

North Dallas Gazette



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Black Businesses Will Rise With Others, Says Parsons

By Hazel Trice Edney
NNPA

Time Warner Chairman Richard "Dick" Parsons, a member of President-elect Barack Obama's Economic Advisory Board, says Black and other minority-

owned businesses, which dominate the rock bottom of the economic crisis will be swept upward as the bailouts and stimulus strategies begin to work. "We all know it's the people on the bottom who suffer most. But you've got to fix it on a holistic

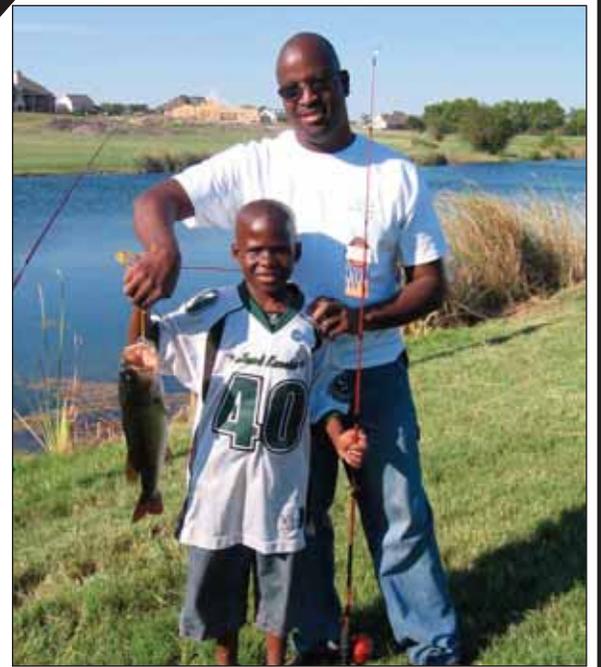
basis. You've got to get credit going," Parsons told a standing room only audience at the Howard University School of Business last week. "No one is unaware of on whom the burden falls the heaviest. That's just a real-

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COVER STORY

Man Up!



See DALE LONG, Page 9

Rowlett Main St. Holiday Parade on Saturday

From staff reports

Start your holiday festivities early with the Rowlett Noon Exchange Club, the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rowlett at the annual Holiday Parade and holiday activities in downtown Rowlett on

Saturday, November 22! The Parade, sponsored by the Rowlett Noon Exchange Club, begins at 10 a.m. at Industrial Blvd. and Kirby Rd. and proceeds east on Industrial, north on Kirby and west on Main to Rowlett Road. This year's theme is "Star-Spangled

Christmas" in honor of all the men and women bravely serving our country. Children's activities will be plentiful on Main Street beginning before the parade at 9 a.m. and will continue until 2 p.m. There will be children's arts and crafts, a bounce

house, face painting, and many more children's booths sponsored by Chamber of Commerce business members. Following the parade, there will be other activities including choir performances by the Rowlett

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Nia Long, Chris Spencer to host BET Virtual Awards

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

COMMENTARY

It's time to demand change at DISD

By Rev. Stephen C. Nash,
Special to North Dallas Gazette

Dallas Independent School District Superintendent Michael Hinojosa has become a divisive figure at the school district and it is time for trustees to address the lack of confidence in the district's leadership.

DISD must not be allowed to turn Dallas

back to days of constant conflict, pitting one group against another; whether Latinos against African Americans, teachers against administrators, power brokers against common folk, or any form of us versus them.

When people are aggrieved and feel they have no voice or recourse they will commit all their resources

See DISD, Page 12

A Thanksgiving Thought by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

From staff reports

The staff of the North Dallas Gazette will be enjoying the Thanksgiving Holiday with family and friends. We would like to extend our gratitude to each of our readers and partners. We look forward

to kicking off the Christmas & Kwanza Holiday Season with our next issue on December 4th. Turkeys and cornucopias and pilgrim hats. Seasoned stuffing hot from the oven. Creamed onions, cranberry sauce

and pumpkin pie. Uncles and aunts and cousins to play with. Grandmothers and grandfathers with family gathered round. Children waiting for the Great Pumpkin rise over Charlie Brown's pumpkin patch and dads watching college football. A day to

relax and maybe rake leaves in the afternoon.

But Thanksgiving? How much will our celebrations have to do with giving thanks?

A glance at the first Thanksgiving brings it all back. On December 21,

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People In The News...



Cynthia O'Banner



Rashada Whitehead



Eric Holder

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Cynthia O'Banner

The American Association of Code Enforcement recently announced the City of Plano's Director of Property Standards Cynthia O'Banner is the 2008 Code Enforcement Officer of the Year. The presentation was made during the AACE's 2008 Annual Educational Code Conference in Portland, Oregon. Cynthia was nominated for the award by her City of Plano colleagues.

During her tenure at Plano, Cynthia has built a small nine-person division

of the Building Inspections Department into a 26-person stand-alone department. City Manager Tom Muehlenbeck said, "From the time Cynthia came on board, she has literally changed the way we view property standards. She's built a strong team of community-oriented employees who rally to find innovative solutions to complicated code enforcement issues. This acknowledgement from her peers has been a longtime coming and we are very happy for Cynthia."

She took the department to a new level of environmental consciousness by developing the first full-hybrid vehicle code enforcement fleet. Today 18 hybrid vehicles buzz around Plano monitoring code violations while saving the City significant fuel costs. Cynthia reduced costs further by equipping her team with wireless laptops, which allow them to access, research and process cases in real time in the field.

Another notable accomplishment began when Cynthia implemented a Multi-family Rental Registration and Inspection Program. The

program started as a pilot to ensure residents living in apartments were able to live in safe and properly maintained homes.

Today Cynthia focuses on earning Plano's Property Standards Department the National Code Enforcement Accreditation, which would make it the first accredited independent code enforcement department in the nation.

Cynthia has actively participated in the Texas Code Enforcement Association and AACE. She has been involved in the North Central Texas Council of Governments DFW Code Enforcement Milestone



Project, City Council Neighborhood Roundtables, University of Texas at Dallas Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management program and Chamber of

Commerce Leadership Plano program.

Most recently Cynthia's Property Standards department was the first of the City of Plano's departments to participate in the Gatekeeper Program, a program developed in coordination with the Geriatric Wellness Center of Collin County (GWCCC), Adult Protective Services and the North Central Texas Council of Governments' Area Agency on Aging. Her team was trained to identify older residents in need of social services to easily connect them to local providers.

Rashada Whitehead

Flowers Communications Group (FCG), the top-rated, Chicago-based PR agency specializing in award-winning multicultural integrated marketing communications, recently welcomed back into the fold Rashada Whitehead as senior vice president and managing director. Whitehead, returning to FCG after nearly four years with Chicago's GolinHarris agency, was responsible for helping to lead brand strategy and

account management for McDonald's Corp.'s global and U.S. business efforts, notably its sponsorship activation of the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

In this new position, Whitehead will execute the agency's business plan, lead fiscal stewardship, oversee strategic counsel, and work on new business development, with a focus on multicultural opportunities.

In her previous capacity

with FCG, she helped manage and lead a host of agency accounts, among them Lawry's Foods, Miller Brewing Co., Merisant/Equal Sweetener, Washington Mutual Bank and Altria Group, Inc., executing communications strategies and programming for each in more than 20 U.S. markets. Whitehead also contributed to developing the award-winning signature programs The Miller Urban Entrepreneurs Series, The Magic of Homeownership with Washington Mutual and



Earvin Magic Johnson and Know Your Money' for Altria Group, Inc., in partnership with the National Urban League.

"Returning to FCG provides a tremendous and unique opportunity for me

to bring to life my passion for diverse, multicultural communications, strategy management and entrepreneurship," says Whitehead. "I am looking forward to helping shape the road ahead at FCG and the industry overall."

Whitehead completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Illinois-Chicago. Whitehead earned her master of science in Integrated Marketing at Chicago's Roosevelt University

Flowers Communica-

tions Group was founded in 1991 with a mission to provide quality public relations and marketing programs to reach and respect the African-American and Hispanic markets. The agency executes national, regional and local programs in the top 20 urban markets. FCG's current client roster includes American Honda Motor Co., the Chicago White Sox, the Kellogg Foundation, Lawry's Foods, McDonald's, MillerCoors and Nielsen Media Research.

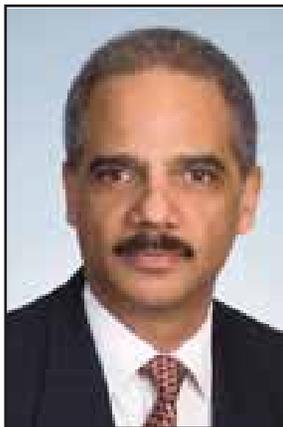
Eric Holder

Rumors circulated Tuesday that Eric Holder will be named as the Attorney General by President Elect Barack Obama. Holder is a litigation partner who handles, among other matters, complex civil and criminal cases, domestic and international advisory matters and internal corporate investigations.

During his professional career, Holder has held a number of significant positions in government. Upon graduating from Columbia Law School, he moved to Washington, DC and joined the Department of Justice as part of the Attorney General's Honors Program.

