

North Dallas Gazette



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NTTA Board approves new diversity policy

(NDG Wire) On Wed, Jan. 20, the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) Board of Directors approved a new Diversity Policy, which outlines the specific programs and goals to ensure participation of disadvantaged, minority, women-owned and small business enterprises in all



NTTA contracting opportunities.

“By implementing industry best practices as well as recommendations from the 2008 Availability and Disparity Study (A&D

Study), we have created an effective Diversity Policy that will assist the NTTA in achieving more diverse participation,” said NTTA Assistant Executive Director of Administrative Services Kim Tolbert. “I am pleased we were able to align our policy with the current needs and objectives of the

organization. I anticipate more diverse participation moving forward.”

The new policy confirms NTTA’s commitment to diversity in contracting and procurement opportunities by:

- Recognizing the application of the Diversity Pol-

See **POLICY**, Page 5

State of the City highlights Irving’s progress, development

(NDG Wire) New economic development, transportation and infrastructure improvements, and the many awards realized by Irving in 2009 set the stage for the 29th Annual State of the City, hosted by the Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce. The

Jan. 21 event featured Irving Mayor Herbert Gears as he delivered the State of the City Address to more than 600 civic and business leaders.

Guests enjoyed an overview of the achievements attained in Irving this past year while learning

about what is in store for the city in 2010. Mayor Gears addressed many topics, among them:

- Awards and Recognition for Irving
- City and chamber staff have been busy earning numerous achievements. These include:

• Finalist for the “Dallas Business Journal’s” Real Estate Deal of the Year for the Convention Center

- Best Performing Arts Center in Texas for the Irving Arts Center
- Best Overall Govern-

See **IRVING** Page 12

What Texans should know about providing their social security number

BY GREG ABBOTT
TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL

According to the Federal Trade Commission, Texas ranks second in the nation for identity theft complaints. In 2008, nearly 32,000 Texans were identity theft victims and, as a result, lost

thousands of dollars and hours of time attempting to correct their credit ratings and personal financial history.

Identity theft occurs when a criminal illegally uses someone else’s personal information: a name, ad-

dress, driver’s license number, credit or debit card account number or Social Security number to commit fraud or other crimes.

Fortunately, increased identity theft awareness has made Texans much more cautious about freely provid-

ing their personal information. One particularly sensitive part of a person’s identity is his or her Social Security number (SSN). Many Texans call the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to

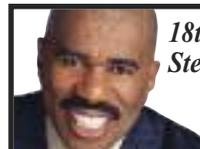
See **NUMBER** Page 1

SPOTLIGHT

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy gives tribute to Cab Calloway at Eisemann Center



See **VOODOO**, Page 9



18th Annual Trumpet Awards to honor Steve Harvey, Frankie Beverly and more

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

TRUTH CLINIC

Do Democrats have what it takes to lead?

BY JAMES BREEDLOVE

While Democrats have shown they have the political skills to win elections they have not shown they have the political fortitude or attitude to lead.

What matters most in politics is the public’s perception of the party in power. Obama is president and the Democrats hold majorities in both Houses of Congress because voters became so dissatisfied with former President Bush’s dictatorial image, the war in Iraq,

and the series of scandals that made Republicans appear to be a cesspool of corruption.

A troubling signs for Democrats is that the public is losing faith in their ability to lead on virtually every domestic issue including healthcare, the economy, double digit unemployment, the trillion dollar debt, and corporate bailouts.

While recent polls do not validate the Republican image, the war in Iraq,

See **LEAD**, Page 3

INSIDE...

People In The News	2
Op-Ed	3
Health	4
Community News	5
Education	6
Spotlight	9
Arts & Entertainment	10
Business Service Directory	11
Career Opportunity	13
Church Happenings	14
Sister Tarpley	15
Church Directory	14, 15 & 16

People In The News...



Susan Rice



Joyce Baumbach



Dr. Homero Cavazos

See Page 2

Susan E. Rice

Susan E. Rice, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, a member of President Barack Obama's Cabinet and a national security advisor, will be the 2010 Commencement speaker at Stanford University.

Stanford's 119th Commencement Weekend, scheduled June 11-13, also will feature a Class Day lecture by philosophy Professor Debra Satz and a Baccalaureate address by Eboo Patel, a member of President Barack Obama's faith advisory council and founder and executive director of



the Interfaith Youth Core.

"Ambassador Rice was chosen to represent America at the United Nations in order to advance international peace and security,

strengthen human rights and support democracy," said university President John Hennessy. "Her goals mirror those of Stanford: to tackle the most pressing global challenges, including addressing climate change and combating poverty, disease and violence to promote peace. I am proud that a Stanford alumna is in this vital international role, and I know she will challenge our graduates to embark on meaningful lives as our next generation of leaders."

Ambassador Rice has long been involved in political, economic, security and humanitarian issues. As Assistant Secretary, she for-

mulated and implemented overall U.S. policy for 48 countries of Sub-Saharan Africa and oversaw the management of 43 U.S. Embassies. Rice was co-recipient of the White House's 2000 Samuel Nelson Drew Memorial Award for distinguished contributions to the formation of peaceful, cooperative relationships between states. She served as the Director for International Organizations and Peacekeeping on the National Security Council staff from 1993 until 1995. Rice was also a management consultant with McKinsey and Company and served on numerous

boards, including the National Democratic Institute, the Partnership for Public Service and the U.S. Fund for UNICEF.

Senior Class Presidents Walter Foxworth, Dan Ha, Ansaif Kareem and Aria Florant said that Rice's Stanford connection and position of global significance would be most welcome at the Commencement ceremony.

"We are thrilled that Ambassador Rice will return to Stanford to share her perspective on some of the greatest challenges facing the world," the Class Presidents said in a joint statement. "She is in a position

of international leadership with a record of service promoting peace and humanity. Every one of us will benefit from hearing how we can similarly go forth and make a difference in the world with a Stanford education."

Ambassador Rice earned a bachelor's degree in history from Stanford in 1986. She was a Truman Scholar and graduated junior Phi Beta Kappa. She received her Masters in Philosophy and Doctorate of Philosophy in International Relations from New College, Oxford University, England, where she was a Rhodes Scholar.

Joyce Baumbach

Plano City Manager Tom Muehlenbeck has announced the retirement of Joyce Baumbach, Director of Libraries, effective January 31, 2010.

"The Plano Public Library System has always been a vital part of our community, reflecting and responding to the information and literacy needs of our citizenry through unrivaled service and programming," said Muehlenbeck. "To enjoy

the legacy Joyce has nurtured over her 22-years of service to our Plano citizens, one only has to walk through the doors of any of our five all-star Plano public library facilities."

After entering the Plano Public Library System on May 23, 1988, Baumbach was promoted to Library Systems Administrator in March 1994, Technical Services Manager in February 1996 and assumed the posi-

tion of Director of Libraries in February 1999.

"Joyce capably oversaw the construction of both Maribelle M. Davis and Christopher A. Parr Libraries as well as numerous expansions and remodels at our other three library facilities," said Mr. Muehlenbeck. "She has responded to the needs of our community by employing an enthusiastic and customer-service oriented staff and introducing relevant children, teen and adult programming and technology access into our library system."



Under her leadership, Harrington, Schimelpfenig, Haggard, Davis and Parr libraries continue to be prime

sources for community and regional information. Patron visits are rapidly approaching the 2 million mark annually and the loan and distribution of materials has surpassed 3 million items annually. Exciting and relevant informational, educational and social programming reaches all ages, from infant to teens to seniors, with a broad slate of bi-lingual and literacy programming also enhancing library services.

Under Baumbach's guidance, technology has become a major element in library

programming meeting both the need and demand for public access to computerized services and desktop program access. Her development of a 1995 Internet Policy relating to public Internet access from library computers was quickly identified as groundbreaking, leading to national attention and emulation. The library Web site continues to top the "most popular" list of municipal departmental pages and the expansion of online cata-

See BAUMBACH Page 5

Dr. Homero Cavazos



Dr. Homero Cavazos continues to create a list of success stories by implementing a revolutionary, drug-free approach to treating some of today's most common childhood neurodevelopmental disorders. Cavazos' attributes his success to his unique, multi-modal therapy program, "BrainworX". BrainworX is a comprehen-

sive, brain-based rehabilitation program, which targets neurological deficiencies identified with AD/HD, autism, dyslexia, Asperger's, and various learning disabilities. The therapy offers long-awaited answers to frustrated parents, teachers, and most importantly children.

What differentiates BrainworX from other therapeutic approaches is the unique combination of biomedical therapy, neurological rehabilitation, and dietary/nutritional support.

Biomedical therapy involves the use laboratory analysis to determine the most efficient combination of natural herbs and supplements needed to correct biochemical deficiencies in the body. Identifying neurological deficiencies is vital in cre-

ating an effective treatment plan. Dr. Cavazos evaluates functional and structural weaknesses such as balance, gross/fine motor abnormalities, and posture along with behavior questionnaires to assess neurological deficiencies.

Proper nutrition plays an important role in your child's success. BrainworX utilizes the latest and most accurate laboratory testing available to identify which dietary changes will be most beneficial for your child. Find out what is needed for your child before putting him/her on a restrictive and lifestyle changing diet.

BrainworX unique multi-modal treatment approach, allows activation, stabilization, and retraining of the brain's underdeveloped areas. BrainworX patients have seen decreases in impulsivity, aggression, and anxiety. Chil-

dren have also seen great improvement in verbal skills, attention and focus capabilities, and balance and coordination. Children in the BrainworX program have made great gains in Map testing scores, and full letter grade increases in reading and math grades.

If a child is suffering from AD/HD, autism, dyslexia, asperger's, learning disabilities, visual and auditory processing disorders or other types of pediatric neurodevelopmental disorders, BrainworX may be able to help.

Typical treatment frequency is 2-3 times per week and the sessions are one hour in length. All sessions are "one on one" with the doctor and/or therapist. At the current time, Dr. Cavazos continues to accept new patients.

