

North Dallas Gazette



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Black Newspaper Publishers Cancel Mid-Winter Conference in South Carolina

(NNPA) The National Newspaper Publisher's Association (NNPA) announced Wednesday it will not hold its mid-winter conference in South Carolina scheduled for January 2010 and is joining the NAACP economic boycott of the state that has been in effect

since July 1999 when the South Carolina NAACP called for it as a protest of the flag atop the State House and inside the House and Senate chambers. The boycott, still in effect, calls on groups and individuals to avoid traveling to the state for business or pleasure and

discouraged residents from visiting South Carolina beaches or patronizing restaurants and motels. This announcement comes on the heels of South Carolina Republican Representative Joe Wilson's outburst of "you

See CONFERENCE, Page 12



NNPA Chairman
Danny J. Bakewell Sr.

SPOTLIGHT

Irving City Council Approves A Single-Member District System



Manuel Benavidez beats city hall.

See COUNCIL, Page 9

Tracking Registered Sex Offenders Use of Technology

BY GREG ABBOT
TEXAS ATTORNEY
GENERAL

In an age when criminals are employing mobile and Internet technology to commit crime, law enforcement officers cannot afford to get behind the technological curve. Authorities are getting new tools that will help them protect Tex-

ans more effectively and prevent more crime.

During the last Legislative session, I worked with legislators to improve law enforcement's ability to monitor registered sex offenders. Thanks to a newly enacted law, keeping track of convicted sex offenders will be a little easier.

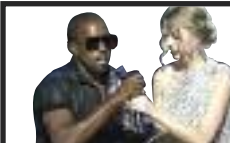
Under Senate Bill 689,

which was authored by Sen. Florence Shapiro, Plano and Rep. Aaron Peña, Edinburg sex offenders must provide their on-line identifiers and mobile phone numbers to the state's sex offender database. The newly required information includes profiles on social networking Web sites like MySpace or

Facebook, where many sex offenders create accounts so they can interact with children.

Before SB 689 took effect on Sept. 1, registered sex offenders were only statutorily required to provide traditional information, such as home addresses, land-line phone

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President Obama Not Impressed with West

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

COMMENTARY

The Health Reform Debate and Prostate Cancer

BY: JAMES MORNING

Prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer in men, striking approximately 200,000 men each year.

African-American men are at the highest risk.

Every year, over 27,000 men die of the disease, making it second only to lung cancer as the deadliest cancer in men. Caught early, prostate cancer can be treated, usually successfully. But because many men experience no symp-

toms, it is often identified only by an abnormal result on a basic prostate cancer screening.

For the last 20 years, doctors have had a powerful weapon in their arsenal for detecting prostate cancer. In addition to the DRE (a physical exam allowing the doctor to feel the prostate), patients can also have a simple blood test called a PSA, which will detect a majority of prostate

See CANCER, Page 4

Breaking the Color Barrier in the Great American Outdoors



African-Americans are enjoying outdoor adventures

(NDG Wire) Black and brown environmentalists are leading the charge for more people of color to be included in the enjoyment and benefits of the Great American Outdoors. With more than 630 million acres of the most desirable and

scenic landscapes in the country reserved for the use, enjoyment and recreation of the American people, and billions of dollars in careers and contracting opportunities, every ethnic

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People In The News...



Dr. Kimberly K. Porter



Eula M. Young



Stacy Hawkins Adams

See Page 2

Dr. Kimberly K. Porter

Dr. Kimberly K. Porter, the daughter of the late Charles F. & Mrs. Myrna K. Porter, was born and raised in Wichita, Kansas. She was educated in the Wichita Public School system. In 1981 she graduated from Wichita North High School, where she was a 4-year honor student.

Dr. Porter attended, and graduated from, Wichita State University with a Bachelors' of Science Degree in Biology. Following graduation, she attended Southern Illinois University in Carbon-

dale, Illinois, subsequent to being accepted into the Masters' Program in Biological Sciences. Two years later, Dr. Porter was accepted into Southern Illinois University School of Medicine and graduated in 1994 with a Doctorate of Medicine Degree; in graduate school she continued her tradition of being an honor student.

After Medical School, Dr. Porter completed her Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine at The University of Oklahoma Health Science Center, followed by



a Fellowship in Geriatric Medicine at the same facility.

During her Fellowship, Dr. Porter was accepted into the Masters of Public Health Program at Oklahoma University. From there she went on to complete a Palliative Medicine/Educational Pro-

gram at Harvard School of Medicine in Boston, Massachusetts, in 2004.

Dr. Porter has worn many hats. She has worked as an Emergency Room (ER) Physician at the Veterans Hospital in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, a Supervising Physician for an Urgent Care Clinic, as well as an Interim Physician for Hospice and Palliative Medicine at the VA Hospital in Oklahoma City.

She was a Research Assistant in Forensic Pathology/Reproductive Endocrinology at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Carbondale, Illinois; the Contact Physician for

COPE, Inc. and Alcohol Drug Rehabilitation Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; also a Research Assistant in Dermato-Pathology at Marion Memorial Hospital in Marion, Illinois

Currently, she is the Medical Director of the Hospitalist Program at Great Plains Regional Medical Center in Elk City, Oklahoma.

Dr. Porter is a God-fearing woman who is a member of the Word of Life COGIC under the leadership of Pastor Gregory Voss. She has a Masters of Business from American College of Physician's Executive Program; a degree from Palliative Medi-

cine/Educational Program from Harvard School of Medicine in Boston, MA.

Her hobbies include reading and studying God's Word.

Dr. Porter will be the Keynote Speaker at the Appreciation Banquet honoring Sister Shirley Demus Tarpley on October 10, 2009, for over 40 years of her serving God, her community, the City of Carrollton and the Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD at the Crowne Plaza Dallas Near The Galleria on Midway Road in Addison, with family, city, county and state elected official and friends in attendance.

Eula M. Young

Eula M. Young, the Chief Operating Officer & Co-owner of Griot's Roll Film Production & Services Inc., a video marketing company. She was the Publicist for the off-Broadway play *Choices*, a production by The Negro Ensemble Company. Ms. Young has her Bachelors in Business Administration.

Eula M. Young has over a decade of Public Relations and Management experience. Ms. Young has devel-

oped a sharp eye as an entrepreneur who quickly built her own successful production business. She also consults with other business owners to set priorities in marketing and promoting their products, services and events.

Griot's Roll to date has shot a TV plot for urban fishing production called *Urban Fishing Adventure*, a cooking/fishing show. Griot's Roll's most recent clients has

been Project Enterprise Entrepreneur of the Year Awards Dinner, A training video for Coler Goldwater Memorial Hospital, video taping a video for The New York City Housing Authority.

List of Awards and Certificates:

1. Metropolitan College of New York Honor Roll
2. School Volunteer Award for Service to the NYC Public School
3. Certificate of Appreciate for School Volunteer
4. Certificate of Achieve-

ment for Service to the Parents Association by the Parent Advocacy Center

5. The Council of Supervisors and Administrators of the City of New York Parent Leadership Award

6. Leadership Award by the Girl Scout Council of Greater New York – Troops 1133, 1144, 1155 and 1179

7. Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Services to the Children of CES 53x

8. Certificate of Recognition for active Service and Participation in the Parent Advocacy Center

9. Parents Association Outstanding Parents Award for Amber Charter School.

10. Workshop in Business Opportunities (WIBO) completion of business management training program.

11. Certificate from Fordham University Graduate School of Education Partnership Support Organization for active participation



in Parents Association of 175 The Henry H. Garnet School
Griot's Roll Film Production & Services Inc.
Telephone: (212) 281-2286
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Stacy Hawkins Adams

Stacy Hawkins Adams, an award-winning *Essence* bestselling author. Her contemporary women's fiction novels are filled with social themes and spiritual quests that take readers on journeys into their own souls.

Adams holds a degree in journalism and served as a newspaper reporter for more

than a decade before turning her full attention to penning books, speaking professionally and writing freelance articles.

Her longest stint was at the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* in Virginia, where she extensively covered social issues and wrote a faith-based column. Themes from her journalistic work often find their way into her fiction, through characters who grapple with domestic violence, infertility, spirituality, low self-esteem and other true-to-life issues. Her novels have been featured reading selections in high school and college English courses, including at James Madison University.

Adams's books include:
• *Speak to My Heart* (2004 Best New Christian

Fiction, *SORMAG* magazine)

• *Nothing But the Right Thing* (A 2005 summer reading selection of Sybil's Book Club, with the *Tom Joyner Morning Show*)

• *Watercolored Pearls* (2nd place, 2008 Book of the Year, American Christian Fiction Writers)

• *The Someday List* (January 2009, *Essence* best-seller)

• *Worth a Thousand Words* (June 2009)

She has also contributed to two anthologies, including the *Essence* bestselling *This Far By Faith*. Adams's freelance articles have appeared in *Heart & Soul* and *Gospel Today* magazines, AARP's *Bulletin*, *USA Today* and on Crosswalk.com. She currently writes a semimonthly parenting column for the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* and has penned an online parenting

column for *Smart Beginnings*, an early childhood initiative sponsored by Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine.

