

# North Dallas Gazette

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## Payday Lending Still Nation's Most Abusive Small Loan

BY CHARLENE CROWELL  
NNPA FINANCIAL WRITER

While some economists and Wall Street traders see glimmers of an improving economy, a distinctly different perspective exists in America's heartland.

The number one concern

for people affected by layoffs or business closures is often whether unemployment benefits will last until a new job is secured. Others who watched their neighbors lose homes to foreclosure wonder whether their upside-down mortgage loans

will ever be right-side-up again. Then there are students who heeded their parents urging to get a college education and now have a new diploma in one hand, a stack of student loans in the other and no job prospects on the horizon.

And despite several laws designed to ensure equality, when it comes to access to fair credit, being black in America still imposes an undeniable financial burden. Whether shopping for groceries, a car, a home, or in-

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Elizabeth Payne

Pastor Jeremiah Wright

## Friendship-West settles with Payne

BY IVY N. CARTER, MBA  
NDG CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Pastor Jeremiah Wright is no stranger to the media spotlight. He was first recognized during the 2008 presidential campaign of then U.S. Sen. Barack Obama, for his hateful pulpit deliveries of messages

of hate towards Caucasians. Once Sen. Obama disassociated himself from Pastor Wright, Wright began to scream that he was betrayed by his then mentee.

Now Pastor Wright is

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The world's favorite mischievous monkey arrives in Dallas on September 25

For more information see pg. 10  
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COMMENTARY

## Congress must act to help the unemployed

BY GENE LANTZ  
NDG SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

(NDG Wire) Tough times bring out the best and the worst in people. But many are still coming up short, and Congress let down millions when they didn't extend unemployment benefits for those who, despite their best efforts, still can't find work.

The American jobs crisis remains deep and real. Close to 15 million Americans are unemployed—26 million

counting the underemployed. Nearly half of all the jobless, a record 46 percent, have been unemployed for more than six months.

We don't even need statistics when we see our neighbors and friends losing work and watching their hours cut. According to a recent study by the Pew Research Center, more than half of all Americans have been im-

See UNEMPLOYED, Page 3

## Irving hosting MWBE workshop on July 28

(NDG Wire) The City of Irving (Minority and Women's Business Enterprise) MWBE Program is inviting the business community to attend the second workshop in their 2010-2011 series.

The program will continue to focus on topics helpful to MWBE busi-

nesses. Future workshop topics include "Using Technology to Effectively Market & Grow your Business", "Co-operative Purchasing Programs - Another Area of Opportunity for MWBE Businesses", a construction forum, an IT forum as well as a workshop on Annual Contracts.

The next workshop is "Funding - Traditional and Alternatives Sources of Capital." Representatives from the banking industry, Accion, MBEC and the SBA will be on hand to talk about loans and alternatives for raising capital for your small business.

The workshop is

Wednesday, July 28 from 1-3 p.m. at North Lake College - South Campus. The Dallas County Community College is located at 1081 West Shady Grove Road in Irving.

For more information call 972-721-3753. To RSVP send an email to [dm-cvean@cityofirving.org](mailto:dm-cvean@cityofirving.org).

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## People In The News...



Pamela D. Rice



Margot James Copeland



Jerry Prater

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## Pamela D. Rice

The lure of enticing words has always captivated Pamela D. Rice. Even at the tender age of two, this soulful native South Carolinian would intensely gaze at books, pretending to read and embrace the content within the pages. Rice became an avid reader, and soon found a natural progression and flair for expressing herself through illuminating words which resulted in her becoming a published poet while in the

eighth grade.

Known for her stimulating and thought-provoking views, Rice possesses a fervor for creatively giving a voice to victims who suffer in silence, afraid to speak for themselves. Inspired by everyday situations and social exchanges, Rice has always enjoyed observing people and dissecting their interactions; this hobby became her muse. It is her desire to become a literary vessel that brings light to

the social ill of domestic violence and other injustices, and its reach beyond all racial, cultural and socioeconomic classes.

The road to becoming a published author has not been an easy one. Rice admits there were many rejection letters received before landing a signed agreement with a publisher. However, with each rejection she would take any advice offered and rewrite her query letter. She holds every rejection letter as a reminder to stay committed to working hard and never giving

up. Rice is thankful for every trial and rejection, because it made her stronger, and believes that she can face any adversity or challenge that may come.

Rice's first novel, *The Sunday Morning Wife*, has garnered much attention. Rice has been featured on *The Jack and Kimberly* show, a local station in South Carolina discussing her book and its domestic violence theme. *The Sunday Morning Wife* has placed in the top ten on the Black Christian News Independent Publishers list for

the months of May, June, and July.

Initially released in paperback by Peace In The Storm Publishing, *The Sunday Morning Wife* is now available in hardback from Black Expressions. It can also be purchased at Barnes and Noble stores, and Amazon.com.

Rice is currently working on her next novel, which has an anticipated release date of December 2010.

When Rice is not writing, she enjoys spending time with her family, travel-



ing, and exploring other cultures.

## Margot James Copeland

More than 2,500 of the 12,000 plus members of The Links, Incorporated attended the organization's 37th National Assembly (June 30 - July 4). The five days of workshops, seminars and key-note speakers was held in Michigan at Detroit's Cobo Center. During the event, Members of The Links, Inc. celebrated community service achievements, recognized outstanding contributions of individuals and elected new officers to lead the organization. The

new officers of The Links, Inc. include:

- National President: Margot James Copeland - Cleveland (OH) Chapter
- National Vice President: Glenda Newell-Harris - Alameda Contra-Costa (CA) Chapter
- National Secretary: Kimberly Jeffries Leonard - Arlington (VA) Chapter
- National Treasurer: Katherine Wilson - Bold City (FL) Chapter
- Chair, National Nominating Committee: Pamela



Gentry - Annapolis (MD) Chapter

The Links, Inc.'s new President, Margot James Copeland, currently serves as the executive vice president for KeyCorp. She serves as the chair of the KeyBank Foundation, guiding the company's strategic philanthropic investments. Previously, Copeland served as the president and chief executive officer of the Greater Cleveland Roundtable and the executive director of Leadership Cleveland.

She also currently serves on the Board of Kent State University and as trustee of the Thomas White Foundation; Kenneth Scott Founda-

tion; the Great Lakes Museum of Science, Environment and Technology; and University Hospitals Health System. Copeland received a bachelor's degree from Hampton University and a master's degree from The Ohio State University.

Upon accepting the role of the 15th National President, Copeland stated, "I am truly honored and humbled by the opportunity to serve as National President. I have committed, like all of our members, to work hard every day to make communities better, individuals healthier and prospects for the future

brighter. The Links, Inc. is a prominent organization where service, friendship and leadership are paramount. It is my intention to continue to lead this important organization with excellence and serve with grace."

"Dr. Gwendolyn Lee has provided 4 years of dedicated service as the 14th National President where the organization has grown, thrived and made a difference in the lives of millions of people," Copeland continued.

The Links, Incorporated; Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service. Please visit <http://www.linksinc.org>

## Jerry Prater

(NDG Wire) During the July meeting of the Dallas County Community College District's board of trustees, three board members were sworn in for Districts 2, 3 and 4, respectively: returning trustee Bob Ferguson, who was unopposed; Jerry Prater, who also was unopposed; and

Bill Metzger, DCCCD's new trustee, who succeeds his mother, Martha Sanchez Metzger, as the board's representative for that seat. Maria Miller, legal assistant for the district's general counsel, administered the oath of office. Family members and friends attended.



During the meeting, board members elected new officers: Jerry Prater was selected to serve as chair, and Charletta Compton is the board's new vice chair. Trustees also approved a new two-year contract for Dr. Wright Lassiter Jr., DCCCD's chancellor, with the option to renew for a third year.

Lassiter and the trustees also congratulated representatives from Richland College; one of their new buildings, the Richland College Garland Campus, was listed among the top 10 finalists for the 2010 Topping Out Award, which celebrates teamwork that builds outstanding environments and spaces that have an impact on the community. The Richland College Garland Campus team included DCCCD as owner; VAI Architects Inc.; Joe Funk Construction; Charles Gojer

and Associates as structural engineers; Pacheco Koch as civil engineers; Reed, Wells, Benson as mechanical and electrical engineers; the Garland Chamber of Commerce as community group; and the City of Garland as public official.

Several other DCCCD projects were nominated for the award: the Cedar Valley College Science/Veterinary Technology/Allied Health Building; the DCCCD Administration Building; the Eastfield College Learning Center; and the Richland College Science Building. All DCCCD structures nominated for the award were built with funds approved by Dallas County voters during a May 2004 bond election for the district. Steve Park, executive director of the DCCCD bond program management team, provided details to board members and also

mentioned that Jerry Jones was honored during the ceremony with the Vision Award for the new Cow-

boys Stadium, and The Bridge received the night's top honors.

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The North Dallas Gazette, formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones

**Letter to the Editor****The Tea Party and the NAACP**

Much has been said about our resolution and we need to do what we can to set the record straight. First of all let me say very clearly that we never said anywhere in the resolution that the Tea Party was racist. Second it needs to be clear what we did say about the Tea Party and that is that there are racist elements within it and they need to eliminate those elements. This is a matter that is beyond dispute.

The body of evidence includes the Stuffed Monkeys or Depictions of Obama as a Witch Doctor or Chieftain in full head-dress or as a white face Hitler or Joker, signs at rallies using the term "Nigger" and of course the participation of those who have un-

abashed views that make them either white separatists or white supremacists. A candidate for Governor of Arkansas who claims to be a member says America should be a completely white nation. A conservative group out of St. Louis that believes Blacks are an inferior species actively participates in Tea Party events and encourages their members on their website to do the same.

