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The Performance Rights Act Is the Hot Debate On The Hill



Tom Joyner

BY JACKIE HARDY NDG CONTRIBUTOR

John Convers, Jr., U.S. Representative (D-MICH), introduced House Representative Bill 848 (HR) on February 4, 2009. The proposed HR 848 bill requires radio stations to pay royalties, fees, and other applicable charges to the artists. The

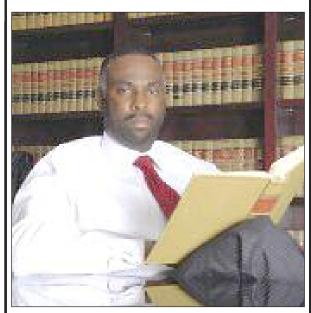
House Judiciary Committee approved the proposed bill that will provide parity in radio performance rights under Title 17, United States Code, and for other parties.

The initial proposed legislation of HR 848 under section three paragraphs D and E states, "each terrestrial broadcast station that has

gross revenues in any calendar year of less than 1.25 million dollars may elect to pay for its over-the-air nonsubscription broadcast transmissions a royalty fee of \$5,000 per year; and each individual terrestrial broadcast station that is a public broadcasting entity as defined in

See DEBATE, Page 12

The Attorneys for **Don and Sheila Hill Discuss Week One of** the Corruption Trial



See TRIAL, Page 9



What Would Michael Think?

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

1,000-mile Trek for African-Centered **Education**

BY JAMES CLINGMAN

(NNPA) Do you have a cause for which you would walk 1,000 miles to raise funds and awareness? Well, Brother Amefika Geuka does. Indeed he does.

The Founder and former Headmaster of the Joseph Littles - Nguzo Saba Charter School (JL-NSCS) will begin walking from his hometown of West Palm Beach, Fla. to Washington, D.C. on July 15.

Geuka says, "Black people must be responsible for and become the primary source of funding for the effective education and development for [sic] our children."

Upon arrival in the nation's capital, Geuka will petition the President and the Department of Education to 'acknowledge' that children of African descent have a right and a need to an education rooted in their

See EDUCATION, Page 3

Community Center Aids Homeowners Facing Foreclosure

BY LAKRISHIA ARMOUR NDG CONTRIBUTOR

In this time of economic and real estate crisis, The Jordan Community Development Center aims to help homeowners keep their property and aid future homeowners in purchasing their first home. With their three-part

weeks, members of the Jordan Center teach participants about banking, credit and credit repair, which are areas people can improve to keep or purchase a home. Norris Curry, Executive Director and Youth Empowerment Program Contact for centhat people said

course that runs for six



Norris Curry, Executive Director and Youth Empowerment

should have to pay lots of money to improve their

See FORECLOSURE. Page 16

Project Single Moms Helping Families in the Metroplex



(In the photo left to right: Tamyra Belo, Stephanie Clark (PSM CEO/Founder), Riketa Taylor, & Veronica Williams)

BY LATOYA WATKINS NDG CONTRIBUTOR

When Project Single Moms DFW opened its supportive arms to the single parents of Dallas/Ft. Worth in January 2009, 74 single parents enrolled.

Stephanie Clark, the CEO, created Project Sin-

gle Moms after Clark's, My Daughter's Keeper Inc. was founded in New Jersey in 2007 with the stories of forty seven single moms in a book titled Life As A Single Mom: It Isn't Easy, Or Is

Project Single Moms is

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People In The News...



Eugene Brooks See Page 2



Rev. Geoffrey Black



Talisa Lavarry

Eugene Brooks

Editor Note: Tulisoma South Dallas Book Fair and Arts Festival Featured Author, www.tulisoma.com for more info.

Eugene Brooks grew up in San Bernardino, Ca. He passed the California High School Proficiency exam at the age of 15 and received his high school diploma. After which his father enlisted him in the Air Force. He received his Bachelors Degree in Business Administration from Florida Memorial University in Miami. He attended

law school at Thurgood Marshall School of Law in Houston, TX.

After graduation Eugene worked as Executive Director for Houtex LLC which is a non-profit corporation dedicated to developing housing for low income families in and around the Third Ward section of Houston. Several years later Eugene opened a MEDRX LLC a pharmaceutical distribution company. His clients included local and national drug stores, hospitals, and nurs-

ing care facilities. He sold the business 7 years later and started KMJ Records. KMJ Records is an independent record label. He has released 17 albums to date and KMJ Records has had four Cd's on the Billboard top 20 Rap Albums. He still owns and runs KMJ Records.

His first publication, Small Independent Record Labels are Facing a Different Fight Today dealt with the issues small record labels will face during this new electronic age.

He has just completed an autobiography entitled

Half Black Half White -Trying to Find My Place In America. He has chronicled his life and the road he traveled while finding his place in America.

He candidly discuss the ultitude of issues involved with growing up bi-racial and the confusion that was present during his life due to his nebulous of identity. This "identity crisis," coupled with physical and sexual abuse as a child, led to several addictions

After years of drug, alcohol abuse, brushes with the criminal justice system, and homelessness, he met a man who inspired him and taught him how to be a man.

This life-altering event eventually led him to graduating from law school to financial success. In addition to teaching him how to navigate life as a black man, this man also taught him how to be a caring and loving human being. Eugene's mentor answered a question that he had been in search of all my life. Who he was and where to find His Place in America?

With over seven million bi-racial Americans, Brooks felt compelled to share how he came to an acceptance and appreciation of his identity.



Rev. Geoffrey Black

(NDG Wire) United Church of Christ delegates Monday elected their national president on the same day they marched for universal health-care coverage.

Their public demonstration was true to tradition, said the Rev. Geoffrey Black, elected by UCC delegates meeting at DeVos Place for their national convention. He is the second black man to serve as UCC president and the first elected to a full four-

year term.

Black noted delegates at past conventions took strong public stands. In 1973, delegates meeting in St. Louis suspended their meeting and flew to California to support Cesar Chavez and striking migrant workers.

"This march is our tradition," Black said before delegates marched to Calder Plaza. "We want the world to know we believe universal health care should happen



now.

"All the gifts of medical science are gifts of God, and all of God's people should have access to them."

Close to 200 people gathered at the Calder agreed, invoking the biblical story of Jericho by shouting, "And the walls of health care injustice came down!"

Black's election as president and general minister of the 1.1-million member UCC was a high point of the General Synod that concludes today. He succeeds the Rev. John Thomas, who was honored for his 10 years of leading the Cleveland-based UCC.

Black, administrator of the UCC's New York Confer-

ence, in October takes over a denomination known for social justice and acceptance of gay couples and clergy. But it also faces continuing membership losses, including an exodus of many following a vote by its 2005 synod recognizing gay marriage.

"The big bleed is over," Black said of losses over that decision. "The churches that couldn't live with that have made their way out of the denomination."

Though some continued decline is likely, Black believes the trend can be reversed by churches also welcoming immigrants, single parents and people of color. But the UCC must work out a governance reorganization some fear could reduce minority representation, he said.

"I hope we can do that while working toward reconciliation within the body, and deepen our spiritual groundedness," he said. Rev. Black is the spouse of Patricia Williams-Black, and the proud father of Makeda Black. He and his family moved from Shaker Heights, Ohio to Dewitt, New York.

Talisa Lavarry

While many are giving up hope and accepting less than success during these tough economic times, local entrepreneur and industry expert Talisa Lavarry is doing just the opposite. Taking a plunge and finally diving into her business full time this past October has proven to be if not the biggest, one of the biggest risks she has yet to take in



her life

Lavarry began her journey in 2000 when deciding to pursue a Bachelors of Science Degree in Fashion Merchandising and Marketing at the University of Louisiana in Monroe. She always knew that she had a passion for fashion and a level of creativity that would help her in her chosen career.

While working towards her Bachelor's Degree she worked as a retail manager for Limited Brands and later landed an Entrepreneurial internship that focused on Boutique Management and Apparel Buying. Days after graduating from college she became a buyer for Penn National Gaming within their Gift shop and Spa. This position

afforded Talisa the opportunity to travel to several trade shows and markets including The Dallas Market Center and Apparel Mart, The Magic Show in Las Vegas and The Javits Center in New York just to name a few.

Talisa later moved to Dallas Texas and accepted a position as a wedding accessories buyer for Michael's Arts and Crafts.

While traveling, Talisa quickly learned the importance of networking and found herself working with several designers helping them with model scouting, management and fashion show production.

Talisa began to realize how broad her passions were and how many different areas of the fashion industry were appealing to her. She consistently found herself meeting the right people at the right time and learning more and more about the fashion industry.

This venture of learning and applying gradually became what is now known as, Talisa Lavarry Lifestyle and Image Consulting. Talisa realized that she no longer had to be torn between her passions and that she had the experience, education and drive to combine them all under one umbrella while using the entrepreneurial skills that she'd learned during her college years.

Talisa has discovered most of her success and settled in Dallas, Texas where she has developed several relationships with local Hotels and Country Clubs now servicing their clientele for events and weddings.

She has also joined the Texas Association of Realtors which gives her access to Realtors and Builders as she develops the home staging part of her business. While Talisa keeps herself very busy with events,

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The Mid-Year Financial Outlook

BY MICHAEL G. SHINN

(NNPA) 2009 is proving to be one of the toughest economic environments that we have faced in a long time. The U.S. economy, as measured by Gross Domestic Product was down 5.7 percent in the first quarter and the second quarter was probably just as bad. Unemployment was 9.7 percent in May and will most likely move into double digits for remainder of the year. The good news is that the banking and financial system appears to have stabilized and the federal government has embarked on a long term economic stimulus plan that is projected to lead the economy into positive growth either late this year or in early 2010.

President Obama and Federal Reserve Chairman Bernanke have professed to see "glimmers of light" in the economy and are optimistic about the future. Closer to home and most importantly, how is the economy affecting your family and your financial plan?