In 1988, Holder was nominated by President Reagan to become an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. Over the next five years, Judge Holder presided over hundreds of civil and criminal trials and matters. Many of the trials involved homicides and other crimes of violence.

In 1993, President Clinton nominated Holder to become the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia. He was confirmed later that year and served as the head of the largest United States Attorneys office in the nation for nearly four years.



He was the first black person to serve in that position.

In 1997, President Clinton appointed Holder to serve as Deputy Attorney General, the number two position in the United States Department of Justice. He became the first African-American to serve as Deputy Attorney General.

As Deputy Attorney General, Holder supervised all of the Department's litigating, enforcement, and administrative components in both civil and criminal matters. A task force he created also developed the existing regulation concerning the appointment of special counsels to investigate allegations involving high-level federal officials. He began the Department's Children Exposed to Violence Initiative and made Department priorities enforcement efforts in health care fraud, computer crimes and software piracy.

Holder, along with Caroline Kennedy, were part of President-Elect Barack Obama's vice-presidential search team.

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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

Beyond the Rhetoric

Do We Save the Auto Industry?

By Harry C. Alford
NNPA

We have just witnessed one of the most daring schemes and hustles in modern history. The secretary of treasury forces Congress and the President to fork over nearly \$1 trillion dollars that we really didn't have under the perception that it was going to save millions from losing their homes.

As Congressman Dennis Kucinich (D - Ohio) put it, "It was simply a bait and switch game".

People in danger of losing their homes are no better off and the money went in various directions other than what Secretary Paulson claimed it would be used for.

Yes, Wall St. had a new fast stash of money and it got drunk again. Big banks took a lot and went shopping like Sarah Palin in Neiman Marcus. Bonuses were paid wherever they could quickly do it and the culprits of the financial crisis received no bid federal contracts to clean up their own mess.

The common tax payer was indeed exploited one more time and it appears that they will be coming back for more. Our treasury is in the hands of incompetent, greedy and selfish individuals who don't give a damn about the common citizen or state of the future.

Such is the saga of the Bailout Crisis. It is a disaster turning into a tragedy. Now, we have another big problem to deal with. This problem has been festering for nearly forty years. It is the US automobile industry. The Big 3 have had a history of paying wages that are too high; making cars that are ugly and not economical and reacting to changes in the market way too slow.

Japanese and Korean automakers are pulling way



Auto executives, from left, Ron Gettelfinger, president of the International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America; General Motors Chief Executive Officer Richard Wagoner; Chrysler Chief Executive Officer Robert Nardelli; Ford Chief Executive Officer Alan Mulally, listen to testimony on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2008, during a House Financial Services Committee hearing on the automotive industry bailout. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

in front of them when it comes to technology, environmental accountability. Yes, the days of Henry Ford are long gone and our auto industry is fast becoming a "dinosaur" - a very broke dinosaur.

The Big 3 (Chrysler, General Motors and Ford) want at least a \$25 billion loan from the federal government. Yes, they want their own customized bailout. Why \$25 billion? Basically, it sounds nice but they really don't know what their actual condition is. No one knows if this would actually save them or stall the inevitable - bankruptcy. One thing is for sure: there are a lot of jobs and American families at stake here. I guess the most important issue is how can we make it right?

For too many years, we have allowed this industry to make gas guzzling machines that break down almost as soon as they leave the lot. We have drifted to foreign made cars at record rates and have fallen in love with their economy and efficiency. Cars like Ford (F.O.R.D. - fix or repair daily) have become a world

laughing stock.

Toyota, Nissan, Honda, etc. are leading the fields in almost every category. What our auto industry needs to do now is become competitive. We must have reliability and they must start addressing the demand for fuel efficiency.

President Elect Obama is correct in stating that if we give the auto industry this loan they must apply it to new technology and come out of their Neanderthal mindset. Mileage, alternative fuel and reliability must be addressed if the American auto industry is to survive and these many precious jobs are to remain under our control. Detroit must change its ways and it must do it now.

We are at a crossroads and it is time for strong leadership and courage. There must be a cleansing at the top of auto management. We need fresh leaders with new ideas and an aggressive vision for the future.

The unions, UAW, must understand that pay is way out of line and they must step back in order to save their careers. The pension demands are ridiculous and

they must be adjusted. All the technology that we have and have been too shy to introduce it must now be utilized and new, better products have to hit the road.

The Big 3 have maybe two years to turn this around and they must begin immediately.

Let's carefully give them a proper loan but the stipulations must be clear and they must be monitored at all times. If they decide to continue this state of denial then perhaps we all have to "bite the bullet" and watch them die. American Auto Industry it is time for you to "sink or swim"; "do or die". You have been stalling for too long and America is suffering because of it.

Let's show the world that American ingenuity and courage have not left the scene. Let this be just another big challenge for the greatest nation on earth. A challenge that we can brag to our grandchildren about in the near future.

Harry Alford is the co-founder, president/CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce, Inc. Website: www.nationalbcc.org.

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. 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.

16,000 Children in Trial for Malaria Cure



Mateo Biroto, the husband of Rebecca Yalala, who died the day before of complications from diabetes and malaria shovels earth on to her coffin as she is buried in a grove of banana trees near a camp for displaced people, Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2008 in Bulengo near Goma in eastern Congo. The family of five had fled their home in Kanyabayonga three months before, when fighting began. Dozens of fresh, unmarked graves surrounded her grave in the grove of banana trees; attendees said they were also camp inhabitants who had recently died of disease. (AP Photo/Karel Prinsloo)

NNPA

A massive medical trial is being prepared to test an anti-malaria drug on 16,000 children in Africa. It may be the largest such drug trial on children in Africa.

The vaccine trials will be conducted in Burkina Faso, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania in a joint effort by British-drugmaker GlaxoSmithKline and the Bill and Melinda Gates Malaria Vaccine Initiative.

Over \$107 million has already been spent by the Gates project, with some \$300 million spent by GlaxoSmithKline

Malaria, caused by parasites and spread by mosquitoes, kills nearly 1 million people every year, most of them children in Africa. The trial may start as early as next month, and should be well under way by January.

Preliminary trials showed the vaccine likely to be at least 30 percent effective against mild malaria cases and about 50 percent effective

against severe malaria – still a low figure compared to the injectable polio vaccine that is at least 90 percent effective.

Eusebio Macete, director of the Manhica Research Centre in Mozambique, said stopping any percentage of the disease would be welcomed in areas "where people are dying every day of malaria."

"It's a huge, huge burden, this disease," Macete said. "Whatever percentage we can get will be useful in reducing the impact of the disease."

Passing of Music Icon Shocks Fans

From staff reports

From Michigan to Maputo, fans of Miriam Makeba are mourning the unexpected passing of a human rights champion and beloved musical icon whose distinctive style captivated the world in the 1960s and 1970s, combining traditional African melodies, jazz and folk with the unique and dynamic rhythms of South Africa's Black townships.



Miriam Makeba

Makeba had been performing in Italy, paying homage to six Africans killed by the Camorra mafia and to the Italian journalist Roberto Saviano who exposed the murders and was himself threatened with death, when she was stricken and died in a local hospital early Nov. 10.

Former President Nelson Mandela, now in his 91st year, led the tributes to Makeba.

"She was South Africa's first lady of song and so richly deserved the title of Mama Afrika," he said. "The sudden passing of our beloved Miriam has saddened us ... For many decades, starting in the years before we went to prison, MaMiriam featured prominently in our lives."

A Grammy award winner, Makeba knew and performed with Harry Belafonte and Hugh Masakela, and hundreds of world-class musicians. Her outspoken witness before the United Nations in 1963 to the evils of apartheid caused her expulsion from as a "terrorist." It took her 27 years to go back to South Africa after a personal request from the then President Mandela.

"Godspeed to you Mama Africa for your labor here on earth has been fulfilled," wrote Belinda M. Sanders in a moving online tribute. "I am grateful to have had the pleasure of seeing you in concert in Flint, Michigan. I shall always remember your melodious voice. I was moved by the passion you exuded through song and stage presence."

"The mortal remains of South Africa's Goodwill Ambassador Miriam Makeba" will be returned to South Africa on Nov. 12," a government spokesman said.

Study Finds Preventative Diabetes Care Reduces Amputation Occurrence

From staff reports

Nearly 246 million people across the globe battle diabetes and its complications every year. However, medical care for diabetes is often not sought in time to prevent serious amputations, according to a recent survey by the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA).

The APMA study, conducted by an independent research firm, found that 25 percent of the 600 people surveyed who had suffered an amputation from dia-

betes said they should have seen a specialist -- such as a podiatrist -- sooner. Thirty percent of amputees said that paying closer attention to the warning signs, such as "hot spots" and foot ulcers, would have encouraged them to visit their physician before signs worsened.

Three ethnic groups, African-Americans, Caucasians and Hispanic-Americans, participated in the study. In total, 75 percent of all survey respondents had been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. The

remaining 25 percent were considered high risk for developing the disease. Results showed that Hispanic-Americans were the least likely group to be tested for diabetes, compared to their African-American and Caucasian counterparts. Those surveyed cited the reason for not being tested was primarily due to normal blood sugar levels or not having noticeable symptoms.