David Duke has encouraged participation in their events and rallies and NAACP President Jealous has stated on national television that Duke has indicated he hopes the Tea Party will mean a resurgence of his political career. The legendary Congressman John Lewis was called a

"Nigger" by individuals believed to be associated with the Tea Party but the Tea Party or those speaking on their behalf almost immediately denied that this occurred.

And they failed to take action with Congressman Emmanuel Cleaver was spat on by individuals apparently from a Tea Party when this whole event was caught on camera and has been shown on National Television. And of course we have Mark Williams who has indicated that slavery was a good thing. He was booted from the Tea Party but we must ask ourselves if this would have happened if this action had not taken place.

To the Black Conservatives out there, we hope that you can work to eliminate

the racism from the Tea Party movement. This is not an attempt to thwart the Tea Party movement but an attempt to get the Tea Party to denounce racial hatred and such horrible public displays of racial bias that up to now have gone along largely unchecked.

Take politics out of this and ask yourself the following question, what would your Great Grandmother think about a stuffed monkey or Witch Doctor drawing depicting the first Black President or the use of the "N Word in public"? If you answer the way my Great Grandmothers would then you know that you too should support the NAACP's action.

Gary L. Bledsoe, Texas  
State NAACP President

**A hasty and embarrassing rush to judgment by the White House and NAACP**

Shirley Sherrod

BY RUTH FERGUSON  
NDG EDITOR

The election of President Barack Obama was heralded as the beginning of a post-racial era in America. Perhaps the White House did not get that memo. Once again, the Administration's hyper-sensitivity to appear fair to all was on full display with their overreaction to a conservative media driven

attack on an African American federal employee.

Monday Fox News broadcast a short clip showing former USDA's director of rural development in Georgia Shirley Sherrod indicating she was less inclined to provide assistance to a White farmer facing foreclosure. As this spread across the Internet it prompted a swift reaction

from the White House and the NAACP.

The White House's reaction was so swift and harsh that Sherrod was informed via a telephone call with the USDA's deputy undersecretary to pull her car over and submit her resignation via Blackberry. Sherrod complied.

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**UNEMPLOYMENT, continued from Page 1**

pacted by the Great Recession.

It is unprecedented for Congress to refuse to extend unemployment benefits in this time of need. But Republicans, looking toward the November elections, are acting in lockstep to block all efforts that could make things better and thus help the Democrats.

The consequences are profound. Our economy is at risk of a double dip recession unless we take steps now to deal with the linger-

ing problems that are dragging the economy back down. Unemployment benefits are running out for millions of Americans—up to 5 million stand to lose their lifeline by the end of the year without an extension—and states are being forced to slash payrolls without essential aid from Congress.

The United States must invest in rebuilding our crumbling infrastructure, which will create good paying jobs and give our children the future they de-

serve. We must dedicate ourselves to creating good green jobs that update our power grid and help the environment while helping families. State and local governments need resources to keep people on the job and get people back to work. And we should put TARP money left from the bank bailouts to good use, by investing it in Main Street.

The counter argument to creating jobs is the national debt red herring, saying our economy can't af-

ford to help millions of people until we've solved the deficit problem. The federal deficit is not an excuse for inaction. Most of our deficit today stems from the economic crisis, President George W. Bush's tax cuts for the rich and the cost of two wars that were never paid for.

It's time to let our representatives know that we are tired of Congressional inaction. Rather than cutting back, let's use our resources to put America back on track.



# Plano Celebrates 20th Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act

City of Plano Mayor Phil Dyer will join Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert in proclaiming July 26, 2010 as Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act Awareness Day commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the act's inception. The act has been hailed as a momentous civil rights law for the disabled community, striving to eliminate both architectural and cultural barriers for disabled citizens and caregivers.

"Plano staff was very proactive in addressing accessibility for citizens of all

abilities actively engaging our community in 1989, a year before the 1990 ADA Act was signed into law," said Paul Glenn, Plano's Senior Facility Construction Coordinator. "We assembled a committee of Plano staff and citizens, many with varying disabilities, laying the foundation for municipal self-evaluation and transition plans to address the challenges faced by the mobility, hearing and visually impaired."

By 1992 Plano was actively remediating obstacles

identified in all municipal facilities and infrastructures, as well as addressing potential barriers in employment, public meetings and dissemination of information. "We worked as a team dedicated to understanding the new ADA and committed to removing existing architectural barriers," said Glenn. Plano assures compliance through an active municipal ADA Committee team with Deputy City Manager LaShon Ross serving as the

The cities of Plano and Dallas are partnering with

the Dallas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the Texas Registered Accessibility Specialists Association in sponsoring the July 26 day of programming to enhance awareness of the law.

"We are proud to be an active partner in the development of ADA Awareness Day," said Glenn. "This is a day dedicated to not only awareness but to celebrate the free access to government, entertainment, employment and mobility shared by all."

Mayor Phil Dyer will present the City of Plano Proclamation during the July 26, 2010 City Council meeting, 1520 K Avenue, beginning at 7pm. Accepting the proclamation will be former TCU running back Kent Waldrep who sustained

a paralyzing spinal cord injury in a 1974 football game. He has since become a national champion for seeking cures for spinal cord injuries and paralysis. He will be giving a brief address regarding the impact of ADA policy.

## Free preventive care benefits from health care reform

(NDG Wire) Last week Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson applauded the new regulations issued by the Obama Administration to help make prevention affordable by requiring new health plans to cover recommended preventive services at no cost to the patient. The regulations, based off of provisions in the Affordable Care Act, will keep Americans healthier and help save money over the long term by increasing access to preventive care.

"We know that many Americans don't get the preventive care they need because of the cost. Seven in ten deaths in America result from chronic and often preventable diseases – this is unacceptable," said Congresswoman Johnson. "Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, free preventive care now will keep many Texans healthier and save money in the long run."

Americans who enroll

in a new health plan on or after September 23, 2010, will have access to preventive services without being charged a deductible, co-payment or co-insurance.

Next year, an estimated 41 million Americans will benefit from these new prevention provisions -- 31 million in new employer plans and 10 million in new individual plans. By 2013, an estimated 88 million Americans will benefit from the provisions – 78 million in new employer plans and 10 million in new individual plans.

Comprehensive preventive care can save billions of dollars and thousands of lives. There are 69 million workers reporting missed days due to illness each year, which reduces economic output in this country by \$260 billion per year. Every dollar spent on immunizations could save \$5.30 on direct health care costs. However, the costs of these services are often

prohibitive, and Americans currently use preventive services at only half the recommended rate.

"While Democrats are fighting to give all Americans access to free preventive care, Republicans are threatening to repeal this benefit and all of the benefits of historic health care reform," said Congresswoman Johnson. "This is one of the many important reforms Democrats created to save working families money and put them – not insurance companies – in control of their health care."

Depending on your age and health risks, the types of preventive services that will be available without a deductible, co-pay or co-insurance under these new provisions include:

- Blood pressure, diabetes, and cholesterol tests;
- Many cancer screenings;
- Routine vaccines for diseases such as measles, polio, or meningitis;

- Flu and pneumonia shots;

- Counseling, screening and vaccines for healthy pregnancies; and

- Regular well-baby and well-child visits, from birth to age 21.

Americans are beginning to see the benefits of health reform. Seniors who are affected by the Medicare prescription drug 'donut hole' coverage gap are receiving checks to lower their costs, 4 million small businesses have received notice that they are eligible for a health care tax credit potentially worth tens of thousands of dollars to help them cover their employees, young adults are starting to be allowed to stay on their parents' insurance, insurance companies have stopped their practice of rescissions – or dropping people's coverage when they need it most, and some outrageous premium hikes have been reversed.

## Richardson's Dine Smart Dine local program continues to grow

(NDG Wire) The Dine Smart Dine Local program is a joint initiative between the Richardson Chamber of Commerce and the Richardson Convention and Visitors Bureau to increase local and regional aware-

ness while driving a new and loyal customer base to Richardson area restaurants by offering money saving discounts and offers to Richardson's residents, corporate residents and visitors alike.

Signing up for deals is easy. Just go to this website ([www.cor.net/dsdl](http://www.cor.net/dsdl)), enter your e-mail address and click on the subscribe button. You will then receive a confirmation you are registered in the program and

each Friday you will receive a Restaurant of the Week offer sent directly to you via e-mail. These weekly offers are good for one week beginning on Friday and ending on Thursday.

## Greenville Avenue Health Fair

BY RUTH FERGUSON  
NDG EDITOR

Greenville Avenue Church of Christ is hosting a Community Health Fair Saturday August 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event will include a variety of community partners providing key health news and services.

Dr. Terre McGlothlin will discuss issues surrounding breast health. Dr. Vivian Jones will have important information regarding diabetes. The Carter Blood Care will be on hand to accept blood donations, which are critically needed during summer months when need often rises. These are just a few of the community



partners slated to be on hand.

The event will also feature activities for children and teens.

The health fair will be held at the Greenville Avenue Church of Christ Life Center located at 1013 S. Greenville Avenue in Richardson. Attendees who live within five miles of the church can call 972-644-2335 to request transportation. Also, you can make an appointment for Carter Blood Care at the same number.

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## Christmas in July Food Drive — Ends July 31

(NDG Wire) The Metrocrest Social Services Christmas in July Food Drive lasts through July 31 and benefits the Metrocrest Social Services Food Pantry. Along with non-perishable foods, numerous items such as diapers, toothpaste, deodorant and other hygiene products are requested.

Donation boxes are located inside Carroll-

ton's City Hall (1945 E. Jackson Road), Carrollton's Central Service Center (2711 Nimitz Lane), both Carrollton Public Library locations (1700 Keller Springs Road and 4220 N. Josey Lane) and the Metrocrest Service Center (1111 W. Belt Line Road).

Metrocrest Social Services helps people in need from Addison, Carrollton, Coppell and the Farmers Branch areas. For more information about the Food Drive or the organization, visit [metrocrestsocialservices.org](http://metrocrestsocialservices.org).