Adams has served as an occasional broadcast reporter and has been a featured guest on national TV. She speaks regularly to corporate, collegiate, civic, faith-based and women's groups and at writing conferences across the nation.

She is a member of the Virginia chapter of the National Speakers Association and the Advanced Writers & Speakers Association. She is the founding president of the Richmond affiliate of the American Christian Fiction Writers.

She is currently completing her sixth novel, *Dreams That Won't Let Go*, which will be released in January 2010. Her first nonfiction book, an inspirational title that will encourage women in their faith,

will be released in March 2010.

Adams lives in a suburb of Richmond, Virginia, with

her husband and two children. She welcomes visitors to her website, www.stacy-hawkinsadams.com.



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Counting What Counts

BY FRANCES DEVINEY, PH.D.

New Census Bureau data shows that for the 10th year in a row Texas has the highest rate of uninsured children in the country, with one of every six kids uninsured. Nearly one of every four Texas kids lived in poverty in 2008 (e.g., \$17,600 for a family of three).

As troubling as these numbers are, this data likely under represents the extent of the current problem for two important reasons.

First, the latest Census data does not cover 2009, and unemployment has been rising sharply in Texas this year, from 6.4 percent in January to 7.0 percent in July (the most recent month available). Economists tell us that poverty rises with rising joblessness and that increase is sharper for vulnerable groups like children.

Second, even once the data catches up to the recession, child poverty is likely even deeper than shown in these figures. The federal poverty measure is badly outdated and excludes many families struggling to cover basic expenses, effectively disqualifying them from re-

ceiving available food or housing assistance.

The Measuring American Poverty Act would update the poverty measure to include more realistic expenses (including health care and child care) and help us to accurately measure the effectiveness of our poverty reduction programs, such as Food Stamps (now known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program).

Shouldn't we know how many people really need help and whether our help does any good?

Decision makers need reliable, relevant information to get the best results from public programs, but our policymakers and administrators use antiquated measurements and data to make decisions and assess performance. To ensure our public structures reach the people who need them most, we need an accurate measure of poverty in America, and we need Americans to fill out their 2010 Census forms in the spring.

That is why we must plan early for the upcoming 2010 Census. Most people

do not realize that the accuracy of data personally affects them. Most major federal funding decisions (and many state and local ones) rely at least in part on Census data, including funding for early childhood education, schools, roads, environmental protection, health care, and nutrition. And the number of representatives we have in Congress is directly related to an accurate count of our fast-growing population.

If you belong to a business or community service organization, you can partner with the 2010 Census to help increase participation, which will give your organization better data on customers or clients in your area.

If you are an educator, elected official, part of a faith-based organization, or are simply a proud member of your community, you will be crucial in spreading the word about the importance of filling out the census forms next spring, ensuring Texas kids and families are accurately represented when decisions are made in Washington.

Most people understand

the need for reliable, relevant data. Everyone from hospitals to businesses to sports teams rely on data collection and analysis to measure and improve their performance. None of these groups would be satisfied with outdated or incomplete measures of performance.

Improving the quality of data - counting what counts - helps ensure our public programs work and gives us the ability to evaluate them, continue to support them if they are effective, adjust them if needed, or eliminate them if they are ineffective. In short, good data leads to better decisions. Without them, decision makers are left in a vacuum, forced to either ignore growing problems or make changes based on assumption and anecdote.

Only by counting yourself in can you make sure that kids count too.

Deviney is director of Texas KIDS COUNT, a project funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and housed at the Center for Public Policy Priorities.

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NAACP Expresses Disappointment and Concern with New Senate Finance Committee Healthcare Bill

(NDG Wire) On Wednesday, he NAACP issued the following statement in response to Sen. Max Baucus' (D-MT) health care reform bill.

"It is disappointing to see that Sen. Baucus, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, did not include a public option in his health care reform bill. Real health care reform must include a strong public option for individuals and families, without it, millions of American families and children will continue to find quality, affordable health care out of reach," stated NAACP President and CEO Benjamin Todd Jealous.



Sen. Max Baucus
(D-MT)



NAACP President and CEO
Benjamin Todd Jealous

"A public health care option is about choice and competition. It is to health care what the postal service is to

the mail system, it creates an option for low cost, basic coverage and creates honest competition for private insur-

ers. While Sen. Baucus was valiant in his effort to create a compromise, this effort falls short of the true goals of real health care reform," stated Hilary O. Shelton, NAACP Senior Vice President for Advocacy and Director

"Over 46 million Americans are without health insurance, 8 million children are without health insurance and 880,000 African Americans would be alive today if we had enacted health care reform in the past decade. It is time to put the needs of America's family's front and center and not the needs of insurance companies and their CEOs," added Jealous.

North Dallas Gazette
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1933 - 2009

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MON-The Gazette assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.

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

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Weight Off for Life and Oasis Natural Healthcare Move to New Location

(NDG Wire) Weight Off for Life and Oasis Natural Healthcare recently moved to a more visible office at 2310 Ridge Road, Suite B, in Rockwall. The new location gives both businesses the opportunity to provide private consultations and community seminars about nutrition and healthy living at a convenient location.

"(Our mission is) Achieving optimal health results in a healthy mind," said long-

time Rockwall resident Diane Porter, the owner of Weight Off for Life, a registered nurse and an applied clinical nutritionist. "Our mission is also to offer residents of the Rockwall and Kaufman County areas preventative, natural health care as a complement or alternative to traditional treatments."

Weight Off for Life offers seminars every other month to the public at no

charge. Also, consultations and coaching for weight management and optimal health are offered at no charge five days a week, and at other hours, nights and weekends by appointment.

Porter, a certified health coach, and her trained associates conduct the consultations, which were offered by Weight Off for Life only three days a week previously.

Oasis Natural Healthcare, owned by Porter's hus-

band, Jim, a natural consultant pharmacist and an applied clinical nutritionist, also offers consultations five days per week to promote preventative natural health care and nutritional options. Oasis and Jim Porter also assist with natural hormone balance for men and women.

In addition, Oasis Natural Healthcare and Jim Porter, who also is a doctor of pharmacy and a certified natural health professional,

offer natural options for more than 200 disease entities. Although there is a fee for a full consultation, which varies depending on type, the initial consultation to determine a patient's specific needs is offered at no charge.

Oasis Natural Healthcare offers a full range of pharmaceutical-grade natural products for health maintenance that can be purchased on site. That was unavailable at the previous location.

Weight Off for Life and Oasis Natural Healthcare are located at the corner of Ridge Road and White Hills Drive, on the west side of Ridge Road, north of Interstate 30.

For more information about Weight Off for Life and/or Oasis Natural Healthcare, call 972-722-8200 or email Weight Off for Life at nutritionnurse@charter.net and Oasis Natural Healthcare at drjimporter@charter.net.

Weighing in On Weight-Loss Finding a Plan That Measures Up

(Family Features) Millions of dollars are spent each year on diet programs, yet up to 95 percent of dieters fail to maintain weight loss. There is often an initial loss of weight, but then many people a hit plateau and stop losing

weight. Another problem with many diets is that people just can't maintain a diet long-term.

When calories are restricted, your metabolism drops. When this happens, you hit a plateau and the

pounds stop coming off. In order to break through that plateau, most diets call for a further reduction in calories. This lowers the metabolism more, requiring a lifetime of low-calorie dieting to maintain your goal weight.

"The secret is not willpower or self discipline," says Nadia Rodman, senior dietician for Curves, "but rather a proper understanding of how we can change our behavior, or, more specifically, our habits."

Rodman believes that women can take charge of their health and combat the effects of aging and disease. "We're about fitness, health, and moving away from disease," she says. "We're about losing weight and

gaining strength. In a community of support and encouragement, you can reach your goals."

For more information about the free Curves Weight Management Plan, visit curves.com.

CANCER, continued from Page 1

problems early. In the two decades that the PSA has been used, prostate cancer deaths have declined, and the number of successfully treated prostate cancer cases has risen.

During September, Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, the Men's Health Network is urging men to talk to their doctors about prostate cancer, and to consider screening at age 50, and at age 40 for African Americans and men with a family history of prostate cancer. The group also encourages and urge their husbands to request prostate screening, including a PSA test, from their doctor.

Men's Health Network is not alone in urging prostate cancer screening for men. They are joined by, among others, Women Against Prostate Cancer, the American Cancer Society, American Urological Association, and countless physicians treating patients nationwide.

In fact, the American Urological Association has recently issued guidelines recommending that men receive a baseline PSA test at age 40.

And, in a recent Town Hall meeting, President

Barack Obama endorsed routine checkups so we can, "...be catching diseases like breast cancer and prostate cancer on the front end. That makes sense, it saves lives; it also saves money."

If you are on Medicare, prostate cancer screening is a part of your Welcome to Medicare physical, the free comprehensive physical exam you receive in your first year of eligibility. For younger men, 37 states require that insurance companies offering health insurance provide coverage for prostate cancer tests. Insurance companies may offer prostate cancer screening in the remaining states, but are not required to do so.

But in the rush to save money, and "reduce...unnecessary tests and services," a goal we all agree is necessary, Congress may take away that benefit. While President Obama has stated, "...we will require insurance companies to cover routine checkups and preventive care (to catch) diseases like breast cancer and prostate cancer on the front end," his message is being lost in the halls of Congress.