Interestingly, 7 percent of Caucasian respondents reported they had undergone a diabetic amputa-

tion, compared to just 3 percent of African-American and 2 percent of Hispanic-American respondents. These findings defy the more traditional findings shown in national studies, which have historically found African-American and Hispanic-American diabetics to have had more diabetes amputations than Caucasians.

"This survey shows just how immensely important it is for those diagnosed with diabetes, and those at risk, to have their feet

examined by a physician during their annual check-up," said Dr. Ross Taubman, president of the APMA. "Regardless of one's ethnic background, taking a proactive approach to your health in asking your physician to check your feet can save both your limbs and your life."

To raise awareness about the significance of diabetes amputations, the APMA has embarked on a public service campaign entitled "Elect to Save Your Feet" (ESYF). Every 30 seconds, a lower-limb is lost to dia-

betes somewhere in the world. Those with diabetes are more prone to develop foot infections, called foot ulcers, which can quickly lead to amputation.

An APMA member podiatrist, also known as a podiatric physician, is a specialist that is medically trained to diagnose and treat diabetic foot complications. As part of a complete diabetes management team, visiting a podiatrist on a regular basis can drastically increase chances of managing diabetes successfully.

Christmas Crafts Fair rings in another year at Plano Centre

From staff reports

The areas first cold snap has hit reminding us that the holidays are just around the corner. If you need help locating your holiday spirit, visit the Plano Parks and Recreation Department's annual Christmas Crafts Fair on Saturday and

Sunday, November 22 and 23 at Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway (SW corner of Jupiter Road at Spring Creek Parkway).

The Christmas Crafts Fair caters to shoppers who want to adorn their homes with unique and original decorations for the holiday. The Crafts Fair showcases

items made of fabric, wood, ceramic, and glass – including Santas, angels, tree skirts, ornaments and wreaths. Some exhibitors will have jewelry and clothing for adults and children, along with candles and soaps too. There will also be a wonderful selection of salsas, jams,

nuts and dips great as gifts or for holiday parties.

One of the many popular booths at the Christmas Crafts Fair is Hip Hip For Gray. Collin County seniors stock the Hip Hip For Gray booth with a variety of merchandise including hand-crafted quilts and baby items, hand-painted

items, tree skirts, ornaments, and floral arrangements. The crafts fair is open Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Admission to the Plano Christmas Crafts Fair is free.

If you are a crafter of handmade holiday items

and are interested in participating in the 2009 show, please call to add your name to the mailing list. For more information on this and other Parks and Recreation events, please contact the City of Plano Parks and Recreation Administrative Office at 972-941-7250.

Make Plans for Garland's Christmas on the Square!

From staff reports

Christmas on the Square plans are well underway, and downtown Garland will soon be ablaze with wonderful holiday lighting displays. This year's event is set for Thursday, December 4 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

One significant change to Christmas on the Square is there will not be a Parade

of Lights. The annual event will, however, feature a free sled ride down a snow hill. Yes, there will be real snow in Garland! Patrons can also enjoy free horse-drawn carriage rides through Garland Power & Lights "Avenue of Lights." In addition, the event will showcase holiday music performed by Garland ISD students and a special performance by Erica Lane.

Ms. Lane has been featured on soundtracks of more than a half dozen film and television projects. To learn more about this talented performer, visit www.ericalanemusic.com.

Christmas on the Square highlights include the official tree lighting ceremony and free photos with Santa. Patrons can also enjoy great festive foods as they stroll through the

Christmas Bazaar shopping for special hand-crafted gifts made by local artisans.

No holiday festival would be complete without the opportunity to give to those less fortunate. Garland Firefighters Association has been providing toys to needy children in Garland for more than twenty years. Firefighter Jerry Click,

coordinator of the toy drive, states, "If it wasn't for our community's help, some of these children wouldn't get anything for Christmas." Please bring a new unwrapped toy to the event and help the Garland Firefighters Association bring the joy of Christmas to all Garland children.

Additional parking will be available at the DART parking lot at Fifth and

Walnut. Christmas on the Square is sponsored by the City of Garland, Garland Power & Light, Baylor Medical Center and Ahern Rentals

Since no parade is scheduled, no inclement weather date is set. For more information about Christmas on the Square, visit www.christmasonthesquare.com or call 972-205-2749.

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Wal-Mart Grant Launches New Eastfield College Program to Enroll High School Drop-outs

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 across the country 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.

COLLEGE CORNER David S. Barr Scholarship Award

The Newspaper Guild-CWA announces the David S. Barr Award for student journalists in high school and college.

The David S. Barr Award is intended to recognize one high school and one college student for their journalistic achievement and to encourage young journalists to focus on issues of social justice. It is named after David S. Barr, who for a quarter of a century served as The Newspaper Guild's general counsel, mentor, role model and institutional memory.

More specifically, the goals of the award are:

To provide inspiration for a younger generation of journalists by recognizing work which contributes to the pursuit of justice and fairness; To promote issues of importance to all working people; and To serve as a lasting memorial to David S. Barr, in tribute to his work and teachings.

Deadline:

January 30, 2009

Award Amount:

\$500 - \$1,500

Website/Contact Info:

www.newsguild.org

NEATly Done: AART Triumphs Again

By Alexandra Bonifield

NEA/Annenberg Fellow in Theatre Criticism

Nothing tentative or unsophisticated about the programming at the DFW region's new professional theatre company, African American Repertory Theater, located at the intimate The Corner Theatre in Desoto. On the heels of their first well-received, strong ensemble production at this venue, "A Soldier's Play" by Charles Fuller, the company just opened the award-winning "Neat", featuring actress Regina Washington and directed by William (Bill) Earl Ray, who also directed "A Soldier's Play."

"Neat" is a 'play with one actor' portraying a myriad of characters, written by nationally celebrated LA stage and screen star Charlayne Woodard. Revealing an autobiographical slice of life brim-

ming with humor and pathos, Woodard weaves together pivotal events of her life with those of a brain-damaged but loving aunt, against the vivid background of social and racial upheavals of recent times. Told in an oral tradition style that stretches back hundreds of years from African traditions to Diaspora, Woodard's play allows the audience to experience the moments portrayed with a clarity, depth and poignancy a straightforward telling would have missed. Described as "powerful, heartbreaking and beautiful" in a 1997 New York Times review, this play showcases the virtuosity of a versatile actress while effectively paying tribute to the older aunt who had such positive impact on the playwright's life. Two act's worth of focused energy, memorable characterizations and entrancing story-

telling....

Bill Ray set this AART production on a nearly bare stage awash with pastel hues, with unbleached muslin sheeting screens tenderly framing the fully used acting space. Each scene is foreshadowed with a time-relevant photographic projection on the upstage screen and accented with musical accompaniment complimenting the setting. Mr. Ray's direction creates a natural ease in the telling of the story while heightening the actor's portrayal of pivotal life moments. Not a movement to spare, not a pause held too long—the production is minimalist yet full-blown, choreographed yet spontaneous, intimate yet universal.

Ms. Washington reveals vast chameleon skills as an actress, from enlivening an illiterate grandmother puffing on her pipe to strutting as a cocky macho youth courting his prospective

girlfriend to revealing the complex yet simple reality lived by the brain-damaged aunt. She peoples her stage fully at all times—in one scene, it's like magic to watch her solo performance "fill" a high school auditorium with terrified black students fleeing the savagery of baton-wielding white cops. In his NY Times review of the 1997 production, Lawrence Van Gelder refers to the "tragic inevitability" of the main character's Aunt Neat. She is the constant loving thread that ties the play together, yet bittersweet premonition of Neat's imminent demise lurks throughout.

Ms. Washington's portrayal leads us to that inevitable conclusion with dignity and transcendent strength. The audience may weep for the life lost yet smile for the many lives to whom Neat brought joy, self-knowledge and peace.



"Neat", was originally developed at Seattle Repertory Theatre and produced at Manhattan Theatre Club, where it received the Irving and Blanche Laurie Theatre Vision Award and an Outer

Critics Circle Award nomination at Seattle Repertory Theatre and the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles. "Neat" runs through November 23.

Tickets: 972-572-0998, www.aareptheater.com.

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 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.

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.TheNoLimitNetwork.com or call Sylvia Williams at 972-898-5882.

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).

Nov 13 - Dec 6.

Footloose-Granville Arts Center, 972-485-8884 or 972-205-2790, www.garlandcivictheatre.org

Nov 15 - Dec 21

Each Saturday and Sunday from 12 noon to 5pm, bring the kids to the **Santa's Wonderland** at Bass Pro Shops, 5001 Bass Pro Drive, Garland and enjoy a different craft activity - Free. www.basspro.com

November 15 - January 11

The Old Red Museum of Dallas County History & Culture will open the first annual **Deck the Halls** at Old Red exhibit, located in the West End of downtown Dallas at 100 South Houston Street. General admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors, and \$5 for children ages three to sixteen. Admission to Deck the Halls without general admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children, visit www.oldred.org.

