

North Dallas Gazette



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Dallas Area Rapid Transit offers alternative to driving to the Fair



(NDG Wire) Your Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) pass is the ticket to the State Fair of Texas® and "Super Sized Fun" from September 24 to October 17. Details are available at DART.org/StateFair.

The fairgrounds are

connected to two DART Rail Green Line stations - Fair Park, located on Parry Avenue at the entrance to the fairgrounds, and MLK, Jr., located south of R.B. Cullum Blvd. and convenient to the MLK fairground entrance (Gate 6) and the

Cotton Bowl Stadium.

Passengers riding the Trinity Railway Express (TRE) or DART Rail to downtown Dallas can transfer easily to the Green Line: Southbound Red and Blue

See FAIR, Page 12

Black farmers maintain pressure on Congress regarding settlement

(NDG Wire) Black farmer John W. Boyd, Jr. continues his daily rides on his tractor "Justice" from Virginia to Capitol Hill on Monday, September 20. Boyd, president and founder of the National Black Farmers Association, plans to make the ride

through Washington, DC each day the Senate is in session, until Senators recess in October.

Boyd, who has attracted national attention for his effort to highlight the "ridiculous" delays in funding the Black farmers discrimination case settlement, met

with senior Administration officials at the White House on Friday and previously was greeted on the Hill by Senators Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Kay Hagan (D-NC) as well as Congressman Tom Perriellio (D-VA). Boyd is expected to meet with Members of

Congress each day this week.

"I am calling for a cloture vote on a stand alone Black farmers bill," said Boyd late Sunday evening before starting his second week of the tractor ride.

See SETTLEMENT, Page 11

Step Into Africa: The World Vision Experience: AIDS

(NDG Wire) The nationally touring, interactive *Step Into Africa: World Vision Experience: AIDS* exhibit is coming to Garland to raise awareness about the effects of the AIDS pandemic on children in developing countries. Volunteers from the

Springcreek Church are hosting this innovative and non-denominational exhibit in order to engage the community on the issue of how AIDS and the lack of clean water is devastating parts of Africa.

"World Vision is providing local residents of the greater Dallas area with an opportunity to see, hear, and experience in a personal way, the lives of children whose worlds have been devastated by AIDS," said Lorraine Kempf, outreach director at Springcreek Church. "The statistics are staggering. Worldwide, two million children are living with HIV and more than 15 million children have lost one or both

See AIDS, Page 5

COVER STORY

Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day Tuesday, September 28



See DOCTOR, Page 9



Michael Jackson's mother sues promoters of the late singer's planned concert tour

For more information see pg. 7
www.northdallasgazette.com

COMMENTARY

One nation working together Our blueprint for prosperity, equality and justice for all

BY HAZEL N. DUKES,
NAACP NEW YORK STATE
CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

In a recent op-ed, NAACP President and CEO Ben Jealous and I spelled out in great detail the importance of the upcoming "One Nation Working Together" march, a mobilization that will assemble in our nation's capital

on October 2 for jobs, justice and education.

On that wonderful day, we will forge our considerable will and determination with hundreds of other progressive organizations to declare our unequivocal unity with the communities, many of them under-

See BLUEPRINT, Page 3

INSIDE...

People In The News	2
Op/Ed	3
Health	4
Community News	5
Education	6
Cover Story	9
Arts & Entertainment	10
Business	11
Classifieds	12
Career Opportunity	13
Church Happenings	14
Sister Tarpley	15

People In The News...



Poornima Hanumara



Laysha Ward



Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, M.D., M.B.A

See Page 2

Poornima Hanumara

(NDG Wire) Despite the slack economy, plenty of recent UT Dallas graduates have snagged jobs at the likes of Microsoft, Sabre Holdings and Research In Motion, the maker of Blackberry.

Poornima Hanumara received her bachelor's in telecommunications engineering, credits undergraduate research opportunities with helping her get a well-rounded education and land a great job. She conducted eight months of research in

the University's Open Networking Advanced Research Lab, she had two summer research internships (one in Ireland, the other in Germany), and she interned at Cisco Systems during her senior year.

"During my four years of engineering education, I realized engineering is not just math and physics," she said. "It involves thinking out of the box, good decision making and teamwork. Class projects, especially Senior



Design class, helped me gain these soft skills."

She's joined Microsoft as one of the small number of high-achieving entry-level

employees the software maker hires as program managers.

"I think several factors contribute to our students' success in the job market, including the real-world experience they get through our internship program," said Mark W. Spong, Lars Magnus Ericsson Chair and dean of the University's Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science. "Equally important is the fact that so many of our faculty have industry experience, which means their instruction is grounded in the practical

application of theory."

But it's not just about engineering grads. Jessica Dallas graduated from the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences with a master of science degree in communication disorders, training through the University's Callier Center for Communication Disorders. She started work last month at Baylor Institute for Rehabilitation, working as a speech-language pathologist clinical fellow in inpatient rehabilitation.

"Within a month of graduation I had three different

job offers," she said. "I definitely feel that my time at Callier prepared me to be able to find a job upon graduation."

Like a number of others, Marcelo Somers landed a job with the company where he interned while working on his degree. With a bachelor's in finance, he's now a media product manager responsible for media advertising placement at Sabre Holdings. He's also working on an MBA at the UT Dallas School of Management.