The health care bills currently being debated in Con-

gress contain a number of health insurance options, and it looks like none of those options will cover prostate cancer tests. Instead, the health insurance system established by those bills will rely on the opinions of a government-sponsored committee, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, that does not recommend prostate cancer screening.

The bottom line? Having

an annual prostate exam, including a PSA test, just might save your life. No matter what age you are, that annual PSA test creates a benchmark against which to judge future tests.

When you receive your PSA test results, ask the doctor what your PSA number is, write it down, and compare it against future tests. If the number goes up in future tests, talk to your doctor.

September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. It's the perfect time to call your doctor, schedule an appointment, and get your prostate cancer test done. Then, talk to your doctor and determine what screening and treatment options are best for you and your family.

If you want to express your opinion about health reform, call your members of Congress and let them know what you think. Use the

Capitol switchboard, 202-224-3121, to call both senators and your representative. If you do not know their names, give your Zip code to the operator who answers, and they will connect you.

James Morning, a prostate cancer survivor, is a retired Air Force master sergeant who was exposed to Agent Orange. He is a state coordinator for the Men's Health Network.



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Sisterspeak Luncheon Scheduled for October 24



Dr. Grace Cornish
Livingstone



Diane Amos

(NDG Wire) Sisterspeak Luncheons, a nationally recognized motivational series sponsored by Pine-Sol and *Ebony* magazine, is coming to Dallas to honour local area women who have made extraordinary changes to the community.

The luncheon will feature famed comedian Diane

Amos, as well as award-winning life coach, popular relationship specialist and inspirational minister Dr. Grace Cornish Livingstone, who will present on "10 Bad Choices That Ruin Black Women's Lives" and discuss how to turn life's stumbling blocks into successful stepping stones.

Sisterspeak is a lunch-

eon series celebrating the unique sisterhood of African-American women and promoting a spirit of community.

The program features inspirational speakers to encourage individuals to make a powerful difference.

The event will be held at the Omni Dallas Hotel at

Park West 1590 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, on Saturday, October 24, 2009, noon - 3 p.m.

For more information and to register for this FREE event, log on to EBONYJET.com or call (800) 530-9636 starting September 15. Space is limited to the first 350 registrants.

September: Library Card Sign-up Month 2009

Get the Smartest Card @ Your Library

(NDG Wire) September is Library Card Sign-up Month, and the Carrollton Public Library wants to make sure that all children in Carrollton have the smartest card of all - a library card.

Studies show that children who are read to in the home, and who use the library, perform better in school and are more likely to continue to use the library as a source of lifetime learning.

"A library card has always been the most important school supply of all," says Lynette Jones. "Kids can come to the library to get homework help and check out books, but they can also play games, check out music, books and DVDs and use the Internet to help make after school life fun. There's a lot happening at each of the Carrollton libraries, and the best part for both kids and parents is that it's all free with a library card."

Getting a library card is easy. Any adult with a valid Texas driver's license and Carrollton address can receive a card. If a person has recently moved to the area and does not have a driver's license with the new address, then they will need to bring in their license and some other proof of address, such as an apartment

lease, utility bill, printed checks from one's bank account, or a vehicle insurance card. Students who are 17 and younger must have a parent complete the application and sign the card in



person.

Observed since 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month is a time when the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country remind parents that a library card is the most important school supply of all.

For more information on how to sign up for a library card, visit Hebron and Josey Library (4220 N. Josey Lane) or Josey Ranch Lake Library (1700 Keller Springs Road), call 972-466-4800 or visit the library online at cityofcarrollton.com/library.

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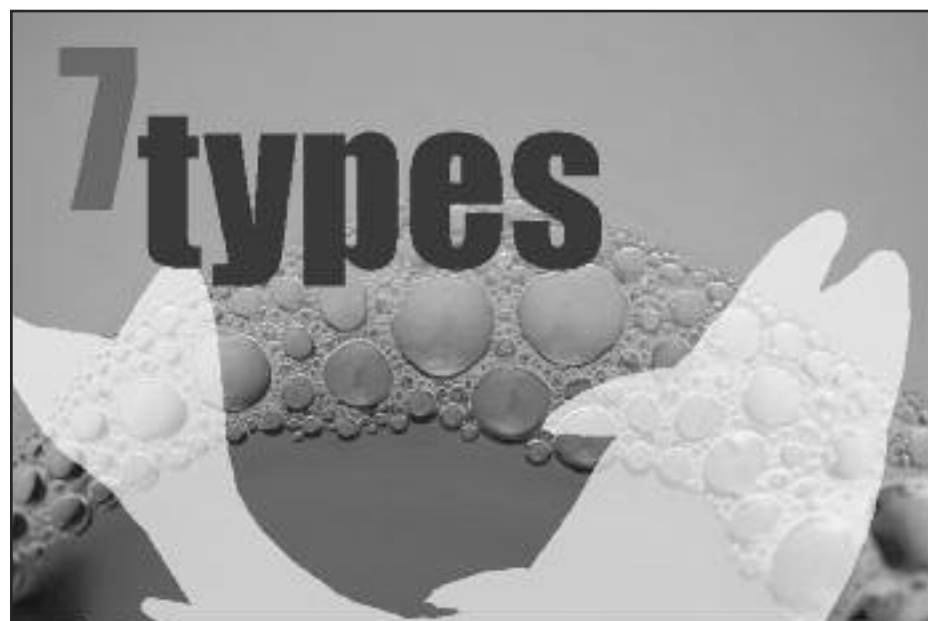
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Seven types of commonly used herbicides and pesticides washed down our storm drains can be found in the Trinity River. Lawn chemicals and pesticides can pollute the storm drainage system, including area creeks, lakes, and the Trinity River, potentially harming plants and aquatic wildlife.

Tips:

- + Don't apply yard chemicals when it is very windy or about to rain.
- + Try using natural and organic alternatives.
- + Follow the instructions for the chemicals including organic alternatives.



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Prairie View A&M Alumni-Dallas Chapter Announces 2009 Annual Scholarship Gala



(NDG Wire) The Dallas Alumni Chapter of Prairie View A&M University has announced its 14th Annual Athletic Scholarship Gala, to be held Friday, October 2, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. at the Westin City Center Hotel-Downtown Dallas (650 North Pearl Street).

The gala will be held the night before the annual Prairie View vs. Grambling State Fair Football Classic and will feature dinner, a champagne reception, silent auction, door prizes, live entertainment and dancing.

The theme of the night is *The Vision: A New Stadium*

For PV—Yes We Can! and will feature Keynote Speaker Mr. Roy Perry, chairman and president of the Prairie View A&M Foundation.

Tickets for the gala are \$75.00 each and a table of ten (10) is \$750.00. Sponsorship and advertising opportunities are available, as well

as special hotel rates at the Westin City Center-Dallas Hotel.

Proceeds will benefit the Prairie View A&M University Athletic Endowment Scholarship Fund, which to date has been presented with more than \$400,000 from the Dallas Alumni Chapter.

For information, contact Publicity Chair Dvorah Evans at 214.421.5200 or via e-mail at dae@dbcc.org, or contact Gala General Chair, Kimberly Runnels at Dallas PV Alumni Chapter, P.O. Box 397508, Dallas, Texas 75339 or call 972.289.9942.

DFW Chapters of the National Black MBA Association Florida A&M Alumni Present Annual Scholarship GOLF Tournament

(NDG Wire) The DFW Chapters of the National Black MBA Association (NBMBAA-DFW) and the Florida A & M University Alumni invite the community to team up for education as they host their Scholarship Golf Tournament on the greens at the Riverside Golf Club in Grand Prairie, Texas,

on Saturday, October 3. They are swinging clubs for dollars to help raise funds to provide scholarships for local students to advance their education. Corporate professionals, families, community groups, entrepreneurs and civic organizations are all encouraged to support this effort.

"The joint function will be an opportunity to better serve the community by reaching a wider audience and allowing us to potentially provide more scholarships to deserving students," said Terrance Hunt, president of the DFW chapter of the Florida A&M University Alumni.

While enjoying a first class golf experience, participants will have the opportunity to compete in a 4-person scramble and contests such as - first place, last place, closest to the pin, longest drive and the putting contests. Additionally, participants will gain valuable industry exposure, network

with other business professionals and share in the pur-

pose and camaraderie of this event.

COLLEGE CORNER

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Deadline:
December 1, 2009

Website Info:
www.dom.com/careers/diversity-scholarship-program.jsp

Sickle Cell Center Hosts Research Diversity Program

(UTD) The Sickle Cell Disease Research Center helped visiting scholars hone their research skills and knowledge over the summer as part of a program to increase diversity in the nation's academic ranks.

The Summer Institute Program to Increase Diversity brought 16 researchers to campus, where they drew on the interdisciplinary expertise



of UT Dallas faculty members.

The institute is sponsored by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI). Mentors include Dr. Betty Pace, director of the UT Dal-

las Sickle Cell Disease Research Center and a professor of molecular and cell biology.