November 20

UNT Dallas Campus hosts **'Admissions Night'** Applicants who attend the event and submit a complete application package will receive a waiver of the admission fee which is normally \$40 for undergraduate students, \$50 for graduate students and \$75 for international students. For more information, contact the school's recruitment and outreach office at 972-780-3642 or dallasrecruitment@unt.edu.

Allen Chamber Business Wrap Up at 313 S. Jupiter Rd. Allen 7500, 5 - 8 p.m., www.allenchamber.com for more information

Neighborhood Roundtable for Plano Council District 2 residents from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Tom Muehlenbeck Recreation Center, 5801 W. Parker Road.

Norma J. Carter, author of "Without Warning," will speak on "Coping With the Holidays" at the November 20 bereavement luncheon hosted by the Visiting Nurse Association. Noon to 1 p.m. at the Church of the Incarnation on 3966 McKinney Avenue in Dallas (214) 689-2633

November 22nd

The Rowlett Main Street Holiday Parade will be on Saturday, Nov. 22 beginning at 10 a.m. The Rowlett Noon Exchange Club hosts the parade, and there will be children's activities, food and fun from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Smokey Robinson Dallas Symphony Concert 8PM. 214-871-4008 or email r.branaman@dalsym.com

Stageplay, Internal Vanity is a tale of adversity and triumph combing the stage play with fashion presentation, poetry, and performance art. 5PM, Granville Arts Theater, 300 N. Fifth St. Garland www.wingfieldinc.com

November 22-23

City of Plano Parks & Recreation **30th Annual Christmas Crafts Fair.** Admission FREE! Contact the City of Plano Parks & Recreation Dept. 972-941-7250 or www.planoparks.org

November 22, 2008 - January 4, 2009

The Trains at NorthPark is the most elaborate toy train exhibit in Texas, with vintage locomotives whizzing by on a journey across America. Located on Level Two next to Neiman Marcus, the exhibit is open during regular shopping center hours, Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sunday from

12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Early closing dates are Thanksgiving Eve (Nov. 26th), Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. The exhibit is closed on Thanksgiving Day and on Christmas Day but is open on New Year's Day. Ticket prices are \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children aged 2-12 years and senior citizens (65 and older). Children under the age of 2 years are admitted free of charge. Discount tickets are available at Tom Thumb stores.

November 24 - 26

Dallas Black Dance Theatre Behind the Scenes Noontime Performances at the Dallas Black Dance Theatre's studios at 2700 Flora Street. Seating is limited. For reservations call 214-871-2390.

November 25th

NAACP Garland Branch Monthly Meeting (Executive Committee - 6:30p.m.) and (General Membership - 7:30p.m.). This meeting will include the election of officers for the period 2009-2011.

November 28 - December 24

Santa Claus at NorthPark Center Visits and Portraits with Santa in His New Location NorthPark Center offers free one-on-one visits with Santa Claus in his new location on Level One between Nordstrom and Neiman Marcus. Parents may take their own photographs of their children with Santa or purchase high-quality portraits by Marc Robins Photography available in several different sizes and formats. Tickets are available starting at 9:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and starting at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday.

November 28 - December 26, 2008

SPCA of Dallas Remote Pet Adoption Center at NorthPark Center with adorable dogs and cats available for adoption, featured on Level One

between Macy's and Dillard's, near the NorthPark Boulevard entrance and Victoria's Secret. Regular adoption fees are \$185-\$285 for puppies 0-6 months, \$95 to \$195 for dogs 6 months and older, \$75 for senior dogs 7 years and older, and \$50 for VIP dogs (those which have been waiting for a home for over 30 days); \$125 for kittens, \$95 for cats, \$75 for senior cats 7 years and older and \$50 for VIP cats. The fee includes spay/neuter surgery, all age-appropriate vaccinations, de-worming treatment, a heartworm test for dogs six months and older, a feline Leukemia test for cats four months and older, a microchip and a free leash or cardboard cat carrier. Volunteers are available at NorthPark Center to work with families to help choose each family's new best friend. The Adoption Center is open from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. on Sundays.

December 4th

Garland Christmas on the Square visit www.christmasonthesquare.com or call 972-205-2749.

December 5-21

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol by Tom Mula directed by Adam Adolfo for the Frisco Community Theatre. This production is to A Christmas Carol as Wicked is to The Wizard of Oz. Performances Thursdays through Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. and tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors and students. Tickets avail. at www.FriscoCommunityTheatre.com with a \$1 per ticket convenience fee or call 972-370-2266 for information and reservations. All performances will take place at the Cox Building Playhouse, 1517 H Avenue, Plano, TX 75074. Parking is behind the building accessed from G Avenue.

December 5th

"Music Under the Dome" featuring Karen Sheppard on November 7, 2008 and Groove University on December 5, 2008 hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. & African American Museum (AAM). Each event is from 8 PM to 11 PM and is held at the AAM. Admission is \$10.00. Reservations & Information 214-565-9026 ext 315 www.aamdallas.org, www.DallasAlphas.com

December 2

Newsmakers Breakfast will discuss healthcare at the Marriott Legacy Town Center, 7:30 to 9 a.m. Visit www.fwbusinesspress.com for more information.

December 13 - 14

Fair Park Holiday Lights Free admission and parking. The holiday celebration will feature music, lights, horse-drawn carriage rides, outdoor holiday moves at the Cotton Bowl and more. Info @ www.fairpark.org.

Teen Graffiti's Parent/Teen Holiday Banquet Gala includes a social dance program "Forging Stronger Friendships Between the Generations". Tickets are \$20 per couple in advance, and \$25 per couple at the door. Call Teen Graffiti at 972-496-9457.

December 14

Ascension Church **3rd Annual Christmas Banquet** at Southfork Hotel 1600 N. Central Freeway, Plano TX 75089, 7:00pm to 10:00pm. Dinner and wonderful prizes, cost is \$30, <http://www.ascensionmbc.org>

January 6-29

25th Annual KidFilm® Festival, sponsored by the USA Film Festival, will be held in Dallas, January 6-25, 2008 at the Angelika Film Center, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas

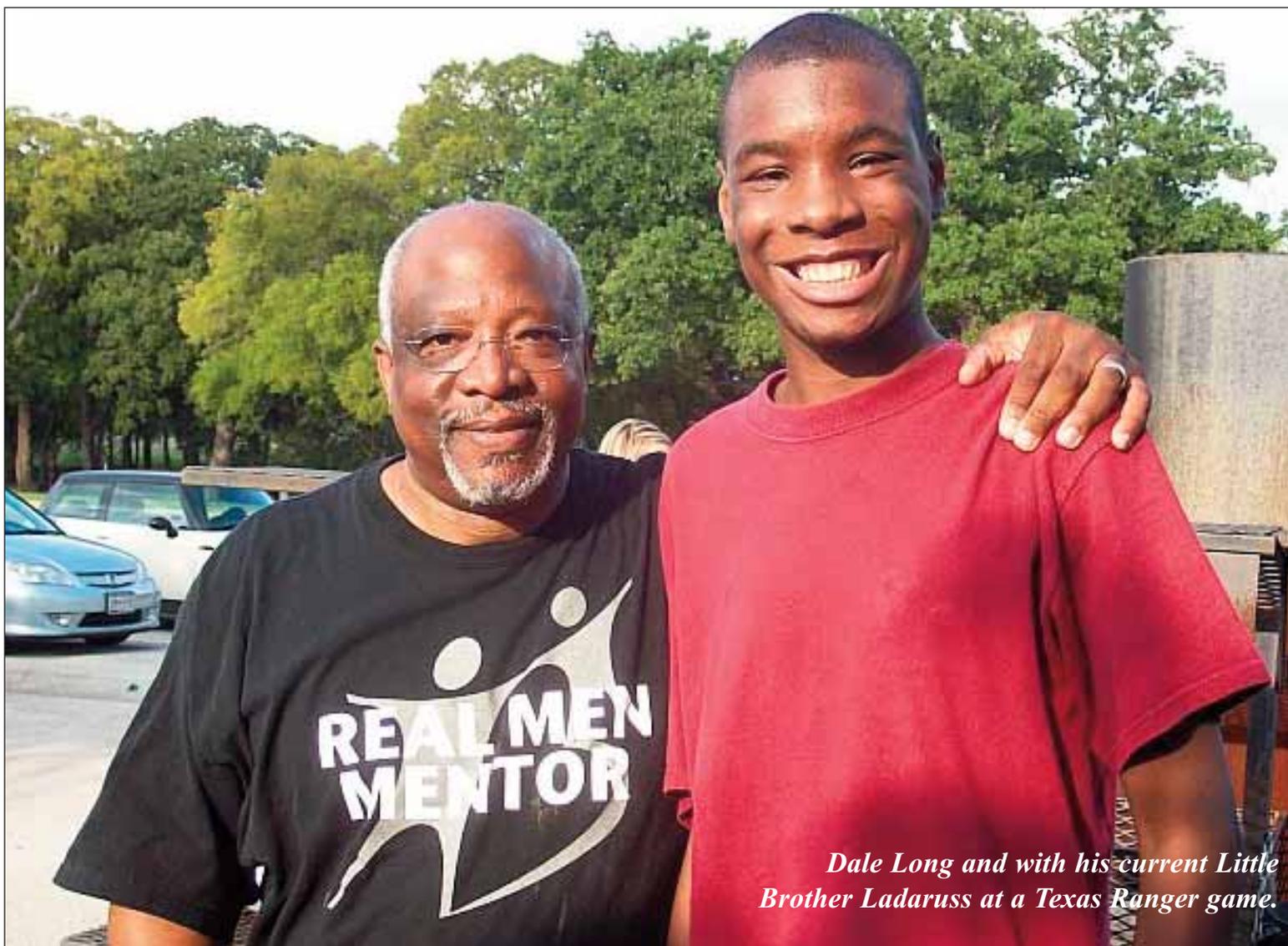
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Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community

Man Up!