See HANUMARA, Page 13

Laysha Ward

Laysha Ward is President of Community Relations. She oversees Target Corporation's domestic and international grant making, community sponsorships, cause marketing initiatives, and other civic activities.

She also leads Target's volunteerism efforts, encouraging and providing opportunities for more than 350,000 team members to give thousands of volunteer hours every year.

When appointed to her current position Michael

Francis, executive vice president of Marketing said, "Laysha has successfully guided Target's effort to positively impact communities around the world where we do business. In her new position,

Laysha will ensure Target's continued leadership in community service and corporate philanthropy through our ongoing commitment to giving 5% of our income to communities where our guests and team members live and work."

Ward began her career at Target Corporation in

1991 as stores sales leader for Dayton's department



store and was named vice president of Community Relations and Target Foundation in 2003.

She received a BA in Journalism from Indiana University in Bloomington and a Master's degree in Social Services Administration from the University of Chicago.

Ward serves on the board of directors of Denny's Corporation and the Corporation for National and Community Service, the nation's largest grant maker for volunteering and service.

She is also on the Exec-

utive Leadership Council, a national membership organization for African American executives, a member of the Aspen Institute's Commission No Child Left Behind, The Links, an international woman's service organization, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

Since 1946, Target has given 5% of its income and millions of volunteer hours to the communities it serves. Today, 5% equals more than \$3 million every week to support education, the arts, social services and volunteerism.a

Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, M.D., M.B.A

Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, M.D., M.B.A., President and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is a national leader in transforming America's health systems so people live healthier lives and receive the health care they need.

A practicing physician with business credentials and hands-on experience developing national health

policy, she was drawn to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation by the opportunity, as she puts it, to "alter the trajectory and to push society to change for the better."

Driven by the belief that the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is a steward of private resources that must be used in the public's interest, particularly to help the most vulnerable, Lavizzo-Mourey combines the values she learned as a doctor—commitment to others, a sense of altruism—with the skills and knowledge from her business training—the importance of measuring results and outcomes, of clear accountability, of taking a disciplined approach to managing resources and motivating people.

Through it all, she is

guided by the conviction that philanthropy is about simultaneously improving individual lives, transforming systems and in turn, achieving lasting social change.

Under Lavizzo-Mourey's leadership, the Foundation has restructured its strategic investments to target a set of high-impact priorities, among them:

- Designing a more effective, performance-driven, patient-centered health system.
- Improving the quality and safety of patient care.
- Strengthening state and local public health systems.
- Halting the rise in childhood obesity by 2015.
- Easing the crisis in the nursing profession.
- Covering the unin-

sured.

- Developing the next generation of health leaders and policy-makers.

Lavizzo-Mourey was a leader in academic medicine, government service and her medical specialty of geriatrics before joining RWJF in 2001 as senior vice president and director of the health care group. Previously, at the University of Pennsylvania, she was the Sylvan Eisman Professor of medicine and health care systems and director of Penn's Institute on Aging.

In Washington, D.C., she was deputy administrator of what is now the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality. She is a member of the Institute of Medicine of The National Academies and was featured on *The Non-Profit Times* 2010 Top 50 Power & Influence list.

Raised in Seattle by physician parents, Lavizzo-Mourey earned a medical degree from Harvard Med-

ical School, and an M.B.A. from the University of

See LAVIZZO-MOUREY, Page 4



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Big banks bankroll payday lenders, says new report

BY CHARLENE CROWELL (NDG Wire) In a tight recessionary economy, business expansion and profits are usually in a downward cycle. But according to a report released just a few days ago, the payday lending industry has found a 'golden goose': major banks. As the new report states, "Ultimately the big banks that borrow at near-zero interest rates from the Federal Reserve are not far removed from the payday companies that lend money at 500 percent."

Entitled The Predators' Creditors, the report traces connections between the

largest payday lenders and Wall Street banks. Report findings span financing arrangements, leadership ties, investments and shared practices. It is a joint publication from the National People's Action (NPA), a network of community power organizations across the country that work together for economic and racial justice, and Public Accountability Initiative (PIA), a nonprofit, nonpartisan watchdog organization that publishes investigative report.

In a recent *Los Angeles Times* interview, George Goehl, NPA executive di-

rector spoke to the developments that led to the new report.

"Americans have seen their assets dwindle and dwindle. We cannot have the big banks that we helped bail out actually play a strong role in continuing to strip wealth away from ordinary Americans."

The report found that while small businesses and individuals have struggled to get affordable loans, a significant portion of 2008 taxpayer bailouts to large Wall Street banks were used for the benefit of payday lenders. In fact, a few big bailed out banks that also

heavily finance major payday lenders received \$105 billion in TARP (Troubled Asset Relief Program) funds. In just one year, 2009, payday lenders paid these banks \$70 million in interest. That amount was according to the report, a "sign of how much banks are profiting by extending credit to these companies."

While the report notes that not all banks lend to the payday industry, there are strong financial connections with many of the nation's largest banks such as Wells Fargo that was found to lend more to payday loan

See BANKS Page 11

BLUEPRINT, continued from Page 1

served, who have joined us in the mobilization. We will revitalize those forces that in the past have been so formidable in their call for social and political equality. And we will ensure that those with access to decent jobs, a good education, and uncompromising justice are among the nation's majority.