## Think green and win prizes from City of Garland

(NDG Wire) Do you have great green ideas? Your creativity could earn prizes and recognition! In conjunction with the upcoming Healthy Living Expo, the City of Garland is sponsoring two contests.

### Doing Good for the Environment

The City of Garland would like to recognize and reward students who have shown initiative, spirit, intelligence, leadership, and generosity by implementing an extraordinary service project that promotes environmental stewardship. We believe that young people can be an inspiration to others and play a key role in how we protect the environment.

Contest deadline is September 10, 2010. Winners will receive public recognition

at the Healthy Living Expo on September 25.

Prizes: First Place \$500; Second Place \$300; Third Place \$100.

### Expo Art Contest

Submit environmental art, including paintings, sculptures and mixed media that portray our impact on the environment.

Art must be made of at least 70% reused, recycled, or natural materials such as natural dyes, fibers, or flowers.

This contest is for any Garland resident, age 18 and over. Winners will receive a trophy for first, second, and third place.

For more information on both contests, visit [www.GarlandGoesGreen.org](http://www.GarlandGoesGreen.org) or call the Stormwater Hotline at 972-205-2180.

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## D'Andrala Alexander, daughter of Plano residents, earns undergraduate degree from Washington University in St. Louis

(NDG Wire) D'Andrala Alexander, daughter of Renita and Alvis Alexander of Plano, Texas (75074), received an undergraduate degree from Washington University in St. Louis on May

21. Alexander graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies & Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology from the College of Arts & Sciences.

Alexander was among the 2,706 students who received degrees at the university's 149th Commencement ceremony, which was held in Brookings Quadrangle on campus. U.S. Secre-

tary of Energy Steven Chu, PhD, delivered the Commencement address. Chu received an honorary doctor of science.

Alexander is a 2006 graduate of Carrollton

Christian Academy in Carrollton, Texas.

Washington University is counted among the world's leaders in teaching and research, and it draws students and faculty to St.

Louis from all 50 states and more than 125 countries. The total student body is more than 13,500 undergraduate, graduate and professional students.

## Kroger kicks off coin canister campaign benefiting UNCF with \$4,542 donation

(NDG Wire) As college costs continue to rise at both public and private educational institutes, more students and their families are facing financial challenges. In an effort to help raise funds for deserving and in need students across the state, Kroger selected UNCF — United Negro College Fund —

the nation's largest and most effective minority education assistance organization to be the beneficiary of its coin canister donation campaign that is running now through September 11 in all Dallas-Fort Worth stores in support of scholarships for the 2010-2011 school year. During the fundraiser, collection boxes

will be present at all checkout lanes and shoppers will have the opportunity to donate spare change to help promising young people further their education.

The monies raised from the campaign will support the UNCF Texas Joint Campaign benefiting the state's five private HBCUs including Paul Quinn College in Dallas; Huston-Tillotson University in Austin; Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins; Texas College in Tyler and Wiley College in Marshall.

To kick off the spirit of giving, Kroger presented UNCF with a check totaling \$4,542.32 resulting from funds raised during another program called Neighbor to Neighbor that presents shoppers with an effortless way to

annually donate to UNCF or other nonprofits by shopping at Kroger and linking their Plus card to the nonprofit organization.

"UNCF is grateful for Kroger's longtime partnership and support which has benefited hundreds of financially disadvantaged students and our member colleges and universities," said UNCF's Area Development Director Diane Stephenson. "Kroger's investment is helping students get the college education they need to compete in the 21st century job market and will help produce the college-educated workforce that is vital to North Texas and to the national economy. We salute Kroger and their customers for their continued generosity."



Gary Huddleston, consumer affairs director for Kroger; Michael J. Sorrell, president of Paul Quinn College; Diane Stephenson, area development director for UNCF; and Tenell Atkins, Dallas City Councilman.

## Entrepreneur Independence Mindset

BY FARRAH GRAY

(NNPA) An entrepreneurial mindset is re-emerging in Black America. New-breed entrepreneurs are no longer obsessed with lack of opportunities, but with creatively creating their future out of nothing into something. Necessity is the mother of invention! Becoming self-made gives you a fighting chance.

If it is your dream to become successful, achieve financial independence, earn a lot of money and become a millionaire in five years. My advice? Become an entrepreneur. History is full of entrepreneurs who saw a need, met it and made a fortune in the process. More than half of the world's self-made millionaires are entrepreneurs or self-employed

professionals.

Of course, there is another side to it. Those who have squandered away their life's savings did so, trying to start or run a business! So, why is it that some people succeed in business, while the rest fall flat on their faces? What makes an entrepreneur successful? What traits and characteristics best describe that unique person who directs his rags to riches story through sheer grit, perseverance and enterprise? Here is what people, businessmen themselves, have to say about what it takes to become a successful entrepreneur.

They are fast moving and flexible, and adaptable.

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## Annual Senior Adult Event scheduled for August 7 at Eastfield

(NDG Wire) The 14th Annual Senior Fest will be held at Eastfield College Saturday, August 7, from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., bringing adults 50 and over from across the Metroplex together. Attendees can choose from over 20 different workshops ranging from Auto Burglary & Theft Prevention to Diabetic Foot Care to Basic Computer to Salsa Dance!

Registration is \$8 and includes breakfast, 2 workshop sessions and lunch. Admission begins at 8 a.m. in Building C lobby area. Featured lunch-time entertainment will be Richard Barry, the man of many

voices, comedy impressionist and multi-instrumentalist. Barry delights audiences with comedy and impressions as he brings the stars from the past and present such as Louis Armstrong, Johnny Cash, Neil Diamond and George Burns to life on stage. He is the author of "Cruise Ship Passengers Ask The Wackiest Questions." He has appeared on board numerous cruise lines and conventions. He has also appeared at Las Vegas' MGM Grand.

Deadline for Registration is Friday, July 30. Please NO Walk-in Registrations on Saturday, August 7.



# Methodist Charlton Seeks Nominations for First Annual Light Award for Women in Ministry

(NDG Wire) With the greatest appreciation for every woman who reaches out to another in need in the community, Methodist Charlton Medical Center has established the Methodist Charlton Medical Center Light Award. The new annual Methodist Charlton Medical Center Light Award will recognize a first lady or woman in ministry whose leadership and community service has greatly improved the lives of women in the Methodist Charlton Medical Center service area. The award will acknowledge the recipient's work and involvement in programs and services that have documented favorable results in changing a significant num-

ber of individuals' physical, spiritual, and or emotional health, with a special focus on health and physical fitness, nutrition, and overall choices that support a healthier lifestyle.

The Methodist Charlton Light Award recipient will be chosen by audience vote from among the top three honorees selected and presented at the First Ladies and Women in Ministry Brunch in August. The honoree nomination committee is made up of Methodist Charlton employees, community members, and church leaders. The deserving recipient of the award will receive a \$1,000 donation to their organization or foundation to continue their

recognized work. If the effort no longer exists, the donation can go to a properly organized charity of the recipient's choice. Methodist Charlton will bestow one award every year.

If you would like to apply or nominate a first lady or woman in ministry for the award, please complete the application by July 27, 2010 and deliver to Methodist Charlton Medical Center, Light Award Committee, Attention: Cynthia Mickens-Smith, Methodist Charlton Medical Center, 3500 West Wheatland Road, Dallas, Texas 75237. For more information, contact Cynthia Mickens-Smith at 214-947-5204 or CynthiaMickensSmith@mhd.com.

## Community leader honored with special birthday wishes

(NDG Wire) Community leader Princella Hartman received a surprise delivery July 9 from Robert Carpenter, president and CEO of the Visiting Nurse Association, who brought Meals on Wheels and a special cake to her home to

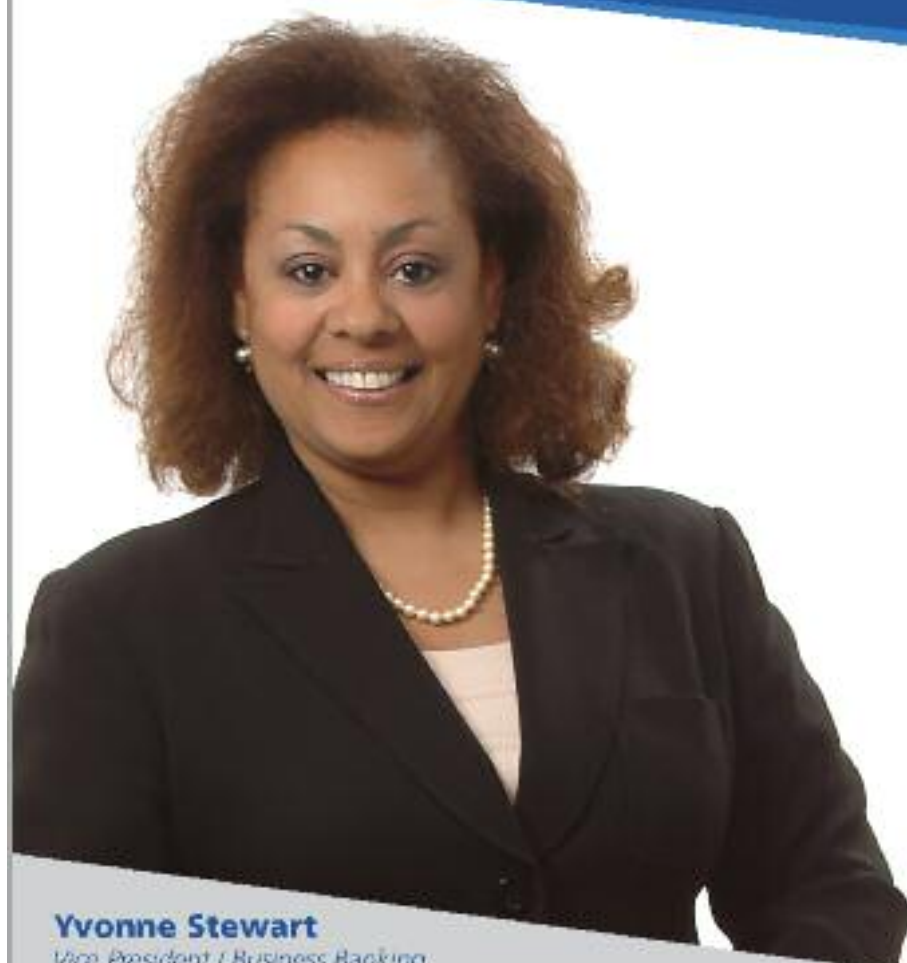
celebrate her 104th birthday. Ms. Hartman is the oldest Meals on Wheels recipient in Dallas County, where the Visiting Nurse Association operates the program.