What has changed in your family's life? Have any marriages, divorces, births, health changes, layoffs, retirements or graduations taken place? How have family

changes affected your financial plan? Today is a great time to measure your progress toward the achievement of your financial goals and to make mid-year corrections.

If you want to pursue your financial goals, it is imperative that you manage the major source of your potential wealth – Your Cash. Are their ways that you can take advantage of today's relatively low interest rates by possibly refinancing your mortgage or switching to a lower rate credit card?

Have you maximized your income potential? Is overtime or a second job available for a few months to allow you to remove the albatross of bad debt from your life? Consider alternatives in order to reduce expenses such as; buying clothes during seasonal sale periods, cooking meals at home, or using public transportation.

If you have not setup a monthly cash-flow statement, use your last three months' income and expenses to establish a baseline and then track it monthly.

Investment Planning

The stock market, as measured by the Dow Jones Industrial Average, is about

even for the year after taking a 20 percent dive in March. (Investors cannot invest directly in an index). It is still questionable whether the market has weathered the storm and is poised for a move upward or whether we will see a continuation of the current bear market.

Do your current investments fit your long-term investment objectives and time horizons? Review your most recent 401k, IRA and investment account statements. What has been their performance over the last twelve months and are your investments adequately diversi-

If you used a tax advisor in the past, consider meeting with your advisor to access your tax situation. Start by reviewing your 2008 tax returns, your most recent pay stubs and your investment account statements.

Make a copy of your last Form 1040 and pencil in estimates of your 2009 income, estimated itemized deductions, withholding, credits and final tax due or overpayment. Are there ways to legitimately increase your deductions or defer income into next year and ultimately reduce you taxes for 2009?

Review your life, disability, health, long term care, and property and casualty coverage with your insurance agent. Is your coverage adequate and cost effective? Additionally, every adult should have a basic estate plan that begins with a will, durable power-of-attorney and a health care directive.

Are these documents current and stored in a secure place? Also, make sure that the named beneficiaries on your pension plan, insurance policies, IRA's and similar contracts are current.

The broader economy will affect all of us, however you have to make sure that you and your family are doing all that you can to make sure that 2009 is a positive step in your journey toward pursuing your financial goals. Take the time now, during July, to make your mid-year financial corrections.

Michael G. Shinn, CFP, is a registered representative of the Financial Network Investment Corporation, member SIPC.

Visit www.shinnfinancial.com or send auestions to shinnm@financialnetwork.

EDUCATION, continued from Page 1

history, heritage, and culture."

Geuka and his colleagues have dubbed this venture a "Trek for African-Centered Education," to be conducted from July 15th through August 15, 2009.

In addition to gaining credibility for Africancentered education, the walk is expected to raise money to close the funding gap for Geuka's Joseph Littles-NGUZO SABA Charter School which completed ten years of continuous operation on January 20th of this year. Overall coordination and planning for the walkathon has been contracted to iZania, LLC (www.izania.com).

Geuka states, "Both President Barack Obama and his Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan have spoken strongly in favor of public charter schools, which are designed to explore creative and innovative approaches to educating students who do not fare well in traditional public schools.

The African-centered approach to providing a strong cultural foundation for children of African descent is being adopted across the country by school districts, public schools, private schools, and charter schools."

Supporters of African-Centered Education draw parallels between the 'ACE' approach and the generally accepted contention by Jews and Catholics that their respective students learn best when their formal education is rooted in study and appreciation of their own heritage, history, and culture.

A self-described "Practical Nationalist" and subscriber to Marcus Garvey's tradition of selfhelp, Amefika Geuka has a history of getting things done. Yes, he is an excellent speaker; he can theorize and intellectualize with the best us.

He is "articulate," to borrow Joe Biden's description of Obama, and Geuka is highly educated and intelligent. However, his commitment to doing the work necessary to promote, support, and uplift Black people far exceeds his rhetorical prowess. He puts his money where his mouth is and lets his actions definitely speak louder than his words.

Geuka has worked with the likes of Dr. Claud Anderson, Bob Law, Rosie Milligan, Pope, Senghor Baye, Kweku Akan, and many other conscious brothers and sisters across this

See EDUCATION, Page 6

Hot Weather Caution Tips

(NDG Wire) According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, between 1979-2003 excessive heat exposure caused 8,015 deaths in the United States, more than hurricanes, lightning, tornadoes, floods and earthquakes combined.

Several factors affect the body's ability to cool itself during extremely hot weather. While sweating normally is the body's reaction to cool itself, under some conditions it simply isn't enough. Physical activity, high humidity, age, obesity, fever, dehydration, heart disease, poor circulation, sunburn and even prescription drug usage can contribute to heat-related illness during extremely hot weather.

"Each year we respond to heat-related medical incidents that were preventable," said Plano Fire Captain Peggy Harrell "While the elderly, the very young and persons with chronic diseases are at highest risk, even healthy, young persons can succumb to heat if they participate in strenuous activities during hot weather."

"Extreme heat is measured by temperatures that hover 10 or more degrees above our average high temperatures for our region," said Plano's Emergency Management/Homeland Security Director Shane Stovall. "This can be particularly dangerous when we hit a stretch of several weeks of high heat combined with the muggy humid conditions that often accompany a heat wave."

"The main thing to remember is that physical activity must be balanced against heat factors and the risk factors of age and physical condition. Common sense is one of the best pre-

ventions anyone has at their disposal," said Captain Harrell

Ways to combat the heat

Drink plenty of fluids. Don't wait until you are thirsty to drink. During heavy exercise in a hot environment drink two to four glasses of cool fluids each hour. Avoid alcohol or high sugar content beverages. Sports beverages are geared to replace any salt and minerals you lose through sweating.

Wear appropriate clothing and sunscreen. Choose lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing and protect yourself with sunscreen SPF15 or higher, along with sunglasses and a wide brimmed hat.

Schedule outdoor activities carefully and pace yourself. Try to limit outdoor activity to morning and evening hours, resting in shady areas when possible.

STOP all activity if your heart begins to pound, you are gasping for breath, become lightheaded, confused or weak. Closely watch young children and infants who may quickly become affected by extreme heat.

Stav indoors when possible in an air-conditioned place. If your home doesn't have air conditioning, electric fans may provide comfort, but will not prevent heat-related illness in extreme heat. Traveling to an air conditioned public library or mall, even for a few hours, can help your body stay cooler when you go back into the heat. Take cool showers or baths and use your stove and oven less to maintain cooler temperatures in your home.

Use a buddy system. Monitor the condition of your companions in the heat and have someone do the same for you. Heat-induced

illness can creep up on people, causing them to become confused or lose consciousness. Check on relatives or friends twice a day during a heat wave if they are at risk due to age, illness, physical condition, lack of air conditioning or other risk factors.

Adjust to the environment. Any sudden change in temperature, such as an early summer heat wave, is stressful to your body. Limit your daily activity until you become accustomed to the heat; work up to it gradually.

Do not leave children in cars. Temperatures can rise almost 20 degrees within only 10 minutes. Anyone left inside a car is at risk for serious heat-related illnesses or death, even if windows are cracked open. Always do a head count when you have several small children entering or exiting the car. The same danger applies to pets as well.

Recognizing the symptoms of heat stroke can save a life. Warning signs include rapid, strong pulse, red, hot dry skin (no sweating), an extremely high body temperature, confusion, nausea, dizziness and headache. Place the victim in a shady area or indoors, cooling as quickly as possible with any methods available, including a cool shower, spraying with a garden hose, sponging with cool water. Do not give fluids to drink. Get medical assistance as soon as possible.

Heat exhaustion is the pre-cursor to heat stroke and may include heavy sweating, muscle cramps, nausea, and dizziness with fast and shallow breathing. The symptoms should subside as the victim cools off, but medical attention should be sought if symptoms worsen or last longer than one hour.

Champion4Fitness, a Premier Wellness Company Now Open in Frisco

(NDG Wire) Champion4Fitness, a premier national wellness consulting company, is now open in The Shops at Starwood in Frisco.

"Champion4Fitness will be able to serve the individual, family, athlete and corporate client from our state-of-the-art facility in Frisco at The Shops at Starwood," states Margaret May, President and Founder of Champion4Fitness. "Each Champion4Fitness client receives access to world-class technology and professionals who create a fully integrated testing, training, and nutrition system grounded in science, meticulous attention to detail and quality assurance - one designed to set the highest standard for the fitness industry," continues May.

Champion4Fitness at The Shops of Starwood is their flagship studio designed in a serene spa-like environment with emphasis on private, personal attention to clients' fitness and nutritional needs. The facility includes a sports apparel retail boutique with lines such as Sergio Tacchini, Tail andFila to name a few, a proprietary LifeStyle Performance Center providing extensive scientific and fitness testing, fitness and nutrition counseling, a selection of supplements from Vemma, Verve and Advocare, private one-on-one personal training in four different studio settings as well as sports massage.

Headquartered in St. Louis, MO., Champion4Fitness lives by the motto, "It's not a program, it's a lifestyle!"

Poison Center Experts Available Around the Clock

(NDG Wire) What types of poisonous spiders live in the Rio Grande Valley? How do you get rid of hazardous household products? Are those blackberries in your backyard safe to eat? The Texas Poison Center Network answers these types of questions and responds to poison-related emergencies through the more than 1,000 calls it receives each day.

The network provides a 24-hour, 365-days-a-year emergency telephone num-

ber for Texans. It's operated by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). By calling 800-222-1222, residents have access to a poison center hotline staffed by trained physicians, pharmacists and nurses.

"We have a system where all calls roll over to the next available call center," says Judy Whitfield of DSHS, noting that no one ever gets a busy signal. "There is always someone there to help you."

Poison Center Network experts provide immediate assistance. Most of the time, the caller can take care of the poison exposure problem with the information and advice provided over the phone. If hands-on medical treatment is necessary, the expert will call an ambulance, stay on the phone until the ambulance arrives and give treatment advice to emergency care providers.