UT Dallas is one of three universities awarded a four-year grant from the NHLBI to host the diversity program. Titled "Functional Genomics of Blood Disorders," the UT Dallas program encourages collaborations to seek new treatments and cures for

blood-related illnesses.

The two-year expense-paid program equips underrepresented junior faculty with the knowledge to develop independent research by establishing mentoring partnerships with nationally established researchers. One of the program's goals is to have participants receive and serve as principal investigators on major grants.

TWC Issues Cease and Desist Order to Dallas Health Career School

(NDG Wire) The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has issued a final cease and desist order against a Dallas-area career school that has been operating without a certificate of approval. Career Academy of Texas Inc. (CATI) in Grapevine was training students to work as nurse's aides, medication aides and medical assistants. CATI was issued the order for failure to obtain a certificate of approval or exemption as required by the Texas Education Code.

"These operations ex-

plot vulnerable individuals with false promises of careers at a time when health care workers are in such high demand," said TWC Chairman Tom Pauken. "This will serve as a warning to any other schools considering offering unlicensed, unapproved programs."

Health care professions top the fastest-growing occupations in Texas, with an estimated growth rate of more than 33 percent over the next eight years.

"Career schools must obtain a TWC certificate of approval," said TWC Commis-

sioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. "We want to make sure these types of schools do not take advantage of students looking to join the workforce in the health care industry."

A career school traditionally trains students for a career in a business, trade, technical or industrial occupation, or for avocational or personal improvement. An order to cease and desist operating is issued to a business only after a hearing and a written decision finds that the business is not in compliance with the Texas Edu-

cation Code requirements. If TWC has reason to believe that a school has violated the order, TWC may refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office for enforcement.

"The great need for health care workers in Texas and around the country has led to some unscrupulous owners operating uncertified schools," said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Andres Alcantar. "These schools take advantage of students who are paying large sums of money."

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Healthcare Reform Rally in Dallas Draws Larger Than Expected Crowd

RUTH FERGUSON
NDG EDITOR

Many were surprised that nearly 1,000 people attended the health care reform rally on a rainy Monday.

Perhaps they were spurred to participate in light of the fact that in Texas a quarter of all Texans are uninsured.

Organizing For America's national executive director, Mitch Stewart, speaking at the rally, said that what will get this done is the same thing that won the 2008 election - hard work and sweat and everyone's willingness to talk to friends and neighbors about

the importance of reform. To keep the momentum, this Saturday local Democrats are planning to canvass across the Metroplex as a part of a statewide effort to share information about Healthcare reform efforts. For information, <http://my.barackobama.com/>.



Photo courtesy of Jim Burke



Photo courtesy of Jim Burke



Photo courtesy of Julie Malcolm



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Ongoing

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

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce, CCBCC General Meetings for Summer Quarter, McKinney Public Library, 101 E. Hunt Street McKinney

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

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

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

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch 1st Thursday at 1 pm in Plano Must RSVP at www.NoLimitNetwork.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 Freeway, Suite 140, Dallas, \$20 for members; \$35 for non-members, \$5 off for early bird registration. See <http://nbwenorg.ning.com>.

Thru October 25

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

September 4 – December 4 Adriatic First Fridays Art Walk 6-9 p.m. Adriatica Merchants Association presents First Fridays at Adriatica (McKinney). Art walk, live music, sidewalk sales, free food samplings. Admission is FREE. Every 1st Friday on Virginia Pkwy. 972-540-2739

September 17-19

12th Annual Carrollton Public Library Book Sale at Josey Ranch Lake Library. Info: friendscarrolltonlibrary.org/booksale.htm

September 17

Capacity Building with Grants Expo: Meet non-profit groups, educators, successful grant writers, and share strategies. From 8am to 5pm Admission \$39 Info: Tasa Anderson 903-639-4519, www.grantexperts.info

Jethro Pugh UNCF Scholarship Invitational Golf Tournament at Tour 18, for sponsorship and golfer information call (972) 234-1007.

September 18 - 20

EDS Credit Union Plano Balloon Festival at Oak Point Park, 2801 E. Spring Creek Pkwy. Admission: \$8 Day Ticket (allows re-admission during the day); \$5 Single Admission Event Ticket, Special \$4 Discount Ticket between 9 am & 3 pm Saturday & Sunday. Kids under 36" free. Seniors 65 & older \$1 off any ticket price. Info: Jo Via at (972) 867-7566 or www.planoballoonfest.org

September 18

Jazz Friday featuring Faith Band 7:00 - 10:00 pm, 13342 Midway Road Suite 250 at ArtFest Intl, Dallas. Tickets: \$10 - \$25, email stephanie@stephaniestips.com for paypal link and e-ticket.

25th Annual Partnership Golf Tournament at Firewheel Golf Park, Garland. Tee off at 9 a.m. Contact Jami Manners at jami.manners@garlandchamber.com for more information.

September 19

Arnez J & Earthquake at Nokia Theatre in Grand Prairie at 8 p.m.

Monthly meeting of the Garland NAACP Youth Council, 12noon, Mt. Hebron Baptist Church, 1233 State Highway 66.

September 22

Garland NAACP General Membership Meeting at 7:30p.m. in the Women's Activity Center, 713 Austin Street@Glenbrook Note: General membership meeting agenda will include an overview of the GISD School Desegregation Court Order.

September 23 - 26

Life Enrichment Boot Camp Admission Fee: \$200 per person. From 6pm to 11pm Info: David Bishop at 214-736-9991, www.lifeenrichmentbootcamp.com or www.marriagebootcamp.com

September 24

AARP Driver Safety Classes 6-10 p.m. Fee is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. Reservations may be made by calling 972-744-7800.

UNCF's Annual DFW Campaign Kick Off Reception RSVP by September 17th at (972) 234-1007

September 25-26

One Diva and Twenty-One Dudes Visual Arts Extravaganza at TBAAL at 650 S. Griffin St. Dallas, info: Nora Wilson 214 743-2506

September 25

Jamie Foxx at Nokia Theatre in Grand Prairie at 8 p.m.

8th Annual Fiesta-on-the-Square, Hispanic Heritage Celebration in 6:00-10:00 p.m., Info: Denton Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, djurbina@texstar.us, 940-565-1919.

September 26

City of Garland is hosting **Healthy Living Expo**

September 27

Recognizing Dedication: The 2009 Dance Council Honors at 3:00 p.m. at Dallas Black Dance Theatre, 2700 Flora Street, Dallas. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$25 for DC members, and \$20 for students. Silent auction and ticket proceeds will benefit the Dance Council Scholarship Fund. Info: www.thedancecouncil.org, 214-219-2290, or at the door. Seating is limited.

September 30

Annual Celebration of Enterprise Business Expo Awards Luncheon at 11:30am-1pm, Business Expo 10 am-3:00pm, VIP Reception 10:30-11:30 am Luncheon tickets are \$45 and a table of 10 is \$400; after August 14th Luncheon tickets are \$65 and a table of 10 is \$600. Admission to the Business Expo is open to the public and Free. Info: 972-612-2425 or www.celebrationofenterprise.com

Garland Mayor's Evening In ~ 5-7 p.m. City Hall, 200 North Fifth Street To reserve a time slot, call 972-205-2471 or email

edattamo@ci.garland.tx.us

October 2

Envogue is performing at the SWA State Fair Classic Pre-Game at the Cotton Bowl

Jazz Series at Bishop Arts Theater Center hosted by Camron Smith featuring Phil Perry with Kim Waters

Richardsons NETWORK of Community Ministries hosts annual tournament beginning with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Four-person teams will play a Florida Scramble at Sherrill Park Pavilion.

Dallas Alumni Chapter of Prairie View A&M University are hosting **14th Annual Athletic Scholarship Gala** at 6:30 p.m. at the Westin City Center Hotel-Downtown Dallas (650 North Pearl Street).

October 3

Southwest Airlines State Fair Classic at Cotton Bowl, Dallas

October 6

Susan G. Komen for the Cure Golf Tournament at the Eldorado Country Club in McKinney. Tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. Oct. 6. Tournament fee is \$90, deadline for registration is Sept. 28. Entry forms/info 972-473-5961.

October 10

Appreciation Luncheon for Sister Shirley Demus Tarpley at Crowne Plaza Dallas in Addison

October 13

National Night Out the theme is "Give Neighborhood Crime and Drugs a Going Away Party."

October 16

Jazz Friday featuring Freddie Jones Band 7:00 -

10:00 p.m., 13342 Midway Road Suite 250 at ArtFest International, Dallas. Tickets: \$10 - \$25, email stephanie@stephaniestips.com for paypal link and e-ticket.

October 17

A Taste Of Plano 12:00 - 8:00 pm. Activities include food samples for purchase, wine tastings, demos, music and more. visitdowntownplano.com.

A Gospel Musical Concert at 5:00 p.m. hosted by Granny's Place, Inc. a non profit residential home for girls in and aging out of foster care at the Free Will Baptist Church, 1415 Wheatland Road in Duncanville.

October 22

Humanitarian Hands Foundation will host its fund-raising gala entitled at 7 p.m. Life Is. Renaissance Dallas Hotel at 2222 Stemmons Freeway. Info: www.humanitarianhandsfoundation.com or Mary Christopher 972.331.6098.