Our march for jobs, justice and education is interrelated and vital to the health and well-being of a fully functioning democracy. Many of you who have been out of work for months and struggling vainly to be gainfully employed don't need a sermon from me about joblessness. And certainly those of you scuffling to get by on a part time job or making ends meet with meager unemployment benefits know first-hand how bad times are.

I am glad to hear that President Obama has begun to emphasize the need to create jobs, push for more tax credits for small businessmen and women, and establish an infrastructure bank. Putting Americans to work - much in the same way Franklin Roosevelt did when America faced an unprecedented economic crisis in the 1930s - is a major step in repairing the nation, bringing it back to-

gether with all of our labor force meaningfully employed, working in harmony to regenerate the "beloved community" that Dr. King often envisioned.

Dr. King also noted that an injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere, and that's why we are vigorously renewing our pursuit for justice - a pursuit that has always been at the top of the NAACP's agenda. We must boldly assert an end to racial profiling, police brutality, and the stop-and-frisk measures that disproportionately affect people of color. It is imperative that we insist on the termination of the sentencing disparity between crack and powder cocaine, and raise a resounding collective voice in defense of all of our civil and human rights guaranteed by the Constitution. Today, there is nothing more insidious and dangerous than the racist, rightwing elements that seem bent on abrogating the rights preserved by the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Any attempt to undermine these touchstones of freedom must be met with fierce opposition.

Quality education is another reason we march, and it is inextricably linked to our

quest for jobs. Here in New York, we've had to pursue legal action because the Board of Education wanted to close down 19 schools. Meanwhile, education systems in several other cities are reporting high school graduation rates of less than fifty percent. A serious overhaul is more than necessary - it's urgent.

Without a well-educated, highly trained workforce - particularly in the emerging areas of high technology and computer literacy - we will continue to lag far behind the rest of world's industrial nations. We have watched our once powerful manufacturing base slowly dissipate over the last several decades, a victim of automation and outsourcing. But this is not a lost cause - we must charge our government with the task of reclaiming this prestige with an unwavering impetus on a green economy and the creation of new jobs.

Accomplishing goals and overcoming seemingly impossible obstacles is part of our tradition and legacy and because we have done it in the past, we know it can be done again. We must marshal the same indivisible fortitude that won us court victories from the Pink Franklin

peonage case at the inception of the NAACP to Brown v. the Board of Education. It was no easy task to defeat the menace of Jim Crow and the nightriders, but we did. When restrictive covenants blocked our access to fair and decent housing, we marched without regard to safety and triumphed over price gouging landlords, real estate speculators, and predatory lenders. In cooperation with the labor movement, we scaled the barriers of discrimination in the workplace and made "a way out of no way."

It is time for us to take to the ramparts again, to put some feet on the streets, some gumption in the corporate suites, and awaken and revitalize the sleeping giant of activism that has been dormant for too long.

Our mantra, our watchword as we go forward is "One Nation Working Together," forging an unbreakable bond and making October 2, 2010 a day that will join the other milestones in our pantheon of civil rights. Our quest for jobs, justice and education will resonate with the same urgency and intensity that carried us to victory in the great March on Washington in 1963.

Tips for finding health centers for the services you need when uninsured

(NDG Wire) You want to take good care of yourself and your family, but have lost the health insurance you had or do not have the coverage you need for all your health care concerns. Finding a clinic and navigating program benefits may be confusing at best. The good news is that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has identified helpful web-based tools to assist you.

Search Affordable Clinics:
HRSA's Online Find a Health Center Search Tool
www.findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov

- Find a federally funded health center located near you.

- Search for health facilities by address, state, or county.

- If you need help with

**"Take A
Loved One
to the
Doctor Day"**

your search, contact the HRSA Information Center at the toll-free number, 1-888-275-4772, to speak with an Information Specialist who will assist you.

- Information Specialists are available 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. EST, Monday–Friday.

Obtain Free or Reduced-Cost Health Care

www.hrsa.gov/hillburton

- According the Hill-Burton Act, all health care facilities receiving government funds under Title XVI are required to provide free or reduced-cost health and clinical services to eligible individuals.

- Information packets

are available by calling the Hill Burton Hotline 1-800-638-0742.

Discover Federal and State Assistance Programs for Older Americans: AARP Benefits QuickLINK

www.aarp.org/quicklink

- The AARP Foundation has a benefits finder tool that allows you to search for a wide variety of federal and state level benefits programs.

- AARP Benefits QuickLINK focuses on benefits programs for older Americans.

- Benefits programs include food and prescription

assistance.

Get Help Obtaining Prescription Drugs:

www.NeedyMeds.com

- NeedyMeds is a non-profit database that helps patients locate low-cost prescription drug programs.

- Search by specific drug name to find what specific assistance programs are available for your prescription.

- Information is available for generic and brand name drugs.

Learn About Federal Government Benefits:
www.GovBenefits.gov

- GovBenefits.gov is the official benefits website of the

U.S. government with information on over 1,000 benefit and assistance programs.

- Benefits areas of focus include health care,

Medicare and Medicaid and disability assistance.

Flower Mound, Irving, Mesquite and Univesity Park receive special honor

(NDG Wire) At a recent luncheon at the Hilton Austin Hotel, fourteen Texas cities were recognized as Texas Certified Scenic Cities for having the highest level of scenic standards for public roadways and public spaces.