Call centers also answer nonemergency calls. These

poison experts will answer poison-related questions about medicines, household products and other potentially dangerous substances.

"Our experts have access to databases that have treatment and drug information, plus they monitor new drugs and products on the market," Whitfield said. "If necessary, staff may refer callers to the nearest hospital and assist in the person's initial treatment and follow-up care."

Free Eye Exams

U.S. Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson's office is trying to get the word out about free eye exams available for now through August 31 for those over the age of 65.

Anyone who cannot afford an eye exam should call (800) 222-3937 for more details. Knights Templar is underwriting the services provided by a network of 7,000 ophthalmologists. In addition, if any issues are found, the patient will receive one year of free follow-up to eye medical problems.



"Summer of Safe Pets" Begins with Registration

(NDG Wire) Animal Services wishes to remind Carrollton animal owners to register them with the City each year. Since proof of rabies vaccination is required with registration, it is convenient to register with the City when animals receive their shots

Identification, con-

venience and savings all come with a pet's City registration tag. A current City tag clearly shows the public that a pet has been vaccinated against rabies.

Registered pets may also be quickly reunited with their owners at a lesser fee than those not currently registered.

To register by mail,

send the rabies certificate and \$5 per spayed or neutered pet or \$20 per unaltered pet to Carrollton Animal Shelter, 2727 Nimitz Road, Carrollton, Texas 75007.

For more information, call Animal Services at 972-466-3420 or visit cityofcarrollton.com/envservices.

Alpha Chi Pi Omega Sorority and Fraternity, Inc Announces its Annual Greek Night and Hair/Fashion Showcase

(NDG Wire) Alpha Chi Pi Omega Sorority and Fraternity, Inc. is hosting their annual Greek Night and Hair/Fashion Showcase. The festivities will take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel located at 14315 Midway Road, Addison, Texas 75001 at 7:00 p.m. Admission to the events is \$10.00 pre-sale and \$15 at the door.

Alpha Chi Pi Omega Sorority & Fraternity, Incorporated is a historic organization created to empower and equip the cosmetologist and beauty professionals of the world to reach the pinnacles of excellence and greatness. Everyone, including school owners, instructors, barbers, hairstylists, nail techs, estheticians, massage therapists, suppliers, distributors or shampoo assistants, Alpha Chi Pi Omega is committed to helping you achieve the fulfillment of your aspirations and the totality of your potential.

Alpha Chi Pi Omega will convene it's 64th Annual International Convention in Dallas, Texas July 9-13, 2009 at The Crowne Plaza Hotel Near The Galleria, in Addison, Texas. On Sunday July 13 at 7 PM, come witness its Annual Hair Showcase. Tickets sell for \$15.00 For more information Log on to alphachipiomega.com

For additional information on the Alpha Chi Pi Omega Sorority and Fraternity, Inc Annual Greek Night and Hair/Fashion Showcase, visit alphachipiomega.com.

Vehicle Crimes Increase During Summer Months

In Texas, every five-and-a-half minutes, a car is stolen and every two-and-a-half minutes, a vehicle is burglarized for contents or parts. July and August are the two months when the most vehicle thefts and burglaries occur in Texas. Stolen vehicles can be used to commit other crimes, including theft, drug and weapon smuggling, human trafficking, domestic/international terrorism, and countless other offenses.

In addition, vehicle burglary incidents that result in the theft of personal identification items, house keys, and garage door openers left inside vehicles are leading to cases of identity theft.

Texas drivers must become actively involved in vehicle crime prevention by practicing "Hide, Take, Lock": hide belongings, take keys, and lock vehicle doors. The Texas Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority (ABTPA) will highlight this philosophy throughout "Watch Your Car Month."

In 2008, approximately 85,400 vehicles were stolen in Texas resulting in financial losses of more than \$700 million. And in almost half of all auto theft incidents, keys were left inside, which means the vehicle owner was, in some cases, an unwitting accomplice to more heinous crimes.

Recent statistics from Texas law enforcement agencies indicate the top three locations from which vehicles are stolen are: residences/homes (41.6%), public parking lots/public garages (28.7%), and roadways/highways/alleys (12.2%), which proves no area is truly safe from vehicle crime activity.

Michelle Lanham, procoordinator ABTPA's Reduce Auto Theft in Texas task force, stated "Anything an individual leaves in their vehicle might be of value to a thief, including anything that has the vehicle owner's name or address on it. We strongly suggest that vehicle owners and drivers always leave their vehicles the way they appeared the day they rolled off the factory floor -- leave nothing more in the vehicle than the parts it is made

Youth Speak Out! on July 17

(NDG Wire) Parents and youth are invited to the special N2NE (In-Tune) program event, "Youth... Speak Out!" This event will be held at Lake Highlands North Recreation Center on Friday, July 17th from 3-5 p.m.



"Juicy"

"Juicy" from *The Rickey Smiley Morning Show* (97.9 The Beat) will be our host for this event.

The panel speakers feature Rich Etta Weathersbee (Founder/CEO of N2NE), Pastor W.L. Stafford, Sr. (Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen), Gina Riley Gray (Vice President of Hamilton Park Historic Preservation Foundation), Albert Cerventez (John R. Roach Juvenile Detention Center), Officer Bervin Smith (Dallas Police Department) along with other guest speakers.

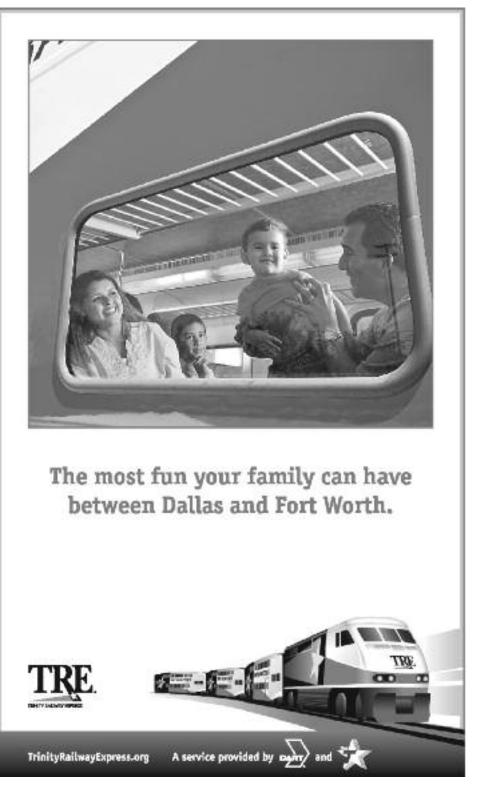
The topics that will discussed are: Teen Preg-

nancy/Abstinence, Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Gang Violence, Juvenile Detention Centers/Prison, Date Rape and Life Skills.

Other featured events will include choirs, praise dancers, MIME, poetry, skits and much more.

For more information on "Youth ... Speak Out!" Please contact Penny Francis: penny@n2ne-ym.org. Go online to www.n2ne-ym.org for general information about N2NE.

The Lake Highlands North Recreation Center is located at 9940 White Rock Trail, Dallas, Texas 75238.



Americans for the Arts Presents the 2009 Arts Education Award to Dallas' Big Thought

(NDG Wire) Recently in Seattle, Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts in America presented the 2009 Arts Education Award to Big Thought, a Dallas-based nonprofit that promotes creative learning in children.

The award is given annually to the organization identified as the best in arts education program design and execution, as well as leadership. The award brings

visibility and national recognition to model partnership programs.

Recipients must demonstrate innovation, produce visible results, and be seen as a national leader in their

"Through its bold and engaging education programs for students of all ages, Big Thought has enhanced the lives of children, their families and citizens of Dallas," said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. "Big Thought's mission supports the fact that when a community works together it can lift children up and better their lives through creative arts education."

Giselle "Gigi" Antoni, President and CEO of Big Thought, accepted the award.

"I am honored to accept the Arts Education Award on behalf of Big Thought. Our success is made possible because of the many collaborations we have developed that support the idea that every

mersed daily in opportunities to imagine, create and succeed," said Antoni.

For more than 20 years, Big Thought has been dedicated to making imagination a part of everyday learning. The organization offers a diverse variety of initiatives that address academic achievement, family services, life-skills and workforce development. The work of Big Thought reaches more than 300,000 children, families

young mind should be im- and teachers annually and delivers more than 1 million hours of individual creative instruction and gramming each year.

> Big Thought's key initiatives integrate arts and culture as a catalyst for general classroom learning; equip students with essential lifeskills such as communication, respect and self-esteem using a curriculum rich in oral, written and artistic expression; and bring artists into schools to enrich the cre

ative learning environment. Big Thought also manages a citywide system between the City of Dallas, Dallas Independent School District and more than 100 cultural providers to bring high-quality creative learning to children both in-school and out-ofschool. Its programs rely on partnerships and collaborations in order to give every child the opportunity to experience creative inspiration in every school and community throughout Dallas.

EDUCATION, continued from Page 3



Amefika Geuka

country and in Ghana, West Africa. His deeds are well known within the Nationalist Black Leadership Coalition, which he cofounded. The ACE Trek will be yet another effort of Black consciousness from which we can draw strength and commitment to continue our quest for economic empowerment.

Along the 1,011- mile route, there will be "surrogate walkers," celebrities, sorority and fraternity members, high school and college students, honorees, and many others who want to assist in this valiant effort. The National Elder for the ACE Trek is none other than the 91-year young, Godfather of African Centered Education, Dr. Ed Robinson of Philadelphia.

We hope to see Dr. Robinson in Washington, D.C. when Geuka arrives to make his recommendations to the Department of Education and the President's representative. Perhaps President Barack

Obama will there; he certainly should be, considering the occasion.

To those of you who are spending your time espousing and musing about what "somebody" ought to do for Black people, take a lesson from Amefika Geuka, who has used his time on this earth to enhance the lives of Black youth as well as encourage and support the "seasoned" among us.

