

# North Dallas Gazette



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Brian Smith, Author

## NBA All-Star weekend offer something other than sports

BY IVYN N. CARTER, MBA  
NDG STAFF WRITER

The American Airline Center, Dallas Convention Center and Cowboys Stadium were flooded with Dallas residents and out-of-town visitors all waiting to see the spectacle of the

2010 NBA All-Star events. It seemed like pandemonium at all turns but sanity could be found at the smaller special events in Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW).

Dock Bookshop and Air Jam Sports, Inc. hosted the All-Star Authors Show-

case for national and local African-American authors at The Academy of Black Arts and Letters in Dallas on Saturday, Feb. 13. Authors of all genres set-up displays featuring their books, which were for sale

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SPOTLIGHT

## First Lady Michelle Obama launches Let's Move: America's move to raise a healthier generation of kids



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## Parents not satisfied with McKinney school officials' response to sewage stained carpeting

BY RUTH FERGUSON  
NDG EDITOR

Monday morning a backed-up pipe caused sewage to overflow from bathrooms to classrooms at Bennett Elementary School in McKinney. Tuesday night parents met with the Superintendent J. D. Ken-

nedy and district spokesperson Cody Cunningham. However, some were not satisfied with the responses received.

Although school officials stated students were immediately removed, parents in television news reports indicated that accord-

ing to their children, the students remained in the area for up to 90 minutes.

The parents were also displeased to learn officials are not immediately replacing the carpet. The carpets have been cleaned twice and experts are administering tests to confirm the car-

pet is clean and the air quality is safe. However, parents stressed their desire to have the carpet removed. School officials stated they want to make sure that is in fact necessary in an effort to avoid any unnecessary spending of the taxpayer's

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*Mariah Carey concert coming to Nokia Theater*

For more information see pg. 10  
[www.northdallasgazette.com](http://www.northdallasgazette.com)

COMMENTARY

## Plagued by credit-card debt? New laws could help lighten long-term load

BY TEXAS SEN. ROYCE WEST

Many of us can remember the theory of 'trickle-down economics.' It proposed that if the haves acquired enough, their largess would eventually reach the have-nots. But 20 years later, the have-nots still have not. The trickle spigot was somehow capped.

But now it seems that the current economic crisis - triggered by the collapse of the housing in-

dustry three years ago that crashed Wall Street, that paralyzed the auto industry, that caused Americans to lose jobs at a rate of 700,000 per month - found a way to tap the trickle spigot so that banks (the proponents of this catastrophe) could in part recoup their losses from the plastic-toting public.

Americans were furi-

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## UNCF'S 11th Red, Hot & Snazzy Gala to benefit Texas students and historically black colleges & universities

(NDG Wire) The North Texas area office of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) the nation's largest and most effective minority education organization, is hosting its 11th Anniversary Red, Hot & Snazzy benefit gala on Saturday,

February 27 at 6:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel.

The elegant affair will include a reception, silent and live auctions, dinner, dancing and a live concert performance by national

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## People In The News...



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Jerome Rodgers



Angela Blair

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## Ni'Cola Mitchell

BY IVY N. CARTER, MBA  
NDG STAFF WRITER

When you meet Ni'Cola Mitchell you meet a real person, not an ego because of the successes from a best-selling novel, *Over and Over Again*, but a real person who is transparent and forthcoming.

Mitchell shared by phone, "I let people see my life and the challenges are for real and no matter what you go through you can change your life."

And real life is what Mitchell brings in the pages of her second and latest

novel, *Appetizer*. The main characters Nia, Monae, and Yazmin are best friends who believe they are living perfect and separate lives. But as life happens they quickly realize their lives are more intertwined than ever imagined.

"*Appetizer* is the connecting book to *Over and Over Again* where I bring back Nia's character and developed these other characters who are loosely based on the women and experiences in my life," said Mitchell. "I wrote this book differently because I

wanted it to be approachable but a guaranteed page turner and the *Appetizer* women are sure to bring the nonstop drama."

Mitchell, a mother, graduate student and wife, also owns her own publishing company, NCM Publishing, based in Las Vegas where she lives with her family. She recently signed Rekaya Gibson, author of the *Food Temptress*, to her publishing company and is looking for other writers who she advised to "be dedicated to their craft."

She has a passion to inspire young women of color who have been through

life's ups and downs. "

I want to target Black women to know that they can endure the worse of life but still make their dreams a reality. I have after moving to the States from Jamaica at nine and becoming a mom at 15, yet I was still able to make my stories real to life and inspire women to think about what is really going on in their lives," Mitchell concluded.

Discussing the recent devastation in Haiti, Mitchell shared, "Coming from a third world country I understand what it's like to not have clean water but this is an issue that has been



going on for a longtime and I will be happy when Haiti is assisted the right way," she stated, "My heart goes out to Haiti."

Mitchell was in the Dallas area for the NBA All-

Star events Feb. 11-14 for pre-release events for *Appetizer*. The official book release is later this month.

Visit her website [www.nicolamitchell.com](http://www.nicolamitchell.com)

## Jerome Rodgers

R&R Tax and Bookkeeping, a Dallas-based tax and bookkeeping firm, recently premiered its second office location in Pleasant Grove's Bruton Mart, removes the guess work out of tax preparation and assists both individuals and businesses with preparing, filing and managing taxes by educating clients are educated on taxes and tax laws.

Jerome Rodgers, Presi-



dent of R&R Tax and Bookkeeping, said "Our goal is

to provide the community with tax preparation, while also educating taxpayers on the many ways of increasing tax returns."

R&R Tax and Bookkeeping offers the following eight key tax preparation facts:

**First-Time Home-Buyer Tax Credit:** Effective on Nov. 6, clients can possibly receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit of up to \$8,000 for 10% of the cost of a home until April 2010 even if the buyer does not owe the entire tax he/she

can receive a full refund check.

**Unemployment Benefits:** There is an exemption of \$2,400 per individual on unemployment benefits, which are taxable. Unemployed taxpayers receiving benefits may need to estimate and pay quarterly taxes or risk penalties when they can least afford them.

**American Opportunity Credit:** Is a tax credit for as much as \$2,500, generated by spending on tuition and other education expenses (books, possibly a

computer) up to \$4,000.

**New Car Purchases:** Taxpayers who buy new car before Jan. 1, may deduct sales and excise taxes and other fees on as much as \$49,500 of the purchase price.

**Savings:** You can still put in an entire year's 401(k) contribution, which is \$16,500 (\$22,000 if you're over 50).

**Charitable Gifts:** This will be the last year for taxpayers over 70 ½ to make a charitable contribution directly from an IRA instead

of having it withdrawn from the IRA, claimed as income and then deducted as a donation.

**Investments:** Taxpayers may deduct up to \$3,000 of these losses per year against ordinary income, with the excess carried forward for use in future years.

**Medical Expenses:** To use this credit a taxpayer is seriously ill or in a nursing home, and must spend more than 7.5% of adjusted gross income to claim any deduction.

## Angela Blair



Angela Blair's career began in the early 90's when she was cast as the Angel of Mercy in the movie starring Steve Martin, *Leap of Faith*. From there Blair, a Dallas native, has enjoyed being the opening act for entertainers Jeffrey Osborne, Regina Belle, Zapp, Scarface, and the Isley Brothers. After a 10

year hiatus from the entertainment world Blair has reemerged as a force to be reckoned with and is truly willing to be led by the right person, who is not herself.

Flowing with God is how you would best describe Blair's new and improved entertainment career. "I don't know any other way to say what's next for me other than I am waiting to hear from God on what I should do next," says Blair when asked about what her next move is to further her music and acting careers.

"When you have been around the world, emotional, physically and what not and have done things on your own you begin to realize that seeking God first and listening to Him for an-

swers is the better choice, you relax and wait."

Blair is known around Dallas and across the country for her soul-stirring gospel, upbeat inspirational and sensual R&B renditions. So much so she keeps company with Jazz Trumpeter great, Roy Hargrove, George Huff from *American Idol* and many more celebrities who collectively sing her praises. Her name brings chills to the hearts and minds of those who have heard her sing.

"I completely allow God to use me when I go on



stage. I go into a zone because my intent is to touch someone's life," Blair adds.

To ensure she remains focused on delivering a one-of-a-kind performance, Blair refuses to watch herself after a performance. "I don't want to get into the habit of doing a routine," she confesses, "I want everything I do on stage to be 100 percent anointed."

Blair recently performed during the 2010 NBA All-Star events which included a 40th birthday celebration where celebrities such as Kirk Franklin and Pastor Tony Evans were in attendance. She also was the headliner for the 2010 Jazz and Blues Lovefest at the Fiesta Event Center in Dallas.

"My goal is to maximize every moment," concludes

Blair, "I am past the pain and ready to help others move past theirs."

To learn more about An-

gela Blair or to purchase her CDs, *It's All About Love* and *Give Me Your Love* visit [www.angelablair.com](http://www.angelablair.com).

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# The importance of knowing your health

BY TINA LEWIS

NDG SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

I truly believe that no event in life happens without the direction of the hand of God and over the past few years, it has become more and more apparent to me that the trials I have experienced have been for the purpose of educating others.

I am a 10 year survivor of triple negative breast cancer.

Having been married for 35 years to the love of my life, Harold, and a mother to three children, Jeremy, Jonathan and Jennifer, my diagnosis became more than my fight. It became theirs.