Ms. Hartman devoted much of her life to serving

the community. She was a leader in the successful effort to preserve the historic State-Thomas neighborhood where she lives and was also an early civil rights advocate. The area's Hartman Street is named in her honor.



*Robert Carpenter, president and CEO of the Visiting Nurse Association, delivers a special birthday cake to Meals on Wheels client Princella Hartman on July 9.*



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**Every Tuesday**

The Irving Public Library invites families to enjoy stories and music in both English and Spanish. **Family bilingual storytimes** are offered at 11 a.m. Tuesdays at the East Branch Library, 440 S. Nursery Road, and at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd. For more information, call 972-721-2458.

**Ongoing**

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

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

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

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

**No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch** 1st Thursday at 1 pm in Plano Must RSVP at [www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com](http://www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com)

LimitNetwork.com or 972-898-5882.

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

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

**Target Second Saturdays at Latino Cultural Center** On the second Saturday of every month family-friendly activities celebrating Latino arts and culture. Come in for one hour, or stay the whole day.

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**Business Empowerment Sessions.** Learn to grow a successful small business. 1st Thursday of each month at Christian Chapel Temple of Faith, 14120 Noel Rd., Dallas. Call 214-942-6698 for details.

**How to start a business.** Free sessions on getting started the right way. Sessions held the last Monday of each month. Call The PLAN Fund for details 214-942-6698.

**Thru Aug. 28**

**Mesquite Championship Rodeo** Every Friday and Saturday night in 2010 (June 4th – August 28th) thousands of visitors will witness the thrills of the original western sport: the rodeo! We work

hard to provide an exciting place where children and adults can be safe and still get close to the action: crazy clowns, brave cowboys, talented cowgirls, fast horses and big bulls. Many of our guests are coming to see their first professional rodeo so you may see people from many nationalities and countries. Families with children can enjoy face painting, cowboy autographs, visit the western store, eat at the BBQ pavillion or experience either a pony ride or petting zoo. The rodeo will open with an exciting new laser show followed by all the rodeo events you've come to expect at a championship rodeo: Bull Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Bareback Riding, Barrel Racing, Tie-Down Roping, Steer Wrestling, and Team Roping. Visit [www.mesquite rodeo.com](http://www.mesquite rodeo.com) for more information.

**Thru September 5**

**Constructive Spirit: Abstract Art in South and North America, 1920s–1950s** at the AMon Carter Museum of Art [www.cartermuseum.org/exhibitions](http://www.cartermuseum.org/exhibitions)

**Thru Sept. 6**

**Gaylord Texan Summer-Fest Wonderland Adventure** brings to life author Lewis Carroll's original vision of the magical place called Wonderland. Guests will enjoy fun-filled exhibits, performances and games for both the young and the young at heart! Journey Down The Rabbit Hole 3-D Black Light Maze, PHOTO with ALICE and the Cheshire Cat, Rock Band Bar Nights, wine and cheese tastings, family dive in movies, fireworks and more. Visit [www.gaylordhotels.com](http://www.gaylordhotels.com) for more information.

**Thru November 7**

**Amon Carter Museum's Ansel Adams: Eloquent Light** features 40 photographs by the artist. Admission to the Carter is free.

**Thru 24**

**Life Enrichment Boot Camp:** [www.lifeenrichmentbootcamp.com](http://www.lifeenrichmentbootcamp.com) Designed for singles, divorcees and couples. \$200 per person. Marriage Boot Camp: [www.marriagebootcamp.com](http://www.marriagebootcamp.com) Designed for all couples. \$800 per couple. Info: David Bishop at 214-736-9991. LEBC Program Times: Wednesday - Friday 6pm - 11pm. and Saturday, 10am. - 10pm. MBC Program Times: Wednesday - Friday 10am - 11pm. and Saturday, 10am. - 10pm. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway.

**July 21**

**Play Hard Live Well! Mini-expo** 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Embassy Suites Dallas-Frisco Hotel: 7600 John Q. Hammons Drive, Frisco. Info: Shonna Cooper, Striker Communications 512-576-2918

**2010 National Basketball Championship Opening Ceremony** featuring Basketball Hall of Famer Nancy Lieberman 5:30 - 7:00 pm; Dr Pepper Arena: 2601 Avenue of the Stars, Frisco

**July 28 – August 8**

**Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey®** at the American Airlines Center

**August 2 – 6**

**ROBOTS - 4 - U Summer Camp** Five days of fun with robots. Robots, science, design, building, programming and playing. Admission: \$275.00 Info: 972-782-2503 or [www.robots-4-u.com](http://www.robots-4-u.com).

**August 3**

**Chocolate Blues and Business Networking Festival** is a giant B2B networking event for business owners, managers and professionals in the Dallas and Plano area. This event features live blues music, free chocolate, open networking, door prizes, a business expo with vendors, networking games and more! Admission: FREE to attend!

Vendor fee is \$100. Info: Shelly Rice at 417.353.2610 or [ChocolateBlues@gmail.com](mailto:ChocolateBlues@gmail.com) or [www.ChocolateBluesAndBusiness.com](http://www.ChocolateBluesAndBusiness.com).

**August 7**

**In Business 2 Win** are FREE Entrepreneur Expo & Workshops from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Commings Community Center located at 2976 Cummings.

**August 14**

**Career Fair at the 6th annual No Limit Women's Expo** 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Richardson Civic Center, 411 W. Arapaho Rd, Richardson. Admission to the Career Fair is free for job seekers. General admission to the other activities at the expo is \$5 or \$3 with a canned food donation benefiting the North Texas Food Bank.

**August 16-22**

**KRLD Restaurant Week** presented by Central Market. Get acquainted with DFW's hottest menus, while supporting local restaurants and charities. Summer dining deal features three-course prix fixe meals priced at only \$35/person (tax, tip and drinks billed separately). Reservations required. Founded by KRLD Radio, the 13th annual promo benefits the North Texas Food Bank in Dallas and the Lena Pope Home in Fort Worth (\$7 of each meal goes to charity). See [www.krld.com](http://www.krld.com) for more details.

**August 20 - 21**

**Women of Faith's 2010 event, Imagine.** This 2-day event is to imagine what it would be like if the God who created us was willing and able to provide exactly what we need. Why would He do that? Because He loves us. He loves YOU. Imagine that. Imagine having two days focused on God and His love for you. Join us for two days filled with laughter, music, and stories that make you chuckle even as you wipe

away a knowing tear. Info: [womenoffaith.com](http://womenoffaith.com)

**September 3 - 7**

Dallas D.A.N.C.E. Swing Competition welcomes you to attend the biggest and most exciting **Swing dance competition** in the country on Labor Day Weekend. Held at the Fairmont Hotel and Towers in Dallas, this event features a 5,000 sq. ft. dance floor, colored skyline backdrop, projection TV monitors, superb sound system, and open seating at cozy 18" wide tables that allow close-up viewing of all the competitions. Details at [www.dallasdance.com](http://www.dallasdance.com).

**September 10**

**9th annual Freedom Run & Festival** will be staged in the Dallas City Hall Plaza. The Attacks of September 11, 2001 were intended to divide our country through fear and intimidation. The Freedom Run not only pays tribute to the victims and heroes of that fateful day, but also to boldly declare that our nation is even stronger today. Our response is LET FREEDOM RUN. Bring the whole family and celebrate Freedom together! Dallas Police Department will have S.W.A.T. vehicles, police horses, fire truck and police officers on hand distributing identification kits for children. Details @ [www.thefreedomrun.com](http://www.thefreedomrun.com).

**September 11**

Texas Publisher's Association is hosting the **Black Publisher's Luncheon** at the Courtyard Marriott - 2383 Stemmons Trail, Dallas Northwest Highway at Stemmons and I35E at 12:00 noon. The Honorable Senator Roy West is the speaker for the occasion.

**October 2 – January 2, 2011**

**American Modern: Abbott, Evans, Bourke-White** at the AMon Carter Museum of Art [www.cartermuseum.org/exhibitions](http://www.cartermuseum.org/exhibitions)

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# UNT Dallas senior awaits kidney transplant

(NDG Wire) When school starts Aug. 26, University of North Texas at Dallas senior David Delgado will need just one class to graduate in December with a degree in criminal justice, but his toughest assignment this year will come outside of the classroom.

Delgado was put on the national kidney transplant list, and he started kidney dialysis three days a week for three hours a day at the end of June. He goes to his doctor twice a month to have his kidneys monitored and has had to get several blood transfusions.

Born in Mexico, Delgado, now 28, has lived in Oak Cliff since he was three. He was a three-sport athlete at Adamson High School playing four years of baseball and two years of football and basketball. He said he was always active and never got sick.

But one morning last August while on vacation at Miramar Beach in Tampico, Mexico, Delgado woke up vomiting blood. He was taken to a doctor who informed him that he needed to see a specialist because his blood pressure was high and his red blood cells were attacking his white cells.

Delgado went to see a nephrologist, and after running tests, the doctor gave him the bad news: his kidneys were failing. He was diagnosed with IgA nephropathy, or Berger's disease. "This only happens to one in 10,000 people in the world," the doctor told him. "You're the unfortunate one."