We must take a greater role in the responsibility for our children and their education; we must teach them their heritage and help them understand that they are important - important enough for us to walk 1,000 miles on their

behalf. We must also instruct and encourage them in entrepreneurship, in order to relieve them of the burden of dependency.

The ACE Trek is a "practical" solution being executed by a conscious Black man who "practices" what he preaches. The Trek is symbolic, but it is also very substantive. Its visibility will open the minds of many across this country, and it could be, with our help, one of the

largest events in our recent history. It's all up to us.

How can you help? Glad you asked. Of course you can donate funds to help Geuka along his 30day trek. Your donations will also help the Joseph Littles School continue its mission of providing African Centered education. You can let others know, especially those on the east coast route from Florida and Georgia to the Carolinas, and into Virginia. Millions of us can get involved in this effort and millions of dollars can be raised if each one of us would do our part.

Get on board! Let Baba Geuka know that you will be there on the road with him. Please support this valiant effort for the proper education of children. Visit www.izania.com or call 614-855-448 or 786-253-9496 to make a contribu-

I COLLEGE CORNER **Siemens Competition For Math, Science** and Technology Students

The Siemens Foundation, in partnership with the College Board, established the Siemens Competition. The Competition promotes excellence by encouraging students to undertake individual or team research projects in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology or in combinations of these disciplines.

With its high academic standards, rigorous judging process, and emphasis on au-

thentic scientific research, it has quickly become the leading science and mathematics research-based competition for high school students in the United States.

The Competition promotes high academic standards in math, science, and technology and gives you an opportunity to further your research skills. It is nationally recognized and highly regarded by the most prestigious colleges and universities.

Deadline: October 1, 2009 | Award Amount: \$1,000 Website/Contact Info:

http://collegeboard.com/student/pay/scholarships-and-aid/23619.html

Blackstudents.com



AT&T Teen Centers Open at Libraries with Fanfare

NDG Wire) The Teen Centers at the Dallas Public Libraries opened with great fanfare on June 16th. AT&T Foundation

\$500,000 to the Friends of the Dallas Public Library to open Teen Centers and new programs at 20 additional library locations. The Dal- Cliff, were largely spon-

las Public Library's three newest Teen Centers: Park Forest, Skillman Southwestern and North Oak

The Dallas West Branch Library was the site of the official opening ceremony. The Bishop Dunne drummer brigade greeted guests outside with 25 drummers making a grand impression. Opening remarks were

sored by AT&T.

given by dignitaries in attendance including State Rep. Roberto Alonzo, City Manager Mary Suhm, Assistant City Manager Forest Turner, and Mayor Pro Tem Elba Garcia

The Teen Centers presented various programs during the day at all the branches and the public's response was overwhelming. The crowds were large

and there was standing room only at several locations. Many people who had never stepped into the library before visited on opening day.

Teen Centers provide at risk youth with exposure to positive role models in the community and offer special programs on career planning, college admission, and homework help via the Internet.

Teen Center activities include interview training, job fairs, computer training, help with college and scholarship applications, creative writing, public speaking, Web design and arts and

A few of the many programs scheduled for the summer are What's Your Swagger? Chess for Beginners, Mixed Martial Arts Demonstration, Using the Internet, Blogs and Social Networks, Graffiti Art, 4-Week Reading Club Workshop, Youth Conflict, Scavenger Hunt, and Twilight Book Discussion. Library staff as well as academic and professional community residents guide and advise teens throughout these activities.

Visit the library's website for a complete schedule of the summer programs. www.dallaslibrary.org

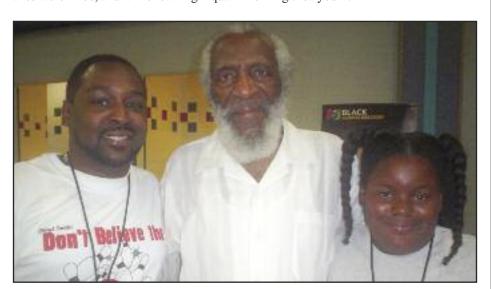


Bishop Dunne Drum Brigade greeted the visitors. (Photo credit: Deborah Brown)

Bowling for Charity

Believe The Hype Celebrity Bowl-a-thon was a great success on Saturday, June 27, 2009 at USA Bowl in Dallas. Over forty lanes were filled, and while few might qual-

The 15th Annual Cheryl Smith's Don't ify for Bowling for Dollars, all had fun and supported a great cause. The Don't Believe the Hype Celebrity Bowl-a-thon was a fun event and raised monies for programs benefiting area youth.



Sean Murray, Actvist/Comedian Dick Gregory and Deja Fowler attended at Cheryl Smith's Don't Believe the Hype Celebrity Bowl-a-thon on June 27.



At right, Jackie Hardy, an NDG contributing writer, and her busband Ed.

Tinsley Supports the DSO



On Sunday, April 26th, the 2009 Dallas Symphony Derby was held at Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie in the Silks Dining Room overlooking the track and horse races. Guests were treated to an all-afternoon buffet, open bar, racing, and live and silent auctions. Clarice Tinsely, Celebrity Chairman, pictured here with her husband, Stephen Giles, presided over the festivi-

Ms. Tinsley has been the Celebrity Chairman of and graciously supported the Dallas Symphony Derby for a number of years. She has been involved in the production at Fox TV of several programs concerning the Dallas Symphony Orchestra Education and Community Outreach Programs, which Derby proceeds benefit.

These Education and Community Outreach Programs provide, among many other things, 24 DSO Concerts each year for around 45,000 Dallas area elementary school students, numerous Community DSO concerts, DSO tickets for the blind and visually impaired, and the Young Strings Program for gifted minority string students, a program which provided these young musicians with free private lessons from DSO musicians and many other opportunities to develop their talent.

Ongoing

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

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce, July 9, August 14 & September 10, CCBCC General Meetings for Summer Quarter, McKinney Public Library, 101 E. Hunt Street McKinney, TX 75069

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce: Monthly Lunch & Learn -July 16, August 20 & September 17, \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, 11:00am until 1:00pm at the El Fenix Restaurant, 3450 S. Central Expressway, McKinney, TX 75070. Info: (469) 424-0120.

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

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

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch 1st Thursday at 11:30 am - 12:30 pm every Thursday at Texas Land & Cattle Steak House 3945 N. Central Expy. Plano 75023 Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com or 972-898-5882.

The National Business Women Enterprise Network (NBWEN) Learning Over Lunch Series: Monthly workshop and net-

working event giving members and guests the opportunity to network, build relationships, present information on their business and services, and most importantly, learn different ways to improve upon and grow their business. 4th Saturdays, 11AM-1PM, ReMarkable Affairs Cafe, 2727 LBJ Freeway, Suite 140, Dallas, \$20 for members; \$35 for non-members, \$5 off for early bird registration. Visit http://nbwenorg.ning .com for more information.

Summer Melange: Business, Pleasure & Charity Networking Event Every 2nd and 4th Friday, 5:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. at Prince Bistro, 1201 E. Spring Creek Pkwy, Ste. 100, Plano, Admission is free Info: 972.422.9078 melange@cause360group.com

Summer 2009 Seniors Active in Learning hosting annual summer series including Brown Bag lecture series and a variety of

ries including Brown Bag lecture series and a variety of classes and other activities. For a complete list and details of the Summer Learning speakers and events, call 972.985.3788, wjmartin@ccccd.edu or www.ccccd.edu/sailsite.

March 28 - October 25

The George Washington Carver: An Extraordinary Man With A Mighty Vision Exhibit at The African American Museum, 3536 Grand Avenue, Historic Fair Park, Dallas, TX, 214 565-9026, \$5-Adults, \$2 - Children www.aamdallas.org

July 9

A Beka Book Home School Curriculum and text book sale 11am to 3pm Admission is Free. Info: Mickey Pierce at 800-613-3222 Ext. 67 or www.abeka.org.

July 11

"Killing Me Softly" Irving Arts Center Carpenter Performance Hall 8:00 PM

Walk in Writing Clinic 10AM - 4PM Martin Luther King Jr. Branch Library, 2922 MLK Blvd, \$2 (per 20minute session)

Harlem Book Fair Writing & Publishing Seminars Various writing and publishing sessions for the serious writer. Various Dallas Public Library Branch Locations. Harlem Book Fair 10 am - 5 pm \$89.00 mrod@qbr.com 212-348-1681.

Mocha Sisters Organization Community Picnic Mary Heads Carter Park in Carrollton 12pm to 5 pm FREE denisehenderson@sbcglobal.net 214-952-7806

July 12

Many Voices, Many Visions inspiring vocal concert by one of Fort Worth's favorite music ensembles at 2pm. Call 817.989.5030 to register; confirmation will be sent.

"Warrior Writer Workshop" 8:45 AM - 6:00 PM Springhill Suites Marriott Boardroom 5800 High Point Drive, 5800 High Point Drive Irving www.bobmayer.org July 13-17

July 13-17

Summer Jazz Dance Camp at the Spring Creek Campus Dance Studio, Room AA146. Registration costs: \$125. Info: Tiffanee Arnold, 972.881.5830 or tarnold@ccccd.edu.

July 15

Dallas Bar Association Lawyers will answer questions from 5:30 to 8 pm – via phone – at no charge through the DBA's LegalLine service. Callers should dial 214-220-7476.

July 18 The PLAN Fund is offering "Business Basics for Entrepreneurs" 9:00 am - 6:00 pm. Concepts covered are: Marketing, Forecasting,

Cash Flow, Pricing, and Business Planning. Upon completion of the training class, prospective members will receive a certification and become eligible for business loans. Location: 2801 Swiss Ave. Suite 120, Dallas, TX 75204. Cost is \$40.00 if paid in advance, \$45.00 at the door. Register: www. planfund.org or 214-942-6698

July 19-24

Texas All-Star Jazz Camp Sunday-Friday at the Spring Creek Campus Conference Center, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano. Special guest artists include Bill Holman and Gregg Bissonette. Registration cost is \$265 and \$310 with lunch. Info: Kris Berg at 972.881.5108 or kberg@ ccccd.edu.