Dale Long and with his current Little Brother Ladaruss at a Texas Ranger game.

Dale Long: The Barbershop Initiative

By **Jacquinette D. Murphy**
North Dallas Gazette

Dale Long, a 34-year volunteer for the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of North Texas, continues to be a guiding voice to shape the men of the next generation. Long serves on the board of directors and is known for advocating the success of youth mentoring to all that will listen. Today, he is spearheading the partnership with brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., to expand the Barbershop Mentoring Initiative.

Long and his team recently visited 8 barbershops in the DFW metroplex to inform and encourage the African American men to sign up as a Big Brother.

Dressed in black shirts with the words Real Men Mentor across the front in white, Long and his team were recruiting among the shoptalk. "We know this is where men congregate on Saturday mornings." For Long, this up-close-and-personal method of recruiting is crucial, especially in the African American community.

"Most kids that are on the waiting list are African American males and the hardest person to get to sign up is an African American male. It is no problem to get a

white male, but it is that [the boys] need someone like them to really be their role model," explained Long. During their recent shop blitz, 50 men completed the application and 36 more took applications to review.

His involvement began with a promise to a college fraternity brother and an invitation from a Dallas area co-worker and has never really ended.

"I had just began working after graduating from Texas Southern University (TSU) in Houston, Texas and a co-worker asked me to be a participant in "Big for day," began Long. The objective of this single day program was to connect prospective big brothers with little brother awaiting mentors for one day. Although he admits that he did not really understand the impact of the program at the time, the little brother did. "At the end of the night, he looked up at me and asked, "So, are you going to be my big brother forever?" He realized how valued his presence was and the ease having the mentor around. Long signed up immediately.

Over his years of service, he has been a big brother to about six young men that are now adults with their own families. Now, Long understands the value of being a

good and consistent role model. "I think I know were all of them are today." He still talks to them occasionally and has even been in the wedding party for a couple of them. "The match ends, but the friendship and the relationship never ends," said Long.

Michael Johnson, now a barber at Natural Edges Barber salon in Lewisville, TX, was the second of the six mentored by Long. He was a big brother to Johnson from age 8 until he graduated from high school. Johnson is the product of single parent home whose mom signed him up at a YMCA because she recognized the need for a male voice in his life. "My mom felt like I needed a male voice outside the house," he began and he is now appreciative of her action. In the tough times at home, Johnson recalled Long's words, "If you just stay on this side with me and just ride this thing out, I promise it will work out in the end." He was right.

"It was like they took an orphan off of the streets and made me a part of their family," said Johnson as he reminisced on his days as a little brother. Long concurred, "When my girls were younger, they actually thought Michael was their real brother for a while."

Long and Johnson went camping, fishing, to Mavericks games and even took pictures with Rolondo Blackman and the other players. "When we went to the games, they used to put (our) names on the score board," he shared. Camping remains one of the memorable moments for Johnson, "He showed me how to set your mind free, so that you can get back up and start again." Now, Johnson is working alongside Long to help fulfill the commitments of a current community program, The Barbershop Mentoring Initiative Program in conjunction with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

When Long and his team came to Michael Johnson's barbershop, it was not a second thought for him to sign up. "It is good to be able to have a chance to put back in. Also, it will be fun to see if I can be more of a man and a mentor than Dale Long."

Big Brothers and Big Sisters is a non-profit organization that connects children ages 7 to 14 years of age to adult volunteers to provide community and school-based mentoring. It is the largest, oldest and most effective organization of its kind

See *MENTOR*, pg 16

Christmas Carol Returns to Dallas Stage

From staff reports

Dallas Theater Center welcomes the return of the perennial holiday favorite, *A Christmas Carol*, from Nov. 22-Dec. 28 at the Kalita Humphreys Theater. A beloved Dallas tradition for more than 20 years, this critically acclaimed production is directed and choreographed by Ft. Worth native Joel Ferrell. The popular novella was adapted by Richard Helleisen

and the uplifting score was composed by David de Berry. Following two years of rave reviews, Royal Shakespeare Company alum Robert Langdon Lloyd returns in the starring role of Ebenezer Scrooge alongside a cast of Dallas actors.

"Dickens' mix of passion, humor and whimsy make *A Christmas Carol* truly a celebration of generosity and community," said Ferrell, who has

directed the production since the 2005-06 season. "With Robert Langdon Lloyd and actors from previous casts returning this year, our production is very much like an onstage family reunion where the remarkable talent will entertain and dazzle audiences."

During this year's production of *A Christmas Carol*, DTC will collect monetary donations from patrons to benefit the North Texas Food Bank,

which helps feed an estimated 48,000 families each month. Each dollar donated will provide five meals for those in need.

"Dallas Theater Center is committed to bringing the community together to explore and celebrate our shared values and engage in the civic life of our great city," artistic director Kevin Moriarty said. "As Charles Dickens so powerfully reminds us in *A Christmas Carol*, the holiday season is an especially

important time to remember those who are less fortunate, and partnering with North Texas Food Bank is an excellent way for us to directly impact our community in a positive way."

All performances of *A Christmas Carol* will be held at the Kalita Humphreys Theater, located at 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd., at Blackburn St., where it runs Nov. 22-Dec. 28. Preview performances Nov. 22-24. Opening night is Tuesday, Nov. 25

at 7:30 p.m. Performance times are Tuesday through Thursday evenings (except Monday, Nov. 24) at 7:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.; and select Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m. Single ticket prices range from \$16 to \$60 and are available by calling the box office at 214.522.8499 or by visiting www.dallastheatercenter.org.

Host BET J's First Ever Virtual Awards set November 25

From staff reports

BET J bridges the worlds of music and virtual reality to bring viewers its first ever awards show, the BET J VIRTUAL AWARDS, slated to premiere on BET J on Tuesday, November 25 at 7:30 p.m., followed by an encore online broadcast at 9:00 p.m. on BET.com. Hosted by critically-acclaimed actress Nia Long and comedian Chris Spencer, the "virtual" broadcast will feature red-hot performances from Washington, DC, New York and Atlanta hotspots -- all from a stunning, groundbreaking virtual environment!

The BET J VIRTUAL AWARDS perfectly blends the "traditional" awards show with today's cutting edge technology. The star-studded special will showcase an esteemed lineup of 16 nominee categories that pay homage and accolades to today's music newcomers and veterans, as well as other celebrities making unprecedented moves in film.

Following is a complete partial of nominee categories for the BET J VIRTUAL AWARDS show:

Album of the Year:

- Alicia Keys, *As I Am*, J Records
- Angie Stone, *The Art of*

Love and War, Stax / Concord Music Group

- Erykah Badu, *New Amerykah, Pt.1 (4th World War)*, Universal Motown
- Chaka Khan, *Funk This*, Burgundy Records

- Lenny Kravitz, *It's Time for a Love Revolution*, Virgin Records America
- Raheem DeVaughn, *Love Behind the Melody*, Jive Records/Zomba Label Group

Song of the Year:

- American Boy, Kanye West
- Honey, E. Badu
- Just Fine, Mary J. Blig
- Love Revolution, Lenny Kravitz, Craig Ross
- Teenage Love Affair, Alicia Keys,
- Woman, Raheem DeVaughn

Virtual Video of the Year:

- Common, *Drivin Me Wild*
- Erykah Badu, *Honey*
- Solange, *I Decided*
- Robin Thicke, *Magic*
- T Pain, *Can't Believe It*
- Wyclef Jean, *Fast Car*

Contemporary Jazz Artist:

- Al Jarreau, *The Concord Music Group*
- Dianne Reeves, *The Blue Note Label Group*
- Herbie Hancock, *The Verve Music Group*
- Kenny G, *The Concord Music Group*

- George Duke, *BPM Records*
- S.M.V.-Stanley Clarke, *Marcus Miller and Victor Wooten, S.M.V. LLC*

Best Gospel Artist:

- BeBe Winans, *Koch Records*
- Mary Mary, *Columbia Records*
- Israel & New Breed, *Integrity Media, Inc*
- Kirk Franklin, *Fo Yo Soul/Gospo Centric/ Zomba Records/ Zomba Gospel*
- Trin-I-Tee 5:7, *Spirit Rising Music/Music World Entertainment*

Male Artist of the Year:

- Common, *Geffen Records*
- John Legend, *G.O.O.D Music/Columbia Records*
- Lenny Kravitz, *Virgin Records America*
- Raheem DeVaughn, *Jive Records/Zomba label Group*
- Terrence Howard, *Columbia Records*
- Wyclef Jean, *Columbia Records*

Female Artist of the Year:

- Alicia Keys, *J Records*
- Chrisette Michele, *The Island Def Jam Music Group*
- Estelle, *Home School/Atlantic Records*
- Jill Scott, *Hidden Beach Recordings*
- Ledisi, *The Verve Music Group*

- Janet Jackson, *The Island Def Jam Music Group*

Best Film:

- American Gangster, Director: Ridley Scott;
- I Am Legend, Director: Francis Lawrence
- Meet the Browns,

Director: Tyler Perry

- The Great Debaters, Director: Denzel Washington,
- Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins

- American Gangster, Director: Ridley Scott;
- I Am Legend, Director: Francis Lawrence
- Meet the Browns,

Best Actor:

- David Man, *Meet the Browns*

- Denzel Washington, *The Great Debaters*
- Denzel Washington, *American Gangster*
- Derek Luke, *Lions for Lambs*
- Martin Lawrence, *Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins*
- Will Smith, *I Am Legend*

PARSONS, continued from Page 1

ity. But, how do you make things better for the people at the bottom? How do you make things tolerable? How do you make things bearable? You've got to fix the whole system so that it works top to bottom."