IgA is a protein that helps the body fight infections. When too much of it builds up in the kidneys, it can cause the kidneys to leak blood and eventually to fail.

According to Dr. Darrin D'Agostino, chair and associate professor of internal medicine at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, the disease

usually progresses slowly or not at all. It can exist undetected for years, and by the time symptoms appear, total kidney failure may be near. But only 25 percent of adults with Berger's disease develop end-stage kidney failure, D'Agostino said.

Berger's disease causes high blood pressure, high cholesterol, swelling of the hands and feet, and blood in the urine; so Delgado takes 10 pills a day.

"It's real strong medicine, so you kind of can't concentrate right, but you try to do the best," Delgado said. "You forget things sometimes. It's hard to concentrate in class and taking tests."

But the worst thing is the pain.

"I wake up sore. I go to sleep sore. It feels like somebody just hit my back really hard. Your back hurts all the time. You get nauseated in the morning throwing up. You lose a lot of weight. I've lost 50 pounds. Sometimes your face gets swollen in the morning because your kidneys are not processing the liquids."

He is not able to drink any alcohol and very few soft drinks, and he has to maintain a low sodium diet. "I don't eat that much outside. My wife does the cooking."

*"This only happens to one in 10,000 people in the world..."*

The disease also causes anemia, which is difficult for someone who used to be so active. Sometimes when Delgado stands up his nose starts bleeding; and he can't exercise because he gets winded just walking the short distance from the parking lot into the UNT Dallas building.

Delgado told his wife, Martha,—a kindergarten teacher at Rosemont Elementary School—that they had to get through this. "It's



*Victoria Richardson, an LVN with Liberty Dialysis in Duncanville, checks the monitor on the dialysis unit as University of North Texas at Dallas senior David Delgado watches July 8. Delgado, one of their youngest patients going through dialysis, goes through the treatment three hours a day, three days a week while he waits for a kidney transplant.*

not the end of the world," he told her. After his diagnosis, he went to his priest and asked, "Why me?" His priest told him that things happen for a reason and that it could have been worse.

Delgado was put on the kidney transplant list after going through a series of

have a lot of family support. I even have a couple of friends that have told me, 'If you need a kidney, I'll give it to you.' That makes me feel really good."

Last spring he had a biopsy done and had to miss two days of class. He called Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice Eric Coleman from his hospital bed to tell him that he wouldn't be in class. Coleman said he admired Delgado for calling him, especially from his hospital bed.

"I looked over at David in class one day and it became clear to me that I didn't have a problem, not when you think about what he is facing," Coleman said. "We encounter students that are not as engaged in coming to class and doing those things that they should be doing as a learner."

"Then you see David who is undergoing all of these personal life issues and crises but still performs at optimum levels and never misses. You don't encounter

persons with those issues that have that sort of tenacity and spirit. Most people going through this would drop out of school, but this guy has stayed in. He inspires me."

Delgado said he has learned a lot from Coleman, not just as a professor but also as a regular person outside of class. "I told him that he's one of the best professors I've had in my college career."

UNT Dallas made it possible for him to get his degree, Delgado added. He had to take two classes at UNT and would have to get up at five in the morning to drive all the way to Denton.

"It's just really helpful having the Dallas campus here. I think it's a pretty good place, real good teachers. It's accessible. I think it's a pretty good campus," he said.

Delgado works full time for Smart Start installing ignition interlock devices on the cars of people charged with DWI. The system pre-

vents cars from starting if it detects alcohol on a driver's breath. He hopes to land a job in corporate security after graduating in December.

Did he ever imagine something like this happening to him?

"No, I had big plans to start a family, finish my degree on time, travel and enjoy other things."

I like to travel a lot. My wife and I saved up money to go on trips. We've been fortunate to take trips to Europe.

"I was a healthy guy. I don't do drugs. I don't do heavy drinking, nothing like that. It's sad that it happened, but like I said, it's something I have to get through."

Delgado said he had noticed on his driver's license the organ donation option and wondered why someone would agree to donate a kidney or a heart.

"Now I understand why."



## MEET YOUR AMERICAN IDOL!

Charity package includes meet-and-greet with 2010 *American Idol* champion Lee DeWyze and runner-up Crystal Bowersox and the other Top 10 Idols

(NDG Wire) Two fans will get the opportunity to get up close and personal with this year's "American Idol" champion Lee DeWyze and runner-up Crystal Bowersox at one of 48 cities featured on the 2010 American Idols Live Tour. They will be in Dallas August 9.

The concert package includes two (2) VIP floor tickets and meet-and-greets

with DeWyze and the entire American Idol Top 10 (including favorites Bowersox and Casey James). The proceeds will benefit the ACLU of Southern California.

"American Idol" is television's #1 hit series and empowers contestants and viewers to share their voices in deciding who will be America's next singing superstar. Ryan Seacrest is

the host and the judges include Ellen DeGeneres, Randy Jackson and Kara DioGuardi – and a soon-to-be named host to replace Simon Cowell.

The government of the United States is built on two basic principles: (1) majority rule through democratic elections; and (2) protection of individuals from any attempts by the majority to curtail individual liberties

and rights, as spelled out in the Constitution and Bill of Rights. The Constitution and Bill of Rights set the ground rules for individual liberty, which include the freedoms of speech, association and religion, freedom of the press, and the right to privacy, to equal protection of the laws and to due process of law. The ACLU was founded to defend and secure these rights and to

extend them to people who have been excluded from their protection.

Charity Folks is the leading online marketplace for nonprofit fundraising, corporate cause-marketing campaigns and celebrity-driven charity initiatives. Managing thousands of successful charity auctions, Charity Folks has raised millions for nonprofit organizations around the

world, all while offering consumers highly-coveted auction lots donated by today's hottest celebrities, musicians, sports stars, high-profile personalities and top-tier brands. Other tours coming soon to the site include The Jonas Brothers World Tour with Demi Lovato! For further information visit [www.charityfolks.com](http://www.charityfolks.com).

## Free event to kick off circus celebration in Dallas



On Tuesday, July 27, 7:00 p.m., The Greatest Show On Earth® and American Airlines Center will be hosting a FREE circus celebration and the guest list includes everyone in DFW. The party will be held at AT&T Plaza, which is on the south side of American Airlines Center off Olive Street. The arena

is located at 2500 Victory Avenue, Dallas, TX 75219.

Through the mystery of magic, guests will be spell-bound as Magical Zingmaster Alex Ramon performs a disappearance act of circus-sized proportion. The world famous Ringling Bros.® Clown Alley will delight young and old alike with their silly antics. Then, the

ponderous pachyderm stars of the circus will stroll to the party and revel in the excitement by snacking on a colossal salad and delectable fruits.

American Airlines Center parking for the Tuesday, July 27 circus party is complimentary. Guests are encouraged to park in Lot F, located on the north side of

the building. Lawn chairs and blankets are encouraged.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® presents ZING ZANG ZOOM® is coming to American Airlines Center, July 28-August 8, and Fort Worth Convention Center, August 11-15. For more information, visit [www.Ringling.com](http://www.Ringling.com).

## 7th Annual Jazz By The Boulevard upcoming in Fort Worth

(NDG Wire) The annual *Jazz By The Boulevard* is a fundraiser event to preserve and beautify the Camp Bowie district and to educate and expose public to cultural district's historical architecture and eclectic variety of museums, shops and restaurants, as well as, significant points of interest. The 7th Annual Jazz By The Boulevard Music & Arts Festival will be held September 11-13 on the beautiful grounds of the Will Rogers Memorial Center in Fort Worth's cultural district.

Stanley Clarke, Trombone Shorty, Charlie Mars, The Gourds, the Miles Davis Tribute Band lead by Paul Unger, the Fort Worth Girl's Choir are just a few of the performers scheduled to ap-



Stanley Clarke

pear.

*Jazz By The Boulevard* has become a nationally acclaimed music and arts festival and in order to surpass our already stellar headline entertainment, this year's event will be gated with a nominal entrance fee of \$5. Children 12 and under are free. For more information on times and location, visit [www.fortworthjazz.com](http://www.fortworthjazz.com).

## The World's Favorite Mischievous Monkey Arrives in Dallas on September 25

(NDG Wire) Curious George®, the irrepressible little monkey who has captured children's hearts for generations, jumps into action when he takes the stage in *Curious George Live!* Curious George swings onto the stage at Verizon Theatre at Grand Prairie from Saturday, Sept. 25 and Sunday, Sept. 26.

Tickets for all four performances are on sale now.

Curious George is on a mission to help Chef Pisghetti save his restaurant by winning a world-famous meatball competition. With guidance from his friend, The Man with the Yellow Hat, George's adventures take him to Rome and The Golden

Meatball Contest. With every swing and flip, George takes the audience through a fun-filled, entertaining story filled with music, dance and

follow-that-monkey fun. Parents and grandparents who grew up with Curious George will enjoy it just as much as the kids!

## Richardson Hotels to host SWAC Basketball Tournament Champions vs visitors

(NDG Wire) The Richardson Convention & Visitors Bureau and seven Richardson hotels partnered with the City of Garland and other area cities to secure the winning bid for the Southwestern Atlantic Conference (SWAC) Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament Championships in 2011, 2012, and 2013.

The SWAC Council of

Presidents and Chancellors has selected The Special Events Center in Garland to host tournaments and area hotels will host the associated visitors.

The 2011 SWAC Basketball Tournament will be played March 9-12 at the 7,500-seat Special Events Center. The conference office requested bids from as many as 15 cities within the league's five-state footprint.

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# Planners Seek Residents' Input on Transportation, Air Quality

## Public meetings, new publication focus on recent progress, remaining challenges

(NDG Wire) Long-planned transportation projects, including additional rail service and improvements in some of the most congested roadway corridors, moved forward in the last year. However, sustain-

als need input from all North Texans.