When I first heard the words "You have breast cancer," I knew that my life would change forever. What I did not know was how. At the time, I had no family history and my knowledge of the disease was very limited. As I soon learned, family

history has to start somewhere, and in my family it was with me.

My diagnosis left me stunned. I scanned my belief system trying to determine why this happened to me. Innately solution minded, strong willed, a tough and resilient woman who could handle whatever life dealt her, I immediately felt as though I was helpless and out of control.

After long thought and deliberation, I made the conscious decision to turn away from negative thoughts and began educating myself about my disease.

Education is the key to early diagnosis and survival. Education about breast cancer and your family's health history can help save your life.

That's why I'm educating my daughter, Jennifer, about our family history. Because of our discussions, she knows that I fought breast cancer. And that shortly after my diagnosis, my mother learned that she, too, had the disease. And that breast cancer took the life of her father's mother. Because of these conversations, she's aware of her increased risk and the importance of practicing good breast self awareness.

February is Black History Month and Susan G. Komen for the Cure®'s Circle of Promise encourages you to Know Your Health Know Your Self. In addition to studying our cultural history, let's also study our family's health history. Visit [www.circleofpromise.org](http://www.circleofpromise.org) to become part of the circle and you'll receive a family tree to get you started.

Let's talk about it. Make sure that starting the dialogue around your family's health history is the theme of your generation's legacy.

## Leaving the littlest ones behind

BY MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

(NNPA) When people talk about the "achievement gap" at-risk children face, they often think of it in terms that apply to

school-age children—but that gap can start much earlier than most people might guess. A recent report by the nonprofit, nonpartisan research group Child

Trends showed that disparities actually begin appearing before children's first birthdays. The report, *Disparities in Early Learning*

See BEHIND Page 4

## DEBT, continued from Page 1

ous when notice came from card issuers that the terms of revolving credit as we knew it, were about to change. Many consumers were hit with a triple shot from credit card companies. Attractive fixed rates were supplanted by variable rates. Lower interest rates would be raised in some cases from single digits, to something closer to 20 percent or more. This whammy of a trifecta was completed when card issuers converted existing balances to new higher interest rates. Consumers were left with the option of accepting the new terms or closing the account under old rates (opting-out): *like it or not.*

Outraged citizens complained and last May Congress and President Barack Obama signed into law sweeping changes to laws governing banks and other credit card issuers. The new law goes into effect February 22, giving banks the time they begged for implementation. Their interim re-

sponse included imposing the same rate hikes on their 'good customers' that had been used, along with exorbitant penalties and fees on the risky, to rake in profits.

Effective soon, 45 days notice must be given in advance of any increases in credit card rates or fees. The law requires that promotional rates offered to both new and existing accounts last a minimum six months and interest rates or fees on a new account cannot be raised more than once within a single year, unless the cardholder's payment is 60 days late.

Issuers must now set due dates on the same day each month and bills are due the next business day if due dates fall on a weekend or holiday.

Now monthly statements must be issued to customers at least 21 days prior to payment due dates. Current law requires just 14 days.

The new laws also protect cardholders from over-

the-limit charges. For a transaction to be completed that would cause the cardholder to exceed their limit, the customer must be alerted and choose ('opt-in') to continue the transaction.

Banks and other issuers will no longer be able to charge for telephone or electronic transfer payments unless expedited service is requested. And payments made in the branch office of an issuer must be credited the same day.

Maybe you've taken advantage of those low- or zero-interest balance transfer offers. You may not have known that issuers were allowed to apply your payments to the low-or no-interest debt, while the interest accumulated on higher rate balances. This practice will end. The new law says all payments above the minimum will now apply to the balance bearing the highest interest.

How many parents were not aware that the student you sent away to college

was in possession of a credit card until the bill arrived at your door? This too will end. Co-signors will be required unless those under 21 can provide sufficient proof of income.

Those who now think their account agreements look more like a loan shark deal will find solace in the new provision that requires all changes in credit card terms imposed after Jan. 1, 2009 to be reviewed by issuers every six months with rate reductions to be considered.

Purchasers and recipients of gift cards railed against industry practices that penalized holders for not immediately using the cards. New rules say no fees can be charged for 12 months and cards cannot expire until five years after purchase.

And lastly, all changes under this Act will be reviewed for their effectiveness and impact every two years by the FTC and Federal Reserve.



# BEHIND, continued from Page 3

and Development: Lessons from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study – Birth Cohort, found that gaps in children's development are already apparent when babies are just nine months old, and grow even larger by 24 months.

These disparities in infants' and toddlers' development can be measured across cognitive, social, behavioral, and health outcomes.

For example, when they looked at disparities by family income, they found infants and toddlers from low-income families scored lower on a cognitive assessment than infants and toddlers from higher-income families, were less likely to be in excellent or very good health, and were less likely to receive positive behavior ratings. When they looked at disparities by race/ethnicity, home language, and maternal education, they found that in general infants and toddlers from more at-risk backgrounds (defined as the children from racial/ethnic minority groups, whose home language was not English, and/or who had mothers with low maternal education) also scored lower on cognitive and positive behavior ratings and were less likely to be in excellent or very good health than children from more advantaged backgrounds.

Poverty was the most prevalent risk factor in the study, and they point out that nearly half of all American infants and toddlers—approximately 1.5 million children—live in families with incomes below 200% of poverty at nine and 24 months of age. Of these children, they note 89 percent of infants and 88 percent of toddlers have other risk factors in addition to being poor—and the more risk factors a child has, the wider the disparities across outcomes.

So what can we do? Child Trends highlights four key implications of their study.



Children's Defense Fund

The first is that we should acknowledge that if differences in development can already be detected as early as nine and 24 months, interventions also need to start as early as infancy.

Second, because income was the most prevalent risk factor, we should address poverty's threat head-on and make children in low-income households the main targets of early interventions designed to improve children's health and well-being.

Since low maternal education is another key risk factor, a third implication is that we should engage and support parents of at-risk infants and toddlers through parental education.

The final implication in their report is that we should improve the quality of early care settings. They point out that research shows high-quality early care and edu-

cation can help balance out the effects of demographic risk factors for young children. It also shows most infants and toddlers, especially those from low-income households, are cared for in home-based settings—so focusing on curriculum development and professional development in both home-based and center-based settings could help ensure infants and toddlers receive a safe, supportive, stimulating environment.

This important study underscores a key truth: if a price tag could be put on future workforce productivity in our country, the growing number of children in poverty is very expensive. Very soon, the line of credit we have been using by not investing wisely in children from an early age is going to bankrupt us.

Our nation simply cannot afford not to significantly increase investments in early childhood development and care, or to keep leaving so many poor babies and toddlers behind. Ending child poverty is not only a moral imperative, it is an economic imperative.

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund. For more information go to [www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org).

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North Dallas  
**Gazette**

## Preventing kidney disease

BY LARRY LUCAS

(NNPA) Each February, we take time to honor our community's great leaders, both past and present. Many, like Martin Luther King, Jr., overcame great obstacles and adversity to achieve their dreams. Today, we cannot continue to let our health be one of those obstacles. This month, take some time out to honor your body by taking steps to manage and prevent chronic conditions that could lead to more serious illnesses such as kidney disease.

According to the Na-

tional Kidney Foundation, one in nine Americans has kidney disease, a condition that damages your kidneys and keeps them from performing normal functions. Kidney disease and several chronic conditions are inter-related: for example, high blood pressure and diabetes can lead to kidney disease and complicate it further. With 3.7 million African Americans aged 20 years or older living with diabetes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), we must be more aware of the dangers

of this condition.

Even one of my favorite basketball stars, Alonzo Mourning of the Miami Heat, was not aware he had kidney disease until he became very ill. Alonzo had to quit the NBA to receive a life-saving kidney transplant. After receiving the proper treatment, he is living a healthy life today and educating others on the dangers of this disease.

Kidney disease often progresses so slowly that many of those who have it,

See DISEASE, Page 14

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# "Don't Be Counted Out" Census Awareness and Political Candidates' Forum

(NDG Wire) To raise awareness, Delta Sigma Theta, North Dallas Suburban Alumnae (NDSA) along with the North Dallas Suburban Alumnae Foundation, U.S. Census Bureau-Dallas Area, Christian Chapel Temple of Faith and Grass Roots Strategies initiate a census awareness campaign and a political candidates' forum. The official start of the 2010 census and upcoming primary election is near. An accurate census count is crucial to ensuring

fair share of federal and state programs.

The event will be held on Saturday, February 27 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Christian Chapel Temple of Faith, 14120 Noel Road in Dallas, Texas.

Participants will learn about the census, how it affects their local communities and hear from political candidates of both parties. Additionally, Tony B of 94.5 KSoul is a special guest.

The political forum will

include questions on community issues. "If you are not counted, we may not be adequately funded to serve the communities we live," said NDSA chapter president, Carolyn Matthews.

NDSA is working to better educate the community about the 2010 census in hopes of expediting the process of getting a quick, accurate count of the population in our area.

For information, email [candidateforum@dstnds.org](mailto:candidateforum@dstnds.org) or call, 214-452-7835.

## Getting your yard ready for spring

BY RUTH FERGUSON

After a rather rainy January and record snowfall last week it seems like spring will never arrive. But according to the calendar it is just around the corner. Perhaps we can console ourselves with dreaming of our spring gardens or adding a little curb appeal to our home.