The Scenic City Certification Program, the first of its kind in the United States, was developed in 2009 by Scenic Texas in cooperation with the Texas Municipal League and in consultation with Scenic Houston, the Houston-Galveston Area Council, Urban Land Institute, American Planning Association and Houston Council of Engineers. It accepted its first applications in 2010.

Other programs exist to recognize achievement for individual aspects of urban

design and development, but this program is the first to incorporate a comprehensive set of model standards into one program. Applicant cities presented

their existing municipal standards for assessment and scoring against the model. Those with the highest evaluation scores were certified.

The 2010 Certified Scenic Cities are Bastrop, Belton, Flower Mound, Georgetown, Granbury, Horseshoe Bay, Irving, Keller, Mesquite, Missouri City, South Padre Island, Sugar Land, University Park and Westlake.

All Texas cities may apply for Scenic City certification. Applications for 2011 may be submitted to the program beginning January 1, 2011.



Health History Tips

(NDG Wire) Keeping a written health history can improve the health care you get and help you stay well. It serves as a memory device and a communication tool. Having a record of your health is especially handy when you have limited time during a doctor visit. Information your doctor might need to diagnose and treat you will be at your fingertips.

What to Include

You don't have to be an organization freak to keep health records. Nor do you need to spend countless hours of your time. At a minimum, you can use charts or blank pages in a

journal or notebook to record:

- personal identification, including name, birth date and blood type
- doctor visits and date of last physical
- dates and results of tests, shots, procedures or health screenings
- any major illnesses or surgeries you've had and when
- a list of all the medications you take, the dosages and how long you've been taking them

Other Information to Write Down

- any chronic conditions you have
- all allergies, including

drug and food allergies

- the names of your pharmacist and all your doctors, with their addresses and telephone numbers

- birth date and blood type

- family history of illnesses, such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes and mental illness

- the name and phone number of an emergency contact and/or caregiver

- the name, policy number, address and telephone number of your health insurance company

- whether you have an advance directive or living will

- organ donor authorization

- opinions and correspondence from specialists and providers

- eye and dental records
- permission forms for release of information, operations and other medical procedures

- history of any counseling received

- lifestyle habits: smoking, drinking, sleep, exercise, eating (how much, how often)

And for a great online tool for writing your health history, check out <https://familyhistory.hhs.gov/fhh-web/home.action>.

LAVIZZO-MOUREY, continued from Page 2

Pennsylvania's Wharton School. She completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital in

Boston; was a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania; and trained in geriatrics at Penn.

Always a physician as well as an agent for wide-scale social change, she still treats patients at a community health clinic in New

Brunswick, N.J. She and her husband of more than 30 years have two adult children.

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Become the Ultimate Sustainable Resource – Volunteer

(NDG Wire) The Live Green in Plano Volunteer Program is a free series of training classes designed to educate residents on green living topics and enable volunteers to share their expertise with others. Live Green in Plano volunteer training is scheduled from 7 to 9 p.m. on six consecutive Thursdays beginning Sept.

30 and ending Nov. 4 at Parkway Service Center, 4120 W. Plano Parkway at the Commerce Road intersection.

Classes are taught by City of Plano staff, local experts, knowledgeable residents and volunteers. Topics include water quality and conservation, air quality, basic composting, recy-



cling, conscious consumption, water-conscious and chemical-free yard care, al-

ternative energy sources, and conservation techniques. Live Green Volunteers are trained partners of the City of Plano's Sustainability and Environmental Services department.

"Volunteers assist in the expansion of the City's environmental education and community outreach program by providing other

residents with simple tips for a greener, cleaner lifestyle," said Deb Bliss, Sustainability Volunteer Coordinator.

The Live Green in Plano Volunteer Program provides 12 hours of instruction and attendees are required to complete 24 hours of volunteer service.

Volunteers maintain

demonstration gardens, speak to civic groups and homeowners associations, staff the reuse center, research and write articles, and participate in the Live Green Expo.

Register for the Live Green in Plano Volunteer Program by contacting Deb Bliss at 972-769-4313 or debb@plano.gov.

Children's book author Patricia Polacco to visit eight McKinney ISD elementary schools

(NDG Wire) World-renowned children's book author and illustrator Patricia Polacco will visit Texas for the first time as she plans a weeklong trip to McKinney where she will visit eight McKinney ISD elementary school campuses.

Polacco will begin her school tour at Burks Elementary on Wednesday, September 15 and Johnson Elementary on Thursday, September 16, followed by Wilmett Elementary on Friday.

She remained in McKinney over the weekend before visiting Walker Elementary on Monday, September 20, Eddins Elementary on Tuesday, September 21, McClure Elementary on Wednesday, and Glen Oaks Elementary on Thursday. Her final campus visit will be at Mc-



Neil Elementary on Friday, September 24.

"We started the process to have her visit five years ago," said Pam Bendorf, principal of Burks Elementary. "We've been waiting so long for our students to meet her and to share her experiences with them. We are so lucky to have her visit and especially fortunate to have this much time to spend with such an accomplished

author."

In addition to reading to the students, Polacco will be entertained by campus teachers as they serve celebrated food items from a few of her famous books such as fried chicken from *Chicken Sunday*, lemonade from the book *The Lemonade Club*, and her famous thunder cake from the book properly named *Thunder Cake*.