Parsons was responding to a student's question about how the Obama administration would specifically attend to the woes of "minority businesses" as much of the focus appears to be on bailouts of banks, lenders, major corporations and even the automotive industry.

Parsons says the excitement of an incoming new president will give people the hope and confidence to help jumpstart spending and keep the economy flowing. But the reality is that America's economic condition at the moment is very bad.

"How bad is it? Actually, it's pretty bad," he told the audience of Howard business students, professors, and economists.

Parsons says the high hopes for the new and historic administration of President Barack Obama after the Jan. 20 inauguration are fearful because people tend to overestimate what he can do single handedly.

"One of my big concerns and fears for our incoming president is that the expectations for this guy are so off the charts. People think that he can walk on water," he said to chuckles in the audience. "You know, he may be able to walk on water, but he's not going to get this economy turned around in a nanosecond. There's no silver bullet. I just hope somehow that we can really get people really grounded in what's going to have to happen to get us out of this so that their expectations for a President-elect Obama can become somewhat more realistic."

A member of Howard's board of trustees and for-

mer Time Warner chief executive officer who recently led the entertainment corporation out of its own financial woes, Parsons gave the first hints of the strategy that Obama may use to strengthen the failed economy.

"The real problem is that virtually most of the growth around the world over the last half a dozen years has been funded through credit," he said. "Banks jumped off the rail and started lending money to people who didn't have the jobs or financial strength to otherwise pay the loans back and the housing crisis started with this spiral downward."

He said the economic rescue must start at the top of the economic chain because without credit, businesses will fail, jobs will be lost and people will not have money to spend. "First, businesses can't get access to credit. That means they can't build new plants, can't replace obsolete or worn out equipment, they can't innovate as progressively as they were before. That means jobs begin to go away," he explained. They begin to cut costs - human capital - and begin to ask, 'How do we get people off the payroll?'"

Then, he said, people "stop spending, don't have jobs, can't pay credit cards."

Recently the U. S. House and Senate passed a \$700 billion economic bailout largely for Wall Street investment bankers and lending institutions across the nation.

"They are not saving these people because they are their friends," Parsons said. "You've got to save them because they get credit to people and they will get jobs to people who need jobs. So, you have to look at it in a balanced way."

Still, people want immediate relief, he conceded with understanding.

"People are hurting. People are losing their jobs. People are scared. What can we do to get this thing jump-started...to get the engine going again?"

He says the following are a few points that Obama can start to focus on:

He said, first he must explain to the American people what happened.

"How did we go from prosperity to what seems like the brinks of depression?" I think that if people understand what happen and if their leader would articulate a path forward, that will help them," Parsons said. "People will have to say, 'I understand what's going down'. And that the man has a plan will restore some confidence. That's a plus."

Then the economy must start going again, he said, pointing to the need for "some kind of stimulus package that has some kind of tax relief for the middle and lower class."

There must also be some kind of infrastructure investment and development that includes roads, rails, bridges, broadband fibers and business needs, he said.

"My guess is that you're

going to see people debating how much stimulus and in what direction the stimulus will go," he said.

Among the most recent industries pleading for help is the automotive industry.

Parsons said the failure of the automotive industry - which he said affects 15 percent of America's payroll - could plummet the nation into full-fledged depression.

"You can't let these guys go down. You just can't get it go down because then you're talking depression...You could be talking about levels of unemployment exceeding 20 percent and we'll be under depres-

sion-like conditions."

But, credit is key to all, he said.

"As soon as the credit stuff is resolved then [people will] start buying cars again."

I think that frankly, the fact that we have a new president, is going to give people a sense of courage and optimism that will help materially.

Among the following are some of what Parsons also outlined as "keys to recovery":

- The banks must gain courage to start lending again.

- More banks must consolidate.

- With consolidation must come more regulation.

- Though more than a million housing stocks will crumble, many will be taken over by new housing stock.

Recovering will happen, Parsons concludes: "We will get out of this slowly. We didn't get into it overnight. We won't get out of it overnight." But, recovery will happen, he concludes. The good news is not whether we will be able to recover, the question is when and how much pain is going to be experienced in the period between now and the recovery."

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Website: www.fbc-online.net

Dr. C. Paul McBride, Senior Pastor

City-Wide Thanksgiving Service
November 23, 2008

Schedule of Events

Time

Event

6:00 pm	Opening Music
6:05 pm	Welcome and Opening Prayer
6:08 pm	Worship Team
6:25 pm	Scripture Reading
6:30 pm	Special Music
6:40 pm	Video
6:43 pm	Ministers Association
6:48 pm	Offering
6:52 pm	Message
7:30 pm	Benediction/Post Service Music

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DISD, continued from page 1

and energy to correct gross injustices.

So be it with fired DISD teachers and support personnel, parents, fed up taxpayers and disgruntled stakeholders.

Although Mr. Hinojosa is the target, the school district's problems are much deeper, wider and systemic.

We can no longer afford DISD's current inept leadership. Right now, DISD leadership is focused on image and damage control. What we need is a school district that focuses its energy and talents on preparing highly competi-

tive job-ready and college-ready graduates.

Knowing that it takes six of nine trustees to fire or otherwise dismiss him, Mr. Hinojosa says he is not going anywhere. He thinks he is untouchable and exempt from removal due to a rubber-stamping board.

With the mantra "trust us", DISD trustees and superintendent bypassed a financial audit to sneak through a whopping \$1.35 billion bond package. The bond passed with less than 1,500 votes on a seven percent voter turnout.

After the slight-of-hand

"trust us" campaign, DISD flunked its audit in virtually every department and in virtually every way. What if voters were able to review the audit before voting on the bond election?

Look at the mess we have now. We have a school district budget out of balance to the tune of \$64 million or \$84 million or \$148 million, depending on who's explaining what and to what audience.

Rather than use best practices in accounting, oversight and transparency, DISD uses hired guns, attack agents, spin doctors

and well-positioned power brokers to run interference. In their mind they are the model of efficiency and good governance.

In reality, school district leaders are reflecting Enron and Wall Street type behavior.

But what if DISD had cut its spin and consultant budget by 75 percent and capped its awarding of recurring non-bid contracts (those totaling less than \$50,000 per award, which are exempt from competitive bid)?

What if DISD had given protection to tenured teachers and employees and U.S. citizens first,

before cutting teachers and support personnel in its ill-conceived and poorly executed reduction in force?

What if DISD had started cutting at the top? What if new real ethics rules were implemented to expose the money changers hiding and profiting behind DISD?

Or must voters and stakeholders race Texas Education Agency to DISD headquarters to make corrective changes at the trustee and superintendent level?

Going forward we must demand a transparent, conflict-free, policy making board and a skilled super-

intendent adept at managing big school district operations. To protect our children, our future, we must restore credibility, sound fiscal management and measurable academic excellence to DISD.

As parents, voters, taxpayers and stakeholders, we must demand these changes now.

Rev. Stephen C. Nash, PhD., is pastor of Mt. Tabor Baptist Church. He serves as president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance and the Baptist Missionary & Education Convention of Texas. His email address is askrevnash@aol.com.

PARADE, continued from page 1

High School Choir, Coyle Middle School Choir and three elementary schools that will perform on a stage in front of the Chamber of Commerce.

Enjoy hot dogs prepared by the Noon Exchange Club or pick a spot inside Big Star Burger for lunch! You will also be able to buy candy, soft drinks and other goodies from the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) on Main Street.

Say Cheese! Once Santa makes his appearance as the grand finale in the parade, he will head over to the Chamber of

Commerce porch to hear the wishes of little ones. You will also be able to purchase photos of your children with Santa.

This year's parade will help collect Prepaid Phone Cards for our men and women in the military. All parade participants and visitors to the parade are asked to bring a \$10 or \$20 card. A collection point will be made available at the announcement booth. Parade entries are \$35 per entry. The proceeds from the Holiday Parade will be used for Community Service Projects within Rowlett. For additional

information, please call 972-485-8900.