July 21

Sales Career Fair 9AM - 1:30 PM Embassy Suites Dallas - DFW International Airport South, 4650 West Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75062, (972) 790-0093

July 23

CareerBuilder Job Fair 10AM - 3PM Renaissance Dallas Richardson Hotel, 900 East Lookout Drive, Richardson, TX

July 23 - August 2

Les Miserables is at Granville Arts Center 972-485-8884, www.garland civictheatre.org

July 28

Putting America Back to Work Job Fair, New Cowboy Stadium, 925 North Collins, Arlington, TX 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

July 30 - August 1

Friends of the Plano Public Library 26th Annual Book Sale First Nighter Sale, Thursday, July 30, 6 - 10pm, Entry fees: \$5 Individual, \$10 Family. Free Admission Friday, July 31, 9am - 9 pm, and Sat-urday, August 1, 9am - 1pm Over 75,000 new and gently used

books. Hard-back books, DVDs and CDs: \$2. Paper-back books: \$1. Videocassettes, audiocassettes, and records: 2 for \$1. No sales tax! All proceeds go to Friends of Plano Public Library. Info: 972-208-8002.

July 30 – August 9

Ringling Bros & Barnum & Bailey Show The Ameri-Airlines Thursday, July 30 7:30PM Friday, July 31, 7:30PM Sat., August 1, 11:30AM Sat., August 1, 3:30PM Sat., August 1, 7:30PM Sunday, August 2, 2:30PM Sunday, August 2, 6:30PM Thurs., August 6, 7:30PM Friday, August 7, 7:30PM Sat., August 8, 11:30AM Sat., August 8, 3:30PM Sat., August 8, 7:30PM Sunday, August 9, 2:30PM Sunday, August 9, 6:30PM Info: www.ticketmaster.com

July 30

Diversity/Professional Job Fair 10AM-3PM Westin
DFW Airport, 4545 W. John
Carpenter Frwy, Irving (972)
929-4500

August 2

2009 Taste Dance: Addison Style! 2-4PM, Addison Conference Center, 15650 Addison Road, Addison TX 75001. Cost: Adults \$8, Seniors & Students \$6 and children under 6 FREE

August 5

Arlington Professional Diversity Career Fair, La-Quinta Inn, 825 N. Watson Road, Arlington, TX 76011, 10-2 p.m.

August 8

The Wiggles! Tour NOKIA Theatre 1:30 & 5:00 PM

August 19

What a Wonderful World fun-filled family day, 1-4pm Amon Carter Museum

August 21-23

"The 3rd Annual Fort Worth MusicFest" featur-

ing legendary billboard-topping bands, Morris Day and the Time, The Bar-Kays and The Zapp Band. This threeday outdoor music event will take place in Fort Worth. Tickets are \$15 per day until August, 14, 2009. Kids under the age of 10 get in free. More info: www.fwmusicfestival.org or 817.923-9300

August 28-30

Tulisoma South Dallas Book Fair & Arts Festival

Tulisoma, Swahili for "we read", is a community based literary festival promoting literacy and the arts. Speakers include Dallas DA Craig Watkins, poet Sonia Sanchez and romance author Evelyn Palfrey. The fair will be hosted at the African American Musuem and other venues, visit www.tulisoma.com for more details and registration.

September 5-6

2009 City of Bedford Labor Day Blues & BBQ Festival a feast for the senses. The two-day event re-turns with an entertaining lineup of local talent, blues legends Buddy Guy and The Fabulous Thunderbirds and a \$10,000 barbecue cook-off. Gates open at 2 p.m. each day

September 10

The Plano City Council Neighborhood Roundtable - District 4, 7:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m. at the Plano Sports Authority StarCenter, 6500 Preston Meadow, Plano, Texas 75024

September 15

Fort Worth Professional
Diversity Career Fair,
Texas Motor Speedway,
3545 Lone Star Circle
(Speedway Club) Fort
Worth, TX 10-2 p.m.

October 27

Jobing.com Career Expo – Will Rogers Coliseum, 3401 W. Lancaster, Ft. Worth, TX 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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The Attorneys for Don and Sheila Hill Discuss Week One of the Corruption Trial

BY RUTH FERGUSON NDG EDITOR

Four years later, Don and Shelia Hill are finally having their day in court. Their attorneys look forward to responding and presenting a spirited defense of their clients in a court of law instead of the court of opinion and speculation.

After extensive surveillance, resulting in 30,000 taped conversations, along with video and photographs, the corruption trial is at last underway.

The FBI's investigation led to fourteen individuals being charged, however, nine have pled guilty and are slated to testify against the Hills and their co-defendants.

The trial is on recess this week because of a juror's previously planned vacation. The attorneys for Mr. and Mrs. Hill spoke by phone on Tuesday regarding the first week of a trial expected to last through August.

Attorney Victor Vital, who represents Mrs. Hill, is a Partner in the Litigation division of Baker & Botts, LLP.

Vital shared, "We were pleased to be there in court and to finally have a chance to present our view of the world in terms of the allegations, and tell the public exactly where we stand. We saw what we expected to see and heard what we expected to hear."

Attorney Ray Jackson is the Managing Partner for the Jackson Law Firm; he is representing former Mayor Pro Tem Don Hill, who is also an attorney.

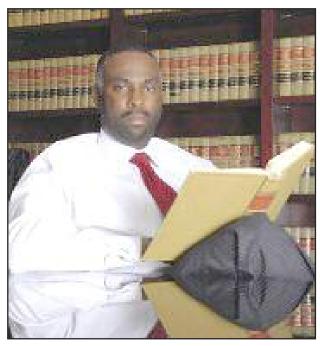
Jackson observed, "We laid our case out in our opening statement and now is time to present evidence to support the case." He indicated, "It is interesting to hear how the government is interpreting the wire taps and conver-

sations.

But according to Jackson, "The jury has gotten a chance to hear what the government plans to prove, they have heard the worst."

During the first two days of presenting their case, the prosecution played excerpts from auaway from the obvious questions listeners will likely have after hearing the excerpts such as, "I'm going to hold Bill's feet to the fire," Reagan is heard saying. "Bill is not going to come in here and not utilize Black contractors."

Using their opening arguments Jackson said,



Attorney Ray Jackson

diotape conversations. Including one between co-defendants Darrin Reagan and former Dallas Planning Commissioner D'Angelo Lee. The government presented a photo which they allege shows Reagan giving Mr. Hill \$10,000 in cash behind Friendship Baptist Church on February 22, 2005.

Despite rampant speculation, the Hill's attorneys are confident their clients will be vindicated. Jackson said the audiotapes played for the jury are just excerpts; "We are going to put all this in context" during the trial. The first opportunity will come next week when they cross-examine FBI Special Agent Allen Wilson who is currently on the witness stand.

If a good defense, is a good offense, the Hills' legal team is not shying "We told the jury that because these contractors were building in the minority sector, Mr. Hill was an avid believer they [developers] should be using minority contractors."

The developer's failure to use minority contractors as promised was the reason that Hill pulled those items from the city council agenda Jackson explained, "It was not because of some extortion scheme," as the government, alleges.

When asked about the photo showing an exchange between Reagan and Hill, Jackson countered, "We believe the evidence will show that the monies Mr. Hill received were merely a campaign contribution."

Jackson added these monies are a matter of public record, and contends Mr. Hill did not personally receive \$10,000.

Although married, the Hills, as well as the other defendants will present, "separate defenses through their own counsel." However, Vital shared, "There is a great amount of collaboration among the lawyers of the case," but in the end they are charged

Jackson stated, "I am not concerned about the racial overtones, their interpretation of what they [prosecutors] heard and listened to is not evidence." He added, the government can make statements, but then the evidence must substantiate it.

Even if damaging, Vital is not overly concerned about the perception listeners gain mav from what they have heard SO Vital far. believes, both the public and jury understand there are

to every story, and emphasized, "In America we get to cross examine."

If there is one arena that defendants, perhaps, do not always feel they get a fair examination of the evidence it is in the media.

Vital was particularly displeased with the coverage the *Dallas Morning News* has offered. "The press in this country is a pretty powerful. Journalism has to be responsible and fair, when I read some of the pieces I read, it kind of takes me back. Folks are being tried and convicted before the public has a chance to hear the evidence."

He added, "I and the Hills are dismayed by the press coverage that we are seeing from more established media outlets. They have latched on to the government's theory of the evidence. To use the word shakedown is irresponsible because we have not heard all the evidence."

Vital feels that, "When you look at the *Dallas Morning News*, the only conclusion is that the people involved are guilty. The defendants on trial pled not guilty. There is a story that will be told in full view not just in snipnets."

However, like Jackson, Vital is confident that the jury – and the public – are, open-minded enough to hear the entire case.

Discussing the audiotape conversation between Mr. Hill and prior to their marriage, Sheila Farrington, regarding a BMW given to Mr. Hill by Farrington, Vital points out there are no references to bribe money, or statements such as, "I'm glad Brian bought the car."

Vital candidly stated, "Am I defending everything on the call morally? No. But does that mean they should go to jail because one of the Ten Commandments was violated? That is what the government is telling us, and the *Dallas Morning News* latched on to it. He added, "If folks believe in the Scriptures there is a day of reckoning coming."

When asked if he is concerned about the jury being judgmental of his client, Vital conceded that coming into the trial it was a concern. However he added, "That is why you have jury selection. We talked to this jury about the extra martial affair. It was wrong, but it does not mean that a federal crime was committed."

Vital contends such overreaching by the government is a slippery slope because, it opens the door to the idea of people being convicted 'just because folks do one thing wrong'.

Vital closed by saying that he believes, "The jury will judge us based on evidence and not past sin."



Attorney Victor Vital

with representing the individual interests of their client.