In addition to her school visits, on September 22, McKinney Mayor Brian Loughmiller will proclaim the week as "Patricia Polacco Week" in McKinney.

Polacco has authored over 50 children's picture books including her book *Thank You, Mr. Falker* which retells her personal story of overcoming dyslexia with the help of a

caring school teacher who recognized she was unable to read when she was 14 years old. She has authored *The Keeping Quilt*, *Some Birthday*, *Firetalk*, *Pink and Say*, *I Can Hear The Sun: A Modern Myth*, *Mrs. Mack*, *Welcome Comfort*, *Betty Doll*, *The Graves Family*, *John Phillip Duck*, *Emma Kate*, *Mommies Say Shh*, and many more.

"I have enjoyed a wonderful career of writing books for children," says Polacco on her website. "Who could have guessed that little girl that was having such a tough time in school would end up an illustrator and author. Children and adults alike ask me where I get my ideas...I get them from the same place that you do...MY IMAGINATION."

Recessionista's Closet event this weekend

(NDG Wire) On September 25, Dallas will welcome back its largest clothing swap event ever with an even greater community impact.

Lifestyle and Image Consultant Talisa Lavaray created this annual event in 2009 to help families and promote green living in Dallas. This year's event will benefit The Dallas International Street Church.

The Swap expo will feature trunk shows and several mini fashion shows hosted by local vintage apparel and accessory dealers.

Organizers are excited about using members of The Dallas Street International Church as models in the event as it not only exposes them to culture it gives them an opportunity

See CLOSET, Page 15

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AIDS, continued from Page 1

parents because of AIDS. By 2010, that figure is expected to jump to 18 million."

When visitors enter the church's multipurpose room, turned into a 2,000 sq. ft. virtual African village, they will don headsets and "become" one of four real children - Kombo, Babirye, Emmanuel, or Mathabo - whose life has been affected by AIDS, and whose life has been touched by World Vision, one of the world's leading charities for children.

The exhibit is set in the

hardest hit region of the world: Sub-Saharan Africa, where about 22 million people are infected with HIV, about two-thirds the world's total.

The exhibit has visited over 100 cities since 2007, drawing 250,000 people. This year, World Vision is expected to visit an additional 25 cities and reach an additional 100,000 visitors.

"World Vision, unfortunately, cannot take thousands of Americans to Africa to witness the tragedy of the AIDS pandemic personally," said

Richard E. Stearns, president and CEO of World Vision, U.S.

"So we've created this exhibit to enable people to 'step into Africa' and learn more about the effects of the greatest humanitarian disaster of our time and how they can help. No one can do everything, but each of us can do something to help turn the tide against AIDS."

Step Into Africa: World Vision Experience: AIDS exhibit will be at the Springcreek Church on September 18-26.

Hours of operation are as follows:

September 18, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.;
September 19, 12:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.;

September 20 & 21, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.;

September 22-24, 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.;

September 25, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.;

September 26, 12:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Reservations are available online at worldvision-experience.org and are strongly suggested.

TWC Monitors Texas Career Schools and Colleges

(NDG Wire) Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) licenses and regulates about 500 career schools and colleges in Texas which provide vocational training to more than 150,000 students. TWC makes annual site visits to campuses and monitors the qualifications of faculty, quality of facilities, class size, student completion rates, student employment rates, and other criteria. In addition to monitoring by TWC, some curricula must be approved by other Texas governing bodies such as the Texas Board of Nursing or the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners.

TWC encourages anyone considering a career

school to carefully consider all options including programs at both public and private colleges.

Potential students should consider the type of program that will best help them find employment in the occupations they seek, the quality and reputation of the school, its student graduation and employment rates, as well as the cost. Students should visit and tour the school. Students should be aware that they have 72 hours after they enroll to withdraw their applications with no penalty.

A recent report issued by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) included the results of investigations on student recruitment practices by 15 career

schools and colleges nationwide. The GAO investigation found that all made deceptive or otherwise questionable statements to GAO undercover applicants. In addition, four of the 15 schools encouraged fraudulent practices.

Prior to the GAO-issued report, TWC had notified Westwood College Online, owned by Alta Colleges, Inc. that it must stop offering its online courses to Texas residents, because the school did not have a Certificate of Approval to operate in Texas.

Based on failing to fully comply with the handling of complaints from Westwood Online students and several other compliance issues including those reported in the

GAO findings, TWC has initiated the process to revoke or deny renewal of the Certificates of Approval of four other Westwood Colleges — three campuses in Texas and one in Colorado with a license to operate in Texas.

As a result of the GAO report, TWC also has initiated action against Everest College and ATI Career Training Center. In letters to those schools in August, TWC stated that the agency has reasonable cause to believe the schools are guilty of violations to the Texas Education Code.

A career school traditionally trains students for a field in a business, trade, or technical or industrial occupation, or for a vocational or

personal improvement. TWC staff statewide monitors career school certification compliance, and can impose sanctions and/or an administrative penalty of up to \$1,000 per day per violation for noncompliance.

Pursuing such cases is the function of TWC's Regulatory Integrity Division, which is responsible for enforcing all regulatory statutes within the jurisdiction of the agency, encompassing career schools, child labor, Unemployment Insurance and workforce board sanctions.