Public meetings July 19-21 will focus on recent progress and the outlook for the future of transportation. Planners will ask residents how they think transportation

decision makers should proceed as they try to reduce congestion, improve air quality and safety, and increase accessibility

and reliability of transportation options. Overall, discussion at the meetings will focus on the current state and future of transportation and air quality in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, but several topics will be highlighted.

A new State Implementation Plan would be developed for the region to meet the federal air quality stan-

dard by 2013. In addition, the EPA has proposed stricter standards.

At the public meetings, staff will summarize the significance of potential federal changes to air quality standards and review strategies currently implemented to reduce ozone-forming pollution. Additionally, staff will seek ideas for short- and long-term strategies to consider in the future as the region seeks to improve air quality.

Finally, as a recipient of federal transportation funds, NCTCOG is required to establish and periodically update a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program and DBE goals to encourage contracting opportunities for minority and historically underutilized businesses. The draft fiscal year 2011 update of the DBE program and goals for contracts with US Department of Transportation funds will be presented.



ing the progress made in fighting congestion and improving air quality is vitally important to residents and businesses who call North Texas home.

To develop the most relevant, effective solutions for the significant transportation and related air quality challenges the region will face in the future, planners and elected offi-

## LOAN, continued from Page 1

insurance, African-Americans often pay what should be illegal mark-ups. Moreover, a range of predatory products such as payday lenders, pawn shops and auto title loans are often more visible than any other retail operation.

According to Center for Responsible Lending research, each year, \$5 billion is taken from the pockets of working families to pay for interest on loans from one of 24,000 payday lenders now in operation.

This figure surpasses the number of McDonald's or Burger King Restaurants nationwide. The average payday borrower has nine repeat loans per year, which means he or she pays \$450 in interest on a \$300 loan.

In a recent edition of the NAACP's Crisis Magazine, Keith Corbett, executive

vice-president for the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) put payday lending a historical context.

"I think payday lending is the Jim Crow issue of our time" said Corbett. "The payday lenders come in, and they charge the minimum of 400 percent interest. They borrow money from banks at cheap rates, then they loan it to people in the community at really high rates."

The irony is that despite seventeen states and the District of Columbia having enacted double-digit interest rate caps, the payday industry continues to find ways to evade state laws and continue its predatory lending - even in the face of resounding voter mandates to the contrary.

Real financial reform will only occur when legislation

and regulation is available at both the state and federal levels of government.

In the meantime, states are well-poised to enact legislation that addresses the core abuse of payday products.

According to Hilary Shelton, NAACP Senior Vice-President for Advocacy, "The answer, really, is usury caps. You have to limit the amount of the annual percentage rate. There are states that cap the APR at 36 percent, which is the amount charged to members of the military."

Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending's communications manager for State Policy and Outreach. She can be reached at: Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org

# Black Farmers await Senate vote

BY RUTH FERGUSON  
NDG EDITOR

Although the U.S. House of Representatives approved the long awaited historic settlement to resolve decades of discrimination against black farmers by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Senate approval is still pending.

The Senate may be considering whether to approve funding for the black farmers settlement this week.

John W. Boyd, Jr., founder and president of

the National Black Farmers Association is urging supporters to contact their Senator today. Boyd is encouraging supporters to tell their Senator funding

for the black farmers settlement in the war supplemental bill is important.

The phone number to the Senate switchboard is 202-224-3121.



6th Annual

# No Limit WOMEN'S EXPO

and CAREER FAIR

Experience life enrichment and empowerment at the

## No Limit Women's Expo and Career Fair

For Information visit [www.NoLimitExpo.com](http://www.NoLimitExpo.com) or call 972-898-5887

Date: Saturday, August 14, 2010  
Time: 10am-4pm  
Location: Richardson Civic Center  
411 W. Arapaho Rd  
Richardson, TX 75080  
Cost: \$5 admission (Career Fair is Free)

Benefiting North Texas Food Bank

Activities

- Career Fair
- Shopping
- Entertainment
- Meet Local Celebrities
- Business Opportunities
- Health & Fitness
- Mannequins
- Basic Health Screenings
- Vision Screenings
- Haircuts
- Educational Seminars
- Food Drive
- Door Prize Drawings
- Kids Activities
- Free Membership with The No Limit Network

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## New board member positions added for the sheriff's charity

(NDG Wire) The Dallas County Sheriff's Department is looking for several local business and community leaders to fill new board member positions for the sheriff's Bridge to Communities non-profit charity. They have six positions to fill.

The charity currently has several vacant positions as well as several newly created board member spots.

This select group of people will continue the great work that has already begun in the Dallas County community. Some of that work includes the PDI/New Life Program (Prostitute Diversion Initiative.) Money from the non-profit has already served to help get

women in prostitution off the streets and into a better life.

The monthly operation is a joint effort between the Sheriff and Dallas Police departments. The PDI/New Life program received national attention from law enforcement agencies across the country and Canada during a 3-day conference that was held here in Dallas.

But there are more projects that can be started to help the community and save taxpayer dollars. Sheriff Lupe Valdez says, "My vision for the Bridge to Communities charity is to reach out to help interrupt the cycle of violence and produce citizens that are an asset to the community instead of a detriment." We

have so many ways to help that just can't be funded by county dollars."

Sheriff Valdez would like to include: an inmate garden and donating the fruits and vegetables to area shelters;

Also, giving inmates an opportunity to learn a skill such as the training and care of animals; and even a possible 24/7 daycare center for county employees to provide daycare while they are at work.

If you are a business or community leader and would like to be a part of a very worthwhile non-profit, contact Chief Joe Costa at the Sheriff's Dept. at Jcosta@dallascounty.org or 214-653-3462.

Special to the NNPA from the GIN

## Furor Over Painting of Mandela By White Artist

(NNPA) A white South Africa has stirred a furor over his painting of former president Nelson Mandela as a cadaver, surrounded by prominent African figures witnessing his autopsy.

Artist Yuill Damaso called his work "a modern take on the Rembrandt oil painting The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Nicolaes Tulp." According to Damaso, his rendition is a tribute to Mandela.

"Underneath all his great achievements, the revered former South African president is flesh and bone, like everyone else," Damaso said in interviews.



Nelson Mandela

But the work has infuriated local residents who are demanding it be removed from Johannesburg's Hyde Park shopping centre. The African

National Congress also has condemned the work, saying: "It is in bad taste, disrespectful, and it is an insult and an affront to values of our society."

In Africa, some believe it taboo to depict a living person — let alone the internationally revered, anti-apartheid icon — as dead.

Mandela, who is due to celebrate his 92nd birthday on July 18, has increasingly limited his time in the public in recent years. He made a brief public appearance at Soccer City in Johannesburg on Sunday about an hour prior to the World Cup final match.

## NAACP, continued from Page 3

The NAACP eventually joined the party by issuing a statement indicating they applauded Sherrod decision to resign. Saying they had no tolerance for discrimination of any sort. Sherrod's comments were made at an NAACP event.

Now, we would like to

hope the President and his staff is busy trying to figure out how to put millions of Americans back to work, keeping their eye on BP's efforts to stop the Gulf oil leak and managing two wars. However, surely someone could have taken the time to watch the entire

video rather than rely on the "fair and balanced" job we all know Fox does.

Had someone bothered to watch the entire video — which was filmed in 1986 by the way — they would have discovered that Sherrod shared the true lesson she learned. Sherrod did in

fact help the White farmer and said it lead her to realize that is it not a black and white issue but a poor issue.

This entire incident was retaliation by supporters of the Tea Party — which clearly includes the Fox Network — for the fact the NAACP's outcry lead to the

ouster of a prominent Tea Party official recently.

To the credit of the president of the NAACP, Benjamin Jealous, the organization did issue an apology and retracted their earlier statement once the full facts came to light.

In the NAACP's re-

leased comments they suggested this incident should be a "teachable moment for activists and journalists." Given the fact the White House has refused to reinstate Sherrod, one might suggest it is a teachable moment for President Obama and his staff as well.

## MINDSET, continued from Page 6

Entrepreneurs are persistent and determined to succeed, because their own money and ego are at stake.

Successful entrepreneurs are passionate about their business. Their overwhelming passion for their work helps them overcome exacting challenges and find solutions for insurmountable problems that come in their way.

You don't need to possess an MBA or PhD to succeed in your own business.

In fact, there are a lot of entrepreneurs who did not even finish secondary education. And not all of them are geniuses. Studies show that most self-made millionaires have average intelligence. Nonetheless,

these people reach their full potential and achieve financial and personal goals in business because they are open to learning new things.

Entrepreneurs think of problems as opportunities for improvement and sources of new ideas. With the traditional employment track seemingly on the decline, entrepreneurship is fast becoming a catching trend.

Running your own business is a creative, flexible and challenging way to become your own boss and chart your own future. But, before you take the plunge, do understand what it will demand of you and whether you are prepared to give

what it takes.

The lure of entrepreneurship is undeniably strong for many but it is important that you go into it for the right reasons. Being miserable in your job does not automatically make starting your own business the best idea in the world. In fact, it could be the worst reason of all to get into business.

Do remember, finding another job is certainly far easier than running a business. But if, taking into account everything that's been said above, are you still sure that you have courage, determination and foresight to become a successful entrepreneur, go on, take the bull by the horns and go for it.

The aspiring person in the mirror must ask the right questions:

"Am I the type"? Remember you will be your top employee! Rate yourself objectively. Evaluate your strengths and weaknesses. If you need retraining do so or hire somebody more competent.

Be Committed! Successful entrepreneurs make it their mission to commit to their venture. Work is their heart and soul.

You may need to forego luxuries like a regular pay packet, holidays and almost certainly sacrifice your weekends.

Be a type 'D'—someone with desire, drive, determination and discipline. Never

say, (you) never can! It is not just enough to have good ideas; you should have the tenacity to follow through.