The City of Garland's Neighborhood Management Academy is offering a Resuscitate Your Landscape class on February 20 at the Central Library. The class will help participants determine what plants can be saved and which should be tossed in the compost pile.



They will help students figure out the appropriate plant type and size for their home landscape.

A few copies of the SmartScape CD will be available. This CD can help homeowners learn how to reduce use of water, pesticides and fertilizers by landscaping with native and

adapted plants. The use of plants requiring little or no pesticides or fertilizers to grow will reduce the amount of pollutants being washed into local creeks. Several of these plants also attract butterflies and hummingbirds.

Participants will also receive other handouts, including a list of resources for materials and other information.

Class will be held at the Central Library, 625 Austin Street, February 20 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Register electronically at [www.GarlandVitalNeighborhoods.org](http://www.GarlandVitalNeighborhoods.org) or send an e-mail to [tallmend@ci.garland.tx.us](mailto:tallmend@ci.garland.tx.us).

## If you have any outstanding tickets, pay now or go to jail

(NDG Wire) The Irving City Marshal's Office and

the Irving Police Department are among the over 100 cities participating in the Texas Warrant Roundup during the months of February and March.

Across the state, law enforcement officials are focusing on defendants with outstanding war-

rants for Class C misdemeanor violations. Offenders can be arrested anywhere, including at their place of employment.

Those with outstanding warrants are urged to contact the Irving Municipal Court at (972) 721-2671, or visit the Irving Municipal Court, 305 N. O'Connor Road, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. In 2009, 174 agencies participated, resulting in 204,695 warrants being cleared.



Dear Fellow Texans,

When I came to Texas I had little more than the shirt on my back. Through hard work and determination I was able to grow a very successful business but not for one minute do I believe I did it alone.

I am now running for governor to ensure all Texans have the opportunity to succeed. To start with I will use the Governor's Office to create 100,000 new jobs in the next two years. If families are going to succeed they have to have good paying jobs. I feel so strongly about this that I will resign from office if I'm not able to accomplish this goal.

Next, I'll focus on improving our public schools. If our children are going to succeed they have to be able to read, write and be proficient in math and science. And the quality of their school cannot be determined by the Zip Code in which they live. That is why I will insist that resources are targeted to neighborhoods with the most need.

Texas families also need access to affordable health care. We need to expand the availability of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). We need to join President Obama in his fight to reform health insurance. And we have to do something to control the cost of prescription drugs, especially for our senior citizens.

I want to ensure our state continues to be the place where those with a dream can make it a reality. In the words of Rev. Martin Luther King, I want our children to live in a state where they are not judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character. A place where all Texans have the opportunity to succeed.

Sincerely,

*Farouk Shami*

Farouk Shami

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Houston, TX 77027

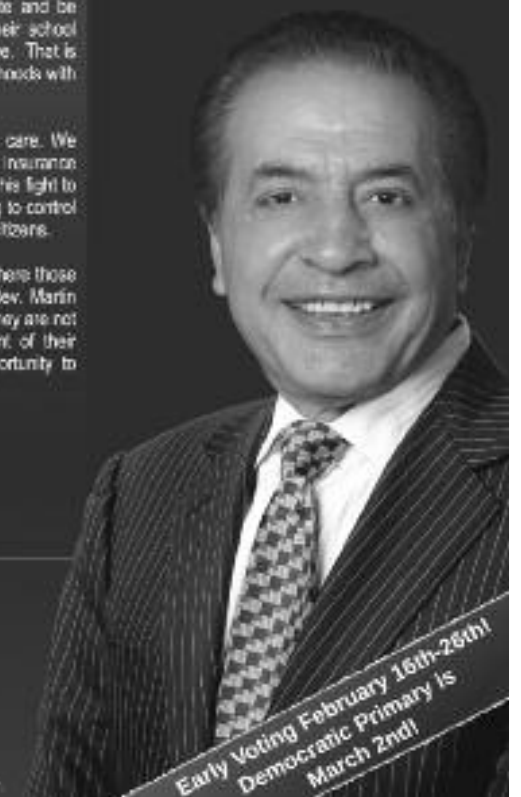
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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS AND REQUEST FOR CITIZEN INPUT ON THE CITY OF ALLEN

#### 2010-2014 CONSOLIDATE PLAN 2010 ANNUAL PLAN FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING NEEDS

The City of Allen will receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010. As required by federal regulations, CDBG funds must be used to meet one of three National Objectives: 1) Eliminate slum and blight; 2) Assist low-income citizens; or 3) Urgent need/disaster relief. The Consolidated Plan is the comprehensive 5-year planning document that details how the City will expend its federal funds. The 2010 Annual Plan will detail the proposed usage of the CDBG funds for the next year in accordance with the 5-year priorities and strategies.

In accordance with the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and with 24 CFR, Part 91, and in furtherance of the City of Allen's commitment to facilitating the exchange of information between the City and its citizens, the City has established a series of public hearings and opportunities for citizen input and comments regarding the development of the 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan and 2010 Annual Plan.

The hearings will be held at the following dates, times, and locations in Allen:

Dates	Time	Locations	Address
2/24/2010	7:00 pm	Boyd Elementary	800 Jupiter
2/25/2010	7:00 pm	Rountree Elementary	800 E. Main Street

Written comments regarding the community needs and priorities for affordable housing should be sent to M. Nelda Thomas, Planning and Development Department, City of Allen, 305 Century Parkway Allen, Texas 75013. Written responses will be provided if a name and return address is included. Citizens are encouraged to attend any of the public hearings to offer input.

All public hearings are held in facilities that are wheelchair accessible and provide handicapped parking. Interpretive services for deaf or non-English speaking citizens will be available with an advance notice of 48 hours. Arrangements for such services can be made by calling the City of Allen at 903-531-1303 or TDD at 1-800-735-2989.

# Helping high school juniors and seniors cross the bridge to college

(NDG Wire) Time is running out for high school juniors and seniors who are making plans for college and want to apply for financial aid.

In the middle of school, exams and plans for the future, many are trying to decide which colleges they should apply to, and they are wondering whether they can afford the cost of tuition and books. They – and their parents – are concerned about applications, financial aid forms, and what they should study; the students simply want to know how to navigate the waters of higher education. They are confused, excited and sometimes a little bit frightened to cross the

bridge from high school to college.

The Dallas County Community College District and the Dallas Independent School District will eliminate some of those fears and confusion by providing a fact-filled and useful day of information to those students and their parents through the Keys to Success program on Sat., Feb. 27.

The free event, which is geared toward all high school juniors, seniors and parents, will be held from 8 a.m. to noon at North Lake College in Irving.

The one-day college fair is designed specifically to meet the needs of high school juniors and seniors, plus their

families. North Lake is located at 5001 N. MacArthur Blvd. in Irving; for directions, visit [www.northlakecollege.edu/about/gettinghere.html](http://www.northlakecollege.edu/about/gettinghere.html)

The program includes hands-on workshops that will teach students how to fill out applications for admission to DCCCD and area colleges and universities, as well as paperwork for financial aid and scholarships – including DCCCD's Rising Star program. Bilingual volunteers will be available to assist participants.

Interested seniors will receive assistance with filling out and submitting their college admissions and financial aid forms. Those students

should bring the following documents: a copy of their parents' 2009 income tax return; valid student picture ID; and W-2 forms or any other records of money earned. Students who have all of the essential forms will receive assistance completing the Free Application for Student Financial Aid

College representatives, admissions specialists and financial aid advisors will talk to families about the steps they need to take to be considered for admission and financial aid. Other sessions will explore paying for college, SAT/ACT test preparation and more. Breakfast and snacks will be provided.

For information, call

DCCCD at 214- 378-1771; [dccc.edu/keystosuccess/](http://dccc.edu/keystosuccess/) or for details in Spanish, call [www.dccc.edu/llavesdelexito](http://www.dccc.edu/llavesdelexito). 214- 378-1713; or visit [www.dccc.edu/llavesdelexito](http://www.dccc.edu/llavesdelexito).

## Bill to merge historical black colleges dies

(NNPA) A bill to merge three historical Black colleges in Mississippi has died in the state's legislature. Mississippi Valley State University was faced with the possibility of merging their campus with Alcorn State and Jackson State after a bill to that effect was introduced to the Senate.

Tuesday, Feb. 3, was the last day for the committees to act on the bill, but it did not come up for a vote in the committee. Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour had suggested the merger along with the merger of Mississippi University For Women and Mississippi State in an effort to save money.

Mississippi Valley State was founded in 1950, Jackson State in 1877, and Alcorn State, the nation's first state supported higher education institution for Black students, is reportedly the oldest Black college in the world, founded in 1871.

## GALA, continued from Page 1

recording group ZAPP.

A signature DFW metropolis event, the *Red, Hot & Snazzy* benefit gala raises funds that support UNCF's Texas based member institutions, as well as scholarships for low income students. Annually, UNCF supports 60,000 students at 900 U.S. colleges and universities.

"Proceeds will provide vitally important resources to UNCF's member colleges & universities and help them continue to play a critical role in our communities as they prepare our youth with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in today's economy" UNCF's Area Development Director Diane Stephenson stated. "We are grateful to those who have generously invested in UNCF and minority higher education by supporting our *Red, Hot & Snazzy* gala," she added.

"We know there are very few things more important than ensuring every student has access and a means to achieve a college education. That's why we are so excited to work with UNCF and chair this year's Gala fundraiser" said Fred and Gloria Marsh, co-chairs of the event.

