

Pastor Rickie G. Rash

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**Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church**  
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9:30 am  
Wednesday  
Night Service  
8:00 pm

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**Our Mission**  
To fulfill The Great Commission until Christ comes.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK**  
300 Phillips Street • Richardson, TX 75081 • 972.235.4235 • [www.fbchp.org](http://www.fbchp.org)

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**Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church**  
1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX  
Pastor Charles S. Wattley

**Sunday**  
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