Believe in your product/venture and work hard to make your people believe in it too. Know as much as you can about the various aspects of your business.

Create a business plan (after the prerequisite market research) and stick to it. No amount of determination and discipline can help you if you do not have the knowledge of how to run a business successfully.

Have a great backup. While you may like to run the show alone, you most definitely need the support of others like your spouse

and friends. They can provide you with the advice and encouragement needed to keep you going.

Cultivate the resources above and you'll be well be on your way to success!

*Farrah Gray is the author of The Truth Shall Make You Rich: The New Road Map to Radical Prosperity, Get Real, Get Rich: Conquer the 7 Lies Blocking You from Success and the international best-seller Reallionaire: Nine Steps to Becoming Rich from the Inside Out. He is chairman of the Farrah Gray Foundation. Dr. Gray can be reached via email at fg@dr-farahgray.com or his website at <http://www.dr-farahgray.com/>.*



## Texas Unemployment Rate Drops to 8.2 Percent in June Texas employers add 166,100 jobs since January

(NDG Wire) Texas seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to 8.2 percent in June, down from 8.3 percent in May, and continued to trend well below the U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 9.5 percent for the same month. Texas total nonagricultural employment grew by 14,000 jobs in June for a total of 166,100 jobs gained since the beginning of 2010.

"Texas employment has grown every month in 2010," said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken. "Notably, Texas employers in goods producing industries added jobs in the month of June, which included gains in Manufacturing, Construction, and Mining and Logging."

The Education and

Health Services industry recorded the highest increase in June, with 8,900 jobs added, followed by Professional and Business Services, which increased by 8,600 jobs.

"While I am encouraged by the decrease in the Texas unemployment rate, times are tough for Texas workers and their families," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. "Job seekers should turn to WorkInTexas.com and our workforce centers across Texas for reemployment and support services."

In June, Manufacturing added 5,700 jobs, Construction grew by 4,800 jobs, and Mining and Logging increased by 2,900 jobs. Employment in the Trade, Transportation and Utilities industry was up by 3,000

jobs, and Information added 800 jobs.

"Seven industries added jobs in June including Professional and Business Services, Manufacturing, and Construction – that's positive news for Texans seeking new opportunities," said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Andres Alcantar. "TWC and the 28 local workforce boards are committed to helping job seekers find

these opportunities, and to helping employers with an array of services they need to run their businesses."

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) had the lowest unemployment rate in the state at 5.9 percent. The Amarillo MSA had the second lowest unemployment rate in June at 6.0 percent, followed by the Lubbock MSA at 6.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted).



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[www.cityofirving.org](http://www.cityofirving.org)

### McCarthy

requests bids for the  
**DISD Bid Pkg #22**  
**Dallas, TX**

be submitted before

**2:00 pm Tuesday, July 27, 2010**

**High school and Elementary school renovations.**

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

For a complete list contact McCarthy. Insurance per bid documents. A payment and performance bond may be required. McCarthy is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages all MBE/WBE/DBE/HUB firms to submit bids to McCarthy Bldg Co 12001 N. Central Expy, #400 Dallas, Texas 75243 Phone (972) 991-5500 Fax (972) 991-9249 email: [bidtex@mccarthy.com](mailto:bidtex@mccarthy.com) [www.mccarthy.com](http://www.mccarthy.com)

### Advertising Account Manager Needed Immediately

Must be

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- Have reliable transportation
- Skilled in MS Word and Excel
- Able to demonstrate good people skills
- Able to work in Plano and surrounding areas

**Interested candidates should email resume to [publisher@northdallasgazette.com](mailto:publisher@northdallasgazette.com)**

## GRAPHIC ARTIST

Small Community Newspaper  
looking for a parttime  
student graphic artist.

Prefer student (intern) that's  
available on a per project basis.

Must have knowledge of  
Quark and Indesign software.

Work will be done  
at company office.

Must be professional and  
dependable. Fax resumes to:  
972-509-9058, or email to:

[trj1909@tx.rr.com](mailto:trj1909@tx.rr.com)

### TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS  
Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT  
until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING  
FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Dallas

Contract 0092-02-116 for UPGRADE INTERCHANGE FOR EXPANDED  
MULTIMODAL TRAFFIC in DALLAS County will be opened on  
August 10, 2010 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Contract 0095-13-025 for CONSTRUCT TWO NEW RAMPS CONNECT  
IH 20 WITH KLEBERG in DALLAS County will be opened on  
August 10, 2010 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Contract 0261-03-053 for CONSTRUCT NB AUXILIARY LANE, WIDEN  
NBML BRIDGE in DALLAS County will be opened on August 10, 2010 at  
1:00 pm at the State Office.

Contract 0918-45-760 for REPLACE BRIDGE AND APPROACHES in  
DALLAS County will be opened on August 10, 2010 at 1:00 pm at the State  
Office.

Contract 0918-45-881 for REFURBISH BRIDGE PROTECTION ASSEMBLY  
SIGNS in DALLAS County will be opened on August 11,  
2010 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Contract 1068-04-140 for INSTALLATION OF 2 DYNAMIC MESSAGE  
SIGNS in DALLAS County will be opened on August 10, 2010 at  
1:00 pm at the State Office.

Contract 2374-02-132 for UPGRADE EXISTING ISDN TO A WIRELESS  
ITS SYSTEM in DALLAS County will be opened on August 10, 2010 at  
1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 33483

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division

200 E. Riverside Dr. | Austin, Texas 78704

Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

Dallas District | District Engineer

4777 E. Hwy 80 | Mesquite, Texas 75150-6643

Phone: 214-320-6100

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.



**Attention Suppliers of Goods,  
Services and Construction**

**Review Competitive Opportunities at**  
[www.bidsync.com](http://www.bidsync.com)

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

972-205-2415

**AVENUE F CHURCH  
OF CHRIST IN PLANO**

**July 25,  
8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**  
Come for our Worship  
Services and stay for our  
FREE Blood Pressure  
Clinic. The clinic is held  
the last Sunday of every  
month after morning and  
evening services.

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

**DAYSTAR  
DELIVERANCE  
MINISTRIES**

**On Going**  
**9:30 a.m. – 11:30 am**  
Visit Helen's House every  
Monday and Friday to re-  
ceive, to give, to comfort  
and most of all to fellow-  
ship. The give-a-way of  
food, love and household  
items is given freely to all  
those who could use a little  
touch.

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

**FAITHWAY  
FELLOWSHIP  
BAPTIST CHURCH IN  
HAMPTON PARK**

**July 25, 4 p.m.**  
You're invited to join us in  
celebrating our musicians,  
Lady Diane Bowman &  
Brother Chris Matthews

and our choir for 5 years of  
faithful ministry. Our  
guests include Pastor  
Cedric Jackson and Love  
Fellowship Church and  
others.

**Pastor Derrick Bowman, Sr.**  
8219 Bunche Drive  
Dallas, TX 75243

**FELLOWSHIP  
CHRISTIAN  
CENTER CHURCH,  
IN ALLEN  
"THE SHIP"**

**On Going,  
9 a.m.-4 p.m.**  
**Monday – Friday**  
Prayer Lines for those in  
need are 972-649-0566  
and 972-649-0567.

**Wednesdays Only**  
Come get your praise on in  
the middle of the week at  
our Wednesday Night Live  
at our main campus @ 7  
p.m.

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

**FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST  
CHURCH  
OF THE COLONY**

**July 26-30**  
Join us for Vacation Bible  
School. Our theme:  
Transform Your Life and  
Get Ready for the Savior.

Call Deacon Joe Allmond,  
Deaconess Takeia Allmond  
or the church for details.

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

**INSPIRING BODY OF  
CHRIST CHURCH**

**July 25, 7:30 a.m.  
And 11 a.m.**  
You're invited to our Sun-  
day Morning Worship  
Services.

**July 26, 7 p.m.**  
Join us for Monday School  
as we learn about, worship  
and praise God in our new  
facility.

**Dr. Rickie G. Rush,  
Senior Pastor**  
7701 S. Westmoreland Rd.  
Dallas, TX 75237  
972-372-4262

**MT. PISGAH  
MISSIONARY  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
"THE ROCK"**

**August 13-14**  
Our Youth Ministry pre-  
sents "Don't Be a Bench  
Player" S.T.A.N.D Confer-  
ence 2010 and you're in-  
vited.

**August 22, 5 p.m.-6 p.m.**  
Join us for our Back to  
School Drive. You must  
register on or before July  
21. Call the church for de-  
tails

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

**NEW MOUNT ZION  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
OF DALLAS**

**On Going**  
You are invited to visit our  
Job Resource Center on  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in  
our Computer Training  
Room in the Educational  
Building.

**July 30**  
The Third Annual Felony  
and/or Misdemeanor-  
Friendly Community Ca-  
reer Fair will be held. Job-  
seekers are required to pre-  
register, attend and partici-  
pate in a series of Pre-Ca-  
reer Fair in job-readiness  
workshops prior to and in  
preparation for this event.  
Call for details.

**Dr. Robert Price, Sr.,  
Senior Pastor**  
9550 Shepherd Road  
Dallas, TX 75243  
214-341-6459

**NORTH DALLAS  
COMMUNITY  
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP  
CHURCH**

**ON GOING HELP**  
God never expected us to  
bear our burdens alone;  
our Stephen Ministers are  
ready to provide emotional  
and spiritual care in all  
your trials and tribulations  
when you need them. Call  
972-437-3493, Ext. 153  
for details.

**August 6-8**  
Join us for a pure life  
weekend at our 3rd Annual  
Purity Conference.

Theme: Pure Heart, Pure  
Mind, Pure Life from  
Deuteronomy 6:5-8. Call  
Pastor Terren Dames @  
972-437-3493, Ext. 152  
for registration fees and  
other details.