Vital stated the government's allegations against Mrs. Hill are, "She conspired to move bribe money for developers to public officials. She is also accused of money laundering."

Courtroom watchers were surprised to learn in the defense's opening statement of Mr. Hill's plan to take the witness stand. According to Vital a final decision has not been made regarding Mrs. Hill's plans to testify.

"That is a decision that we continue to think about and deliberate," Vital indicated

While some might interpret the government's allegations that the conspirators were out to make White businessmen pay to do business in South Dallas as adding heavy racial overtones to the case, the Hill's attorneys do not believe it is an issue.

What Would Michael Think?

BY WARREN BALLENTINE, ESQ

As I watch the television and listen to the radio I can't help but think to myself:

WHAT WOULD MICHAEL THINK? About all the people who watched to see if the major black award show would honor our musical hero in all his musical glory, or would it be a show about self promotion and opportunity? Would artists for just one night make it about the man, the icon, the gift that Michael Jackson was to everyone on the planet, or would they push themselves up front and promote tour dates, record labels, new cds and movies they were in.

WHAT WOULD MICHAEL THINK? About all the radio and TV interviews of people acting as if they knew

the inner being of this man. A man who had given his life to his fans and to his family. All these people coming out talking about his behavior and how he may have died. The media using his death for ratings and how SONY stock has jumped and his record sales are through the roof.

WHAT WOULD MICHAEL THINK? About all the people who are selling his image on shirts and on the internet, who never once thought about his kids or his family and how that may affect them. Or, the folks who are coming forward and trying to stain this man's legacy of greatness

WHAT WOULD MICHAEL THINK? About all the fans that cried and are still crying at his passing. Or, the fans

who are re-living their lives...for his music has been the soundtrack for so many people's lives. And will someone say truthfully how he changed not only music but clothing fashion, hair styles, and race relations. I see all these people who have made money off this man in life and now I see all these people who are still making money and those who are trying to make money in his death and I just have to ask WHAT WOULD MICHAEL THINK?

Warren Ballentine is a lawyer and a nationally syndicated radio host and a regular on Sunday nights on the newsroom on CNN. The Warren Ballentine Show can be heard weekdays from 10AM-1PM. (check local market listings) or visit www.truthfighters.tv.

Roland Martin Gets a New TV Show on TV One



Roland Martin

(NDG Wire) Journalist Roland Martin will anchor a new Sunday public affairs show aimed at a black audience that will debut in September on the TV One network.

The Washington Watch program aims to tap into a new interest in politics and government due to the historic election of President Barack Obama, said Johnathan Rodgers, TV One's president and CEO. It debuts September 27 at 10 a.m. EST, and the show will be repeated each week at 4 p.m.

Martin, who is also a CNN commentator, will interview newsmakers and members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

April Ryan, the White House correspondent for the American Urban Radio Networks, and Robert Traynham, Philadelphia Tribune columnist and Comcast host, will be regular panel members.

TV One is in about 48

million homes, a little less than half of the nation's TV homes.

Rodgers said it dawned on him when TV One covered last year's Democratic convention and he saw many Black Caucus members trudge up to the network's temporary rooftop studio for interviews: These politicians have few outlets to talk about their issues and people have few places to hear them.

Rodgers said, "I hope to get smart, intelligent, entertaining conversation, but I put this under the public affairs arena. It doesn't have to be a ratings success."

An Evening with Actor George Takei

(NDG Wire) The Crow Collection is presenting *An Evening with George Take*i Sunday, July 19. Lecture begins at 6 p.m. in the Horchow Auditorium at the Dallas Museum of Art with a reception to follow at the Crow Collection of Asian Art.

Long before he traveled the universe as Lt. Sulu on board the U.S.S. Enterprise, as a child George Takei was trapped behind the barb wire fences that surround the Japanese American Internment Camps during World War II.

Mr. Takei and his family were among the 120,000 U.S. residents of Japanese descent who were interned during the war. Takei, who was born in Los Angeles, spent most of his childhood at Camp Rower in the swamps of Arkansas and at the windswept Camp Tule Lake in northern California.

The actor will speak about his childhood experiences as well as his life as a Japanese American in the United States.

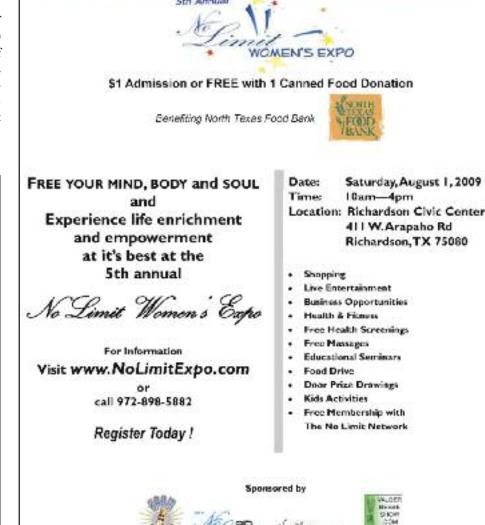
The lecture is being presented in conjunction with

a special exhibition *The Return of the Yellow Peril: A Survey of the Works by Roger Shimomura* at the Crow Collection June 6-August 9, 2009.

Tickets are \$15 for Friends of the Crow Collection, students with valid ID, \$30 for non-members. Reservations are required. Call 214-979-6438 or visit www.crowcollection.org to register.

The Crow Collection of Asian Art is located at 2010 Flora Street in the heart of the downtown Dallas Arts District. The Dallas Museum of Art is at 1717 Harwood, across the street from the Crow Collection.

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NNPA & MillerCoors Announce 2009 MillerCoors A. Philip Randolph Messenger Awards Winners



Pictured at left with MillerCoors executives at this year's MillerCoors A. Philip Randolph Messenger Awards NNPA reception in Minneapolis recently are several of the nation's premier African American journalists and publishers. Among them are (from left) Moses Brewer, director, Multicultural Relations - African American Markets, MillerCoors; Larry Waters, director, Multicultural Relations, MillerCoors; Frances Jackson, The Chicago Defender; Dorothy Leavell, Chairwoman of NNPA Foundation; Michael House, president, The Chicago Defender; Clyde Jiles, The Houston Defender; Bernie Foster, publisher, The Skanner; Rod Doss, publisher, The New Pittsburgh Courier; Irv Randolph, managing editor, The Philadelphia Tribune; Sonny Jiles, publisher, The Houston Defender; Dina Suggs, The St. Louis American and James Washington, publisher, The Dallas Weekly.

Children's Defense Fund Texas Executive Director Barbara Best Receives Fellowship to Study Public Administration at Harvard Kennedy School

Best, the executive director of the Children's Defense Fund—Texas, will take a leave of absence for ten months to obtain a master's degree in public administration at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Best received the Kennedy School's Gertrude Manley Fellowship, awarded to students who show outstanding promise as managers and leaders.

"After fourteen years on the frontlines, Barbara is ready and eager to study non-profit administration and children's policy, with a focus on poverty reduction and access to health care,"

(NDG WIRE) Barbara Children's Defense Fund President said. "She will return to the Children's Defense Fund in May, 2010, and I have no doubt that the tools, training and powerful network of the Kennedy School will make Barbara an even more effective advocate for children."

> Best started the Children's Defense Fund Houston office in 1999 and has grown CDF's presence in Texas from a staff of one to offices in Houston, Austin and the Rio Grande Valley with a network of child health coordinators in fourteen Texas communities. In 2007, she led a statewide coalition that restored the Children's Health Insurance

Program to 150,000 uninsured Texas children in collaboration with advocacy, business and health care organizations. She also launched innovative outreach campaigns to enroll uninsured children, including the 100% Campaign, a partnership with the Houston Independent School District and Houston hospitals that assisted over 32,000 uninsured HISD students in applying for health coverage.

The campaign has been recognized as a national best practice by the American Association of School Administrators, which has distributed information to superintendents nationwide.

In 2006, Best was the only American among twenty international advocates profiled by the World Health Organization in its Voices from the Frontline web series on efforts to improve health care accessi-

While Best is on leave, CDF-Texas Policy Director Laura Guerra-Cardus, M.D. will serve as Interim Director, and Vicki Johnson Stephens will serve as Deputy Director.

Recently, Dr. Guerra-Cardus coordinated a statewide campaign that nearly succeeded in expanding the Children's Health Insurance

See FELLOWSHIP. Page 15

LAVARRY, continued from Page 2

décor and image consulting she has also developed a part of her business that is specific to children. She recently partnered with the City of Dallas and the Dallas Independent School District and offers workshops to children ages 5 to 17 that focus on topics ranging from Fashion Career development to Self-Perception. to Etiquette and more.

Talisa is also extremely proud of the growth and response that she has gotten from one of her workshops in particular, The Princess in Me! "A non-traditional tea party for non-traditional

This workshop focuses

on etiquette and self-esteem and Talisa offers it annually on a city wide level as well as to individuals and organizations and most recently introduced it as a patch program for Girl Scouts USA.

Talisa has recently launched her own internet radio talk-show that can be heard at www.everydayexperiences.com. This platform will allow listeners to get to know her and her business on a more personal

She will talk to the audience about every division of her business often including interviews with other industry professionals that she works with on a day to day

Talisa's Q & A column will appear soon in the North Dallas Gazette. Readers will have the opportunity to write in with questions about their image,

events, décor, self-esteem and more.

For more information on Talisa Lavarry visit www.talisalavarry.com or she can be reached at 214.886.0696.

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DEBATE, continued from Page 1

section 118 (f) may elect to pay for its over-the-air nonsubscription broadcast transmissions a royalty fee of \$1,000 per year."

"I know times are tough, and it is not the intention or goal of this legislation to drive broadcasters into bankruptcy or to bring about a widespread consolidation of the industry. That is why I have been, and remain, committed to finding a middle ground on this issue.