October 24

Collin County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 10th Anniversary Gala at the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel & Conference Center, 705 Central Expressway South, in Allen at 7 pm \$90 for a single ticket, \$150 for two and \$720 for a table for eight. Info: www.cchchamber.org or 972-548-2608.

Sisterspeak Luncheon at the Omni Dallas Hotel at Park West 1590 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, 12 - 3 p.m. Register for this FREE event: EBONYJET.com or (800) 530-9636.

October 27

Jobing.com Career Expo Will Rogers Coliseum, 3401 W. Lancaster, Ft. Worth, 12 noon - 5 pm

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Irving City Council Approves A Single-Member District System

BY JACKIE HARDY
NDG CONTRIBUTOR

After almost two years, Manuel Benavidez has light at the end of his tunnel.

In November 2007, Benavidez sued both the Irving City Council and the Irving Independent School District (IISD) after two unsuccessful attempts at getting elected to the IISD school board. He claimed Irving's at-large election process denied representation of Hispanics.

And on Thursday, September 3, 2009, Benavidez witnessed victory when Irving City Council members voted 6-3 to approve the 6-2-1 City Council single-member district plan. The proposed plan makes Places one, three, four, five, six and seven to be elected on a single-member voting system, with Places two and eight and the mayoral post remaining at-large.

"I continued to pursue this case because I was doing this not only for my family, but for all families of every race. My hope is the future generation will get involved to help make this world better for everyone," said Benavidez.

This vote came after U.S. District Judge Jorge Solis ruled in favor of Benavidez on July 15, 2009, and found the City of Irving in violation of section two of the Voters Right Act of 1965. Solis ordered the defendants (City of Irving and Irving City Council Members) and the plaintiff (Manuel Benavidez) to

separately or jointly create and implement a redistricting and election plan within 90 days, or the Federal Court



Beth VanDuyne

would devise a plan to address the disparity of minority representation within Irving City Council.

"After several meetings of negotiations with the defendant, we were able to compromise and agree to a six single-member district in the effort to avoid an appeal," said Michael Veaser, legal counsel in the Benavidez case.

Awaiting Solis' final approval, the City of Irving has agreed to pay a settlement of \$200,000 to cover the plaintiff's legal fees, and voted not to pursue an appeal contingent upon the proposed 6-2-1 single member district plan being accepted by the court.

City Council members Tom Spink (Place one) and Beth Van Duyne (Place two) had overwhelming representation of their constituents at the September 3 meeting who voiced their opposition

to the proposed agreement. The proposed 6-2-1 single-member district plan would require Spink and Van Duyne



Tom Spink

to run against each other in next May's elections. Their terms end in 2010, and Spink will no longer hold his current Place one seat under the new redistricting plan.

"I feel the decision is a result of gerrymandering, and we were not given adequate time to comprise a plan that would be inclusive for all groups involved. It was totally fractured," said Spink.

"Beth and I have consistently voted based on what our constituents wanted and not for our own personal interest. I do feel there were members within the council, including the Mayor, who possibly wanted to see one of us replaced in the hopes of eliminate discontented votes," added Spink.

According to a 2006 American Community Survey (ACS), Hispanics make up over 40 percent of the population in Irving. To have a City Council with no Hispanic or other minority representation eventually would have forced Irving to face this issue, the same issue Dallas City Council faced in 1988 in a lawsuit similar to Benavidez'. That lawsuit led the city to implement a 14 member single-district system with an at-large mayoral post.

"All cities go through this process when they continue to grow. Irving has become a very diverse community, and

this is a natural progression for cities like Irving to transition to a single-member district type system. Sometimes the process is messy and we have a strike against us in that the Federal Court has ruled against us and our system," said Mayor Herbert Gears at the September 3 meeting.

In 2004, the Irving City Council attempted to address this issue by forming a Charter Review Committee. The committee consisted of appointed citizens selected to recommend changes to the current at-large electoral process. The Irving Hispanic Chamber of Commerce presented its own report to the committee, recommending a single-member voting system for Places one through five. This recommendation was not passed to the Council by the committee, and was not placed on the election ballot. Ultimately, no resolution was adopted to address the demographic change.

Attorneys for Benavidez were able to get a favorable ruling due in part to the testimony of one of their expert witnesses, David Ely of Compass Demographics, a consulting and database management firm specializing in projects involving Census and election data. They hope the evidence presented in this case will render a favorable ruling in the lawsuit filed by their client Benavidez against IISD, set to go to court in October.

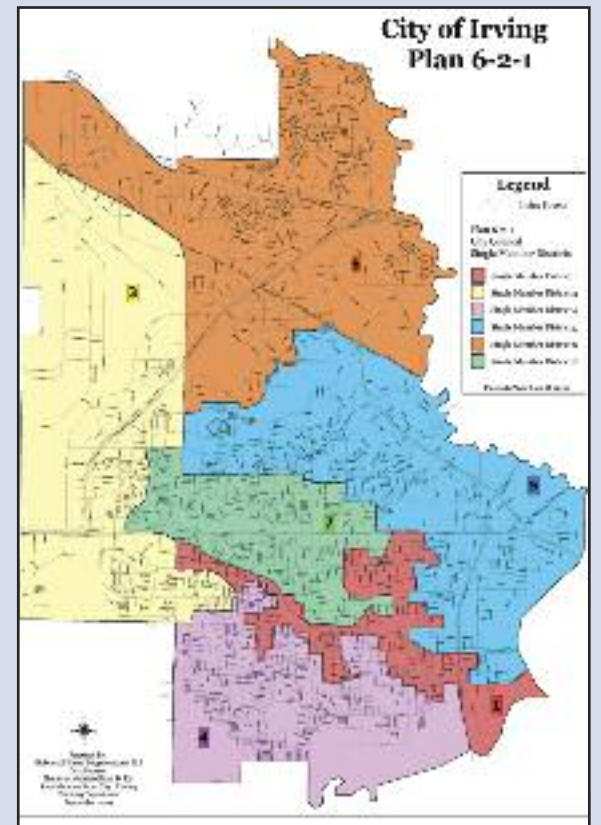
"The fact we were able to use innovative Census Bureau Estimation data to support the idea that we could create a district that was minority-majority, as opposed to using data from a census countdown is what makes this case extraordinary. Utilizing the Census Bureau Interim Estimation Data, ACS provided us the ability to prove rapid demographic change, specifically as it relates to Place one (southern sector of Irving)," said Veaser.

The opposing argument presented by the City of Irving testified the illustrative districts created by the plaintiff results in vote dilution by relying on total population for district size, rather than considering citizen-voting-age-population (CVAP). Arguments made by the public

opposing a single-member voting district range from how a voting system of this nature can distort the purpose of government to serve all the people and not just one particular group, to lending itself to opportunities for corruption, which leads to ineffective government.

Map Illustration of the Proposed Re-Drawing for Single Member Districts

(Go to www.cityofirving.org to view map)



How Irving's At-Large System Worked:

- Places One through Five, required to reside in their respective Districts
- Places Six, Seven, and Eight, can reside anywhere in the city
- Mayor, elected at-large and can reside anywhere in the city

Percentage Breakdown of Hispanics By Proposed Single-Member Districts:

District	Percentage
1	41.6%
2	20.2%
3	15.3%
4	19.6%
5	11.4%
6	7.9%

(Source: City of Irving)



Irving City Council

Gallery Honors Hispanic Heritage Month With New Show

(NDG Wire) For Hispanic Heritage Month, THE ARTS gallery is showcasing Hispanic artists Monday, Sept. 21-Friday, Oct. 9.

Hispanic Heritage Month runs Sept. 15-Oct. 15 as a time to reflect upon

the accomplishments and contributions of the wide array of Hispanic artists, scientists, policy makers, leaders and others.

The gallery's show – "Hispanica" – will feature ceramics, painting, photog-

raphy and sculpture from local Hispanic artists. The exhibit was curated by Lupita Murillo Tinnen, chair and professor of photography, and Luke Sides, gallery director and professor of art.

The artists include: Mirtha Aertker, Rosemary Meza-DesPlas, Enrique Fernandez Cervantes, Omar Hernandez, Christina Medina, Valerie Ontiveros, Jim Bob Salazar, Shawn Saumell and Tinnen.

A reception is set for 4-7 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 29 at Collin College art gallery, which is located at the Spring Creek Campus, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano.

THE ARTS gallery

hours are: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

For more information, visit the gallery's website at www.ccccd.edu/THEARTSgallery or call 972.881.5873.

Arts District Chorale Announces Soloists for the First Event

(NDG Wire) Arts District Chorale (ADC) is pleased to announce the vocal soloists for the first installment of its 2009-2010 *Season of Mysteries*, entitled *Mysteries of Sacred Laughter*. In part to welcome The Dallas Opera to a neighborhood of world-class venues and cultural events in the Dallas Arts District, ADC will present one of the compositions Rossini intriguingly called "the sins of my old age," the *Petite Messe Solennelle*

(Little Solemn Mass), filled with all the exuberance and intensity of his beloved operas. With the unique addition of staged characters from the *commedia dell'arte* tradition, Rossini's joy in the mystery and drama of the Mass will be revealed in a distinctive presentation in the DMA Atrium, beneath Dale Chihuly's famed Hart Window.