NOTE: Main Street will become "pedestrians only" and will be closed to traffic beginning at 7 a.m. and will not reopen to traffic until 2 p.m. (with the exception of vehicles in the parade). For more information, please call 972-463-CITY or visit www.rowlett.com. Parking will be available for parade entrants at the DART Park and Ride facility one block south of Lakeview Parkway and at Coyle Middle School on Skyline Drive or at Herfurth Park on Centennial Drive for the general public.

THANKSGIVING, continued from page 1

1620 the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth rock. Through the dead of winter the colony struggled with poor and meager food, strenuous labor, a biting wind that chilled to the bone, and the ravages of disease. Nearly half the 102 Mayflower passengers did not live to see Spring refresh Cape Cod Bay.

But God sent Indians--Samoset, Squanto, and Massasoit--to help the English settlers plant and hunt and fish. The bountiful harvest that autumn led

Governor Bradford to invite the Indians to celebrate God's goodness. Ninety tall braves accepted the invitation to join the Pilgrims in a feast of Thanksgiving to God for His blessings.

The Pilgrims lived close enough to the soil to know how dependent they were on God's Providence. They had learned to thank God in the midst of the bitterness of winter past. And they were quick to thank Him during abundant blessing, too.

We teach our children to

say "please" and "thank you" as the rudiments of courtesy, yet it is so easy to be rude and unthinking toward God. How often we forget to gratefully acknowledge His goodness towards us.

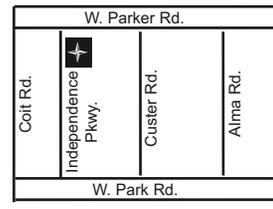
This Thanksgiving let your prayers and expressions of love rise toward your Heavenly Father.

"What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord." (Psalm 116:12-13)



Store Hours:
 Mon. - Thurs. 10:30 am - 9:00pm
 Fri. - Sat. 10:30 am - 10:00pm
 Sunday Closed

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"The Bailout-Looking Ahead: Real Estate Leaders Voice Their Opinions"

By Monte L. Brown

RISMedia recently interviewed several industry experts on the subject and is presenting their comments in a regularly occurring series called, "The Bailout-Looking Ahead." Here, Gino Blefari, Founder, President & CEO of Intero Real Estate in Cupertino, California, offers his thoughts about the bailout, what it means to consumers and the government's new role in real estate.

RISMedia: Was the bailout necessary and do you support it?

Gino Blefari: The bailout was needed. It will allow banks and note holders to get direct liquidity. This is a strategy, though-not a one-trick pony.

RISMedia: What is the bailout's effect on consumer confidence in the real estate market?

GB: It will take time for consumer confidence to come back to the market. It looks like we're getting close to bottoming out.

I think something to be cognizant of is that people are now afraid for their jobs. Nothing changes overnight. We have a lot of instability and uncertainty

in this country right now. We'll have to wait and see how the country reacts to the bailout once things start to happen and the election is over.

Inventory is high. Consumers are just not confident in anything.

RISMedia: What do you think is needed to get consumers back to buying and selling?

GB: If job security goes up, job demand will push real estate up as well. When more jobs come in, there are just more transactions. People aren't buying right now because they want to see what will happen-with the economy, with their jobs, with everything.

We need to look at the prices we're offering. It needs to be a realistic price or it should be taken off the market. Then there wouldn't be so much inventory.

RISMedia: Is now a good time to buy?

GB: If you talk to people who bought their homes anywhere between 10-30 years ago, a good number of them will say that they wished they'd bought more. People are still looking for places to put their money-would you really put your money in stock market right

now? No, it's a great time to invest in real estate. There are great buys, prices are down and you can get a lot of great deals from foreclosures.

It's still the law of supply and demand. Lower the prices and they'll be a big push. However, we also need to have the best professionals offering the best customer experience. We have to look out for our buyers and sellers. In the boom years, there were some in this industry that said, 'We'll sell it-even if they can't afford it.' We just

need to sell people homes that make sense-that they can afford.

RISMedia: What do you think of the government's new rights (within

the bailout bill) to purchase foreclosed homes and refinance them at their current value so that homeowners can stay in the home?

GB: Given the situation,

we have to explore all options. However, private enterprise should try to fix this first. We need to take every available option and see what makes sense.

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The McKinney Housing Authority will accept applications for the Public Housing waiting list beginning December 2, 2008.

Applications will be taken in our office
Monday-Thursday * 7:30-5:30pm

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McKinney, Texas 75069
Phone: 972-542-5641 * Fax: 972-562-8387

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Church Happenings

1 LUV ENTERTAINMENT

November 21, 7 pm
FREE with a canned food donation a Tommye Young-West Concert to release new CD, "Created to Worship." Call Craig Miles @ 214-602-5390 for details.

1 Luv Entertainment
4812 Club View Circle
Mesquite, TX 75150
214-602-5390

CALVARY
PHILADELPHIA M.B.C.

November 30, 4 pm
Come to our Women with Hattitude Holiday Tea and Parade of Church Lady Hats. Call 214-371-3581 for details.

Rev. J. H. Moore, Jr.
Pastor/Servant
4703 Sunnyvale
Dallas, TX 75216
214-371-3581

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST
CHURCH OF ALLEN

ON GOING, 9 am-4 pm
Monday-Friday
Prayer Lines for those in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567.

Wednesdays, 7 pm
In November
Get your praise on, Wednesday Night Live (WNL) @ our main campus, 200 Belmont Drive in Allen. Call the church for details.

November 24, 7:30 pm
Our Young Lions and Daughters of Imani is a Rites of Passage Ministry for ages 13-18. You are welcome.

Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr.

M. Div., Senior Pastor
1550 Edelweiss
(Service Location)
200 Belmont Drive
(Church Address)
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST
CHURCH, THE COLONY

On Going Tutoring--
Math & English, 7 pm
Monday nights for Math & English, and Wednesday nights (only) for Math.

November 23, 6 pm
Don't miss our City-Wide Thanksgiving Service.

Dr. C. Paul McBride
Senior Pastor
4396 Main Street
The Colony, TX 75056
9723-625-8186

MOUNT MORIAH M.B.C.

November 21, 7 pm
An Appreciation and Installation Banquet for Rev. Johnny C. Smith as pastor will be @ the Renaissance Hotel in Dallas, the Grand Ballroom; Dr. James P. Thompson, Pastor of Mount Olive B.C. in Arlington will be the speaker.

November 23, 10:50 am & 3 pm

Dr. Martin E. Hawkins, President of Southern Bible Institute will speak @ 10:50 am; and Dr. C.B.T. Smith, Pastor Emeritus of Golden Gate BC in Dallas will speak @ the Appreciation and Installation Services.

Rev. Johnny C. Smith,
Pastor
3611 Latimer

Dallas, TX 75215
214-428-2990

MT. PISGAH MISSION-
ARY
BAPTIST CHURCH

November 18-20, 7 pm
Last night of our 2008 Fall Refreshing Revival with Rev./Dr. Tellis Chapman, Pastor of Galilee MBC in Detroit, MI. For details call 972-241-6151.

Rev. Robert Townsend,
Senior Pastor
11611 Webb Chapel Road
Dallas, TX 75229
972-241-6151

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP
CHURCH OF ROWLETT

November 22, 4 pm
Join us for a "The Gathering of the Fruit" Harvest Tea Celebration. Scripture: Galatians 5:22-23. Donation is \$10 plus a canned food item or an unwrapped toy. Information or directions, call 972-463-4964.

Bishop Miller Johnson, Jr.
Senior Pastor
7401 Miller Road
Rowlett, TX
972-463-4964

NEW PILGRIM REST
MBC

November 20 & 21, 6:45 pm
We are hosting a V & B Ministries Church Wide Institute Seminar. Classes @ 6:45 pm and worship @ 8 pm with Dr. Frank Ray, Sr., Pastor of New Salem MBC in Memphis, TN. Childcare will be provided for 3 years and younger. Call 214-637-1019 for details.

Dr. Billy L. Bell, Sr. Pastor
1930 Gallagher Street
Dallas, TX 75212
214-637-1019

SANCTUARY OF PRAISE
FELLOWSHIP OF PLANO

November 21 - 23, 2008
Our 5th Anniversary Celebration is Friday @ 7 pm; "Saints Night Out-Fun for the Family." Saturday @ 7 pm; Banquet @ Allen Hilton Garden Inn with Rev. Johnny Sanders speaking. Sunday @ 10:30 am hear Rev. Virgil Watson. Finale @ 5 pm with Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Pastor of Bibleway Community B.C. in Irving. Theme: "Look Where He Brought Us From!"

Rev. John Wilson, III,

Pastor
1318 J Avenue
Plano, TX 75074
469-853-2380

THE ASCENSION
CHURCH

December 2008
Come to our 3rd Christmas Banquet; theme: "The Reason for the Season." Call

972-658-8843 to RSVP, for deadline dates and fees. There will be an inspiring message, holiday songs, dinner and wonderful prizes. Attire: Semi-formal.