BrainworX is located at 4508 Legacy Drive, Suite 200, Plano, TX 75024. Dr.

Cavazos is available for individual consultation and is scheduling speaking engagements to groups and associa-

tions. Please direct any questions to the office at 214-377-4833 or email drc@brainworxcenters.com.

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No jobs, no recovery, no votes

BY HARRY ALFORD

(NNPA) - It is a pretty simple formula. Yet, many of our federally elected officials don't seem to understand or at least listen to the masses. The messages in Virginia and New Jersey were certainly clear. Still they prodded on with their largesse and out of touch agenda.

Then comes Massachusetts like the thunder of an electrical storm or the roar of the mighty ocean. Still I wonder if they have figured it out yet. The people want jobs, jobs, jobs! Big schemes

like healthcare reform, energy bills, greedy attempts by union lobbyists, etc will have to wait. The Clinton Campaign's slogan still applies: "It's the economy stupid!"

For the first time in many decades the very democratic state Massachusetts voted to kill the humungous Healthcare Reform Bill and turn the efforts into job creation. Families are hurting and many are being destroyed. Hope is fading as we go through the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. The population demands a full concentration on

getting America back on its economic feet. Those officials who don't concentrate on this task will be heading for unemployment themselves. This election cycle is going to be very exciting.

The Healthcare Reform effort is pretty much dead. The Republicans, thanks to Massachusetts, now have the filibuster weapon. The Democrats can get around that if they accept the Senate version of the bill as it stands. But the House, like much of America, has serious issues with the Senate version and probably could not gather

enough votes to pass it.

For instance, the Congressional Black Caucus insists that a public option be available in the legislation. However, the Senate version has no public option. Then there was the vote swapping via kickbacks, bribery, and downright financial whoring. It's now ugly and the people don't want it. After nine months, this amounts to a monster that no one intended to create. It is going to die and still we have no jobs.

Listen Congress and lis-

See VOTES Page 4

LEAD, continued from Page 1

can proclamations that their gubernatorial wins in New Jersey and Virginia and senatorial win in Massachusetts are a repudiation of Obama's presidency it is a well known fact that even a lie that is repeated often enough with conviction will become a reality for many. Republicans have pounced on this apparent voter backlash to put the Administration and the Democratic agenda on the defensive.

Presidential senior advisor David Axelrod made a valiant attempt to defend Obama on ABC's "This Week" program and stated, "When the president walked in the door, he was handed the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, a financial crisis that held out the prospect of the collapse of the financial system and a fiscal crisis. President Clinton left a \$237 billion surplus; President Obama received a \$1.3 trillion deficit."

Axelrod indicated that the President is up to the challenge of leading the country out of this recession and to make this economy work for all Americans and not just a fortunate few.

These issues and specific initiatives to address the issues will be discussed in the State of the Union speech on Wednesday, January 27 when the President

will make a concerted effort to reconnect with the nation. Aides say President Obama's speech will give frustrated Americans, despite their doubts and concerns, a clear sense of how everything he's pursuing fits together for their benefit.

Supporters and opponents know that President Obama can deliver an awe inspiring and mesmerizing speech. However, it is one thing to talk a good message but another thing to deliver on that message.

While bi-partisanship and extending olive branches may appear noble and benevolent it has not played well in the real world of cut throat partisan politics practiced by the Republican minority.

President Obama's governing strategy must change if he is to have any chance to deliver on his promise to revitalize the America that disintegrated under the failed policies of the Bush administration.

One reason that Democrats have failed to bring about the change demanded by the voters is in the game of political chicken Democrats have flinched first in just about every legislative impasse and allowed the minority Republicans to not only set the agenda but also to define the public discussion of the agenda.

This is not the kind of

leadership that gives comfort and confidence to the frustrated American people.

There are similarities between what President Bill Clinton had to deal with in neutralizing Republican Newt Gingrich's congress in 1994 and Obama's Republican congress. A paper entitled "President Clinton and the Republican Congress 1995-2000" by Richard S. Conley of the University of Florida's Political Science Department gives some useful insight.

President Clinton's attempt to coordinate his domestic initiatives after Republicans captured both chambers of Congress in 1994 necessitated a fundamental reorganization of his legislative strategy. The breakneck speed with which Speaker Newt Gingrich pushed his Contract With America relegated Clinton's agenda to the sidelines of congressional and media attention.

Clinton's strategic response to the Gingrich threat was to skillfully use the Constitutional power provided by the presidential veto. The combination of his artful use of the bully pulpit and the threat of the veto enabled President Clinton to play a pivotal role in legislative outcomes when the governing environment became politically polarized.

During the course of his six year legislative confrontation with the GOP he vetoed thirty-five bills from 1995-2000 to neutralize the Republican divisive agenda.

Republicans challenged eleven of the thirty-five vetoes but managed to override the president only once. Clinton successfully relied on an implied use of the veto on over 140 bills to wrest policy concessions from them.

Currently, Republicans in the Senate and House have rejected every Obama backed Democratic compromise offered in favor of the American people and subordinated them to the best interests of the Republican Party.

A primary lesson from President Clinton's tenure that could serve Obama is: The only thing other politicians respect is power and popularity. Clinton's veto threat was his power and his charisma gave him the ability to make average Americans believe that he was on their side which kept his popularity ratings high even during difficult times.

Take heed President Obama. America is asking: Do Democrats have what it takes to lead?

Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: www.truthclinic.com

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Taking control of your healthcare

(NDG Wire) Whatever is about to happen in health-care reform, one thing is certain: we will all have to play an active role in our healthcare if we want to get the right care. Research shows that those who participate in their healthcare, rather than relying on their doctors to make all the decisions, reduce their health-care costs and they get the

care they need.

Taking Control of Your Healthcare (published by iUniverse), written by a group of physicians and counselors, gives you the information you need to actively participate in your healthcare choices by focusing on “shared” versus “delegated” decision making.

The book will teach you



through numerous life saving examples how to ask the your doctor the right questions; manage your chronic

in the hospital. Other topics in *Taking Control of Your Healthcare* include

disease and other health related issues including issues with seniors; take prescription medications safely; and control and stay safe while

doctor office and hospital conduct, health insurance, and the importance of second opinions.

You will also have helpful websites and other resources which will empower you on *Taking Control of Your Healthcare*. Each chapter includes a specific checklist objective to guide you to make the best decision possible and

provides facts for the common myths and beliefs in the U.S. regarding health-care and illnesses.

The Kreisbergs challenge common myths and beliefs among many in the U.S. and bring facts that shine light on truths. Each chapter has objectives that can be used as a checklist to guide patients to the best decisions for them.

Scam artists prey on older Texans' best traits

BY TEXAS HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

Older adults are rightly admired for their tendency to be polite, open-hearted and generous. Most of us respond to those traits with respect and efforts to follow their example.

Con artists, unfortunately, are responding with a growing number of scams — often phone and Internet-based — that turn Texas seniors' character assets into liabilities.

Laura Albrecht of the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) said many older people consider it rude to question a pleasant-seeming stranger's good intentions.

“These folks were raised in an era when politeness earned trust and it felt deeply uncomfortable to tell a nice-sounding person, ‘I won't give you that information’ or ‘I never do that kind of business over the phone,’” Albrecht explained.

There's no clearinghouse of statistics on fraud against elders, but AARP surveys suggest that telemarketers most often target victims 50 and older with scam attempts increasing with age.

Some of the more common phone-based scams identified by law enforcement agencies and consumer advocates include:

- Pitches, often for travel packages and sweepstakes, that start with the phrase, “You've already won!” but require you to pay upfront for “postage and handling” or other charges. “Must act now” is another sure fire

tipoff line.

- Any phone messages in which the caller demands a callback to “discuss an urgent matter concerning your credit card account.” Never call the given number. Instead, call the toll-free customer service number on your bill and ask if there's an issue with your account.

- Any unsolicited call in which you're asked to give your credit card number or expiration date, date of birth, bank account number or Social Security number, or any kind of account password.

- Sales offers for deeply

discounted vitamins, medicines or health care products.

- Charities that ask you to give over the phone.

Albrecht noted that seniors should be especially cautious about phone charity calls made in the aftermath of major disasters such as hurricanes.

“That's a classic time when you see a lot of solicitations designed to prey on people's emotions,” Albrecht said. “Some may be legitimate, but it's best to be double safe and not respond directly to the call. Look

them up first.”

That's also good advice for any phone request for a donation. Decline the phone donation request and check the charity out with the Better Business Bureau (www.bbb.org/us/charity) before making your contribution.

Although senior-targeted Internet scams still lag behind telemarketing fraud, they're growing fast. The creativity of Internet swindlers sometimes rivals the legitimate masterminds of Apple and Google.

However, their meat-

and-potatoes schemes tend to focus on credit card fraud, identity theft, fraudulent billing, illegal pharmacies (often selling counterfeit medicines) and merchandise that will not be delivered.

Never buy from unlicensed distributors or ones that sell drugs without a prescription.

If your medicines look different from what you've been taking — or look suspicious in any other way — show them to a pharmacist or doctor before taking them.

Never respond to unso-

licited e-mails that require you to supply or “verify” your information. This is often done by e-mailing you a link to a fake (though often very real-looking) website.

Non-delivery of ordered merchandise and other Internet scams can be reported to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center. Go to www.fbi.gov and search on Internet Fraud.

Another good resource for Texas consumers is the Attorney General's Consumer Protection unit: www.oag.state.tx.us/consumer/scams.shtml.

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Nickel neutering for cats

(NDG Wire) The City of Plano Animal Services Division will neuter male cats for 5 cents each on Tuesday, Feb. 23 as part of Spay Day USA 2010.

To qualify cats must have written proof of current rabies vaccinations and must be in a pet carrier, labeled with the owner's name. If the cat is not current on his rabies vaccination, a vaccination can be

given for \$10.