The Mistress of Ceremonies for the night's affair is Fox 4 News Anchor Clarice Tinsley. K104 FM radio personalities Sam Put-

ney and Chris Arnold will serve as the celebrity auctioneers during the Live Auction. Pianist Mariah Picot and violinist Rich-

mond Punch will entertain guests during silent auction and VIP receptions.

Sponsorship packages are still available starting at

\$5,000. Reserved tables are \$2,000 and individual tickets are \$200.

For more information, to purchase tables, tickets or

to make a donation, contact the Dallas office of UNCF at 972-234-1007 or metro 972-263-4114 or visit [www.uncf.org/dallas](http://www.uncf.org/dallas).

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*North Dallas*  
**Gazette**

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS McKinney Housing Authority Facility Exterior Improvement Project

All sealed bids shall be addressed to and received by the McKinney Housing Authority, 1200 North Tennessee Street, McKinney, Texas 75069 until 10:00 A.M., Wednesday, March 3, 2010. Bids received after 10:00 A.M. on that date will be returned unopened.

This contract shall consist of removal, and replacement of soffits and fascias, exterior painting, exterior wood and siding wall replacement, soil grading, associated dirt work, turf grasses, roof repair and replacement, removal and replacement of exterior entry doors and hardware, new exterior screen doors, and replacement of exterior windows.

Plans and specifications may be obtained for a cost of \$60.00 a set, including specifications, at Precision Reprographics, 3102 Benton St., Garland, 75042; 972-485-1188; [plotting@precisionrepro.net](mailto:plotting@precisionrepro.net) on February 16, 2010.

Said sealed bids will be opened at a public bid opening in the McKinney Housing Authority, 1200 North Tennessee St., McKinney, Texas at 10:00 A.M., Wednesday, March 3, 2010.

The contract for said improvements will be awarded by the McKinney Housing Authority at its regular meeting on or before Monday, March 8, 2010.

The contractor will be paid out of HUD funds from the McKinney Housing Authority for the work performed. Payment in full will be made when completed and approved by the architect for acceptance. Bid Bond, Performance and Payment Bonds will be required for the project. Federal Davis-Bacon Wages are applicable.

No bid may be withdrawn 60 days after the date on which bids are taken.

McKinney Housing Authority, McKinney, Texas; Ms. Beth Bentley



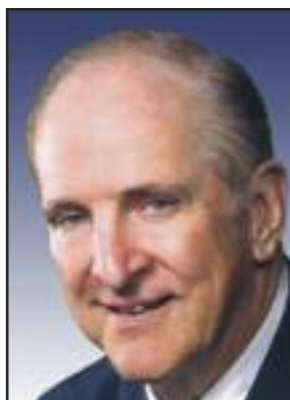
## Congressman Sam Johnson visits local dialysis center in support of certification to benefit Medicare patients

(NDG Wire) Recently Congressman Sam Johnson visited the West Plano DaVita Dialysis Center to meet local patients, learn about dialysis care and discuss the importance of facility certification to treat Medicare patients. Congressman Johnson recognizes that the lack of certification is a problem for area Medicare patients who must currently drive long distances to receive much-needed dialysis treatment.

"There are over 30,000 patients in the state of Texas that need dialysis, and unfortunately many of those patients have been waiting a very long time to be able to seek care closer to home," said Congressman Johnson. "That is why I am very excited to announce that CMS has just given the green light for the Plano Dialysis Center

to take the crucial next step in securing their designation as a Medicare provider. I am so proud that several of these new state of the art facilities have opened up right here in North Texas. DaVita has made it a priority to deliver cutting edge technology just steps away for so many of my constituents. As our community continues to grow, the needs of the dialysis community do too."

"I will continue to work to make sure the government continues to hold up their end of the bargain and get the rest of these facilities in North Texas Medicare certified as soon as possible," the congressman adds. "These patients need access to this life-saving treatment now, not in six months and certainly not in a year-and-a-half. I will continue to work with my



**Sam Johnson**

colleagues in Congress to make sure that we can cut through the bureaucratic red tape that has stopped these facilities from serving the very patients that need it the most," concluded Johnson.

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) currently affects one-in-six Americans - approximately 31 million adults - with 90 percent unaware they

have it. The chance that an American adult has CKD is almost as high as an American woman's risk of getting breast cancer. An estimated 500,000 Americans have end-stage renal disease and more than 70,000 people in this country die every year as a result of kidney failure.

"At DaVita, we strive to enrich our patient's lives by educating them about all of their treatment options and selecting the appropriate dialysis modality for their lifestyle," said Kent Thiry, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of DaVita®. "By providing patients and their loved ones with valuable knowledge about kidney care, we give them the opportunity to take charge of their own health and make proactive choices in their treatment."

## Citi & St. Philip's School and Community Center announce the 2010 Destiny Awards Luncheon

(NDG Wire) Citi & St. Philip's School and Community Center are proud to present the 10th Annual Destiny Awards Luncheon to be held on Thursday, March 11 at the Belo Mansion in downtown Dallas from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The keynote speaker, Henry Winkler, the celebrated actor and children's advocate, who is best known for his role as "The Fonz" on the popular T.V. show, *Happy Days*. Liz Minyard-Lokey and Dr. and Mrs. Bob Kramer will serve as chairs for this meaningful event.

During the luncheon the Destiny Award for Organization; Corporation; and Individual Leadership will be presented as well as the Un-

sung Hero Award.

Funds raised by this event will support scholarships for the educational and outreach services provided by St. Philip's, which is an independent elementary school in southern Dallas serving 260 African-American and Hispanic students, ages three years through sixth grade. St. Philip's emphasizes academic excellence, cultural awareness and self-esteem and through the Community Center, provides social and educational services to 1,500 South Dallas residents.

Sponsorships range from \$1,500 to \$15,000; tables are \$700 and tickets are \$75. Call 214-421-5221 ext. 238 or visit [www.stphilips1600.org](http://www.stphilips1600.org).



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**Ongoing**

**African American Republican Club of Collin County** meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.) Collin County Republican Party HQ, 8416 Stacy Rd., McKinney. Call Linda Wynn Drain, 214-498-7574 or website [www.aarcc.com](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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 March 28**

**The Arthur Primas Collection: 200 Years of African American Art** Free admission. Irving Arts Council Gallery. Significant collection of African American Art including paintings, sculptures, works on paper, graphics and documents covering a period of 200 years.

**Thru February 27**

**End Days** by Deborah Zoe Laufer at the Bath House Cultural Center is a rapturously funny play about a slowly healing family hurtling towards Armageddon. Father hasn't changed out of his pajamas since 9/11; Mother abandons Judaism for the warm embrace of Jesus; Daughter finds solace in Stephen Hawking; The Boy-Next-Door just wants to feel welcome in someones house...oh...and dress like Elvis. Tickets: Pay-What-You-Can to \$25, info: [www.echotheatre.org](http://www.echotheatre.org).

**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 20**

**Texas Woman's University hosting an open house for prospective students** from 8 a.m. until noon on the TWU Denton campus. To register or for info: visit [www.twu.edu](http://www.twu.edu) and click on Denton Campus Open House, email TWU at [openhouse@twu.edu](mailto:openhouse@twu.edu) or call 940-898-3014 or 1-866-809-6130.

**JerrKelie L. Bazile**, author of *The Piercing That Changed My Life*, book signing at Jokae's African American Book Store 1:00 –

3:00 p.m. at 3223 Camp Wisdom Rd., Dallas. Info: 972-412-2206 or [www.keekee-bazile.com](http://www.keekee-bazile.com)

**February 20 - 21**

**El Corazon de Antigua, Spain** at the Latino Cultural Center located at 2600 Live Oak Street, Dallas. Tickets are \$15-20. Info: [www.teatrodallas.org](http://www.teatrodallas.org) or 214-670-3320

**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 24**

**Technology, Engineering, Security Clearance Career Fair** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. FREE Call TJF at 800-695-1939 or [www.targetedjobfairs.com](http://www.targetedjobfairs.com)

**February 25**

To enhance relationships with the Hispanic community, the Irving Police Department will host another educational meeting with the **Hispanic Chamber** to discuss police-related topics and more. 6:30 p.m. at Lorenzo de Zavala Middle School, 707 W. Pioneer Drive.

**February 25-28**

**Sesame Street Live: 1...2...3 Imagine** at the Nokia Theatre in Grand Prairie. Tickets \$12-\$34. Visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or call 972-854-5111.

**February 26**

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

**February 26 – March 21**

Dallas Theater Center is presenting Kathy Burks Theatre of Puppetry Arts **Hansel and Gretel** in the Studio Theater at DCT's Rosewood Center for Family Arts. DCT Box Office: 214-740-0051 or [www.dct.org](http://www.dct.org).

**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](http://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.

**Entrepreneur 101** - The PLAN Fund provides key resources and valuable entrepreneur training which is vital as you start and grow your small business. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. \$45 per person. Info: call Tarsha 214-942-6698 or [www.planfund.org](http://www.planfund.org).