Prospective career school students can access a list of schools with current Certificates of Approvals on the TWC Directory of Licensed

Institutions on the Career Schools and Colleges website page at <http://propschools.texasworkforce.org> or by calling (512) 936-3100. Schools with valid exemptions from the requirement for licensure are not listed on the directory.

Students with complaints are encouraged to use their schools' grievance processes or may file complaints with TWC. Complaint forms are located at twc.state.tx.us/svcs/propschools/propforms.html.

For more information, prospective students can call the TWC Career Schools Division at 512-936-3100 or e-mail career.schools@twc.state.tx.us.

CCCS of Greater Dallas Partners with Head Start of Greater Dallas to offer financial education to 4,500 D/FW Families

(NDG Wire) Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Greater Dallas (CCCS of Greater Dallas), a non-profit provider of credit and housing counseling and financial education, announced its partnership with Head Start of Greater Dallas to offer free financial education to the 4,500 families it serves in the Dallas area. CCCS of Greater Dallas has received funding to support its efforts from Citibank Foundation.

The CCCS of Greater Dallas education team wrapped up training with the Head Start staff in early September and will begin conducting free seminars for families the last week of September. The seminars will be offered monthly at 11 high-volume Head Start locations across the Metroplex. Additionally, CCCS of Greater Dallas curriculum and education courses will be available to all Head Start fami-

lies via webinars and special education events at Head Start's headquarters, located at 3954 Gannon Lane in Dallas.

The financial education classes will run throughout May 2011, with topics covering banking, budgeting, understanding credit, establishing financial goals, setting savings plans, the process to homeownership and the financial impact of having a baby.

"Head Start of Greater Dallas is so pleased to begin the partnership with CCCS of Greater Dallas. As Head Start of Greater Dallas works to build self-reliant families and communities, it is educational opportunities like these that offer our parents the opportunity to reach their financial goals," said Wanda J. Smith, CEO of Head Start of Greater Dallas.

The Citibank Foundation has supported several CCCS

of Greater Dallas initiatives, including a grant for the agency to offer free financial education online via live webinars. Class schedules are available at cccs.net/webinars.

"CCCS of Greater Dallas has supported our community with financial education and counseling to consumers since 1974," said Todd Mark,

vice president of education for CCCS of Greater Dallas. "We couldn't continue our mission without the support of generous organizations like Citibank Foundation. Their support of this noteworthy partnership will help families become more financially independent and, ultimately, improve the health of our economy."

TWU's Phi Kappa Phi named Chapter of Merit

(NDG Wire) The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi recently recognized the Texas Woman's University chapter as a Chapter of Merit.

This is the second consecutive year that TWU has received this award, which is given to chapters that comply with the society's national standards and demonstrate an active commitment to excellence. By receiving the Chapter of Merit distinction, TWU's Phi Kappa Phi chapter is being recognized as a thriving organization that meets frequently, holds annual ini-



tiations and applies frequently for Phi Kappa Phi's select scholarships, grants and fellowships.

"Being named as a Chapter of Merit speaks to the academic quality of our faculty and students and

their leadership in scholarly excellence and service," said Dr. Patricia Edwards associate vice president for TWU instructional support services and president of the TWU Phi Kappa Phi chapter. "This award also recognizes our students

who compete nationally to receive Phi Kappa Phi fellowships and scholarships."

In the past few years, TWU students have received the prestigious Phi Kappa Phi graduate fellowship, including Rae Lynn

McFarlin in 2010 and Rachel Zimmerman in 2009. TWU students also have received the organization's Award of Excellence scholarship.

Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society. The Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship Program is one of its most visible and financially-supported endeavors, allocating more than \$800,000 annually to deserving students for first-year graduate study. For more information, visit www.PhiKappaPhi.org.

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A Family Clothing Swap and Vintage Apparel Expo.

The 2nd Annual Recessionista's Closet

September 25, 2010
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Excuses Art Bar & Café
3025 Main Street
Dallas, TX 75226

Women, Men and Children are encouraged to participate. Spend your way to a new toy, home goods, home decor, fashion shows and trunk shows throughout the day.

For More Info log onto www.recessionistascloset.com and click the latest news link or call 214.886.0696

Sponsored in part by:

\$5.00 Donation requested at the door.
A portion of proceeds and left over clothing will be donated to The Dallas International Street Church.

International Museum of Cultures celebrates *Smithsonian Magazine* Museum Day

(NDG Wire) The International Museum of Cultures offers free admission on *Smithsonian Magazine's* 6th Annual Museum Day.



Beginning at 12 noon, Saturday, September 25, at the museum will participate in the sixth annual Museum Day, presented by Toyota on behalf of the re-designed 2011 Avalon.

The International Museum of Cultures, 7500 W. Camp Wisdom, Dallas, will join participating museums and cultural institutions nationwide to open their doors free to all visitors who download the Museum Day Ticket from Smithsonian.com.

Museum Day 2010 is poised to be the largest to date. Last year over 300,000 museum-goers and 1,300 venues in all 50 states participated.

To learn more about the Smithsonian program log on to www.smithsonian.com/museumday.

Florentino Ramirez, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the International Museum of Cul-

tures announced an afternoon of entertainment on stage and a movie in late afternoon.

The museum is located in southwest Dallas and it's a perfect location for a family outing, even an afternoon picnic amidst the stage performances.

The Museum Day Ticket is available to download at www.smithsonian.com/museumday.