Plano residents are required by law to register cats with Animal Services for \$10 each and it can be done at the same time. Seniors and qualified low-income residents can register for FREE. Microchipping will also be available for an additional \$15 fee per cat. This year the FVRCP vaccination will also be administered for \$5 each.

Spay Day USA originated through the Doris Day Animal Foundation and is now an annual campaign by The Humane Society of the United States.

Appointments must be made in advance for this one-day event held at the Plano Animal Shelter, 4028 Plano Parkway.

Space is limited, so make an appointment today by calling (972) 769-4374.

Plano Assistant City Manager Israelson recognized with mentoring award

(NDG Wire) The Urban Management Assistants of North Texas (UMANT) has awarded Assistant City Manager Mark Israelson the 2009 *Joy Sansom Mentor Award* in recognition of his support and mentorship of management assistants throughout

the North Central Texas region.

A long-time member and supporter of UMANT initiatives, Israelson has long acknowledged the benefits he has received from numerous mentors in charting the course for his professional

career. "They have provided me with timely advice and perspective," he said. "Having a resource to discuss ideas, challenges and dreams is very valuable as you are making career decisions and

See AWARD, Page 14

POLICY, continued from Page 1

icy to both prime contracting and sub-contracting opportunities;

- Assisting implementation of recommendations from the 2008 (A&D Study);

- Recognizing the importance of partnerships and teaming opportunities;

- Recognizing participation of disadvantaged, minority, women-owned and small businesses within and outside the relevant market area;

- Establishing a business diversity overall goal, and

industry-specific and project-specific goals for related projects;

- Helping to improve current business diversity efforts;

- Enhancing communication regarding the developing new diversity programs;

The NTTA Business Diversity Department has already implemented several initiatives aimed at diversifying participation in contracting opportunities including Vendor Outreach Symposiums, which are road

shows informing interested contractors about upcoming business opportunities at the NTTA, Wednesday chats, an enhanced Business Diversity Web page, the launch of the Relationships and Opportunities Advancing Diversity Program (ROAD), which pairs prime contractors with consultants to enhance the capabilities of the participants and an aggressive outreach plan.

The NTTA's Business Diversity Policy can be viewed online at www.ntta.org.

BAUMBACH, continued from Page 2

logs, databases and various self-service online features enables patrons to perform a multitude of functions.

"Joyce has been visionary in her development of library programming and in the identification of grant funding as well as the use of volunteers to expand services to the community we otherwise would not be able to provide," said Muehlenbeck. "She has been steadfast in her commitment of devoting library resources to meeting the needs of Plano residents

and other users."

Baumbach has represented the City of Plano and the library system through her long-standing service as a member of the Texas Library Association, chairing numerous task forces and committees. She has served as President of both the Public Library Administrators of North Texas and the Texas Library Directors Association. She has also served as the Library Representative on the Texas Municipal League Board of Directors.

Baumbach named Harrington Library Manager Cathy Ziegler as Deputy Director August 3, 2009. Ms. Ziegler, who has been working directly with Ms. Baumbach since that time, joined the City of Plano team as a Library Page in December 1994 becoming Davis Library Manager in 2001 and Harrington Library Manager in 2009. She will assume her duties as Director of Libraries February 1, 2010.

An evening with Rev. James Lawson

The 50th Anniversary of the Greensboro Sit-in is scheduled for Monday, February 1, 2010 at The Black Academy of Arts & Letters, 650 S. Griffin St., Dallas (corner of Akard and Canton Streets). The event will celebrate and remember the birth of the Civil Rights Movement in Greensboro, NC when

young people of color sat down and ate lunch at Woolworth's counter, an all-White restaurant.

The event's keynote speaker will be Rev. James Lawson of the National Advisory of the American Civil Liberties Union. During the 1960s Rev. Lawson was noted by Dr. Martin Luther King,

Jr. for being "the leading nonviolence theorist in the world." Other musical and dramatic performers for the event include St. Phillips Academy students and local artists who will highlight readings and voice authentication from the 1960s.

The 50th Anniversary of Greensboro Sit-in will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a reception followed by the keynote speaker at 7:00p.m. Admission for the event is \$10 in advance for singles and \$15 at the door. Groups of 10 or more is \$7.50 per person in advance. Tickets can be purchased through PayPal at www.dallaspeacecenter.org. Groups should call Zara at 214-823-7793.



Students stage the Greensboro Sit-in 50 years ago.

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North Dallas
Gazette

Choose wisely: Free workshop teaches students how to pick a major

(NDG Wire) College is the time when many choose what they'll do for the rest of their lives.

So, it's important to choose wisely. Collin College's Destination College office wants to provide future college and university students the tools to pick the right area of study and the right career.

The workshop is open to any future college or university student no matter where they choose to attend.

Exploring Majors pro-

vides attendees with a plan on how to match majors with personal interests and career plans and also how to find the best colleges for those majors.

Destination College is a Collin College initiative that helps high school students and their parents to get ready for college, no matter which institution they choose.

This event is the first of a series of workshops scheduled to help high school students prepare for college.

Visit www.collin.edu/gettingstarted/explore/destinationcollege/ for a complete schedule.

Destination College will host a free workshop, Exploring Majors: How to Choose, from 6:30-8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 28, at the Central Park Campus Conference Center, 2200 W. University Drive in McKinney.

For information, contact Destination College at destinationcollege@collin.edu or call 972.377.1772.

TWU announces new online application process for scholarships

(NDG Wire) Texas Woman's University's new online scholarship application is now available at www.twu.edu/scholarships.

Current and prospective students may now submit their scholarship applications electronically. The scholarship application deadline is March 1, 2010.

"This new online application is more convenient for students and will speed up the scholarship application process and the awarding of scholarships," said Dr. Richard Nicholas, TWU



vice president for student life. "I expect TWU to have another record year of scholarship applications and awards."

Most departmental scholarships will still accept paper applications during the first year of the new application process. TWU expects all scholarship appli-

cations to be submitted online by next year. TWU offers more than \$6 million in scholarships annually, including scholarships exclusively for new freshmen, transfer and graduate students. Most students are able to receive and maintain their scholarships for their entire course of study at TWU.

For more information on scholarship eligibility criteria or the application process, call (866) 809-6130 or visit www.twu.edu/scholarships.

Children drop out and into lives of poverty and imprisonment

BY MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

(NNPA) A homeless man talking about how he ended up on the streets said he had wanted to get in with the "cool" crowd in 8th or 9th grade—a crowd that smoked marijuana, got into fights, and skipped school. No adult reached out to help him turn his life around so he continued his decline into a life of chronic joblessness and poverty, and long stretches of incarceration after he dropped out of school.

Youths who drop out of school represent a colossal loss to our communities and nation. And many dropouts are condemned to the social and economic fringes of our society and lives less fulfilled than their peers who graduate from high school. Today, more than half of all young adult dropouts are jobless. And dropouts are at greater risk of being incarcerated and having poorer physical and mental health than those who graduate.

The impact of the enormous dropout problem is not evenly shared among children in America. Poor and minority youths are far less likely to graduate from high school than White children.

An October 2009 report released by the National Center for Education Statistics says 59.8 percent of Blacks, 62.2 percent of Hispanics,

and 61.2 percent of American Indians graduated from public high school in four years with a regular diploma in the 2006-07 school year compared to 79.8 percent for Whites and 91.2 percent for Asian and Pacific Islanders. Black and Hispanic dropout rates were more than twice those of White youths.

Children do not just wake up one morning and decide to take a path to a dead end life. So how is it possible that more than half a million of them drop out every year? I believe the main reason is that adults have often let our children down and abandoned our responsibilities to prepare them for healthy and productive lives in our homes and communities. We'd rather punish children after they get into trouble than prevent child problems. The only universally guaranteed child right is a jail or detention cell after they come in conflict with the law.

We do not even assure all children prenatal care to be born as healthy as possible. We have deprived our children of fathers by locking up young men and putting them in a pipeline to prison, and we've allowed our community supports to fray, depriving children of safe havens and positive mentors.

For most of the week, congregational doors are locked and we've cut back on

the hours when community centers and libraries are open. Some have decided that after-school and summer enrichment programs are too expensive. Some states spend more to incarcerate a child for a year than it would cost to send him to Harvard University! Some New York



state youth prisons cost \$210,000 to house one child for a year. Gangs and drug dealers are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, offering apprenticeships in drug dealing and car stealing and other illegal behaviors.

So many of our nation's schools have let our children down and are unwitting accomplices to the pipeline to prison's destructive work. Academic tracking, social promotion, and out-of-school suspensions and expulsions contribute mightily to the discouragement, low self-esteem, and disengagement of so many poor and minority children.

One-size-fits-all school zero tolerance disciplinary

policies are responsible for the growth in the number of school-based arrests of poor and minority children, funneling them into the juvenile and criminal justice systems at younger and younger ages. So many are suspended, expelled, even arrested, for nonviolent infractions such as being "disruptive" or "disrespectful."

In the past, many of these problems would have been resolved in the principal's office or referred to a pastor or social worker or by calling the parent (who may no longer be in the house). Too many

children today end up with an arrest record and are labeled a troublemaker, increasing the likelihood of dropping out of school.

There are a lot of things we know about preventing children from dropping out. New research has led to a better understanding of how to turn this enormous crisis around and has identified schools where graduation is not the norm. Researchers at Johns Hopkins University have identified 2,000 high schools in the country (12 percent) responsible for nearly half of the nation's dropouts. The children attending these "dropout factories" are overwhelmingly minority.

We can spot students in elementary school who, if adults intervene, will be less likely to drop out. Potential dropouts can be identified as early as the fourth and sixth grades by looking at attendance, behavior and, of course, failure in math and English. We can focus our resources on these schools and their students with the goal of turning them around and rescuing hundreds of thousands of children from the cradle to prison pipeline. But the community has to care and raise a ruckus for our children's and nation's sakes.