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

**SHILOH MBC  
IN PLANO**

**August 7, 7 p.m.**  
Join us for our 4th Annual  
Chosen Generation Youth  
Explosion. In anticipation  
we would like to organize  
a 100 Voice Youth Choir  
between the ages of 12-18.  
Call Matthew Berry, Youth  
Pastor for details.

**Every Wednesday  
In July & August, 7 p.m.**  
You're invited to our Mid-  
Week Service as we praise  
and worship God for His  
blessings.

**Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.  
Senior Pastor**  
920 E. 14th Street

**Plano, TX 75074  
972-423-6695**

**WORD OF LIFE  
CHURCH OF  
GOD IN CHRIST**

**Every Tuesday  
In July 2010 @ 7 pm**  
Join us for our anointed  
Pastoral Night and be en-  
couraged by Words from  
Heaven.

**August 6, 8 p.m.**  
Inviting all to join us and  
see Sister Doris Gilder, our  
dance instructor for our  
youth and adults, in a Ma-  
hogany Dance Theatre of  
Texas production at the  
Music Hall at Fair Park,  
Dallas, Texas, benefiting  
the Amazing Grace Urban  
Arts-in-Education Initia-  
tive in North Texas. Tick-  
ets available at all Ticket-  
masters locations.

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

## Attention garage sale shoppers

Fellowship Christian  
Center Church in Allen,  
where Rev. Wayne  
Stafford is the Senior Pas-  
tor is hosting a garage sale  
on Saturday July 31st  
from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00  
noon at the main campus  
(200 West Belmont Drive  
, Allen TX).  
Looking for a bargain  
~ come early!

**FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH**  
A Kingdom Building Church  
200 BELMONT DRIVE - ALLEN, TX 75013  
(972) 359-9956 - www.theship3c.org

**Sunday Morning Services**  
8:15AM Story Elementary  
10:45AM Story Elementary  
10:50 Edelweiss - Allen, Tx

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

*The New Light Church*

ENCOURAGING, EMPOWERING, EVANGELIZING  
*"Taste and see that the LORD is Good."*

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

**Come, Experience  
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214.391.3430

Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor

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300 Chisholm Place Plano, TX 75075 972-833-5511

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

Call Pastor Sam on:  
"Vision & Truth Live" Radio Program  
Broadcasted on KWRD 100.7 FM THE WORD  
(Sundays 9 pm - 10 pm)  
Hear Pastor Sam on: "Truth Made Simple"  
KGGR 1040 AM, Monday - Friday @ 5:25 pm - 5:30 pm

Pastors Sam & Gloria Fenceroy





Sister Tarpley

*"And the Lord said unto Joshua. Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have taken of the accursed (hateful) thing, and they have put it even among their own stuff. Therefore the children of Israel can not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you." Joshua 7:10-12 (KJV)*

Christians need to know their spiritual vulnerabilities just as war commanders want to know the vulnerabilities of their enemies and businesses want to know the vulnerabilities of their competition. When things are not so good or seem to be at a stand still for a Christian; and especially when things are going badly, it is time to have a reality check to find out the break in your armor (shield) where you are open to attack from your adversaries.

This is the message that God told Joshua when he attempted to go against a small army at Ai, which was the Israelites' second battle in the

## Check Your Shield Then Obey

Promised Land.

There are times when Christians will try to figure out why they are not successful in an endeavor, from the natural side only. They start looking at everything to see what went wrong. For the people of Israel, it was not easily seen on the surface. Everything seemed just as it should be from Joshua's vantage point, so when his army was defeated, he cried out to God, "And Joshua said, Alas, O Lord God, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? . . ." **Joshua 7:7a (KJV)**

The people of Israel had been defeated because God could not bless them; something was done that was unacceptable to God. The people were not to take any possessions from the first battle, but one individual failed to be obedient and the whole army suffered.

As a Christian, sin makes our shield (armor) vulnerable to attack from our enemies, who then get permission from God to attack the Christian in the area where he/she have failed to uphold righteousness. If Christians break down in moral purity, their enemies come in and establish a stronghold. If Christians give place to bitterness and unwillingness to forgive

others, they will break fellowship with God and others. If Christians become money-focused, they will fall into greed and deception; it just becomes a vicious cycle.

Christians at times must examine their armor so that they won't be susceptible to an attack from their enemies. Christians must believe that God will work through a simple act of obedience that seems unrelated to the problem.

Samuel the prophet told King Saul that obedience is better than sacrifice. Learning to listen to the Lord and following His instructions is the key to success in God. It

has been said, that is why God gave us two ears and one mouth, He wanted us to listen more and talk less.

There are times that God chooses the dramatic and other times He chooses the ordinary to accomplish the same thing. In either case, both are miracles because God is the God over all creation.

Remember Naaman, who needed healing from Leprosy. When a young servant girl suggested that the prophet Elisha could heal him, he followed her advice. "And Elisha sent a message unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times,



First Lady Tangelyn Voss, Word of Life COGIC, in Carrollton, Texas speaking words of encouragement.

and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean." **2 Kings 5:10 (KJV)** That was so simple to do, yet Naaman didn't do it, he delayed his healing.

## Volunteer Boards and Commissions "Meet and Greet" – August 2

(NDG Wire) City of Carrollton volunteer positions are open for the following: Board of Adjustment; Capital Improvements Plan Advisory Committee; Construction Advisory and Appeals Board; Historic Preservation Advisory Committee; Library Board; Museum Board; Neighborhood Advisory Commission; Parks and Recreation Board; Planning and Zoning Commission; Traffic Advisory

Committee.

Those interested in serving are invited to a Boards and Commissions Meet and Greet on August 2. The Meet and Greet will allow each citizen to meet with staff liaisons and other board members to learn more about each service opportunity.

Applications must be submitted to the City Secretary's Office (1945 E. Jackson) no later than Friday, August 20. Appoint-

ments will be made by City Council in October. Applications are available online at [cityofcarrollton.com](http://cityofcarrollton.com)

under City Secretary. For more information, call the City Secretary's Office at 972-466-3582.



Ramon Hodridge, Minister

### Avenue F Church of Christ

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

[www.avefchurchofchrist.org](http://www.avefchurchofchrist.org)

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

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

**New Life In Jesus Christ**

**Ministries**

Phone: 972-424-5100  
ALT: 972-999-7114  
E-mail: [pastor@nljcm.org](mailto:pastor@nljcm.org)

**REVIVAL 2010  
HIGHER LIVING  
"Raising the Standards"**

July 30 @ 7pm - Prophet A. L. Felton  
July 31 - "3pm - Youth For Christ" Featuring "The Truth About Hip-Hop"  
August 1 - Evangelist Valma Shanks of Atlanta, Ga

Sunday 9:30a.m. Bible Study  
11:00a.m. Morning Worship  
[WWW.NLJCM.ORG](http://WWW.NLJCM.ORG)

Pastor, Prophet Arthur & Lady Yashica Felton  
Location: 1108 W. PARKER RD SUITE 130  
PLANO, TX 75075

**Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church**

**The Rock**

Still standing.... Est. June 1864

A Kingdom Building Church offering **CLARANCE, RESTORATION, PURPOSE and PROSPERITY**

Come Experience A Church that Believes in Giving God Excellence Without Excuse

**Worship Services**

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

**Office Hours**

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

**Contact Info** Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church  
11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229  
Office: 972-241-6151  
Email: [info@mtpisgah.org](mailto:info@mtpisgah.org)  
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Wednesday Night Bible 7:30pm**



# PAYNE, continued from Page 1

back at the center of controversy after allegedly ending the marriage of former Friendship West Baptist Church in Dallas, TX executive secretary, Elizabeth Payne, 39, a North Richland Hills, TX Hispanic woman. The two allegedly became sexually involved after Pastor Wright visited Pastor Frederick H. Haynes, senior pastor of Friendship West and protégé in 2008.

At the time of the alleged affair Payne married Fred Payne, 66, in 2006 but divorced once the affair was made known. Fred Payne

discovered more than 80 emails between her and Pastor Wright.

"There must have been about 80 of them, back and forth," Fred Payne said. "Wright said things like he was going to leave his wife for Elizabeth."

"I was downright mad about this bull- - -," said Fred, who stated he was "in the oil and gas business" and belonged to a hunting club.

"People wouldn't be happy to know that my wife was sleeping with a black man," he added, "Rev.

Haynes doesn't like the interracial thing, either. This was quite an issue for him."

Pastor Wright is also married, a second time, to his wife of 20 years who he courted while she was in attendance to a marriage counseling session for her then current marriage.

Details were not clear, but speculations arose, when Payne was terminated from her position at Friendship West in 2008 which prompted her to file the wrongful-termination lawsuit against the mega church in the southern area

of Dallas, TX in March 2009.

Payne sited that once the relationship between she and Pastor Wright was made public that Pastor Haynes immediately reacted and terminated her based on her race and their interracial relationship.

Pastor Haynes remained adamant that he knew nothing of the alleged affair between his mentor and former secretary and sited that Payne was terminated because of poor work performance and a breach of confidentiality when Payne

allegedly informed the media of Wright's 2008 visit.

During the civil case proceedings the emails sent by Wright were introduced as evidence and ultimately Payne and Friendship West agreed to an undisclosed

settlement on last Wednesday after the trial began on Monday.

Both parties have agreed to not mention the details of the settlement or of the case.



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7:00 PM

JACKIE G. JONES, PASTOR



INVITED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Worship Services  
7:30 am & 10:30 am  
Sunday School  
9:30 am

Wednesday  
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8:00 pm

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Women's Ministry 7:00 pm  
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**Wednesday Service**  
Intercessory Prayer 6:15 pm  
Bible Study 7:00 pm



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pressing forward



**Charles S. Wattley**  
Senior Pastor

**SUNDAY**  
Education Ministries  
9:30 a.m.  
Worship Celebration  
10:45 a.m.

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