Visitors who present the official pass will gain free admission for two people to the International Museum of Cultures and other participating museum. For additional info call 972 708 7406.

Best selling author and political commentator visiting Dallas

(NDG Wire) Mountain View College will welcome Donna Brazile as part of Mountain View College's 40th Anniversary Brunch from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Brazile is the author of the best-selling memoir *Cooking with Grease: Stirring the Pots in American Politics*, an adjunct professor at Georgetown University, a syndicated newspaper columnist for United Media, a columnist for *Magazine*, and *O, the Oprah Magazine*, an on-air contributor to CNN, and ABC.

In August 2009, *O, The Oprah Magazine* chose Brazile as one of its 20 "remarkable visionaries" for the magazine's first-ever O Power List.

In addition, she was



Donna Brazile

named among the 100 Most Powerful Women by *Washingtonian* magazine, Top 50 Women in America by *Essence* magazine, and she received the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's highest award for political achievement.

For ticket information contact Patricia Webb at 214-860-8789 or email pwebb@dcccd.edu.



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Every Saturday

Pure Saturdays 2026 Commerce Street 23 & up preferred DJ Steve Nice in The Mixx. Doors open @ 10 p.m. Info text or call 214-810-5483.

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 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.) Collin County Republican Party HQ, 8416 Stacy Rd., McKinney. Call Linda Wynn Drain, 214-498-7574 or website www.aarcc.com

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

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

Group Business Seminars at 4907 Spring Avenue, Dallas, (214) 11:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.; 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

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 day.

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.

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 November 7

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

September 23

NDTDW meeting Author

Malia Litman Rebuttal to the Rogue is scheduled for 6:45 p.m. at the Northhaven United Methodist Church at 11211 Preston Road (between Forest and Royal). Litman has written a fearless examination of Sarah Palin's career and on her influence on conservative voters. The book is carefully researched and highly informative. Copies will be available for sale at the meeting, with all proceeds going to Planned Parenthood.

September 24

Methodism's **Luncheon of Appreciation**, Celebrating 40 Years of Sharing the Bread of Life at 11:30 a.m. at Zan W. Holmes, Jr. Community Life Center; 6211 East Grand Ave. The cost is \$40 per person.

The Dallas Alumni Chapter of Prairie View A&M University has announced its **15th Annual Athletic Scholarship Gala** at 6:30 p.m. at the Westin City Center Hotel - Downtown Dallas (650 North Pearl Street). The theme of the night is *PV Alumni: Feel The Excitement...Give!!* and will feature Keynote Speaker, Stephen Brown, Senior Associate Pastor of Concord Baptist Church. Tickets for the gala are \$75.00 each and a table of ten (10) is \$750.00.

September 25

Recessionista's Closet will be held at Excuse Art Bar and Café located at 3025 Main St. Dallas. A \$5 donation is requested at the door. For more information visit www.talisalavarry.com and click on the latest news link, or call 214-886-0696.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce workshop 8:30 a.m. to noon at Reel Thing Catfish in Allen. Guests are asked to RSVP by Saturday, September 18 by calling Shelia Jones at 469-424-0120 or via email at sjones@ejesinc.com.

September 27

Annie's List Luncheon's Special Guest is Connie Schultz, author and syndicated columnist for The Cleveland Plain Dealer and Creators Syndicate. The event is scheduled for Noon to 1:15 p.m. at The Westin Galleria Dallas, 13340 Dallas Parkway, Dallas.

October 1 thru 3

Oktoberfest Southlake is celebrating the 9th annual Oktoberfest celebration hosted by Southlake's Chamber of Commerce! Attendance is completely free: no admission or parking fees. Booths sell a range of food & beverages, and artisans present unique, handcrafted shopping opportunities while you explore the arts and crafts booths. In addition to live entertainment events during the festival and the excitement-packed children's area, Oktoberfest also includes our popular wiener dog race, held on Saturday, October 2. Info: www.southlakechamber.com

October 2 thru January 2

American Modern: Abbott, Evans, Bourke-White at the Amon Carter Museum of Art www.cartermuseum.org/exhibitions

October 2 thru 3

Cottonwood Art Festival will feature 240 artists from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, October 2-3, 2010 at Richardson's Cottonwood Park. The park is just east of the intersection of Beltline Road and Coit Road. Info: www.cottonwoodartfestival.com

October 2

The Sister to Sister Fitness Festival is a day of breast cancer education activities, specifically targeting African American women starts at 8:30 a.m. The event will be held at the Cedar Hill Recreation Center, 310 East Parkerville Road, Cedar Hill. Register and info: www.celebratinglife.org or 214-947-0026.

[celebratinglife.org](http://www.celebratinglife.org) or 214-947-0026.

6th Annual Plano International Festival to take place in Haggard Park in Downtown Plano from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Enjoy ethnic food, multicultural music and dance performances, cultural displays, children's activities and much more! The Festival is underwritten by the Plano City Council and is designed to showcase the many cultures that make up Plano, Collin County, and their surroundings. Info: www.planointernationalfestival.org

October 7

"Creating Paparazzi - Your Business and Video Marketing" featuring Chad Joyce, Director of Marketing and Sales at KND Productions Inc. This workshop which will teach you how to effectively use social video marketing and why you should embrace social video marketing. Pre-registration required. Registration will close at 5:00 p.m. on October 6. Info: richardsonchamber.com/Events/Social-Media.aspx

October 8 thru 31

They're kooky and they're spooky! They're wacky and they're weird! No, not that other family! It's the Mongrews! Rosewood Center's Young Adult Rated Drama presents **The Curse of Castle Mongrew**, a gothic-horror comedy at the Dallas Children's Theater's Rosewood Center for Family Arts.