**The Bancroft Family Concert will present Orpheus Chamber Singers**, Dallas' acclaimed chamber choir, in a FREE program of love songs. The concert will be held in Horchow Auditorium at the Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 N. Harwood, at 2:30 p.m. for the 3:00 p.m. concert. Info: 214.520.2219 or [www.fineartschamberplayers.org](http://www.fineartschamberplayers.org)

**Allen Special Olympics – Special Angels Among Us** 12th Annual Dinner, Live and Silent Auction from 6

a.m. – 11 p.m. Admission is \$40 per person. Info: Lisa Grantham at 972.727.0570 ext. 135 or 972.359.7531; [lisa\\_grantham@allenisd.org](mailto:lisa_grantham@allenisd.org) or [olympics13@tx.rr.com](mailto:olympics13@tx.rr.com)

**February 27 – 28**

**NE 2nd Avenue with Teo Casterllanos** at Latino Cultural Center, tickets are \$15. Info: [www.teocastellanos.com](http://www.teocastellanos.com) or 214-670-3320.

**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](http://www.cartermuseum.org/exhibitions)

**February 28**

**Mark Nizer's 3-D Juggling Show** at the Eisemann Center for Performing Arts in Richardson at 2:30 p.m. Info: [www.eisemanncenter.com](http://www.eisemanncenter.com).

**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. See 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. More than 40 manufacturers will display more than 700 vehicles. Details at [www.dallasautoshow.org](http://www.dallasautoshow.org).

**March 5-7**

**Annual Dallas Home and Garden Show** Featuring Clive Berkman, Home Décor, energy efficient products, outdoor storage solutions, builders & remodelers, kitchens, bath & more, Info: [www.texashomeandgarden.com](http://www.texashomeandgarden.com).

**March. 5**

**Savor Dallas Arts District Wine Stroll** featuring wine and food tasting in the Dallas Museum of Art - Seventeen Restaurant; Meyerson Symphony Center;

Nasher Sculpture Center; Winspear Opera House; and Wyly Theatre (from 5-7 p.m.); Wine, food, music, and art in the 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 (5-8 p.m.). Details at [www.savordallas.com](http://www.savordallas.com)

**March 6**

**Booker T. Washington Scholarship Gala** at 8 p.m. at the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre in the Dallas Arts District. VIP reception from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. on the Wyly rooftop terrace. The main event will be held in the Wyly's Potter Rose Performance Hall.

**March 7**

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

**March 12-13**

**Sweet Life Cafe** is a place where women can slow down and savor time with God and each other. It feels like a cozy day at your favorite coffee shop--a place where women can find rest, laughter, share their stories, and grow closer to each other. Best Western Park Suites, 640 E Park Blvd, Plano. RSVP: <http://3tm-group.eventbrite.com>

**March 13**

DFW Interantional Community Alliance presents **CARNAVAL for Haiti** at Hyatt Regency DFW Airport - Terminal C. Tickets & Info: 972-661-2764 or [www.dfwinternational.org/Carnaval/](http://www.dfwinternational.org/Carnaval/)

**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

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# First Lady Michelle Obama launches Let's Move: America's move to raise a healthier generation of kids



First Lady Michelle Obama

(NDG Wire) First Lady Michelle Obama announced last week an ambitious national goal of solving the challenge of childhood obesity within a generation so that children born today will reach adulthood at a healthy weight and unveiled a nationwide campaign – Let's Move – to help achieve it.

The Let's Move campaign will combat the epidemic of childhood obesity through a comprehensive approach that builds on effective strategies, and mobilizes public and private sector resources. To support Let's Move and facilitate and coordinate partnerships with States, communities, and the non-profit and for-profit private sectors, the nation's leading children's health foundations have come together to create a new independent foundation – the Partnership for a Healthier America – which will accelerate existing efforts addressing childhood obesity and facilitate new commitments towards the national goal of solving childhood obesity within a generation.

Over the past three decades, childhood obesity rates in America have tripled, and today, nearly one in three children in America are overweight or obese. One third of all children born in 2000 or later will suffer from diabetes at some point in their lives; many others will face chronic obesity-related health

problems like heart disease, high blood pressure, cancer, and asthma. A recent study put the health care costs of obesity-related diseases at \$147 billion per year. This epidemic also impacts the nation's security, as obesity is now one of the most common disqualifiers for military service.

"The physical and emotional health of an entire generation and the economic health and security of our nation is at stake," said Mrs. Obama. "This isn't the kind of problem that can be solved overnight, but with everyone working together, it can be solved. So, let's move."

Let's Move is comprehensive, collaborative, and community-oriented and will include strategies to address the various factors that lead to childhood obesity. It will foster collaboration among the leaders in government, medicine and science, business, education, athletics, community organizations and more. And it will take into account how life is really lived in communities across the country – encouraging, supporting and pursuing solutions that are tailored to children and families facing a wide range of challenges and life circumstances.

Earlier President Barack Obama kicked off the launch by signing a Presidential Memorandum creating the first ever Task Force on Childhood Obesity. Within 90 days, the Task Force will review every single program and policy relating to child nutrition and physical activity and develop a national action plan that maximizes federal resources and sets concrete benchmarks toward the First Lady's national goal.

While the review is underway, Administration and public and private efforts are already moving to combat obesity and reach the First Lady's national goal:

## Helping Parents Make Healthy Family Choices

Parents play a key role in making healthy choices for their children and teaching their children to make healthy choices for themselves. Let's Move will offer parents the tools, support and information they need to make healthier choices for their families:

**Empower Consumers:** By the end of this year, the Food and Drug Administration will begin working with retailers and manufacturers to adopt new nutritionally sound and consumer friendly front-of-package labeling.

**Provide Parents with a Rx for Healthier Living:** The American Academy of Pediatrics, in collaboration with the broader medical community, will educate doctors and nurses across the country about obesity, ensure they regularly monitor children's BMI, provide counseling for healthy eating early on, and, for the first time ever, will even write a prescription for parents laying out the simple things they can do to increase healthy eating and active play.

**Major New Public Information Campaign:** Major media companies – including the Walt Disney Company, NBC, Universal and Viacom – have committed to join the First Lady's effort and increase public awareness of the need to combat obesity through public service announcements, special programming, and marketing.

**Next Generation Food Pyramid:** MyPyramid.gov is one of the most popular websites in the federal government, and a 2.0 version of the Web site will offer consumers a host of tools to help them put the Dietary Guidelines into practice.

**Empowering Change:** USDA has created the first-ever interactive database – the Food Environment Atlas – that maps healthy food

environments at the local level across the country.

**LetsMove.gov:** To help children parents, teachers, doctors, coaches, the non-profit and business communities and others understand the epidemic of childhood obesity and take steps to combat it, the Administration has launched a new "one-stop" shopping website -- LetsMove.gov -- to provide helpful tips, step-by-step strategies for parents, and regular updates on how the federal government is working with partners to reach the national goal.

**Serve Healthier Food in Schools:** Many children consume as many as half of their daily calories at school. With more than 31 million children participating in the National School Lunch Program and more than 11 million participating in the National School Breakfast Program, good nutrition at school is more important than ever.

**Reauthorize the Child Nutrition Act:** The Administration is requesting an historic investment of an additional \$10 billion over ten years starting in 2011 to improve the quality of the National School Lunch and

funding for meal reimbursements. With this investment, additional fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat dairy products will be served in our school cafeterias and an additional one million students will be served in the next five years.

**Double the number of schools participating in the Healthier US School Challenge:** The Healthier US School Challenge establishes rigorous standards for schools' food quality, participation in meal programs, physical activity, and nutrition education – the key components that make for healthy and active kids – and provides recognition for schools that meet these standards.

**The new Commitments from Major School Food Suppliers:** Major school food suppliers including Sodexo, Chartwells School Dining Services, and Aramark have voluntarily committed to meet the Institute of Medicine's recommendations within five years to decrease the amount of sugar, fat and salt in school meals; increase whole grains; and double the amount of produce they

serve within 10 years.

These communities, where access to affordable, quality, and nutritious foods is limited, are known as food deserts. Lack of access is one reason why many children are not eating recommended levels of fruits, vegetables, and whole grains. And food insecurity and hunger among children is widespread.

The Administration, through new federal investments and the creation of public private partnerships, will:

**The Eliminate Food Deserts Within Seven Years:** As part of the President's proposed FY 2011 budget, the Administration announced the new Healthy Food Financing Initiative – a partnership between the U.S. Departments of Treasury, Agriculture and Health and Human Services that will invest \$400 million a year to help bring grocery stores to underserved areas and help places such as convenience stores and bodegas carry healthier food options.

**Increasing Farmers Markets:** The President's 2011 Budget proposes an additional \$5 million investment in the Farmers Market Promotion Program at the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provides grants to establish, and improve access to, farmers markets.

**Increasing Physical Activity:** Children need 60 minutes of active play each day. Yet, the average American child spends more than 7.5 hours a day watching TV and movies, using cell phones and computers, and playing video games, and only a third of high school students get the recommended levels of physical activity.

**Expanding and Modernizing the President's Physical Fitness Challenge:** In the coming weeks, the President will be



Breakfast program, increase the number of kids participating, and ensure schools have the resources they need to make program changes, including training for school food service workers, upgraded kitchen equipment, and additional

**Accessing Healthy, Affordable Food:** More than 23 million Americans, including 6.5 million children, live in low-income urban and rural neighborhoods that are more than a mile from a supermarket.

See MOVE, Page 12



# Dallas arena football team announces name, unveils new logo

(NDG Wire) Dallas' arena football franchise will be known as the Dallas Vigilantes, the team announced recently. The team also released its new visual identity, including a dynamic primary and secondary logo.

The Vigilantes open the 2010 season on April 10, against the Tulsa Talons in Tulsa, OK. The 2010 home schedule begins at the American Airlines Center on April 30 against Oklahoma City Yard Dawgz.