This is a national problem requiring all of our focused attention. The dropout

crisis is too costly to our children, communities, and nation to let it persist. We know how to keep children in school. We simply must decide to mix our knowledge and experience with the will to educate every child.

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund whose Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to www.childrensdefense.org.

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As the *North Dallas Gazette* rebrands to embrace all cultures in our distribution area, we are asking for your help in providing us with any information that may assist us in more diversely serving our community. While providing our readers with valuable information and education, we successfully work with area business owners by introducing patrons to their products and services through our attractive advertising packages.

Please help us spread the word. The *North Dallas Gazette* is actively seeking editorial ideas and advertising clients from our distribution area. We are fortunate to live in such a culturally rich community. From all kinds of businesses, associations, and cultural organizations, to school news, entertainment, and more ... our goal is to serve every person with every interest, background, and religion. We thank you ahead of time for your assistance.

Trudy Voigt, VP Sales and Marketing
tvoigt@northdallasgazette.com | 214-532-6848

King's legacy celebrated in speech, song

(NDG Wire) On the anniversary of President Barack Obama's inauguration, students, faculty, staff and community supporters gathered at The University of Texas at Dallas to celebrate the man whose legacy made Obama's election possible.

The Martin Luther King

Jr. Celebration Breakfast featured a talk by the Rev. James Young, who made history last year when he became the first African-American to be elected mayor of Philadelphia, Miss.

Philadelphia became infamous when three visiting civil rights workers were murdered there in 1964. The incident inspired the 1988 Academy Award-winning film *Mississippi Burning*.

"Not often do you get to live long enough to experience hatred and prejudice, but to also be a byproduct of change," said Young as he began his speech.

Young spoke of his background, his experiences with his own children and how



Rachel Dupard sang three songs, including one she wrote, during the course of the UT Dallas Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Breakfast.

King was able to make an impact through non-violent protest.

"Dr. King was a man of his time," said Young. "He went to a supreme power to affect change, and he understood that education was needed to 'think your way through.'"

Amid insights, Young infused his remarks with humor.

"My dad taught me to

work hard," he said. "My mom told me to get an education so you don't have to work that hard."

Young also discussed the attention generated by his election. He recalled a media interview during which he was asked how he represented all his constituents.

"I walk down the middle of the road so I can reach out on both sides," he said.

As Young summed up his talk, he reflected on the three voter registration workers who were killed in his hometown almost 50 years ago.

"I get emotional when I think about the blood that was shed," said Young. "All they did was register people to vote. Racism, hatred and prejudice put them in the ground. If we're not careful, we'll make the same mistakes."

At the conclusion of his speech, Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement Magaly Spector

and UT Dallas President David Daniel presented Young with a Champion of Diversity award "in recognition of his contributions to the goals of diversity in America."

"Mayor Young is a living example of our theme today, 'Sharing the Dream,'" said Spector.

The Office of Diversity and Community Engagement, the Multicultural Center, the Student Union & Ac-

tivities Advisory Board (SUAAB) and the University Committee on Equity and Diversity sponsored the event.

King's birthday was Jan. 15. The MLK holiday for staff and students was observed Jan. 18, the same day as the federal holiday. President Ronald Reagan signed a bill creating a federal holiday to honor King in 1983. It was observed for the first time on January 20, 1986.



Featured speaker James Young talked about his election as the first African-American mayor of Philadelphia, Miss., a town that has carried the stigma of the murders of three civil rights workers since 1964.



Aundra Smith performed an interpretive dance to Whitney Houston's "I Didn't Know My Own Strength" as part of the MLK Breakfast festivities.



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Ongoing

African American Republican Club of Collin County meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm. (Doors open at 6:30 pm.) Collin County Republican Party HQ, 8416 Stacy Rd., McKinney. Call Linda Wynn Drain, 214-498-7574 or website www.aarcc.com

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

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

Group Business Seminars at 4907 Spring Avenue, Dallas, (214) 11:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.; 3rdFriday of the month 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for those interested in starting your own business, it is a Brown Bag Lunch with Free Parking

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

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

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

Through February 7

Southwestern Exposition and Stock Show & Rodeo One million people from around the world will come to the Will Rogers Memorial Center for the nation's oldest livestock show and daily performances of the world's original indoor rodeo. The carnival midway thrills the young and not so young while fashions, home furnishings as well as farm and ranch equipment will be offered by more than 200 exhibitors. Food for every taste - including a new destination restaurant called Diego's Cantina - will be found over the entire Will Rogers Complex. The Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo - this thing is legendary!!! For times and ticket information, please visit www.fwssr.com

January 31

Plano Family Symphony Sundays Series presents **Silly Strings** at 3 p.m. at The Courtyard Theatre, 1501 Avenue H, Plano. TICKETS: Call 972-473-7262, prices range from \$7 - \$11.

February 2-27

Artist Reception: Saturday, February 20, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm In celebration of Black History Month, VisitBlack-Dallas will host an art exhibition. Each photographer will submit images portraying African American Life in Dallas. A portion of the art sales will be donated to the South Dallas Cultural Center. The exhibit will be on display at the Janette Kennedy Gallery, South Side on Lamar, 1409 S Lamar St, Dallas

February 4

Plano Mayor and City Council hosting Neighborhood Roundtable with residents of District 1, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. at the Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway.

Herskovits: At the Heart of Blackness at 6 p.m. at the

Studio Movie Grill, 11170 N. Central Expressway, Dallas. Admission is \$8. Presented by the Texas Black Film Festival, this documentary recalls the life and work of renowned Jewish anthropologist Melville Herskovits, who established the first African Studies Department in 1927. Visit www.texas-blackfilmfestival.com for tickets and information on this event.

Estate Planning Seminar at the Plano Centre 10:30 a.m., a free 90-minute program. This educational program will be presented by Dallas Estate Planning Attorney, Richard P. Johnson who is Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. RSVP to Karen at (972) 497-1010 or email Karen@RichardJohnsonLaw.com

February 5

MTBC Mgmt Luncheon Series: Jim Keyes, Chairman & CEO, Blockbuster, Inc. Hyatt Regency North Dallas-Richardson, 11:15 a.m. 701 E. Campbell Road, Richardson, Pre-Paid Reservations Required. Cost: \$35 members, \$40 prospective members. <http://www.metroplexmtbc.org/>

February 6

Dallas Vision Seminar is a FREE informative seminar on age-related macular degeneration, retinitis pigmentosa, and related diseases from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Plano Centre. Info: Dorie Wilson, 410-568-0181 or www.FightBlindness.org/DallasSeminar

February 11-13

NBA All-Star Jam family-fun event is one of the highlights of the NBA All-Star activities set for Feb. 11-13 at the Dallas Convention Center. Tickets are on sale at Ticketmaster.com, American Airlines Box Office or by calling 800-4NBA-TIX TICKET PRICES: Adults:

\$20; Children (3-12): \$12; Senior/Military (with valid ID): \$12; Children (2 and under): FREE

February 12 - 13

Ticketstock 2010 Join Sportsradio 1310 The Ticket for two days of Sports, Love, & Fun. They will broadcast live from the Plano Centre. Free activities for the kids! Over 60 vendors scheduled. Stay tuned for the big announcement on who will be at Ticketstock 10 on Sportsradio 1310 The Ticket! Info: contact Sportsradio 1310 The Ticket at 214-526-7400 or www.theticket.com

February 14

"Jazz/Blues Lovefest 2010" featuring ANGELA BLAIR, live in Concert, at 7 p.m. Hosted by 94.5KSOU's TONY B, also appearing Jazz SaxMan, Keith Anderson, Blues Man "TuTu Jones, Micheal Guinn, and more. Info: 214.893.8157 or nearbyentertainment.net. Group rates and VIP available.

February 18

Nokia Theater Presents **Mariah Carey** in Grand Prairie, the show begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale for \$59.75-\$150.73; Info 214-373-8000

February 19-20

6th Annual Weekend Festival of Black Dance, at Naomi Bruton Main Stage, in Dallas 8 p.m. Tickets \$10.00 Info: 214-743-2400

February 21

Plano Family Symphony Sundays Series presents **Brass-A-Palooza** at 3 p.m. at The Courtyard Theatre, 1501 Avenue H, Plano. TICKETS: Call 972-473-7262, prices range from \$7 - \$11.

February 23

History to Move Texans Forward at 7 p.m. at the Hughes-Trigg Student Center, SMU, 3140 Dyer Street, Dallas. Admission is free.

This public forum will explore the purpose and passion behind the creation of the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission, the most important development in Holocaust education in years.

February 26

Urban League Luncheon at the Hilton Anatole Hotel 11:45 a.m., tickets are \$50 at 214-915-4631.

February 27 - May 30

American Moderns on Paper: Masterworks from the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art at Amon Carter Museum of Art www.cartermuseum.org/exhibitions

February 27

UNCF's 11th Annual Red, Hot & Snazzy Benefit Gala being held at the Sheraton Hotel downtown Dallas. Reception/Silent Auction begins at 6pm. Dinner program begins at 7:30 pm. Individual tickets \$200. For details visit www.uncf.org/dallas

The Alpha Iota Iota graduate chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. presents its **7th Annual Scholarship drive**, Caribbean Cruise for two. Travel good for 12 months after drawing. Donation \$10, call 972 424-0930 to purchase tickets

March 3 - 7

Dallas Auto Show is the ideal opportunity to compare styling and pricing of every major line make under one roof in just a few hours. The Dallas Auto Show boasts more than 550,000 square feet of new cars, trucks and SUVs at the Dallas Convention Center and an attendance of close to 400,000 auto enthusiasts. More than 40 manufacturers will display more than 700 vehicles. Details at www.dallasauto.show.org.