I modified the Performance Rights Act last week with an amendment I crafted with several members of the committee – including fellow Congressional Black Caucus members Sheila Jackson-Lee, Hank Johnson, and Mel Watt, and Republicans Darrell Issa and Tom Rooney – to create a sliding scale where small stations will pay as little as \$500 a year for the unlimited use of all music and other copyrighted sound

recordings," according to a statement released to the media by Congressman Convers.

"The record labels have crafted a clear strategy: Establish a performance tax on radio stations this year, and jack up the rates next year. Today's exemption is tomorrow's target," states Kristopher Jones, Director of Media Relations for National Association of Broadcasters.

Two Texas House Representatives, Gene Green (D-TX) and Mike Conaway (R-TX) led efforts to oppose HR 848 by introducing a resolution called the Local Radio Freedom Act.

"We are gaining bi-partisan support. Currently we have 237 House and Senate members who signed the Act; therefore, we are hopeful Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House, and other Senate and House Leaders will recognize the overwhelming opponize the overwhelming opponize the support of the control of the support of the supp

sition and it will not reach the next level," states Jones.

Influential voices like Reverend Al Sharpton, activist and national radio host, and Tom Joyner of *The Tom Joyner Morning Show*, continue to publicly express their opposition for the proposed bill.

"I love black radio and I could not love it without loving black music and the performers who record it. When I say the Performance Tax will hurt more than it will help, it is not some words I am spouting out. I have thought long and hard and looked at all sides. I do not want to see any musical artists struggling and I have compassion for their plights. However, the answer is not putting the blame and responsibility on radio. Neither is pointing fingers back at the record companies or the artists themselves for sometimes settling for bad deals and not making the best decisions. We cannot go back in the past and right the wrongs," advise Joyner.

Joyner feels Black radio is significant not just for promoting African American music, but offering commentary on news that gives an African American perspective. Joyner feels to lose that voice could be detrimental: therefore, he strongly opposes adding this financial burden on local radio stations because the threat of a small struggling radio station incurring these fees, who provide that voice to the Black community, could be silenced

"Right here in the North Dallas area, and all over the country, Black radio was the main source of information as the news about Michael Jackson unfolded.

Every news organization had the same basic information, but we turned to black

radio because we wanted to hear the news from people like us who felt the way we do based on the perspective of our cultural history in music," explains Joyner.

Two interesting arguments make this issue such a hot debate: U.S., along with China, Iran and North Korea, are the only countries that do not support a bill that requires payment for radio play and until the U.S. passes such a bill than American artist cannot collect royalties overseas(visit www. hiphopandpolitics.wordpress.com/2009 /06/19/paul-porter-blackradio-speaks-w-forkedtongue/,for more information on this topic) and the opposing argument that fifty-percent of the royalty fees collected will go to the record companies not the artist, and the remaining fifty-percent given to SoundExchange, an independent-nonprofit performance rights organization,

to distribute.

The Houston Press reports, SoundExchange admits they have been unable to find about twenty-five percent of its artists and if these artists, which some are from Texas, do not contact them within a certain timeframe, they have the right to the keep the money, which ultimately defeats the purpose of the bill (visit www.houstonpress.com/2007-05-17/music/soundexchange-wa nts-to-kill-internet-radio, for more information on this

The beauty of a democracy is having the freedom to draw our own conclusions based on the facts, arguments, and debates presented to us. Whatever the resolution, we can be grateful for living in a society where "we the people" are empowered to decide.

MOMS, continued from Page 1

a nonprofit, national advocacy and empowerment program, aimed at inspiring single mothers to be the change they desire to see in their situations.

Project Single Moms offers support to the single parenting community ranging from financial literacy, homeownership information, and self-development.

The program, which requires a membership that is free before July 30th, also offers support such as parents' night out for the mothers and activities for the single parent families as whole units as well. The group provides a 24-hour support telephone line for parents who need someone to call on anytime for support.

There is even publishing information and services for parents who have written their stories down and feel that they are ready to share them with the world.

"Stephanie Clark is an author of books and she loves helping others get their stories out," Tamyra Belo, one of Project Single Moms DFW coordinators told *North Dallas Gazette*. "She feels like all these women have a story to tell."

After speaking with all three DFW area coordinators: Tamyra Belo, Veronica Williams, and Riketa Taylor, they clearly are determined single mothers themselves.



Tamrya and son Trinity

Riketa Taylor shared, the group used an event at Everest College where she attends school to promote membership and to recruit expert volunteers. In addition to being a student at Everest, Taylor has three sons and one daughter and works full-time.

Taylor commented, "All single mothers don't want to stay single, so we are even planning things like a speed dating event. We want the parents to have fun."

The DFW chapter held its first meeting in June and were quite please with the turnout. They are planning a back to school event in August. There will be food, fun, and school supplies!

Taylor explained, "We are even trying to get a few barbers and hair stylists to come out and offer services to help parents prepare for school as well."

The coordinators are planning an October kids night out "Boo at the Zoo."

The group plans to meet monthly for mixing and mingling, as well as host a monthly teleconference for all members to give parents a chance to interact as frequently as they like.

Membership is not restricted to only mothers. "Two of our single parents are actually single fathers," Taylor revealed right before Belo inserted, "There are actually now three single fathers in the group."

Membership criteria for the organization is loose and lenient. The two coordinators shared hat married, single, or childless individuals, are all welcome to join as long as they support the cause of better assisting and educating the single parent community.

Belo added one member is a married male with no kids. "He just heard about the program and wanted to offer his help."

The coordinators plan to move toward growth in the region by adding other affiliates. They explained that they are eager for other single parents to step forward and offer expansion in the Texas area by becoming coordinators of new divisions. Veronica Williams believes it would be productive and easier to serve more Texans by dividing the cities and even metropolises up by creating different chapters.

For more information on starting a Project Single Moms chapter in your area, national or local chapters, contact one of the DFW coordinators at contactdfw@projectsinglemoms.com, or www.projectsinglemoms.com



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Job Fair to Focus on Bilingual Opportunities

(NDG Wire) Brookhaven College is having its fourth Bilingual Job Fair on July 15 in the Student Services Center, Building S, from 9 a.m. to

Sponsored by Al Día, more than 25 companies will be looking for applicants to fill a variety of full- and part-time positions. Employers will be

bilingual and non-bilingual positions. nesses both large and small, will be represented.

Employers at last year's event included looking for candidates for Compass Bank, Dallas Police, Hyatt Hotels and Resorts, Metro PCS, Target and many others.

The Job Fair is free and open to the public. For more information about the Job Fair, please contact

the Career Development Center at 972-860-4894. For information in Spanish, contact the Brookhaven College East Center 1 at 972-860-7844.

For more information

about funding for related

classroom instruction for

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prenticeship training pro-

grams, contact the Texas

Workforce Commission at

apprenticeship@twc.state.

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www.hobbylobby.com

TWC Adds \$1 Million in Federal Funds to Apprenticeship Training Program

(NDG Wire) The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has added \$1 million to its Apprenticeship Training Program to prepare Texas workers for occupations in high-demand skilled trades.

The additional funding from the U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Investment Act brings the total amount available for TWC registered apprenticeship training programs to \$2.6 million for Fiscal

Must be

trj1909@tx.rr.com

Year (FY) 2010.

The TWC Apprenticeship Training Program combines structured onthe-job training with related classroom instruct-

Apprentices who successfully complete a registered apprenticeship training program can become certified and skilled journey workers. The program supported training for more than 4,000 apprentices in FY 2009.

"By increasing the funding for our apprenticeship program, we are able to prepare more workers in high-demand skilled trades," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. "Apprenticeship is an outstanding training program, and I'm extremely pleased that we are able to expand."

Occupations supported by the TWC Apprenticeship Training Program include aircraft manufacturing, auto tech specialists, carpenters, cement masons, electricians, engine maintenance mechanics, iron workers, painters, plumber and sheet metal workers.

Texas Workforce Commission provides funds to local public educational institutions to support the costs of related classroom instruction in registered apprenticeship training programs.

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Church Happenings

AVENUE F CHURCH OF CHRIST July 22-26, 7:30 pm

Join us for our Homecoming & Gospel Meeting with Minister Shelton Gibbs, III of Greenville Avenue Church of Christ. Our Wednesday through Saturdays' Musical begins @ 5 pm. Sunday's Bible study time is 9:45 am; Worship Service is 10:45 am and the fellowship meal is from 1 pm to 2:15 pm followed by our afternoon worship at 2:30 pm. Call 972-423-8833 for details.

Brother Ramon Hodridge, Senior Minister 1026 Avenue F Plano, TX 75074 972-423-8833

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES July 11, 1:30-3 pm

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

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

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN "The Ship" On Going, 9 am-4 pm

Monday - Friday

Prayer Lines for those in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567.

July 11 Leadership Conference, call the church for details.

July 22-24
Vacation Bible School,
come and bring the children.

July 31, 7 pm-10:30 pm
Calling all youth to Gen-Ex
Youth Explosion "Born to
Worship" @ the Allen Civic
Auditorium. There will be
food, fellowship, fun and
worship.

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK July 10, 8 am to 9 pm

Young Ladies of Purpose Retreat at the church.

July 19, 6 pm Agape Ministry presents the play "Chains" a play by Cleveland McLeish.

Dr. Gregory Foster, Senior Pastor Rev. Anthony Foster Pastor 300 Phillips Street Richardson, TX 75081 972-235-4235

GREENVILLE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST August 1, 2009

Community Health Fair,

Call 972-816-3367.

Brother S.T.W. Gibbs, III
Senior Minister

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

HILL CHAPEL CME CHURCH July 10 & 11, 2009

Our Just Between Sisters Women's Ministry invites you to their 4th Annual Women's Retreat at the Marriott Quorum by the Galleria, 14901 Dallas Parkway, Dallas, TX. We have a Silver, Gold and Platinum package. Speakers: Sisters Eleanor Webb from Griggs Chapel B.C. and Loria Thompson from Cedar Crest CME Cathedral; First Lady Linda Joshua from Shiloh MBC and Rev. Patti Moore from Temple of Faith CME. Call 972-423-4090 for details and package fees.