The Vigilantes name was carefully selected and



reflects the strong, take-no-prisoners approach of an organization steeped in championship football tradition.

The Vigilantes' owner, Peter C. "Woody" Kern, a resident of Pilot Point, is the former long-time owner of the Arena Football League's Tampa Bay Sto-

rm, the league's most successful organization.

The Vigilantes' new look features a cowboy hat-wearing skull with a wry, confident smile, developed by Revolution Sports+Entertainment, and the team's colors will be blue, black, red, and silver.

The new season marks the of Dallas arena football stars Will Pettis, Duke Pettijohn, and Josh White who all played during the final years of the AFL's Dallas Desperados.

Also on the Vigilantes' roster are defensive back

and All-League performer Eddie Moten; All-AFL offensive lineman Phil Bogle; and star receiver Larry Brackins; veteran AFL quarterback Shane Stafford and former All-AFL wide receiver Derek Lee. The team will be coached by Rich Ingold, one of the coaches with the most wins in arena football history.

Tickets are on sale now for the 2010 Dallas Vigilantes season through the Vigilantes' offices at 972-378-5454 or [www.DallasVigilantes.com](http://www.DallasVigilantes.com).

## Uptown magazine features Idris Elba

(NDG Wire) The February/March 2010 issue of *Uptown* Magazine (on newsstands now) features acclaimed British actor Idris Elba on his trilogy of movies to be released later this year and his upcoming EP.

Known to many for his role in HBO's *The Wire* as Stringer Bell and opposite Beyonce in *Obsessed*, Elba discusses sharing screen time with Matt Dillon and Paul Walker as well as harmonizing with TI in his next

venture in *A View To A Thrill*.

Other featured stories include *Still Standing*, a story on the centennial of the NAACP and how new president Ben Jealous plans to remain relevant to a younger generation and *Whatever Happened to the Black Love Story*, an insider look at the void of true romance in the current crop of African-American movies. *Swagger Like Us* channels a younger, more sophisticated Rat Pack in a fashion shoot



and Indulge looks at the latest and most luxurious spirals and accessories. The issue concludes on a high note with *Confessions of a Talented Mind*, an interview

with Academy Award nominee Lee Daniels, Director of *Precious*.

"The new issue represents a culmination of how far we've come and a foreshadowing of far we have to go, said Brett Wright, Co-Founder and Chief Creative Officer. "Hollywood is well represented by stories on Idris Elba, Lee Daniels and the lack of African-American love stories and our history is documented with a story about the current state of the NAACP."

## Around the World in 90 Minutes comes to Eastfield College

(NDG Wire) On March 2, award-winning author Marty Essen presents his high-energy digital slide show *Around the World in*

*90 Minutes* at Eastfield College.

*Around the World in 90 Minutes* began as a show Marty presented in bookstores as part of his first book tour. Later, after numerous refinements, the show took on a life of its own in colleges, museums, and nature centers across the United States earning the APCA's #1 booked college lecture for six-

teen months straight.

Highlights of the show include:

- Amazing animal facts
- Debunking popular animal myths
- Cuddly wallaroos and spiny walking sticks
- Charging elephants and howling wolves
- Deadly snakes and friendly penguins
- Bizarre creatures and endangered species
- Swimming with piranhas
- Kayaking in the rainforest
- Hiking with the Porcupine caribou migration

- Rafting with humpback whales
- Surviving a hippo attack in Zimbabwe

Marty Essen has won multiple book awards for travel/essay writing, including the Benjamin Franklin Award, the Best Books Book Award, and the National Indie Excellence Award.

In addition, he won a first place award at 2009 Green Book Festival in Los Angeles, and the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune* named Cool Creatures, Hot Planet a top-10 "green" book.



Marty & Deb After the Hippo Attack, by Brian Worsely

## 'Round About in DFW

### Black History

Jubilee Theatre presents *From the Mississippi Delta* through Feb. 28. Show times 8 p.m. with weekend matinee 3 p.m. Tickets are \$14-\$24, 817-338-4411

### Party

**Big Ego Party Saturdays** at Go Fish Ocean Club in Dallas. Feb. 20 at 9:30 p.m. Info: 469-733-5181

### Concerts

**Jay-Z: The BP3 Tour** at American Airlines Center at 7 p.m. Feb. 23. Info: visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

### Comedy

**Gabriel Iglesias** at Nokia Theatre in Grand Prairie at 8 p.m. on Feb. 20. Tickets are \$34.50. Info: [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

### Family

**Monster Jam** at Cowboys Stadium at 7 p.m. on Feb. 27, tickets are \$17.70. Info: [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

### Theatre

**Phantom of the Opera** at the Music Hall at Fair Park. Feb. 17 - March 14 with various show times. Info: 214-565-1116

### Exhibits

**Bodies...The Exhibition** at West End Historic District, Nov. 21 - April 30. Info: 214-741-7180



**Mariah Carey** concert at the Nokia Theater in Grand Prairie. Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$59.75-\$150.75. Info: [www.mariahcarey.com](http://www.mariahcarey.com) or 972-854-5111

## BET's hit gospel singing competition *Sunday Best* in search of the next super star

(NDG Wire) Premiering on Easter Sunday, April 4, BET's hit singing competition, *Sunday Best* returns for a third season of higher praise and tougher competition. Hosted by gospel legend Kirk Franklin, the new season welcomes gospel recording artists, Pastor Donnie McClurkin and Yolanda Adams to the stellar team of judges including returning multi-award winning siblings Erica and Tina Campbell of Mary Mary. And if the U.S. talent pool wasn't enough, *Sunday Best* kicked off the 10-week competition by venturing to Lagos, Nigeria in West Africa for the first ever international auditions

In addition to the coveted title of *Sunday Best*, the winner of season three will receive prizes from the Ford Motor Company, General Mills and Nationwide Insurance. *Sunday Best* season three will tape the stage portion of the show at the Ernest M. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, Louisiana.



Kirk Franklin



# You can launch a business in 2010

BY FARRAH GRAY

(NNPA) A business plan. A website. A means to track spending and profits. An office space, retail space or home based business. Time. Money. Sweat equity. None of these, however, means anything if you do not know what kind of business you want to start.

Starting a business sounds scary, but before you can even do that you have to get past the first step, which is often the: figuring out exactly what you will found. The good news is two simple questions can provide you some answers right away—or at least give you a launch pad.

The first question is asking yourself, What comes easy to you but harder to others?

Take a moment to think about all the things you do well—better than most others. Certainly you have at least one or two things that you do particularly well. What natural abilities do you have that you may be able to make a living doing? We typically underestimate the power of what comes easy to us, and we are usually blind to those innate skills that could shepherd profit.

Now take money out of the equation entirely and ask yourself, what you would do nonstop and never get paid for it? Financial security aside, think about things you absolutely love to do regardless of the money.

Whatever you come up with using these questions are the things you need to start paying attention to.

As you evaluate your answers, make a realistic distinction between skills and desires. Desires tend to be lofty and vague goals: I want to be a millionaire. I want to play in the Super Bowl. I want to sit in the front row at the Grammy's. While it's perfectly natural to have our own version of these types of desires, it's important to realize they usually are not tied to any specific skills.



See if you can get more explicit with your desires based on your skills. For example, if you want to become a celebrated interior designer, identify a skill set already in place to match that desire—a keen eye for design and a notable talent for decorating.

Naturally, you'll learn new skills as you go forward, but at the start it helps to take concrete steps based on real skills. Remember, your skills are the things that you are capable of doing. They reflect more than a general interest or fascination. Are those things strong enough to turn into a career?

Once you've identified a possibility, your next step will be to research and analyze that specific market. Do not forget to study the competition, either. Industry associations, publications, media coverage, information from the financial com-

munity, and the competition's own marketing materials and websites are all excellent resources. The more information you gather, the greater your chances of capturing a segment of the market.

Keep expectations in check. Once born, a startup business is developed over time. Be ready to deal with setbacks along the way, but understand that behind each disappointment is a lesson you can take to move forward—closer to success.

*Dr. Farrah Gray is the author of The Truth Shall Make You Rich: The New Road Map to Radical Prosperity and other books. Dr. Gray can be reached via email at fg@drfarrahgray.com.*

## Ginny's Underworld relocates to Frisco

(NDG Wire) Ginny's Underworld, a classic women's intimate apparel boutique, is relocating to The Shops at Starwood in Frisco in April 2010. Located in Plano for the last 20 years at Park Blvd. at Preston Rd., the popular women's intimate apparel boutique has sold women's undergarments, shape wear, luxury lingerie and accessories and has gained a loyal following of shoppers that expand over generations of women. Owner Susan Towle chose to bring her family-owned store to Frisco to meet the needs of the young and ever-expanding community.

"The growth in Collin County within Frisco and north inspired me to seek a very accessible location off the Dallas North Tollway to expand our reach in the market," states Susan Towle.

For information visit [www.shopsatstarwood.com](http://www.shopsatstarwood.com) or call 972-867-7252.



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## WEEKEND, continued from Page 1

to the public and other authors. Dallas best-selling author Brian W. Smith and owner of Hollygrove Publishing was a featured speaker at the event. Smith's newly released book, *Beater*, is about the taboo situation of domestic violence against men.

"I wanted to tell the story of domestic violence from another perspective and tell the story of men who are beat by their significant others," adds Smith.