March 5-7

Annual Dallas Home and Garden Show attractions include Vacation, Leisure & Outdoor show, NARI New Product Pavilion, Dallas County Master Gardener experts and Lectures, Kid's Corner, Cooking with Clive - Featuring Clive Berkman, Home Décor, Energy Efficient Products, Outdoor Storage Solutions, Builders & Remodelers, Kitchens, Bath & more, For information, see www.texashomeandgarden.com.

March 5

Savor Dallas Arts District Wine Stroll will feature wine and food tasting in the beautiful Dallas Museum of Art - Seventeen Seventeen Restaurant; Meyerson Symphony Center; Nasher Sculpture Center; Winspear Opera House; and Wyly Theatre (from 5-7pm); plus wine, food, music, and art in the exciting new Dallas Center for the Performing Arts Park, featuring the restaurants of One Arts Plaza: Dali Wine Bar, Fedora Restaurant and Lounge, Jorge's, Screen Door, and Tei-An (5-8pm). Details at www.savordallas.com

March 7

Plano Family Symphony Sundays Series presents **Gone with the Winds** at 3 p.m. at The Courtyard Theatre, 1501 Avenue H, Plano. TICKETS: Call 972-473-7262, prices range from \$7 - \$11.

March 18

House of Blues is hosting **Black Rebel Motorcycle Club** at 7 p.m. at 2200 North Lamar St. White Swan Bldg Dallas; Info 214-978 -2583

April 17

Dallas Art Dealers Association's Annual Spring Gallery Walk 2-8 p.m. at 35 of its members' galleries and non-profit art spaces. Panel discussions (topics and location to be announced)

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Big Bad Voodoo Daddy gives tribute to Cab Calloway at Eisemann Center

(NDG Wire) Big Bad Voodoo Daddy's eighth studio album, *How Big Can You Get? A Tribute to Cab Calloway*, captures the essence of an American icon in a rowdy celebration of musicianship, mischief, genius, street smarts, and fun. It's also possibly the timeliest and most welcome album of the year -- bringing a much-needed high-voltage jolt of winning, feel-good energy to a country slogging through tough times that may be getting tougher. The music that Calloway helped revitalize and uplift the spirits of troubled individuals during the American Depression-era. Big Bad Voodoo Daddy (BBVD) will appear in the Eisemann Center Presents Spotlight Series for one performance only on Saturday, January 30th, 2010 at 8:00 pm in the Hill Performance Hall.

Longtime fans of "America's favorite little big band" will immediately recognize the album as a milestone in Big Bad Voodoo Daddy's multi-platinum-selling sixteen-year career. "Making the album was one of our biggest musical moments," says lead vocalist, guitarist and songwriter Scotty Morris, who co-founded BBVD with drummer Kurt Sodergren in southern California. "Delving into Cab's songs made us all realize how relevant they were to our time, and working on someone else's music inside out caused a growth and depth in my work as a songwriter, arranger, and producer."

How Big Can You Get is not only an illuminating revival of Cab Calloway's songbook: the making of the album was also the revelation of a lifetime for the band as a whole, whose ensemble playing, arranging and interpretive powers were honed to an all-time high by the excellence of

Calloway's songs. Trumpeter Glen "The Kid" Marhevka recalls being captivated by Calloway on-stage as a seventh-grader: "I was 11 years old, and I was blown away; he had so much energy and so many great musicians. This album concept seemed a perfect fit for us, because of Cab's visuals, performances and intense energy. As soon as we rehearsed and played these songs live, it was musically challenging and refreshing to all of us."

Recorded in Los Angeles' legendary Capitol Studios, located at the famous record-shaped building at Hollywood and Vine, *How Big Can You Get* came out of the rooms where innumerable classics had been recorded by Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Nelson Riddle, Billy May, and many others. BBVD used Capitol's vintage microphones and studio equipment to achieve a real marriage of Calloway's music and the group's arrangements and the group's voice. Morris stated, "We played songs top-to-bottom live, and chose the best takes for the album, because so many of Cab's definitive performances are live in films and radio broadcasts. This is the best and most ferocious we've ever sounded." With the band's stated mission to broaden the image of Cab Calloway beyond his signature tune, *Minnie the Moocher* (a BBVD live staple from the beginning), Calloway's frequently hilarious - and just as often socially aware - material held its own keys to completing the album in a way that did justice to him.

Since their arrival on the music scene in 1993 in a legendary residency at Los Angeles' Brown Derby nightclub, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy's irresistible live show and aggressive, musically perceptive approach

has proven them over time to be the singular standout among the numerous bands that launched the Nineties swing revival. The seven-man group forged a massively successful fusion of classic American sounds from jazz, swing, Dixieland and big-band music, building their own songbook of original dance tunes, and, sixteen years later, BBVD

theaters and performing arts centers, selling out shows at the Hollywood Bowl, Walt Disney Hall, Lincoln Center, Chastain Park and Constitution Hall, just to name a few. They have appeared as special guests with the great symphony and pops orchestras of the nation, including their first symphony show with the US Air Force Orchestra. The

unparalleled gift for vivid storytelling, as well as his pointed social commentary. "We all noticed that the lyric of *How Big Can You Get* is unbelievably poignant to our time," says Morris. "In *The Ghost of Smokey Joe*, we were excited going in to cut a trilogy of three big songs from Cab's early days, making the stories cohesive." Scotty

You Get have now brought the band's horizon into exceptionally clear focus -- both on a musical and a group level. "We just turned sixteen this month. I couldn't be more proud that this is the album we've made at this moment," says Morris. "I did think it would last this long," reflects trumpeter Marhevka, who joined BBVD over fourteen years ago, when the band was one year old and still a trio. "I had played in many groups, and stopped doing everything else -- I put 100% in, and never looked back. People ask:

'Are you gonna be here in five years?', and I say: Yeah! Every guy in the band has that feeling about it. The greatest moment is being here right now, doing this. The goals are always the same: getting better at what we do individually, and moving forward in the same direction. We're still playing, and have something to say."

Tickets for the Sat., Jan. 30th performance range from \$27-\$55 and are available in person, online at www.eisemanncenter.com or by calling the Eisemann Center Ticket Office at 972-744-4650. Ticket Office hours are 10:00 am until 6:00 pm Monday through Saturday and one hour before performances. Group discounts are available for 10 or more by calling 972-744-4657.

The Charles W. Eisemann Center is located in the Galatyn Park Urban Center at 2351 Performance Drive in Richardson, Texas. The Eisemann Center is easily accessible from Highway 75 North taking the Galatyn Parkway/Renner Road exit going north and the Galatyn Parkway/Campbell Road exit going south or from the DART light rail station at Galatyn Park



is a veteran force that to this day adds new fans by the roomful every time they play.

BBVD's originals skyrocketed the group into its first phase of stardom, when *You & Me and the Bottle Makes Three (Tonight)* and *Go Daddy-O* were featured in the 1996 Indie film landmark *Swingers*. Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, named famously after an autograph by blues legend Albert Collins, sold more than two million copies of the albums *Americana Deluxe* and *This Beautiful Life*, and received national critical acclaim while the band's music has appeared in over sixty movies and television shows. With their 2003 New Orleans-inspired album *Save My Soul*, BBVD began playing in

band's career milestones have included appearances in the Super Bowl half-time show, writing theme music for ESPN and network television, and performing for three American presidents. They have appeared numerous times on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and *Live with Regis & Kelly*, and wrote, performed and recorded the current theme song for the *Carson Daly* show after appearing multiple times as the show's house band. And now, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy's songs have passed into the classic American songbook, playing alongside pop standard songs in film and television, and even on reality competitions like *Dancing With the Stars*.

Key to the depth of the new album is Calloway's

points out: "Cab's early songs from Cotton Club era have a more vaudeville / cabaret feel, and storytelling is crucial in those songs. After Cab became a huge phenomenon, he had his own language, and he's vamping on his image and lifestyle in songs from the 1940s like *Calloway Boogie*, *The Jumpin' Jive* and *Hey Now, Hey Now*. Having feasted on his music in the studio, and headed out to the road to perform Calloway's music, "I'm even more in awe of him now," agrees Marhevka. "I want people to come from hearing our album, and find out who Cab was. You can see videos of him so easily on the Internet. He was larger than life -- the blueprint of a superstar."

The many breakthrough qualities of *How Big Can*

UT Dallas faculty to collaborate for *A Night of Latin Music*

(NDG Wire) UT Dallas music faculty members will present favorite works for ensemble as the University continues its 40-year celebration with *A Night of Latin Music*.

The event also features performances by a faculty jazz band and vocal quartet Dallas Pro Musica.

The program for this event includes Milhaud's *Suite; Semi-Suite* and *Tango di Tango* by Rodriguez; Castelnuovo-Tedesco's *Romancero Gitano* for guitar and vocal quartet; and various Latin jazz selections.

Participating faculty and friends include: Ronald Neal (violin), Winston Stone (clarinet), Kathryn Evans (soprano), Mary Medrick (alto), Enric Madriguera (guitar), Kelly Durbin (piano), Michael McVay (staff accompanist, piano), Hoyt Neal (tenor), Christine DeRose Chiffollo (guitar), Michael Borts

(bass), Lori Gerard (percussionist), James Gilyard



Robert Rodriguez

(bass), Lori Gerard (percussionist), James Gilyard

(bass) and Ted Wasser (drums).

This concert on Friday, Jan. 29, at 8 p.m. in the Conference Center will include compositions by Robert X. Rodriguez, professor of music at UT Dallas.

The event is free to the public, with a voluntary \$5 donation at the door. All proceeds will go to the Bryce Jordan Scholarship Fund for students in the arts.

18th Annual Trumpet Awards to honor Steve Harvey, Frankie Beverly and more

BY IVY N. CARTER, MBA,
NDG STAFF WRITER

The stars will align once again for the highly anticipated 18th Annual Trumpet Awards, which will take place on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at the John A. Williams Theater Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre in Atlanta, Georgia. As with previous years expectations, this year's show is bound to be spectacular with rare performances, legendary presenters, a stellar list of honorees and an electrifying Red Carpet affair.