Artistic Director H. Michie Akin has selected Jennifer Chung, soprano, Emily Hoskin, mezzo-so-



prano, Scott Quinn, tenor, and Mark McCrory, bass, as the four vocal soloists of the *Petite Messe Solennelle*.

Soprano Jennifer Chung is a popular veteran of numerous roles at The Dallas Opera since 2003, including productions of *Don Giovanni*, *La Traviata*, *Carmen*, and *Ariadne auf Naxos*.

Mezzo-Soprano Emily Hoskin is a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, and will appear along with Jennifer Chung later this year in Handel's *Messiah* with the Plano Civic Chorus.

Tenor Scott Quinn is one of the winners of the 2008 Dallas Opera Guild Vocal Competition and is the Young Artist in Residence for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 seasons of The Dallas Opera. Bass Mark McCrory has also

sung numerous operatic roles across the United States, including eight previous appearances at The Dallas Opera.

In October 2009, Scott Quinn and Mark McCrory will appear as Roderigo and Montano in Verdi's *Otello* for The Dallas Opera's inaugural production in the Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House at the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts.

The Arts District Chorale's performance of

Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* will take place at the Dallas Museum of Art on Monday, September 28, 2009, at 7:30 p.m.

Advance single tickets are \$20/\$15/\$5. Seating is limited. For ticket purchases, 214.942.5085 or e-mail requests to tickets@artsdistrictchorale.org. Season subscription tickets are also available online at artsdistrictchorale.org.

For information, please contact the Arts District Chorale at 214.942.5085.

Neighborhood Night at the Movies Rescheduled

(NDG Wire) McKinney residents who had planned to attend Neighborhood Night at the Movies on September 11 will have another chance to take part in the popular free family movie night. The event that was canceled on Friday, September 11 due to weather has been rescheduled to Fri-

day, October 2 at Hill Top Park, 1850 Winding Brook Dr.

Families are invited to attend any and all to enjoy a screening of either *Wall-E* or *Madagascar 2*, both features from Disney Pixar and Dream Works. All movies will start at dusk, around 7 p.m. Families are encour-

aged to bring lawn chairs, blankets and picnics to accompany the show.

The remaining movie nights include *Wall-E*: Sept. 18 at Whisenant Park, 3701 Hudson Crossing and *Madagascar 2*: September 25 at Aviator Park, 1201 Monticello Dr. and October 2 at Hill Top Park, 1850

Winding Brook Dr.

Movies are shown on the city Parks, Recreation and Open Space Department's portable and inflatable movie screen. It's one additional way to bring special amenities to residents.

"Through programs like Neighborhood Night at the Movies, Jammin in July

and others, thousands of residents can enjoy free programs right in their neighborhood. It's especially valuable when families are really watching their finances," said Parks, Recreation and Open Space Director Lemuel Randolph. "We've had parents tell us

they are reminded of going to drive-in movies in their youth. Now they can take their kids to have the same kind of experience, in the convenience of their community park."

Visit www.mckinney-texas.org or call 972-547-7480 for more information.

President Obama Not Impressed With West

BY RUTH FERGUSON
NDG EDITOR

On Tuesday, President Barack Obama inadvertently joined the fire storm surrounding Kanye West bum-rushing Taylor Swift Sunday night when his off the record comments were shared via Twitter.

Kanye West received much deserved criticism after interrupting country star Taylor Swift during her acceptance speech at the *MTV Video Music Awards* Sunday.

West walked on stage and took the mic away from Swift and proceeded to pro-

claim that Beyonce deserved the award for best female video.

West issued two apologies on his blog Monday before appearing on Jay Leno's debut of his new show for a more extensive apology.

"I'm just ashamed that my hurt caused someone else's hurt -- and I don't try to justify it because I was just in the wrong. That's period," he says. "But I need to, after this, take some time off and just analyze how I'm going to make it through the rest of this life, how I'm going to improve. Because

I am a celebrity, and that's something I have to deal with."

After Swift appeared on *The View* on Tuesday morning and stated she would be willing to speak with West, he called Swift and finally apologized to her personally.

Obama's 'jackass' comment about Kanye West was off the record, claimed John Harwood, CNBC's chief Washington correspondent.

"The custom in television, as I understand it, is that when you have an interview of this kind, the little chit-chat when you are

getting ready to sit down to do the real interview is off the record," Harwood told Politico.

"It's one of those things that's like an understanding, as people have understandings with sources," he continued. "And if you have a relationship of trust with someone, as I feel I do with the White House and the president, specifically, I felt like I should honor it."

However, the remarks quickly became public after ABC News reporter Terry Moran tweeted the comment.

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Southwest Airlines Introduces EarlyBird Check-In - a New Customer Convenience That Simplifies Travel

(NDG Wire) Don't race. We'll save your place! Southwest is proud to announce its newest product, EarlyBird Check-in, which gives customers the option to score an early boarding position by adding an additional \$10 to the price of a one-way fare. The low-cost service automatically reserves a boarding position for customers prior

to general check-in, allowing EarlyBird customers to begin boarding the plane after Southwest's Business Select and Rapid Rewards A-List customers.

"With EarlyBird Check-in, you no longer need to watch the clock or set your alarm to be one of the first customers to check in for a Southwest flight. EarlyBird



customers can relax, and let us do the work for them," said Kevin Krone, Southwest's vice president of Marketing, Sales and Distribution.

An early boarding position provides customers with

the opportunity for a better seat selection and earlier access to overhead bin space enhancing their travel experience while creating incremental revenue opportunities for Southwest. Early boarding privileges are already included in the purchase of a Business Select fare and are a benefit of being on the Rapid Rewards A-List. All

customers are required to print their boarding pass prior to their scheduled departure.

Customers can purchase EarlyBird Check-in through a link in the Travel Tools section of southwest.com. They also can select EarlyBird Check-in from their southwest.com confirmation page online and from their confirmation e-mail. EarlyBird

Check-in can be purchased up to 25 hours prior to the scheduled departure time of the customer's flight.

For additional information on EarlyBird Check-in, visit <http://www.southwest.com/flight/early-bird-retrieve-reservation.html> or the Company Blog at www.nutsaboutsouthwest.com.

UT Dallas Launches Top-Level Sustainability Center

(UTD) Labels describing furniture made with "all natural fiber," "reclaimed teakwood" and "water hyacinth fiber" are common in showrooms and catalogs. Manufacturers and retailers are (UTD) seeking sustainable alternatives to traditional hardwood product lines.

Crafting furniture using ecologically sound practices - including recycling, sustainable forestry, conservation and reclamation - has become more than a fleeting fad. There's a booming market trend in the U.S. home furnishings industry to create products that not only add beauty but also help protect the environment.

"Businesses in all industries today must be concerned about the impact that

products and services are having on the planet and future generations," said Francisco Szekely, a UT Dallas School of Management professor. "More and more, consumers are asking: 'Who made this product?' and 'Where did it come from?'"

An expert on environmental and corporate sustainability, Szekely is the director of the School of Management's new Center for Responsible Business and Sustainability (CRBS).

Launched this past spring by Szekely and the center's associate director, Dr. Usman Ghani, the CRBS strives to help business leaders adopt business practices that are sustainable as well as competitive.

Helping develop a business model in the U.S. fur-

niture industry is one of several initial projects the center has undertaken in its quest to position UT Dallas at the forefront of universities working on sustainability issues.

Overpopulation has strained the Earth's natural resources, posing a worldwide challenge that demands action from governments, corporations, universities, organizations and consumers, Szekely said. Business can play a central role in helping build a sustainable society by creating corporate culture that is mindful of the environment across its business practices.

"If we sacrifice our environment, we limit the ability of the next generation to do well," said Szekely. He also has served

as director of and professor at the International Academy of the Environment in Geneva, as well as deputy minister of environment and natural resources in Mexico.

"Sustainability is about keeping a balance between environmental, economic and social objectives. We help companies come up with a business model that keeps these things in balance," Szekely said. "Business has to adopt a new approach to value creation. Instead of the traditional and narrower approach of focusing mainly on creating 'shareholder value,' now companies must figure out how to create 'stakeholder value,' where managers, employees, customers, communities and society benefit from its activities,"

he said.

Combining the research and teaching strengths of UT Dallas with the center's forward-looking approaches, the CRBS plans to offer "learning platforms" and "sustainability forums" to discuss the business and social implications of adopting options in response to sustainability challenges such as global warming, new energy sources and risk management.

Some of the areas the center will focus on include innovation, work processes, leadership methods, organizational models, competitive strategies, and supplier

and customer relations. The center will also explore the pros and cons of various policy options to curb global warming, such as cap and trade, carbon taxes, alternative energy, and product and service labeling. It will also organize multi-stakeholder forums to address how business can better respond to global challenges.

Since joining the School of Management a year ago, Szekely has been in demand as a keynote speaker at events hosted by local civic and professional groups, community colleges, and industry and business associations.




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CONFERENCE, continued from Page 1

lie!" that broke decorum during President Barack Obama's address to the Joint Houses of Congress on health care reform Wednesday (September 9, 2009) evening.