Smith also recently launched an online literary magazine, *The Grove*, which caters to authors, their fans and was started because he felt slighted by a national publication.

Other authors in attendance were Elaine Flowers, best-selling author of *Black Beauty* and member of Hollygrove Publishing; former NBA superstar, Eric Snow – *Leading High Performers*; Mary "Honey B" Morrison; Francis Ray – *If You Were My Man*; Ni'Cola Mitchell – *Appetizer*; Tamika Newhouse and many, many more.

Event goers were able to get their praise on as emcees Pastor Paula White and Jonathan Solcumb hosted the 5th Annual Gospel Brunch Extravaganza at the

Hilton Anatole in Dallas on Feb. 13. The Gospel Brunch Extravaganza honored local ministries in the DFW area who reach beyond the pulpit and community to uplift all walks of life.

The Slam Dunk honorees included Pastor Frederick Haynes of Friendship West Baptist Church in Dallas, who delivered a light-hearted acceptance speech; Bishop Kenneth B. Spears of St. John Baptist Church in Fort Worth; The Urban Alternative Ministries', Dr. Tony Evans; Pastor Gary Oliver of the Tabernacle of Praise; and an emotionally charged acceptance speech from Pastor Rickie G. Rush of the Inspiring Body of Christ Church in Dallas.

"These tears are not tears of sadness or pain but of joy and the Holy Ghost," an emotional Rush stated while accepting his honor, "The Inspiring Body of Christ Church are fisher's of men and this is an affirmation that we are on the right track."

Performers for this spirit filled event included Fred Hammond, James Fortune, Ricardo Sanchez and Angella Christie – a gospel saxophonist who brought the audience to tears with her rendition of *Jesus, You Are the Center of My Joy*.

Kirk Franklin and other music attendees stood in for Donnie McClurkin's, who was unable to attend due to the weather, "showed out" as one attendee stated.

Nearby Entertainment presented the 2010 Jazz and Blues Lovefest at the Fiesta Event Center hosted by KSoul 94.5's Tony B, featuring Angela Blair on Sunday, Feb. 14. This event put everyone in the mood to be loved or continue their hopes for love. Attendees enjoyed a lavish buffet and a special surprise performance from George Huff.

"I just came to see my friend Angela perform and was asked to sing some Luther (Vandross)," joked Huff. Huff has released his first gospel album entitled, *George Huff*, on iTunes and Amazon as a way to return to his gospel heritage now rather than later. He is also planning an upcoming summer tour. Huff is known for his vibrant personality as an American Idol contestant and his heart felt vocal styling as an independent singer.

The 2010 NBA All-Star may have spotlighted the sporting events all over the Dallas area, but these events were sure to light the fires and stir the souls of attendees.

## MOVE, continued from Page 9

naming new members to the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, housed at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The council will be charged with increasing participation in the President's Challenge and with modernizing and expanding it, so that it is consistent with the latest research and science.

**Doubling the Number of Presidential Active Lifestyle Awards:** As part of the President's Physical Fitness Council, the President will challenge both children and adults to commit to physical activity five days a week, for six weeks.

As part of the First Lady's commitment to solve the problem of childhood obesity in a generation, the Council will double the number of children in the 2010-2011 school year who earn a "Presidential Active Lifestyle Award" for meeting this challenge.

**Safe and Healthy Schools:** The U.S. Department of Education will be working with Congress on the creation of a Safe and Healthy Schools fund as part of the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary School Education Act this year. This fund will support schools with comprehensive strategies to

improve their school environment, including efforts to get children physically active in and outside of school, and improve the quality and availability of physical education.

**Professional Sports:** Professional athletes from twelve leagues including the NFL, MLB, WNBA, and MLS have joined the First Lady on the Let's Move campaign and will promote "60 Minutes of Play a Day" through sports clinics, public service announcements, and more to help reach the national goal of solving the problem of childhood obesity in a generation.

### Wells Fargo Bank Presents

#### The Urban League of Greater Dallas 2010 Annual Meeting Community Report Card Luncheon



Friday, February 26, 2010  
11:45 a.m.

Khmer Pavilion Ballroom  
Hilton Anatole Hotel  
2201 Stemmons Freeway  
Dallas, TX 75207

#### Legacy Honorees

Mrs. Jowanda Jordan

Mr. Gerald L. Borders

The Honorable Jesse W. Jones

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TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

Capital One Bank



A portion of the proceeds of this event will be donated to the National Urban League.



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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  
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# Mind your career: Managing your time

IVY N. CARTER, MBA

In today's current economic client you may currently be employed or actively seeking employment but regardless of your employment situation you must understand the importance of effectively managing your time. With the day-to-day issues you may become unorganized and once you become unorganized you may ruin your professional image and cause issues in your personal life. Effective time management will assist with organizing your day, professional and personal, and assist you with evaluating and eliminating unnecessary tasks in your day.

Fortunately, there are some solutions to assist you with becoming organized:

**Understand your time is valuable.** In every aspect of your life you may experience being pulled in several directions leaving you feeling as if you are running in circles and not completing required or needed tasks. Unfortunately, your career cannot afford endless laps around an imaginary track. To manage your time use a calendar either on your computer (Microsoft Outlook or Email), cell phone (yes, your cell phone has a calendar feature), or a planner (a good back-up).



**Create a reasonable To-Do list.** You are not a superhero and should not overextend your time performing tasks which are not productive. As a career professional your to-do list will

allow you to effectively track and measure your daily accomplishments.

**Keep your personal and business email separate.** Sifting through countless junk mail from friends and emails is an extreme was of time and should only be completed on break or away from your job. Work related emails should be sorted in order of importance as well as per-

sonal email. Checking your emails at a certain time of the day helps you manage your inbox.

**Do what you need to do without interruptions.** If you are one of those people who feel you can juggle answering the phones, checking emails and sending texts then you are wrong because something is bound to go uncompleted. If you need to complete a report, take a call or handle other work related business then you should allot time for each individual task so you can give your undivided attention in accurately com-

pleting the task.

Your time is valuable, your career is important and managing your time effectively allows for you to achieve more in your work day. Focus on one task at a

time, keep your inbox organized, measure your accomplishments through to-do lists, and simply understand the value of your time. Mind your career to ensure success.

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**Wilmer Hutchins High School & Stadium Renovations**  
Dallas, TX

be submitted before

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**Scope includes renovation of existing high school & stadium including demo**  
**email: [bidtex@mccarthy.com](mailto:bidtex@mccarthy.com)**

Bid documents are available for review at McCarthy Private !SqFt planroom or from Southwestern Blueprint  
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## GREETINGS

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Our company needs an online male or female representative to act as our opened position online bookkeeper/mystery shopper. You will work few hours a day and you will be earning cash weekly payment. Contact asap for more details about this job. Email: [jkamally@live.co.uk](mailto:jkamally@live.co.uk)

## NEW Classified Advertising Section!

**Have something you want to Sell, buy, or give away?**

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Small Community Newspaper looking for a parttime student graphic artist. Prefer student (intern) that's available on a per project basis. Must have knowledge of Quark and Indesign software. Work will be done at company office. Must be professional and dependable. Fax resumes to: 972-509-9058, or email to: [trj1909@tx.rr.com](mailto:trj1909@tx.rr.com)



**AVENUE F CHURCH  
OF CHRIST IN  
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**February 18 @ Noon**  
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**February 28**  
Come to worship and stay  
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**February 2010**  
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Visit Helen's House every  
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ceive, to give, to comfort  
and most of all to fellow-  
ship. The give-a-way of  
food, love and household  
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Join us for Wednesday  
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**February, 18 pm**  
Join us in celebrating  
Black History Month, we  
will have a FREE Black  
Cinema the last two Friday  
nights in February with a  
FREE movie, food and  
drinks. Come to enjoy,  
fellowship and learn some  
interesting Black History  
in the process. Call the  
church for Details.

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**305 N. Alder Drive in**  
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**February 20**  
You are invited to our  
CHOPS (Instruments of  
Praise) program.

**February 21, 6 pm**  
Join us for our Annual  
Black History presentation  
"Reflections" in the Fel-  
lowship Hall.

**February 28**  
Come to enjoy and wor-  
ship the Lord at our Music  
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Join us for "Singles Out-  
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**February 2010**

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brate African American  
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Changed, But the Message  
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Same... Youth, Walk in the  
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Select Walgreen nation-  
wide will be holding  
FREE testing events to  
heighten diabetes aware-  
ness throughout February.  
Check at the nearest story  
to you.

**February 19, 7 p.m.**  
All Senior Saints are in-  
vited to join the Young  
Adults for a night of fun,

food and games. Don't be  
late.

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CHURCH**

**February 20, 10 a.m.**  
Our Marriage Ministry in-  
vites all married couples to  
our Marriage Clinic Break-  
fast in the Fellowship Hall  
with Pastor Les and  
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Ext. 104 for details  
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IN MCKINNEY**  
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Join us as we celebrate  
Black History Month with  
our annual program featur-  
ing Sheran Goodspeed  
Keyton and invited authors  
Tasha Douglas, Brian  
Ganges, Wanda Harris,  
Jamilla Jaguars, Sheila  
Tarpley Lott and LaToya  
Watkins.