An iconic list of entertainment icons and the who's who in business, politics, religion, law, sports and entertainment will be

attendance to this star-studded celebration. The Trumpet Awards Foundation, started in 1993, has a long-standing reputation and a rich tradition for presenting Trumpet Awards to the biggest and brightest talent of all time, predominantly to African-Americans and their accomplishments and contributions to their communities, society and the world.

The festivities for the Trumpet Awards will begin on Wednesday, January 27, 2010 at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA at

9:30 a.m. and end with the Trumpet Awards Ceremony at the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre on Saturday, January 30, 2010 beginning at 5:00 p.m. This year's Pinnacle Award will go to entertainment icon, Steve Harvey and music legend, Frankie Beverly will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award. Each of these awards is given for significant contributions to the entertainment industry and the African-American community.

Honorees and guests will begin arriving for the Trumpet Awards at 3:30 p.m. at the glamorous Red

Carpet Roll Out, hosted by one of America's favorite daytime TV judges, Honorable Judge Glenda Hackett, famed fashion designer and Bravo Television Reality Star, Mychael Knight, WSB-TV News Personality, Jovita Moore and nationally syndicated radio host, Warren Ballentine. Additionally, the awards will spotlight and celebrate a stellar list of 2010 Honorees.

The North Dallas Gazette will be reporting from the Red Carpet Roll Out and 2010 Trumpet Awards, so stay tuned for more.

Statement from Texas Motor Transportation Association President on texting ban

(NDG Wire) Texas Motor Transportation Association President and CEO John D. Esparza released a statement following the Department of Transportation and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's announcement regarding the ban on texting by commercial motor vehicle drivers.

"The trucking industry is the safest it has ever been on the roads today and that is a testament to the dedication and professionalism of the

drivers we have moving Texas' freight," said Esparza.

According to figures released by the Federal Highway Administration last week, the truck-involved fatality rate in 2008 declined 12.3 percent from 2007. Most impressive is the substantial decline by 66 percent since 1975 when the U.S. Department of Transportation began keeping those records.

"The U.S. DOT and FMCSA have taken further

measures to ensure that our industry remains safe and eliminate the threat of texting while driving with the federal ban for motor carriers," Esparza commented. "This will enhance the policies that many transportation companies already have in place and support the safety movement that we see across the nation for all drivers."

Nineteen states, along with the District of Columbia, have banned texting for all drivers, not just commer-

cial motor vehicles. This is in addition to the President's executive order directing federal employees not to engage in text messaging while driving government-owned vehicles or with government-owned equipment starting December 30, 2009.

TMTA will continue to discourage texting while behind the wheel with regard to all drivers and educate Texans on increased safety measures for our roadways.

Harlem Globetrotters' 2010 World Tour stops in Dallas

World's most famous team bringing all-new spectacular show to the American Airlines Center

(NDG Wire) Coming off the most successful year in the franchise's illustrious history, with a record-breaking 62 box offices records and over two million smiling fans, the iconic Harlem Globetrotters are primed to



wholesome family entertainment known worldwide for thrilling fans young and old and making cherished family memories.

Now in their 84th consecutive season of touring the world, the Globetrotters' high-flying show features some of the most extraordinary athletes and entertainers on the planet – including Big Easy Lofton and Flight Time Lang, who starred in the Emmy Award-winning CBS reality hit, "The Amazing Race;" the always hilarious Special K Daley; dribbling magician Scooter Christensen; and ball handling wizards Handles Franklin and Ant Atkinson.

Sports Illustrated praised it as "the sports equivalent of comfort food," in its March 2009 feature article on the Globetrotters titled, Still Crazy After All These Years.

"The Harlem Globetrotters are the epitome of world-class family fun,"

says Michael Kenney, the Globetrotters' senior vice president, live event marketing. "You'll want to get your tickets now for an experience the whole family will be talking about for years to come."

Sponsored by Campbell Soup Company, Spalding, and America's Best Contacts and Eyeglasses, the Harlem Globetrotters will

take the court at the American Airlines Center on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.. Tickets start at \$20.00 and are available online at www.ticketmaster.com. Individual ticket information can also be found on the Harlem Globetrotters' official website: www.harlemglobetrotters.com, as well as info on group and scout tickets.

The Original Harlem Globetrotters have played in 120 countries on six continents, entertaining over 130 million fans and crossing barriers between cultures, societies and people from all walks of life. The Globetrotters are one of only six teams to be inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. For the latest news and information about the Harlem Globetrotters, and to purchase team merchandise, visit the Globetrotters' official website: www.harlemglobetrotters.com.

African-American takes No. 2 post at McDonald's



Don Thompson

(NNPA) McDonald's recently named Don Thompson, head of its U.S. Division, to president and chief operating officer, the second position in the international company. James A. Skinner, the company's chief executive, said Thompson

would oversee operations at McDonald's nearly 32,000 restaurants in 117 countries.

Thompson, age 46, started at McDonald's as an electrical engineer in 1990. He has been president of the U.S. Division since 2006.

The previous president of the U.S. Division, Ralph Alvarez, was subsequently promoted to president and chief operating officer.

Alvarez retired last month, citing health concerns.

The first-time homebuyer tax credit is a big incentive to look for a home right now

(NDG Wire) First-time buyers can get a federal tax break of up to \$8000, if they strike a deal before April 30th.

There's a lot of information and details that may be confusing for the first-time buyer, and it pays to do a little research on your own finances before checking out homes on the market.

Consumer ratings service, Angie's List, consulted highly-rated real estate agents for these tips before you buy home:

- Check your credit: Pull your credit report and double check that the information is accurate and up-to-date. If there are any discrepancies, work with the

credit reporting agency to have those cleared up before you inquire about a loan.

- Are you approved? Get pre-approved for your loan before you start looking for a house. You should be able to produce: good credit, stable employment history, a positive debt-to-income ratio, document of your assets, and at least three percent of the home's sell value for down payment.

- What can you afford? You may qualify for a higher amount that you actually want to pay, so it's important not only to check with a mortgage agent to get pre-approved, but to know what the payments will be

at that amount and that you are okay with it. Remember to factor in homeowner's insurance, property taxes, utility bills, moving costs, maintenance costs and any upgrades that you'll need to make.

- What do you want, Make a list of what you want and don't want. Search for homes online to get some ideas. Are you looking for a small home or a home where your family can grow?

- Location: Know the area where the property is located. If you see a lot of foreclosure signs in yards, it could be a sign that the area is declining in value. Take a look at the home's sur-

roundings.

- Inspect before buying: In most cases you will be able to inspect the entire property before buying. Hire a professional home inspector to inspect the entire house so you know exactly what you are getting into. Most foreclosed properties come "as is".

- Do your homework: Make sure you find out if the property has any unpaid liens. If you don't, unpaid lenders could come after you to try and collect what they are owed. Call your local building department. They can tell you if there any building permits that were never closed out.

Everyone can use Free File

(NDG Wire) The IRS Free File service provides free federal income tax return preparation and electronic filing for all taxpayers. All you need is access to a computer and the Internet and you can prepare and e-file your federal tax return for free.

Free File is offered through a partnership between the IRS and the Free File Alliance, a group of private-sector tax software companies. Since Free File's debut in 2003, more than 27 million returns have been prepared and e-filed through this program.

Free File offers two options. The first is Traditional Free File, which includes approximately 20

tax preparation software products from which to choose. Taxpayers with 2009 incomes of \$57,000 or less are eligible for this service. The second option



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

is Free File Fillable Forms, which is an electronic version of IRS paper forms. All taxpayers can use Free File Fillable Forms to prepare and file tax forms electronically.

Use the following steps to file your return through IRS Free File:

Step 1. Get Started: Ac-

cess IRS.gov and click the Free File logo or go to www.irs.gov/freefile. You must access Free File companies through the official IRS Web site to qualify for the free service.

Step 2. Determine Your Eligibility: If your 2009 income was \$57,000 or less, you're eligible for Traditional Free File's easy-to-use, step-by-step software. If your income was higher, you are eligible for Free File Fillable Forms.

Step 3. Link to Free File Company Service: If you opt for Traditional Free File, you can choose one of the approximate 20 offerings by reviewing which one fits your situation. You can click "I Will Choose A

Free File Company" or "Help Me Find A Free File Company." To get started with Free File Fillable Forms, just click the "Choose Free File Fillable Forms" button.

Step 4. Prepare and e-file your Federal Income Tax Return: Either Traditional Free File or Free File Fillable Forms will allow you to file your return electronically, for free.

Both the fillable-forms option and the "full service" Free File offerings are only available through IRS.gov. Whether you are new to Free File or a returning taxpayer, you must access Free File through IRS.gov; otherwise, the provider may charge a fee.

Local social media company offering gift certificates to those who donate to Haitian relief

(NDG Wire) Social Media Delivered has announced a gift certificate reward program that will match donations to the relief effort in Haiti. The word is getting out via Twitter, Facebook, Youtube, LinkedIn and on the blog of www.SocialMediaDelivered.com.

During the months of January and February 2010, Social Media Delivered will match any amount donated to The Red Cross up to \$500 in the form of a gift certificate for social media marketing or coaching services. The gift certificates require no minimum purchase and are valid until December 15, 2010 toward any of the services offered by Social Media Delivered.

To receive a gift certificate for free services the participant should follow these 3 simple steps:

- 1) Individuals or organizations make a donation of any amount to Haiti Relief through American Red Cross during January and of February 2010 at <http://bit.ly/6Iq8LJ>.

- 2) Receipt for donation should be scanned and emailed to HelpHaiti@SocialMediaDelivered.com.

- 3) Social Media Delivered will email back a gift certificate in a value equal to the amount of the donation up to \$500.