> Rev. Clarence Ford, Senior Pastor 1113 Avenue I Plano, TX 75074 972-423-4090

HOUSE OF REFUGE WORSHIP CENTER

July 12, 9:45 am Join us for Worship Service this Sunday.

Rev. Randall Cain Senior Pastor 2540 Avenue K, Suite 300 (New Worship Location behind Whataburger) Plano, TX 75074 972-294-9368

OAK CLIFF BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

July 11, 8:30 am – 4 pm Come to "No More Excuses Men's Conference" with Ray Lewis; Kurt Warner; Dr. Steve Farrar; Dr. Tony Evans, Sr.; Kirk Franklin and Musical guest Anthony Evans, Jr.

Dr. Tony Evans, Sr. Senior Pastor 1808 W. Camp Wisdom Rd. Dallas, TX 75232 214-672-9100

SANCTUARY OF PRAISE FELLOWSHIP

July 9, 7:30 pm Join us every Thursday for an "Hour of Power" Prayer, Worship and Bible study for all ages.

> Rev. John Wilson, III Senior Pastor 1318 J Avenue Plano, TX 75074 469-853-2380

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST This Friday Night July 10, 8 pm

You're invited to an exciting and rousing Friday Night Live Service. Come to sing praises to God, to be encouraged and to hear the stimulating Word of God.

Elder Gregory Voss, Senior Pastor 2765 Trinity Mills Road Carrollton, TX 75006 214-514-9147

"On The Move" Vacation Bible School

Registration for "On the Move" Vacation Bible School has begun! All children, youth and adults are welcomed to attend. There is no cost. There will food, fellowship and spiritual growth for ages 3-100. Classes will take place July 27th-July 31st. Monday-Thursday classes will begin daily at 6:15 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m. at Warren United Methodist Church, 3028 Malcolm X Boulevard Friday's class will be held jointly at the St. Luke Community United Methodist Church at 5710 East R.L. Thornton Freeway (I-30), Dallas.

Contact the Warren United Methodist Church about registration information at 214-928-7373 or warrenumc@sbcglobal.net.

The "On the Move" curriculum, focuses on how God's spirit gave momentum to the Civil Rights Movement, drawing the people of God towards justice, truth, and reconciliation. The lessons promote God's power for life in building up the community, as persons are reconciled to one another and to Jesus Christ.









Managing Your Time



Sister Tarnlev

"Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am. Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity."

(Psalm 39:4 & 5)

As a younger teacher, I was sitting in the teacher's lounge when a co-worker came in and set at the table where I was. She noticed my Teacher's Planning Book that was opened and saw that I had written in it that I had graded papers in the lounge the previous day. She must have thought this was odd because she asked me about it

I told her that since our weekly teaching plans were due in the Business Department Office every Friday evening for the up-coming week, I made a copy to keep for myself; and that I always did a follow-up before the end of the week to see what I had actually accomplished that day.

I learned early in my

teaching career to write down everything that had happened in every class that I taught and also what I had done on my conference period each day, this would let me know if I used my time wisely that particular day.

There are only 24 hours in a day and considering the things that we have to do; we work, eat, sleep, clean house, cook dinner, go to church, take children and/or grandchildren to their various activities and other functions, etc. Each event or thing in your life must be divided into those 24 hours. How much time you devote to each item is your choice.

This comes to mind because I hear people talking about "Michael Jackson's untimely death," the things that he had accomplished and how much more he had to give to the world, but now he won't be able to give anything else.

Reading the scripture below, David understood that life had an end to it and he wanted to make the most of his time while he lived. David accomplished a great deal in his lifetime because he had learned to use his time wisely. And the prudent individual will learn to do the same. I have been

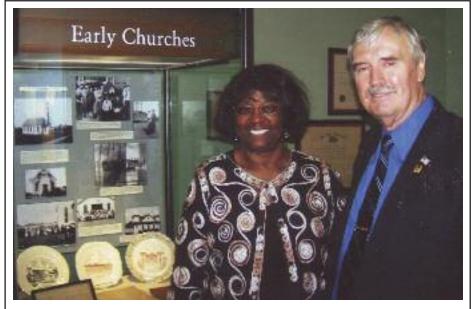
told and I have said many times that it is a blessing to remember that, 'it's only what you do for Christ that will last throughout eternity'.

The following suggestions can help to reduce stress, which causes illness and/or death at times.

Start with your time. Determine where your time is going (much like what I did when I taught.) Then, attempt to manage that time and learn to cut back on unproductive demands on your time.

After finding out where your time is going, ask your self is that time well spent or is it more effective in other places.

And don't forget this prayer: God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference. It has been stated that this prayer by Reinhold Nie-buhr has inspired countless people seeking peace and strength in times of struggle, despair and uncertainty since it was first written. Its intention is to bring peace, faith and certainty to the mind and heart of those seeking God's support. How are you managing



Sister Tarpley and The Honorable Ronald Branson, Mayor of Carrollton, Texas at a Carrollton Exhibition, Downtown Dallas

FELLOWSHIP, continued from Page 11

Program (CHIP) to 80,000 uninsured Texas children, in partnership with the Center for Public Policy Priorities, Texans Care For Children and 70 statewide business, health care, faith and child advocacy organizations. Dr. Guerra-Cardus also co-produced CDF-TX's recently released report In Harm's Way: True Stories of Uninsured Texas Children. which profiles 16 young Texans without insurance and documents the economic impact of high numbers of uninsured children on health care systems and taxpayers.

Ms. Johnson Stephens has served CDF-Texas since 2004 in a number of capacities, managing outreach and enrollment initiatives, directing a nationally-recognized Back to School campaign with more than 430 events in a six week period, and coordinating fund development and implementing new partnerships with local banks, hospitals and corporations. Recently, Johnson Stephens played a critical role in launching CDF's Beat the Odds® scholarship initiative in Dallas, which provides college

scholarships to students who have overcome adversity while demonstrating academic excellence and giving back to their communities.

Best said, "I am grate-ful for the opportunity to study at the Kennedy School and to learn about – and share – innovative approaches to child advocacy. I look forward to learning more about national and international best practices of what we can do to ensure that every child has the resources needed to reach his or her full potential."



Avenue F Church of Christ

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FORECLOSURE, continued from Page 11

credit.

Graduates of the financial literacy course qualify for HUD certification offering incentives for first-time homebuyers. With HUD certification, potential homebuyers can qualify to lease a home with the option to buy or get assistance with closing costs. The center partners with Builders of Hope, a group that builds affordable housing but has no credit solution arm.

Jordan also has programs to assist current homeowners facing foreclosure. "We serve as counselors and advocates for those facing foreclosure. Our phones have

been blowing up recently, especially with GM laying people off.

"Lenders like us [as a liaison] because we have a package set up," Curry said. "We know that it costs more for the lender to foreclose a home than it is to work it out and have a performing loan rather than a non-performing loan."

Utilizing volunteers who are brokers, bankers and real estate agents, the center currently assists more than 300 people. The requirements to volunteer are specific, but anyone can donate monies. A third party audits the center and patrons can be assured

their money goes directly to fund the initiatives of the community center.

In addition to homeownership and retention, the center also specializes in youth empowerment by providing scholarships to good students who are also community leaders. Scholarships raised through an annual golf tournament and have totaled \$30,000 in scholarships over the last four years, focusing on Lincoln and Madison high schools.

"We give scholarships to A- and B+ students. 'Straight A' students always get scholarships," Curry said.

The gaspinia 9

Though providing sch-

olarships is also a major role of Jordan, the community center has focused its efforts on the rising need of home retention and related counseling efforts. Divorce and other family problems can contribute to foreclosure. "We offer [emotional] counseling to families to give them the basic skills to move forward," said

Above all, Jordan Community Development center wants to help its participants achieve wealth. "We want people to build a generation of wealth and make sure they pass down that information as a foundation for fi-

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Sunday Services: 7:30 am. 10:00 am, 12:30pm.

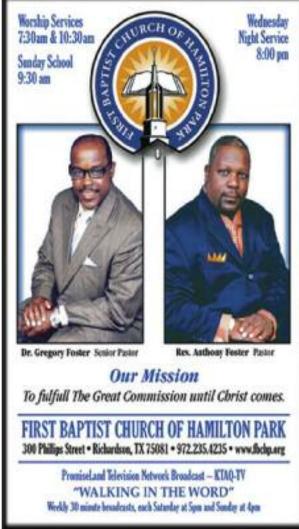
Monday School: 7:pm

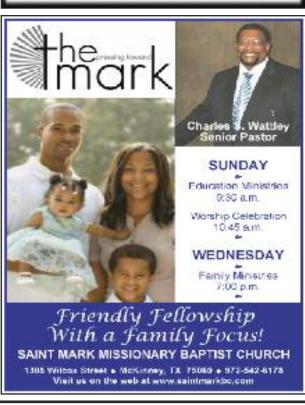
Curry.

nancial literacy," said Curry.

Curry believes that people must deal with the realities of their situations to find a way to work with their lenders and retain their homes through education. "People who lose their homes don't have to lose their homes," Curry said.

The center is a 501(c)(3) charitable community and faith-based nonprofit organization, located at 1701 N. Greenville Avenue, Suite 1005 in Richardson. They can be reached at (972) 763-0878 or www.jordancdc.org





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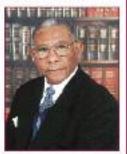
Dr. Leslie W Smith, Senior Pastor 9 7 2 - 4 3 7 - 3 4 9 3 1879-1820 South Steman Shoot - Richardson, TX 75081 www.ndcbfl.org



Sunday Service Morning Worship 7(30 am & 10(30 am 9:00 am Sunday School

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

Wednesday Service Intercessory Prayer 6:15 pm Bible Sludy 7:00 pm



Dr. Robert E. Price, Sr. Senior Pastor

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