**Dr. Charles Wattlely**  
**Senior Pastor**  
**1308 Wilcox Street**  
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**214-514-9147**

**DISEASE,** continued from Page 4

like Alonzo, are unaware of  
it until the condition is in its  
advanced stages. However,  
there are several minor  
symptoms people with kid-  
ney disease might notice be-  
fore they are diagnosed.  
They may feel tired, have  
trouble sleeping or have to  
urinate more often than oth-  
ers, particularly at night.  
They may also notice  
swollen feet or ankles and  
muscle cramping at night.

Kidney disease can hap-  
pen any age, making it vital  
for children, teens and  
adults to take care of them-  
selves and fight against risk  
factors. With kidney dis-  
ease being the ninth leading  
cause of death in the U.S.,  
according to the CDC,

everyone should take the  
time to look at the risk fac-  
tors and see where they  
stand.

Thankfully, there are  
several steps you can take to  
prevent kidney disease.  
And, many of these steps  
help you fight off related  
conditions like high blood  
pressure and diabetes,  
which is all the more reason  
to take action! Get plenty of  
regular exercise to maintain  
a healthy weight and avoid  
alcohol and cigarettes.

Also, be sure to get your  
blood pressure and chole-  
sterol levels checked regu-  
larly and follow-up with  
your doctor if any of these  
levels are high since you  
may need additional tests.

Finally, be sure to take any  
blood pressure or diabetes  
medication your doctor pre-  
scribes for you.

Blood pressure and dia-  
betes medication can be a  
life saver for those who  
need it to prevent kidney  
disease and related condi-  
tions, but medicine such as  
this means nothing if those  
who need it most cannot af-  
ford it. For information,  
call 1-888-4PPA-NOW or  
visit www.pparx.org.

As we reflect on our  
great leaders during Black  
History Month, be a leader  
in your family and commu-  
nity by keeping yourself  
healthy and spreading the  
word for others to do the  
same.

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Sunday Morning Services  
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10:45AM: Story Elementary  
12:30: Ecoluies - Allen, Tx

Wednesday Night Live  
Wed Prayer Service / Bible Study  
7:30 PM  
200 Belmont Dr - Allen, Tx



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Special Guest: Sis. Madeline Brown, National Recording Artist

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www.newlightchurchdallas.com



**Pastor Sharon Rabb**

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Pastors Sam & Gloria Fenceroy

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**Last Sunday, Every Month**  
**7:00 pm**  
**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**10:00 am**  
**Wednesday Nights**  
**7:15 pm**

Call Pastor Sam on:  
"Vision & Truth Live" Radio Program  
Broadcasted on KWRD 100.7 FM **THE WORD**  
(Sundays 9 pm - 10 pm)

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







Sister Tarpley

Reconstruction was the period immediately after the Civil War. From 1869 to 1901, there were 22 Black individuals in the House of Representative, but the defeated South remained determined that White supremacy should be maintained by any means necessary.

**George H. White** was the last Black Reconstruction Congress person and the last former slave to sit in the House. White, not surprisingly, found it difficult to make his mark in Congress.

However, he was able to obtain back pay for Black Civil War veterans, but his colleagues refused to hear his "Federal Anti-Lynching Bill."

In 1791 Congress created the District of Columbia (DC) where Washington is located; however, the City of Washington did not have its own local government or mayor until 1974. **Walter E. Washington** was elected by the people of Washington as their first mayor in 1974.

**Marshall "Major" Taylor**, also known as aka "The Black Cyclone" became the first Black to win

## Black History Facts Continues

a national title in any sport in 1898. He won the World One-Mile Sprint Championship at a Montreal meet and set a world's record in a Chicago bicycle race.

Taylor had taken his motto from the great Booker T. Washington: "I shall allow no man to narrow my soul and drag me down." He concluded his autobiography by asserting, "I am a Negro in every sense of the word."

It has been said that the road to success begins with an education. A Historically Black College and University (HBCU) have been the backbone of Black education and they helped to build America by educating Black students when educational opportunities were limited.

Many of the early colleges were private institutions started by Black churches, African-Americans, the American Missionary Association and the Freedmen's Bureau. After the Civil War, public colleges and universities were formed by state legislatures.

The nation's 103 HBCUs continued to mold Black leaders and role models. HBCU schools award nearly one in every four bachelor's degrees earned by Black people.

In 1965, Congress defined an HBCU as "... any historically Black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of Black Americans ..."

In 1981, the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities was established to expand funding and strengthen the institutions, located mostly in the Southeast. Since then, the White House Initiative on HBCU has broadened the nation's knowledge of HBCUs, including their significant educational and economic impact on the nation.

The years following World War II were difficult for HBCUs and in 1944 twenty-seven HBCUs banded to launch the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) to fund-raise together and to influence the nation's thinking about educating Black Americans.

Principal organizer Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, a graduate of Prairie View A& M University in 1915, had a vision that "a unified financial campaign for several Negro colleges seems to be an idea worth toying with."

The State of Alabama

have 15 HBCUs; Arkansas have three; Delaware has one; District of Columbia have two; Florida have four; Georgia have ten; Kentucky has one; Louisiana have six; Maryland have four; Michigan has one; Mississippi have seven; Missouri have two; North Carolina have ten; Ohio have two; Oklahoma has one; Pennsylvania have two; South Carolina have eight; Tennessee have six; Texas have nine; U.S. Virgin Islands has one; Virginia have six; and West Virginia have two.

When considering a college or university for your child or you to attend, you can find a HBCU near you. The movie *The Great Debaters* proved that you can obtain a quality education with a reasonable tuition.



Ms. Kimberly Porter, M.D. with one of the statues at the Freedman's Cemetery Museum on Central Expressway (Hwy 75) at Lemmon Avenue, celebrating Black History.

## MCKINNEY, continued from Page 1

monies.

The affected area was the classrooms of the kindergarten and first grade students. These students spend considerable time sitting on the floor and the question is raised if the carpets can be cleaned well enough after being soaked in raw

sewage. The school officials responded that this particular carpet is used in hospitals and is impenetrable by water.

Pending confirmation the classrooms are safe, or the replacement of the carpet the students in the damaged area were relocated to the library and

cafeteria.

When contacted late Wednesday afternoon, Cunningham and other officials were in a meeting regarding possible next steps with the carpet and no additional information was available at the time we went to press.



Ramon Hodridge, Minister

### Avenue F Church of Christ

1026 Avenue F • Plano, TX 75074  
972-423-8833

www.avefchurchofchrist.org

Early Sunday Morning ..... 8:00 am  
Sunday Bible Class ..... 9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 10:45 am  
Evening Worship ..... 3:00 pm  
Wednesday Bible Class ..... 7:00 pm

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



Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor

### 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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Sunday Worship ..... 7:45 am & 11:00 am  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 am - 10:45 am  
Wednesday Bible Study ... 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm

#### Office Hours

Monday & Friday ..... 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday ... 9:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday & Sunday ..... Closed

#### Contact Info

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

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Wednesday Night Bible 7:30pm



## SMU celebrates Black History Month

Southern Methodist University (SMU) has hosted events throughout February to celebrate the Black History Month. Their programming continues with a literary and cinema events scheduled.

An African American Read In spotlighting 1012 Natchez: A Memoir of Grace, Hope & Love is scheduled for Monday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hughes- Trigg Student Center Forum. This highly anticipated memoir is by SMU's own, Dr. Njoki McElroy, renowned scholar, writer, performer, teacher and master of storyteller arts.

Also on Monday, February 22 at 7 p.m. Spike Lee's Do The Right Thing will be screened in Hughes-Trigg Forum. This film is often the only African-American film listed on all-time best lists. The event is hosted by the Black Men Emerging organization on campus.

For more information about these events, contact Ke'Ana Bradley 214-768-4583 or kbradley@smu.edu.

## Eastfield College hosts African-American Read-In

(NDG Wire) Eastfield College's African-American Read-In is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Building G, Room 100.

This year we will pay tribute to the thousands of people who operated the slave-free system of the Underground Railroad and the unbelievable courage of the most famous conductor Harriet Tubman.

All readers may share any poem, book excerpt, or essay written by a published African-American Writer, and remain within 3 minutes. Spoken word

artists and dramatic interpretations are welcome (subject to approval).

You are encouraged to research and share literary works of the first to go into space, the first to stand up while others sat, the first to practice law in a court room, the first cowboy to write about the western frontier, the first to cross the finish line, to coach in the major leagues, the first surgeon to successfully open a heart, the first African American man and woman to run for President of the United States, and

just recently, the first one to win.

Special guest readers will include Skyline High School students, recording artist Dennis "DJ" Dabney, and a special presentation by poet John L. Mack. This year will also fea-

ture our very own Eastfield Jazz Ensemble with Professor Oscar Passley; the Read In will be emceed by Schneil Dunn.

For more information, contact Brynnndah C. Hicks at 972-860-7385 or email your tribute to bhicks@dccc.edu.


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972-418-8180  
www.missionarybaptistchurch.com





**The Inspiring Body of Christ Church**  
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Dallas Texas 75237  
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Monday School: 7pm  
Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00pm  
Pastor: Robert G. Beck  
Website: www.ibccjoy.org



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www.smbcplano.org

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9:00 am Sunday School  
Monday Service  
Men's Ministry 7:00 pm  
Women's Ministry 7:00 pm  
Young Adult Ministry 7:00 pm  
Wednesday Service  
Intercessory Prayer 6:15 pm  
Bible Study 7:00 pm  
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A Praying Church Family  
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214-341-6459 (Phone) • 214-342-8403 (Fax)  
9550 Shepard Road  
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www.nmzb.org (Website) • newmzb@aol.com (Email)



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