Eve Mayer Orsburn, CEO of Social Media Delivered shared, "As I watched the days go by

twitter

facebook

LinkedIn

and the situation in Haiti get worse, I felt helpless and I wanted to do something. We are hoping to leverage our thousands of friends and contacts on Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook to help make it easier to make those donations that are so desperately needed. We are using social media for social good."

When Orsburn was asked how much the startup company could possibly award in gift certificates she responded "We'll simply do what we are asking others to do, we'll give until we can't give anymore."

Social Media Delivered, www.socialmediadelivered.com, is a social media marketing, consulting and training company that helps organizations leverage the power of Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Youtube and blogging to achieve their goals. Social Media Delivered is based in Dallas, Texas with representatives in Wisconsin, Las Vegas, Canada and Paris.

Orsburn reaches about 25,000 people every day on social media with tips through www.twitter.com/LinkedInQueen and www.Linkedin.com/in/EveMayerOrsburn.

IRVING, continued from Page 1

ment Programming in the state for Irving Community Television Network

- City/County Cooperation Award for the Irving Health Center

- Achievement Award for the city from the Quality Texas Foundation

- Chamber's 5-Star Accreditation (first in the state to earn this prestigious designation)

Public Safety

- Violent crime in Irving is down 31 percent over the past five years.

- Overall crime rate has decreased for the past five consecutive years for a total crime rate decrease of 20 percent.

- Biweekly strategy development meetings, strategically placed Sky Watch trailers, and several public safety programs such as Citizens on Patrol have contributed to these significant decreases.

- Received recognition for having the highest cardiac survival rate in the state and second highest nationwide.

- Presented 800 safety education programs to nearly 20,000 residents.

- Reduced the number of emergency calls by 2.5 percent through prevention education.

Economic Development

- The chamber-managed Irving Economic Development Partnership handled 26 new economic development projects, which yielded more than 3,100 new jobs and approximately 780 retained jobs in the community. These projects also yielded millions of dollars in positive economic impact for the city and school districts in the form of sales tax, property tax and utilities. Some of the high-profile companies that relocated and expanded in Irving include: Omega Environ-

mental Technologies, Forward Air, ESPN Radio, Hostess Brands, GKN Aerostructures and HMS.

- The reclamation of an acre of Lake Carolyn and the construction of a new lake wall to prepare the Water Street site for development will be completed in June. Gables representatives have indicated the company's intent to begin Phase 1 construction by the end of the year. The Phase 1 project will include Phase I for Water Street – 320 apartment units (located in two buildings) and 140,000 square feet of retail (located in three buildings).

- The Convention Center is being built on time and within budget. General Manager Thom Connors is in place, and has begun building his staff. This month, there is a 12-month window for booking tradeshow events. Interest is high, with

approximately 12 pending/tentative proposals and more than 20 are out on the streets.

The Economy

- Both Texas and the Metroplex are faring better than the nation with unemployment 3 percent below national rates and residential real estate unaffected by the housing bubble.

- Irving's diversified economy, which is not reliant on one major employer or business sector for employment or city revenue, is home to four Fortune 500 world headquarters.

- Residential property values are up slightly.

- The city's financial status remains strong with a structurally balanced budget for three consecutive years and a double AAA bond rating reaffirmed.

- Sales tax declines have been less than projected; however, due to operational

efficiencies and reducing vacant positions, the city is operating with a balanced budget.

- Hotel occupancy taxes saw a sharp decline due to the national recession. Driven by business travelers, this is expected to recover as the recession eases.

- Decline in revenues have been offset by cost savings and efficiencies – no layoffs or furloughs for city employees and no reduction in city services.

Transportation and Infrastructure

- The current project cost for the Diamond Interchange (State Highways 184 and 114, and Loop 12) is approximately \$224 million, with a current estimated completion date of September 2012.

- Sound wall designs for State Highway 183 are completed. Used to buffer road noise for residential properties that back up to the road-

way corridor, the walls will be 10 feet tall with designs for the ornamentation and aesthetics consistent with the city's new mustang logo. Sound wall construction is expected to begin this spring, with completion in the fall.

Texas Stadium, redevelopment in Heritage Crossing, construction of the West Irving Aquatic Center, and the impact of Super Bowl XLV in Irving and in the North Texas region also were key topics of the Mayor's presentation. He highlighted accomplishments relating to city parks such as Veterans Memorial Park and the Cottonwood Creek Park Miracle League Field, an accessible playground and field, and spoke of achievements in workforce development with North Lake College and the Chamber's Business Resource Center at the new North Lake South Campus.

VOTES, continued from Page 3

ten White House, not another program or major project until the economy gets right. If the jobs don't start rolling in between now and November a whole lot of you are going to be "toast". What else do we have to do to let you know? You who stutter are going to witness a very strong group of independents, if not a new third party. This nation is on the verge of voting revolution and that is a good thing.

Don't start talking about Cap and Trade. That is a hustle as much as the healthcare mess was. Card Check, Project Labor Agreements and anything else the radical, almost communist, unions pay you to put up to the people is going to be slammed down hard and with certainty. Your political careers will fizzle right before your eyes. From California to the East Coast the people will once again vote for change. That is a change for a better economy.

Here's the big deal that they refuse to look at. 70% of all new jobs come from the growth of small businesses. Yes, small businesses

creates 70% of all new jobs. So Congress and Mr. President, how about setting the market for small business growth? Maybe we should infuse the Small Business Administration (SBA) with more capital guarantees for small business loans. Wouldn't that be positive?

How about returning the SBA to a staff of 5,000 like it was when Bill Clinton became President instead of the 1,700 you have now? Shouldn't we stop bundling contracts and break them down so that more small businesses can participate?

You know, the saddest thing about this is that it is so simple. It is simple to those who want to get it done but so hard to see for the greedy and special interest groups. If your congressperson or senator is not focusing on small business growth then it is time to vote him/her out. Upgrade your leadership and increase the number of new jobs being created.

Another important fact to remember: small businesses create jobs while unions manipulate jobs and limit them.

If a project is nonunion it will provide significantly more jobs. Any prospects which are union controlled will cost the client significantly more thereby limit the power of the budget (amount of jobs). Please notice that the highest unemployment areas in our nation are in places that are prevalent with union shops. Right to work states have significantly more employment than their union counterparts.

It is very clear and simple. Find out how much money your elected official gets from the union coffers. If they are on the "payroll" vote them out. That money should be used for pension funds anyway. Instead, the unions are trying to buy influence with their members' precious money.

Yes, it is POWER TO THE PEOPLE AND THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN.

Mr. Alford is the co-founder, President/CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce®. Website: www.nationalbcc.org. Email: halford@nationalbcc.org



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North Dallas
Gazette

Texas Back to Work offers \$15 million to Texas employers

(NDG Wire) Texas employers can receive monetary incentives for hiring unemployed workers under a two-year, \$15 million program promoted by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and funded by the Legislature last session. Texas Back to Work offers employers subsidized-wage reimbursement, retention bonuses and other incentives for hiring qualified out-of-work Texans, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) announced last week.

"Texas employers are standing strong during tough economic times.

Businesses, small and large, can earn Texas Back to Work incentives to expand their operations and offer new opportunities to unemployed Texans," said Lt. Gov. Dewhurst.

Texas Back to Work is

available to employers through the 28 Texas local workforce development boards, which also provide employers with workforce recruitment assistance, pre-screening of qualified applicants and training programs.

More than 1.8 million customers were served in more than 240 workforce centers across Texas last year.

"We will help people get back to work by helping

See EMPLOYERS, Page 15

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request bids for the
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Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Collegiate Academy
Dallas, TX

be submitted before

2:00 pm Tuesday, February 2, 2010.

Scope includes a New Ground up
104,000 SF Early College High School

Bid documents are available for review at
McCarthy Private iSqFt planroom or from
Lawton Reprographics Phone: 972-980-2957
and other area Plan rooms.

For a complete list contact McCarthy.

Insurance per bid documents.

A payment and performance bond may be required.
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Email: bidtex@mccarthy.com | www.mccarthy.com

McCarthy

request bids for the
DISD BP #63

Wilmer Hutchins Elementary School
Dallas, TX

be submitted before

2:00 pm Wednesday, February 10, 2010.

Scope includes a 2 Story,
100,000 SF Elementary School

Bid documents are available for review at
McCarthy Private iSqFt planroom or from
Reprographics Dallas Phone: 214-267-9669
and other area Plan rooms.

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Church Happenings

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES

January 2010
8:30 am – 11:30 am

Visit Helen's House every Monday and Friday to receive, to give, to comfort and most of all to fellowship. The give-a-way of food, love and household items is given freely to all those who could use a little touch.

Pastor Minnie
Hawthorne-Ewing
635 W. Campbell Road
Suite 210
Richardson, TX 75080
972-480-0200

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN "THE SHIP"

On Going, 9 am-4 pm
Monday – Friday

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

Wednesdays Only
Join us for Wednesday Night Live at our main campus @ 7 pm.

January 31, 10:45 pm
Come to our Super Sunday Worship Service and stay for a Fellowship Dinner after morning service.

Every Friday in
February, 7 pm
Get ready! Get ready! In celebrating Black History Month, we will have a FREE Black Cinema each Friday night with a FREE movie, food and drinks.

Come to enjoy and learn some interesting Black History.

W. L. Stafford, Sr.,
M.Div.
305 N. Alder Drive in
Allen for Sunday
Morning Worship
Church Address is
200 Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK "FIRST CHURCH"

February 6, 11 am

Join us for our "Prayer With Pastor." Come and hear Pastor Gregg's inspiring message.

February 6, 12:30-2 pm
Daughters of Sarah, Young Ladies of Purpose, will have a Sister Connection Meet and Mingle Potluck in our Fellowship Hall.

Pastor Gregory Foster,
300 Phillips Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-235-4235

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, THE COLONY

January 27-29, 7 pm

Bring family and friends to our Winter Revival with guest minister Pastor Willie Davis from New Mt. Hebron Baptist in Garland.