"As African-American newspaper publishers we stand in solidarity with the NAACP and fully support the economic boycott of South Carolina," stated NNPA Chairman Danny J. Bakewell

Sr. "Rep. Wilson's remarks were racist, disrespectful, and a disingenuous violation--not only of President Obama--but to the institution of the presidency and only solidified our position and the im-

portance in not spending Black dollars where Black people are not respected. The continued public and blatant disrespect of President Barack Obama by members of Congress will not be

rewarded with our dollars nor will a state that continues to uphold America's shameful past by flying the Confederate flag."

The NNPA is currently considering North Carolina

in lieu of its decision to boycott South Carolina. The group joins a host of other organizations and businesses that refuse to hold conventions or meetings in South Carolina.

TECHNOLOGY, continued from Page 1

numbers and places of employment. The absence of e-mail addresses, mobile phone numbers or Internet identifiers meant the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and other law enforcement agencies often had to rely on low-tech methods to track down convicted sex offenders who accessed the Internet in violation of their parole.

Paroled criminals in the state attempt to use the anonymity of the Internet to

disguise their identities, arrange meetings with children or maintain social networking profiles. Recently, the OAG's Fugitive Unit arrested Gary Dee Gause, of Fort Worth, after he maintained a MySpace account in violation of his parole. He was paroled after serving 25 years in prison for sexually assaulting two women in 1982 – one in Harris County and the other in Tarrant County.

The Fugitive Unit also

arrested Michael Jermain Harris, of Houston, for maintaining a MySpace account and Facebook account in violation of his parole. After Harris 2004 conviction for attempted sexual assault a 14-year-old girl, he was paroled and prohibited from using the Internet.

Fugitive Unit investigators also arrested a third suspect, Brian William Yoas, of Austin, for violating his parole by logging onto the Internet and maintaining a

MySpace account. In 2005, Yoas was convicted in Williamson County of possessing and intending to distribute child pornography.

To date, our office has arrested more than 30 sex offenders who violated their parole by logging onto MySpace, which recently revealed that 90,000 of its members were registered sex offenders.

At least 5,000 sex offenders have also been discovered on Facebook's

membership lists.

The new law's mobile phone requirement is equally important – not just because it helps track down parole violators, but also because many predators use mobile phones to prey on children. Unfortunately, mobile phones are being used to send text messages to potential victims, transmit explicit photos and access the Internet, where children can fall victim to other types of exploitation.

When criminals are exploiting technology as fast as it is developed, authorities cannot be bound to low-tech law enforcement techniques. SB 689 gives the long arm of law enforcement the maximum possible reach in order to hold registered sex offenders accountable.

As history has shown, cooperative, creative law enforcement can and we will overcome even the most cutting edge criminals.

OUTDOORS, continued from Page 1

group needs a seat at the outdoor table.

Now they will find out how to take full advantage of what belongs to us all. Environmentalists Audrey and Frank Peterman, organizers of the First Biannual Conference & Expo: *Breaking the Color Barrier in the Great American Outdoors* at the Atlanta Airport Hilton in Atlanta, September 23-26, have been working for the past 14 years to draw attention to this hidden segment of American life.

The conference will feature people of color engaged in sports such as mountain climbing, skiing, sailing, scuba diving, bird watching, falconry and other sports.

And it will highlight the efforts of black and brown Americans to protect the environment and the scenic treasures in the nation's public parks, forests and wildlife refuges.

"The National Park System has a budget of around \$3 billion," said Audrey Peterman, during a television interview on August 16th about the First Family's visit to Yellowstone National Park and the Grand Canyon. "Many of the parks are bigger than entire cities - Yellowstone, for example, is 10 times the size of New York City. Parks have jobs consistent with those in cities - from the mayor (called a Superintendent in the parks) to

street cleaners to IT and Human Resource professionals. It's time to open up that revenue stream to the full American population. Right now, the park system's workforce is close to 80-percent white," Peterman said.

Peterman noted that the changing demographics of our country demand participation from all ethnic groups if the parks and the environment are going to thrive.

"Some African Americans, Latinos and Asians have not seen themselves reflected in outdoor sports and in the environmental movement; but that has got to change," she said.

The Petermans have worked with a wide range of outdoor recreation proponents of color and notables in government and business who want to see more diversity in the environmental movement. Many of them will be available at the conference to inspire young people, provide little-known information about the public lands system, and offer advice about career and business opportunities, contracts, education and recreation.

The conference will introduce people of color actively engaged in fields not typically associated with their race. For example, Hermes Castro is a 30-year-old Latino outdoor enthusiast who lost his legs when a drunk driver hit his bicycle in 2006.

Yet Hermes has continued to be an avid sportsman in San Diego and just returned from an expedition to Antarctica, where he became the first wheelchair visitor ever.

And there's Jerry Bransford, a 62-year-old guide at Kentucky's Mammoth Cave, whose great-great-grandfather began exploring and guiding in those same caves as a 15-year-old slave. Savannah Williams, a 25-year-old marine scientist in Nashville, was the first person in her African-American family to learn how to swim when she joined a teen aquatic club and became a certified scuba diver.

The conference coincides with National Public Lands Day on September 26, with participants having an opportunity to work on improving a house in the

historic Martin Luther King district. It also is timed to the release of Ken Burns' documentary, *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*, which will air on PBS stations on September 27, and highlights the roles of African Americans, Latinos, Asians and Native Americans in the creation and expansion of the park system. The Petermans have collaborated with Burns. His co-

producer, Dayton Duncan, credits Audrey Peterman with introducing him to one of the subjects profiled in the documentary, The Jones Family of Biscayne National Park.

The Petermans' new book, *Legacy on the Land: A Black Couple Discovers our National Inheritance and Tells Why Every American Should Care*, will be released at the conference.



More African-Americans are participating in outdoor sports and the environmental movement.

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Central Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant
Phase I Filter Improvements

Bid Date:
October 2, 2009 @ 2:00 p.m.

Contact:
Arthur Daugherty
Metro: 817-379-1897 • Fax, Metro: 817-379-0610

Mail to:
Eagle Contracting L.P.
P.O. Box 1600, Keller, TX 76244

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Village Creek Reclaimed Water Eastern Delivery System
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City Project No. 00213
Water Project No. P275-705300021383

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October 1, 2009 @ 2:00 p.m.

Contact:
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September 30, 2009 @ 2:00 p.m.

Contact:
Dave Mullenix
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Church Happenings

AVE NU STUDIO

September 27, 6 pm

Join us for a Gospel Music Concert to benefit local children's charities at 1655 N. Central Expressway in Richardson. Call 469-463-3817 for information.

Kenny Love, Director
P. O. Box 116250
Carrollton, TX 75011
972-330-4083

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES

September 2009
8:30 am – 11:30 am

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

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

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

On Going, 9 am-4 pm
Monday – Friday

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

September 19, 7 pm

You're invited as our Theater & Arts Ministry presents the story of "Ruth" @ Story Elementary school in

Allen. Witness the special care which God's plan for redemption is revealed through love and family.

September 26, 10 am

Join us for our Founder's Day activities with family fun, food and games at 200 Belmont Drive in Allen. Call the church for details.

September 27, 2009
8:15 and 10:45 am

You're invited to Harvest Sunday as we worship and praise God; and bring someone with you.

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

September 20, 6 pm

Come and enjoy the Angelic Choir Concert.
Dr. Gregory Foster,
Senior Pastor
Rev. Anthony Foster
Pastor
300 Phillips Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-235-4235

HOUSE OF PRAYER WORSHIP CENTER

September 18, 7:30 pm

Living Water Revival from John 4:10-24.

Sept. 20, 10 am & 7 pm

Prophetess Paula Greene of Delaware will bring the Word of God.

Rev. Randall Cain,
Senior Pastor
2540 Avenue K
Suite 300
Plano, TX 75074

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH IN CARROLLTON

September 24-25, 2009

We are hosting a Gospel Music Workshop featuring Clinician/Minister Ronald Materre, Associate Pastor of Worship at New Faith Church in Houston, Texas. He is also Music Director of Texas Mass Choir Gospel Music Workshop of America (GMWA) and Facilitator of New Music Seminar for GMWA.

September 26, 5 pm

There will be a FREE musical worshipping God. Call 972-484-1185 to pre-register, details or directions.

Rev. Billy Robinson,
Senior Pastor
1718 Trinity Valley Drive

Carrollton, TX 75006
972-484-1185

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP IN RICHARDSON

September 19, 6 pm

Our concert will be @ the Special Events Center-Garland, 4999 Naaman Forest Blvd, Garland, TX 75040

September 20, 9:30am

The conclusion is our Founders' Day Worship Service with Pastor Gary Frost from Youngstown, OH, also @ the Special Events Center-Garland.

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

PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH

September 19, 4 pm

& 20, 5 pm

We present The Tribe of Judah, a celebration concert with Micah Stampley at the Fellowship Dallas Worship Center, 9330 N.

Central Expressway, Dallas, TX 75231, and a Dance Gala featuring Dance Ministries from around the Metroplex at the church. Call 214-724-1789 or 214-893-1841 for details.

Dr. Curtis W. Wallace,
Senior Pastor
1819 N. Washington Ave.
Dallas, TX 75204
214-823-7308.