Harold Clark, Jr.
Senior Pastor
404 N. Allen Drive
Allen, TX 75013
972-658-8843

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For Kingdom Building
200 BELMONT DRIVE - ALLEN, TX 75013
(972) 359-9956 - www.fbcfallen.org



Sunday Morning Services
8:15AM Story Elementary
10:45AM Story Elementary
1550 Edelweiss - Allen, Tx

Wednesday Night Live
Wed Prayer Service / Bible Study
7:00 PM
200 Belmont Dr - Allen, Tx



Pastor W.L. Stafford Sr.
Lady Tasha Stafford

WCCOP MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO (MOCOP)
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Pastors Sam & Gloria Fenceroy



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Sunday Morning Worship

10:00 am

Wednesday Nights

7:15 pm

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1113 Ave. I, Plano, TX 75074 (972) 423-4090
Rev. Clarence J. Ford, Jr., Pastor

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



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Sunday Worship Service 11:00AM
Sunday School 9:30AM
Thursday Night Live At The Light 7:00PM

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Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor



Sister Tarpley

To God Be The Glory!

This year I am reminded of the song and/or saying that tells us to, count our many blessing, count them one by one, count our many blessing and see what God has done.

I also remember the year that my late and dearly beloved mother, Mrs. Cedella Baker Demus, suffered a stroke; God blessed our family and mother came back home. That year, Thanksgiving became extra special for me. The importance of things came into sharp focus.

When we went to mom's home for Thanksgiving, I brought out all of her best, the dishes, the silverware, the table cloth (you know, all of the things that she only used for special guests.) From that day, I know the true meaning of Thanksgiving, and not just for one day. It's not about being thankful for material things; it's about

things that money can't buy, a family, love, friendship, health, peace, joy and happiness to name a few.

I am sincerely thankful for the many blessings that God has given me. My grandchildren, Tyanna, David, Deven and Philip; my children and their spouse, Jarrell & Cleo Tarpley; and Minister Sheila & Bill Lott (without whom I wouldn't be an extremely proud, happy and blessed grandmother.) You see, one birthday, at 12:01 am, I didn't get a call from a Mercedes car, a Rolex watch, a two-million dollar house, clothes from the grandest stores, I received a call from my grandchildren singing, "Happy Birthday Grandmother!" All the gold in Fort Knox could not have made me that happy, only pure love, especially through grandchildren.

I am grateful for my siblings, Eloyd; Billie; James; Ida; Rose (David); and Harold (Jean); I am thankful for their children, grandchild-

dren, and their great grandchildren. I am most thankful for the legacy passed down to me from my grandparents and parents.

Last week my sister Ida called me at the office to tell me that they had rushed my oldest brother, James, to the hospital because he had passed out after cooking breakfast. Later the doctors diagnosed that he suffered a mild heart attack. Also last week, Sister Elizabeth White, First Lady at Love Chapel C.O.G.I.C, my church, called and told me that my pastor, Elder Philip White, was in the hospital with a blood clot in his leg. Now, within a week, I had three people that I love incapacitated; I called around for special prayers.

In one night, I went to visit James, Elder White and my sister, Billie (a resident at the Carrollton Health and Rehab Center.) They are all doing well, James is back home and if God delays His coming back, this Saturday, our family will celebrate another birthday year with him along with other family members

born in November. Elder White is in a Dallas Rehab Center getting his strength back; and Billie smiles and talks to me at the Carrollton Rehab Center. To God Be The Glory!

Also, Happy Birthday to my nieces, Mrs. La Kieth Eggin Pleth-Suka, November 22nd and Mrs. Vanessa Eggin Raymond, November 27th, and my first grandchild, Little Miss Tyanna Donnise Lott, November 24th, she will be 10 years old this year. What a blessing.

The word of God reminds us, "In everything give thanks: for this is the Will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." **1 Thessalonians 4:18**; "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him and bless His name." **Psalm 100:4**; and, "By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name." **Hebrews 13:15**.



Sister Tarpley and her oldest brother, James David Demus, after a recent "mild" heart attack, getting ready to celebrate his 73rd birthday this Saturday. Happy Birthday Brother! From your family. We Love You!

Charity concert to benefit DeSoto Food Pantry

Native-born national gospel recording artist, Tommye Young-West will debut her new recording this month, "Created to Worship," with a FREE concert where she will

partner with the DeSoto Food Pantry to collect canned goods for Thanksgiving. "No one should go hungry this Thanksgiving and I'm excited about this opportu-

nity to use my gift to benefit others," said Tommye. The concert is scheduled for Friday, November 21, 2008 at the Inspiring Body of Christ (I.B.O.C.) Church located at 7710

South Westmoreland Road, Dallas, Texas at 7:00 p.m. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. Bring a canned good or non-perishable food item and come experience the JOY of giving.

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 Wednesday Bible Study ... 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm

Office Hours
 Monday & Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 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

Ben Washington Baptist Church, Inc.
 3901 Frisco Avenue
 Irving, TX 75061
 Church 972-710-8421 Fax 972-986-6590
 Email: church@bwbcriving.org
 web: bwbcriving.org

Dr. Joseph R. Shoppert, Pastor

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 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
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Wednesday
 12:00 p.m. Bible Study
 7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour
 7:30 p.m. Bible Study

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 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.

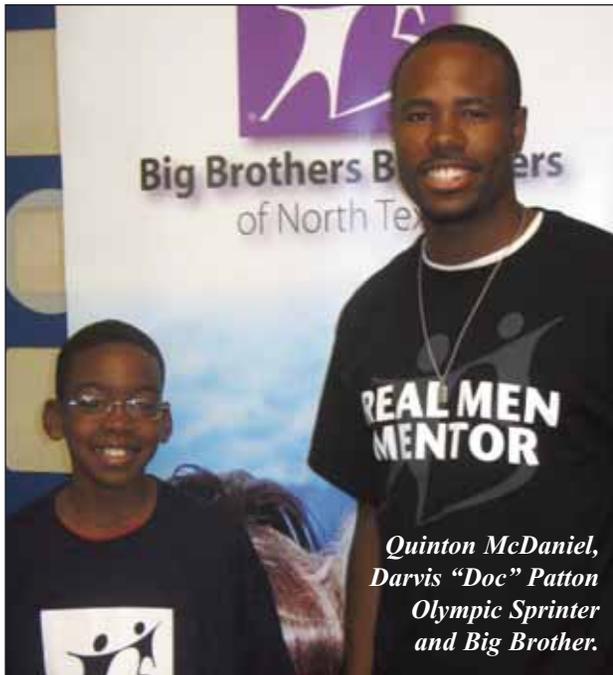
Tuesday
 Early Bird Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

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

Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor

"The Church with a Vision"

MENTOR, continued from page 9



*Quinton McDaniel,
Darvis "Doc" Patton
Olympic Sprinter
and Big Brother.*

in the country. The goal is to build a positive role model relationship with a child to help empower, enrich and encourage them toward the path of a successful life.

"In order to be a man, our boys have to see a man. Kids emulate what they see," proclaimed

Long. "They need to see a man that puts on a shirt and tie and goes to work at a law office, or a man like Barack Obama".

Long has heard many reasons for not participating, "The excuse that I get the most is that I do not have the time." According to Long, the

organization has made it relatively easy for interested individuals to add the time with a little brother into your own schedule. "They match you up according to your likes and dislikes and find children in locations near your work or home. The agency caseworkers monitor the match and provide you with activity

ideas and event tickets and the time requirement is only four hours a month."

If you want to accept the Man Up! challenge and become one of the 10,000 men that Long is seeking to sign up, go on-line at www.bbbstx.org or call 888-887-BIGS.

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Sunday School.....9:30am
Morning Worship.....10:45am
Prayer/Bible Study.....7:00pm (Wed)

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Early Sunday Morning8:00 am
Sunday Bible Class9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship10:45 am
Men Bible Class5:00 pm
Women Bible Class5:00 pm
Evening Worship6:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Class7:00 pm
Radio Program @ 7:30 am on KHVN 970 AM Sunday Mornings

Ramon Hodridge, Minister www.avefchurchofchrist.org

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Sunday Services: 7:30 am, 10:00 am, 12:30pm.
Monday School: 7pm
Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00pm

Pastor Rickie G. Rash [Website: www.ibocjoy.org](http://www.ibocjoy.org)

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:
8:00 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM

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www.ndcbf.org

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX

Pastor Isiah Joshua, Jr.

FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH

Sunday Worship Services 8AM & 11AM

Sunday	9:45AM Sunday School
Monday	7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission & Young Adult Ministries
Tuesday	7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir
Wednesday	7PM Mid-Week Service
Thursday	7PM Mass Choir

For more information call (972) 423-6695
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

Worship Services 7:30am & 10:30am
Sunday School 9:30 am
Wednesday Night Service 8:00 pm

Dr. Gregory Foster Senior Pastor
Rev. Anthony Foster Pastor

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To fulfill The Great Commission until Christ comes.

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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

Dr. Robert E. Price, Sr.
Senior Pastor

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214-341-6459 (Phone) • 214-342-8403 (Fax)
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Dallas, TX 75243

www.nmzb.org (Website) • newmzbc@aol.com (Email)

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Pastor Charles S. Wattley

Sunday
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- Nursery Facilities Available -

Wednesday Family Ministree... 7:00 p.m.

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