Pastor C. Paul McBride,
4396 Main Street
The Colony, TX 75056
972-625-8186

MT. PISGAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH "THE ROCK"

January 27, 12 to 1 pm

Please join us for our Noon-Day Bible Study group. This is a perfect lunch time event.

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

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

January 30, 8 am-11 am

Come to our Crisis Care Kick-Off Breakfast in our Fellowship Hall.

January 30,
10:30 am-12:30 pm
Don't miss our Single Adult Ministry Prayer Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall.

Dr. Leslie W. Smith,
Senior Pastor
1010-1020 S. Sherman St.
Richardson, TX 75081
972-437-3493

SAINT MARK MBC IN MCKINNEY

January, Men's Month

Let's show our appreciation to all male leaders, especially in the church. There will be great fellowship and a lot of fun. Call the church for details.

Dr. Charles Wattley
Senior Pastor
1308 Wilcox Street
McKinney TX 75069
972-542-6178

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

January 30,
7:45 am- 3 pm

Come to our Business and Professional Development Teen Summit that is sponsored by our Human Resource Ministry and the Galilee Griggs Association. Important information will be available after both Worship Services @ 8 am & 11 am in the Fellowship Hall.

February 7, 2010

Pre-Registration begins after morning worship for a FREE Women's Mission Ministry and the Greater North Dallas "Mother & Daughter Tea" featuring "The Pink It Factor Health Care Providers" they have made contributions to improving the lives of women, girls and families. All women and girls are invited to register. Call the church for details.

February 14, 11 am

Our Black History Annual Soul Food Day will be immediately after Morning Worship. A sign-up sheet is located in the Fellowship Hall. Plan to attend, fellowship and have fun. Call the church for details.

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
920 E. 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Every Thursday
In January 2010 @ 7 pm
Join us for our anointed Thursday Night Prophecy Service and be encouraged by Words from Heaven.

Pastor Gregory Voss,
2765 Trinity Mills Road
Suite 305
Carrollton, TX 75006
214-514-9147

AWARD, continued from Page 1

looking for meaningful opportunities."

A past recipient of the Sansom Award himself, City Manager Tom Muehlenbeck, one of Israelson's mentors, applauds his accolade. "Mark joined our City of Plano team in 1999 and I am gratified he has not only sought out advice and counsel from those around him, but, more importantly,

he has determined to help the development of younger next generation management."

Established in 1986, the Joy Sansom Mentor Award is awarded annually to a local public administrator who serves as a mentor, exemplifies the concept of leadership and is committed to the continued development of UMANT. UMANT.

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Lady Tasha Stafford

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



"Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as ye have not kept My ways, but have been partial in the law." Malachi 2:9 (KJV)

My Work, My Way: When people live without Christ they fail to enter into a relationship with God that allows them to fulfill their destiny. In essence, they fulfill God's work, their way. Their life represents the carnal life of the flesh.

God's Work, My Way: When a person becomes a Christian they focus their attention on living for Christ. They realize it is God's work that they are doing but it takes time before they learn what it means to do God's Work, His Way.

My Work, God's Way: As the Holy Spirit does God's work in us, we learn to walk with God. We learn what it means to see our work as God's work and we desire to do it God's way. The Israelites were guilty of not knowing God's way and were unable to move into the Promised Land because of not understanding how to do their work, God's Way.

God's Work, God's Way: When Christians walk with God they realize that all that

God's Work, God's Way

they do is God's work and He calls them to do it His way. When Christians walk with God in this manner they see the Kingdom of God manifested in their lives. They experience God's power and learn what it means to do God's Work, His Way. Christians give their lives to the Lord and ask Him to teach them His way. "And Moses said unto the Lord, See, Thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people; and Thou hast not let me know whom Thou wilt send with me. Yet Thou hast said, I know thou name, and thou hast also found grace in My sight." Exodus 33:12 (KJV) Moses realized that he needed God to teach him His ways in order for him to prosper.

Timing Factor. "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and unbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." James 1:5 & 6 (KJV)

Have you heard the statement, "He was before his time?" There are examples of people who invented a product when the market was not ready to embrace it yet. Other things had to develop before the product could be a

success. For example the 'picture telephone', the ability to talk to people on the phone and see them at the same time, idea prior to cell phones with the ability to take pictures and videos and send them all over the world.

Another product was by Mr. George Washington Carver, who was born around 1861 during the Civil War, a man who should have been a victim to his circumstances. He was discriminated against constantly when he lost his mother to slave traders. As a young boy he cried out to God in the midst of his situation and God heard him. God gave Carver a persevering spirit and he was highly motivated to learn.

He discovered that Southern farmers who planted cotton for years needed a new crop because the soil had worn out and they were going into debt as a result. Carver advised farmers to plant peanuts and sweet potatoes instead of cotton. Farmers gradually increased their peanut and sweet potato acreage. However, there was not a substantial market for their new products. They were forced to let the product rot in the field, they ended up losing more money. Carver became discouraged and took the

problem to God in prayer and asked Him why He had made the peanut. God led Carver to his lab where he discovered over 300 marketable products from the peanut including lard, mayonnaise, cheese, shampoo, instant coffee, flour, face powder, plastics, adhesives, axle grease and pickles.

From the sweet potato he made over 100 discoveries, including starch, library paste, vinegar, shoe blacking, ink and molasses. Demand for peanuts and sweet potatoes transformed the Southern economy.

In the end George Washington Carver went to God and did His Work, His Way.



Minister Stretch and Sister Orié Holley, House of Heartlight Freedom Ministries in Carrollton, Texas and Ministers of Carrollton Health and Rehab Center every Saturday afternoon at 2 pm. Everyone is invited for this anointed service.

EMPLOYERS, continued from Page 13

employers defray part of the cost of wages and on-the-job training," said TWC Chairman Tom Pauken.

Through the new program, some employers who hire people receiving unemployment benefits can receive a portion of the new employees' wages for a set period of time. Another possible incentive would provide employers with up to \$1,500 in wage-retention bonuses if they continue to employ the for-

merly out-of-work employees for at least 120 days.

"Valuable programs like Texas Back to Work exemplify the progressive vision of our leaders and make Texas a great place to do business," said Will Newton, Texas Executive Director, National Federation of Independent Business.

Employers interested in participating should contact their local workforce development boards

to learn about all options available in their areas and to help put Texas Back to Work. Employers also are encouraged to take advantage of WorkInTexas.com, TWC's online job matching Web site where more than 250,000 employers post job openings and find great employees. Local workforce board contact information can be found on www.twc.state.tx.us/dirs/wdbs/wdbmap.html or by calling 512-463-8556.



Avenue F Church of Christ
1026 Avenue F • Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8833
www.avefchurchofchrist.org

Early Sunday Morning8:00 am
Sunday Bible Class9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship10:45 am
Evening Worship3:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 pm

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



Friendship Baptist Church
4396 Main Street The Colony, Texas 75056
(972) 625-8186
website: www.fbc-online.net

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

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.

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

Contact Info: Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
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Wednesday Night Bible 7:30pm

NUMBER, continued from Page 1

ask when and where they are required to give out their SSN.

One of our most commonly received questions on this subject is: can a private business ask for my Social Security number? Generally, the answer is yes. The law does not prohibit a business from asking for a person's SSN; however, the customer has options and does not have to provide that information.

Texans are not legally required to provide their SSN to private businesses unless the transaction is one which triggers mandatory Internal Revenue Service notification.

Texans should be aware, though, that businesses can refuse to provide products or services to customers who fail to provide their SSN.

If a business insists that customers provide their SSN and customers feel this is not justified, customers may want to ask for a supervisor or manager to discuss the situation. If the company is unwilling to budge, Texans may want to consider taking their business elsewhere.

Be aware that while federal law does not forbid a business from asking for a person's SSN, it does mandate that the business protect

any numbers it collects. People who provide their SSN to a private business should familiarize themselves with the company's privacy policy.

Texas law also requires that businesses safeguard their clients' sensitive personal information, including names, addresses, financial information and SSN. The OAG has charged several commercial vendors with unlawfully failing to protect such information.

Many Texans also inquire about government agencies and whether they have the right to ask for a person's SSN. Federal law does com-

pel government agencies to ask for a SSN in certain instances.

For example, certain government agencies, including taxing authorities, human resource offices and departments of motor vehicles, can require a SSN as mandated by federal law.

Federal law does provide protections when citizens are required to divulge their SSN. The Privacy Act of 1974 requires that all government agencies that request Social Security numbers provide a disclosure statement on the form. The statement explains whether citizens are

required to provide their SSN or if it is optional.

The Privacy Act also provides that citizens cannot be denied government benefits or services if they refuse to disclose their SSN – if the disclosure is not required by federal law or if the disclosure is to an agency which

has been using Social Security numbers prior to January 1975.

Texans who are asked to give their SSN to a government agency but do not receive a disclosure statement may want to cite the Privacy Act and contact their U.S. congressmen or senators.

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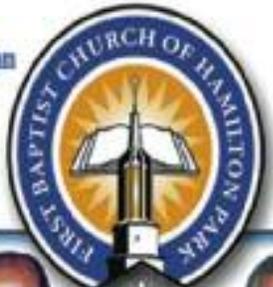
7710 S. Westmoreland Rd.
Dallas Texas 75237
Phone: 972-572-4262 Fax: 972-709-3888

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



Pastor Robert G. Beck Website: www.ibocjoy.org

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Sunday School 9:30 am
Wednesday Night Service 8:00 pm




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Children's and Youth Worship Service: Every 3rd, 4th, and 5th, Sunday at 10:45 a.m.
AWANA: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Contact Information: 972-423-6895
www.smbcplano.org

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Morning Worship 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



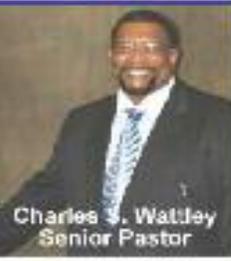
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