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

This Friday Night

September 18, 7:45 pm

Come to our anointed Friday Night Live Service to be encouraged and hear the Word of God.

September 27 – October 2,
6:55 pm Nightly

Bring family, friends and neighbors to share a miracle in a Holy Spirit Revival with Pastor and Evangelist, Elder Greg Voss; Scripture Acts 2:17.

October 10, 009

Help us to celebrate over 40 years of serving God, community and schools by Sister Tarpley @ The Crowne Plaza Dallas Near The Galleria on Midway Road in Addison, TX. Call for tickets or details.

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Senior Pastor
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5th Annual Women's Celebration

September 17th – 20th, 2009

Theme: "Living a life transformed and made whole."

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:1-2 NIV)

Invite Someone!



OUR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, September 17th - 7:00 P.M. – Everyone Welcome!

Guest Speaker: Reverend Susan Steadens
Lakewood Evangelistic Community Church
(Attire: White or Off White for the Ladies)

Friday, September 18th - 7:00 P.M. – Ladies of New Light Only!

Guest Speaker: Minister Monica Johnson, Epitome Magazine
Girl Talk @ Hampton Inn & Suites – 1700 Riccoe Drive, Mesquite, Tx.
Sign up with Sis. Karen Scott – (Attire: Casual)

Sunday, September 20th - 3:00 P.M. – Everyone Welcome!

Guest Speaker: Pastor Regina Burnett, Praise Temple Evangelistic Church- (Attire: Brown for the Ladies)



NEW LIGHT CHURCH
8314 Elm Rd - Dallas, Tx. 75217
Office: 214-391-3430
Pastor Shaun Rabb



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For Kingdom Building
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Sunday Morning Services
8:15 AM Story Elementary
10:45 AM Story Elementary
1:58 PM Excellence - Allen, Tx

Wednesday Night Live
Medi Prayer Service / Bible Study
7:00 PM
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Pastor W.L. Stafford Sr.
Lady Tasha Stafford

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Pastors Sam & Gloria Fenceroy

Harvest His Night



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

Gospel Music Concerts to Benefit Local Children's Charities

(NDG Wire) On Sunday, September 27, 2009 and October 18, 2009, respectively, AVE NuStudio (www.avenustudio.com), a Gospel event producer, will host two special Gospel music concerts, of which a portion of the ticket sales proceeds will be donated to local youth organizations (the Out Of The Box youth program and the Children's Medical Center Dallas).

The concerts will be

held at the Holiday Inn Select (Sept. 27th at 1655 N. Central Expressway in Richardson, starting at 6:00 p.m.) and the Plaza Arts Center (Oct. 18th at 1115 Fourth Avenue on the square in Old Downtown Carrollton, starting at 5:00 p.m.).

The Out Of The Box program is Generational Transfer Church's regular 4th Sunday youth program that directs youth on living

positive lifestyles while elevating their self-esteem through presenting musical, arts, and literary talents of youth artists to the general public.

Additionally, the Children's Medical Center Dallas is one of the largest not for profit pediatric healthcare providers in the United States, and is the only academic healthcare facility in North Texas dedicated exclusively to the comprehen-

sive care of children from birth to age 18.

Through these musical concerts, AVE NuStudio presents engaging recording artists to the audience. Kenny Love, Director of Marketing for AVE NuStudio says, "An evening of great musical entertainment is always wonderful and assured. But, as our themes also strongly focus on community self-sufficiency, we feel these concerts will

serve as even greater catalysts in generating much needed public awareness and specific attention to our youth in social, health, and other vital areas of their lives while enriching us all. As such, we graciously request everyone come out on these special evenings to support these worthwhile charitable causes."

Tickets for the Sept. 27th Out Of The Box youth concert may be purchased

by calling (469)463-3817 while tickets for the Oct. 18th concert may be purchased in Old Downtown Carrollton (Main and Beltline, off Interstate 35) at the following retailers; Ten Of Arts, Blooms On The Square, Wanza's Gifts & Collectibles, Ladybugs & Angels, and Agave Azul. For more concert details, visit the AVE NuStudio website at www.avenustudio.com.

DNC Announces Newly Elected Hispanic Caucus Leadership

(NDG Wire) On Saturday during the DNC's Fall Meeting in Austin, Texas, the DNC's Hispanic Caucus held elections for new leadership. Elections are held every four years at the DNC Meeting. Chairwoman Martínez, who currently serves as a state senator from Illinois, was elected to a four-year term by the full DNC Hispanic Caucus. Andrés Ramírez, a recently appointed at-large DNC member from Nevada, was elected as the DNC Caucus' new vice chair.

"As a lifelong fighter for the interests of Latinos in Illinois and elsewhere, I am thrilled to lead the DNC Hispanic Caucus. Latinos compose an expanding presence in the Democratic

Party because this is the party that fights for policies and ideals that Latinos of all origins can relate to, in-



Andrés Ramírez

cluding family values, inclusion, access to education, smart sensible foreign policy, health insurance reform, and commitment to comprehensive immigra-

tion reform. The DNC Hispanic Caucus chairmanship is an opportunity to fight for President Obama's agenda for change while using my voice to fight for what matters to Hispanics," said Martínez.

"This is a crucial time for Latinos in the Democratic Party and I am honored to have a leadership role within the DNC. Latinos throughout the nation stepped forward for change last November, and our participation is already paying off. Whether it's President Obama's appointment of more Latinos to high office or his fight for health insurance reform, this marks the beginning of a historic presidency. As the President's

road to change meets obstruction from the other side, Latinos have a signif-

icant role to play. I look forward to fighting for change from my position in the

DNC Hispanic Caucus along with Chairwoman Martínez," said Ramírez.

Garland Mayor's Good Neighbor Award

(NDG Wire) Earlier this year, the Garland City Council approved the creation of a quarterly award recognizing Garland residents or property owners who have made an extraordinary commitment to improving the quality of life in their neighborhoods. The Mayor's Good Neighbor Award has kicked off its application period and will take applications through September 30, 2009.

The Mayor's Good Neighbor Award acknowledges the accomplishments

of community partners and highlights the importance of all neighborhood stakeholders working together to continue making Garland the City of Choice.

The award will be granted based on: project innovation, potential for replication, mitigation of unsightly conditions, collaboration or partnership, volunteer contributions, and increased property value.

An application packet can be downloaded on the City of Garland website at www.ci.garland.tx.us, or

may be picked up in the Mayor's Office, or the City Secretary's Office located at 200 N. Fifth St. For questions or inquiries email edattomo@ci.garland.tx.us or call 972-205-2471.

Selections will be made by the Mayor after the nomination time period has been completed and all nominations have been received.

The first winner will be announced and recognized at the October 20 City Council meeting as well as the Neighborhood Summit on October 24.



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

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Ramon Hodridge, Minister



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website: www.fbc-online.net

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Early Morning Worship-3:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes-9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship-11:00 a.m.

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

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

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

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Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 11:00 am
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Wednesday Bible Study ... 12:00 noon & 7:30 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 75228
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Improve Our Air in Less Than Sixty Seconds

(NDG Wire) To decrease ozone-forming emissions from a high-polluting vehicle as soon as possible, North Texans who see smoke pouring from a vehicle tailpipe are encouraged to report it by dialing #SMOKE on a cell phone or visit www.smokingvehicle.net.

To protect our air, North Texas vehicles by law must annually pass an emissions test, but a lot can happen the 364 days between State inspections. Alerting vehicle owners to potential emissions-related problems, sooner rather than later, helps improve the region's air quality.

Additionally, Texas law prohibits visible motor vehicle exhaust for 10 consecutive seconds.

To assist vehicle owners and improve air quality, the Regional Smoking Vehicle Program allows residents to report high-emitting smoking vehicles by calling #SMOKE from a cell phone—it is a free call with most wireless providers. Callers are asked to report the Texas license plate number and where and when they saw the vehicle. Drivers can also report vehicles by dialing 817-704-2522 or entering information online at www.smokingvehicle.net.

Since the program launched in March 2007, about 15,350 vehicles have been reported.

Owners of reported vehicles receive a letter explaining the importance and benefits of regular vehicle maintenance. The letter also provides information about local solutions like the AirCheck-Texas Drive a Clean Machine Program which offers financial assistance for eligible vehicle owners to pay for emissions-related repairs. A follow-up survey is sent after the initial notice. More than 1,500 surveys have been returned, and 431 respondents

have repaired the reported vehicle. About 100 others said the reported vehicle was no longer in operation.

The program is implemented through a partnership between the North Central Texas Council of Governments and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Aside from reporting smoking vehicles, there are 14 other clean air choices encouraged through Air North Texas, a regional public awareness campaign and partnership to educate residents and motivate them to commit to clean air choices.

Other things to do: carpool, avoid idling and maintain vehicles.

Keeping tires properly inflated and rotated regularly, replacing air filters annually and changing oil and oil filters according to the owner's manual all help a vehicle run more efficiently, which re-

duces pollution. More clean air choices are online at www.airnorthtexas.org.

Reducing ozone-forming pollution and improving air quality are important to protecting the health and welfare of North Texans today and sustaining the quality of life for tomorrow.

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