October 12

27th Annual Philbin Awards Luncheon, Recognizing Excellence in Legal Reporting. Keynote speaker: Former U.S. Solicitor General and Current President of Baylor University Kenneth Starr. For tickets, log on to dallasbar.org/philbin or email JSmalling@dallasbar.org.

October 13

March of Dimes Signature Chefs of Dallas auction 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Frontiers of Flight Museum located at 6911 Lemmon Avenue in Dallas. Tickets are \$300. Info: Katie Sperry at 972-669-3463 or ksperry@marchofdimes.com.

October 16

The Plano Community Forum's **29th Annual Awards Banquet** with this year's theme, "Bridging the Gap In The 21st Century: Parent, Child, and Teacher Connection." This year's awards banquet will be held at the Southfork Hotel, in Plano from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. For individual or group ticket purchases and reservations, contact Fran Richardson, 469-675-0002, franrich3@yahoo.com for a gala night of entertainment. Single tickets are \$60.00 and Tables of 8 are \$480.00.

Mountain View College will welcome Donna Brazile as part of **Mountain View College's 40th Anniversary Brunch** from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Info: Patricia Webb at 214-860-8789 or email pwebb@dcccd.edu.

October 23

2010 C.C. Rousseau Scholarship Black and Gold Gala at 7 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel (Downtown Dallas). Tickets are \$65.00 per person or \$650 per table. This is a Black Tie event. : DallasAlphas.com or : jabari156@gmail.com

November 12-13

The Ricardo Miller Children's Ministries are hosting the 2nd Annual Children's Ministry Symposium, a city-wide meeting for Children's Pastors, Children's Workers, Coordinators, and individuals interested in being trained in Children's Ministry. The CMS will be held November 12-13 at Pathway of Life Church in Dallas. www.richadomiller.com

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Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day

Tuesday, September 28

(NDG Wire) Many of us disregard the importance of regular checkups. Some of us avoid doctor visits out of fear and others simply because it's not part of our routine. When your loved one puts off seeing the doctor, a small health problem can become a more serious one. And some of the most serious health issues don't always have obvious symptoms.

You may be the one person who can convince your loved one to go to the doctor. Give it a try. Often just by asking some basic questions about diet and lifestyle and running some quick tests, a doctor can assess someone's health and well-being. The doctor may be able to suggest behaviors or treatments to dramatically lower the risk of serious health problems.

It's important for people of all ages to see a doctor regularly. People age 50 and over should see a doctor at least once a year. Yet they are often the most resistant to seeing a doctor out of fear of the unknown. But by encouraging a loved one to go, the benefits include:

- Help your loved one learn what he or she needs to do to get and stay healthy.
- Reassure the whole family about your loved one's health.
- Use this as a reminder to see the doctor yourself.
- You might save a loved one's life!

Prep before you go

Preparing a little in advance will help your loved one get a lot more out of the doctor visit. Here are some suggestions of information to gather before you go see the doctor.

- Questions for the doctor: Help your loved one take control of his or her

health by making sure the doctor addresses all of your questions thoroughly. The best way to do this? Write the questions down in advance. See our sample list of questions below.

- Bring all medications your loved one is taking to the doctor during the visit. By bringing in the bottles, you won't have to wonder if you remembered everything, and the doctor can see the dose and frequency of each drug.

- Bring some health history information. Write down diseases, surgeries, family history of cancer, diabetes, heart disease, etc.



At the doctor visit

Your loved one may not want you to join him or her in the examination room. Do not insist on doing so, but do try to ensure that you and your loved one get all of your questions answered before the appointment ends.

If the doctor seems to be rushing through the appointment, be polite but firm in asking for more time for your loved one. Remember: Your loved one is the paying customer here. Do not leave the doctor's office until ALL of your questions are answered! A

staff nurse or physician assistant may also be helpful in answering questions.

If you are in the appointment, take notes for your loved one. If not, urge him or her to write down the doctor's answers to your questions and any special instructions on lifestyle and diet changes.

If the doctor orders follow-up tests — for example, blood tests for cholesterol, diabetes or other conditions — make sure you get clear instructions on how and where to do the tests and whether there is any out-of-pocket expense. This will help make those

tests go more smoothly for your loved one.

If the doctor conveys concern about a potential serious health condition, remain calm. Gather as much information as you can from the doctor, and

never agree to any drastic actions — such as scheduling a surgery — without seeking a second opinion from another doctor.

Let's be real.

Based on the doctor visit, your loved one may need to start new medications, begin a daily exercise routine or change his or her diet. Such changes may seem small, but they can feel burdensome to some people. Be sensitive to your loved one and commit as much time as you can to helping them make any transitions that will improve their health.

Lifestyle changes can be hard. For example, it's not often easy for some people to start exercising.

But most people can start walking more. Walking is easy, convenient and inexpensive. Nearly everyone can do it at any skill, level from grandparents to children. Plus it has the lowest dropout rate and injury rate of all exercise programs.

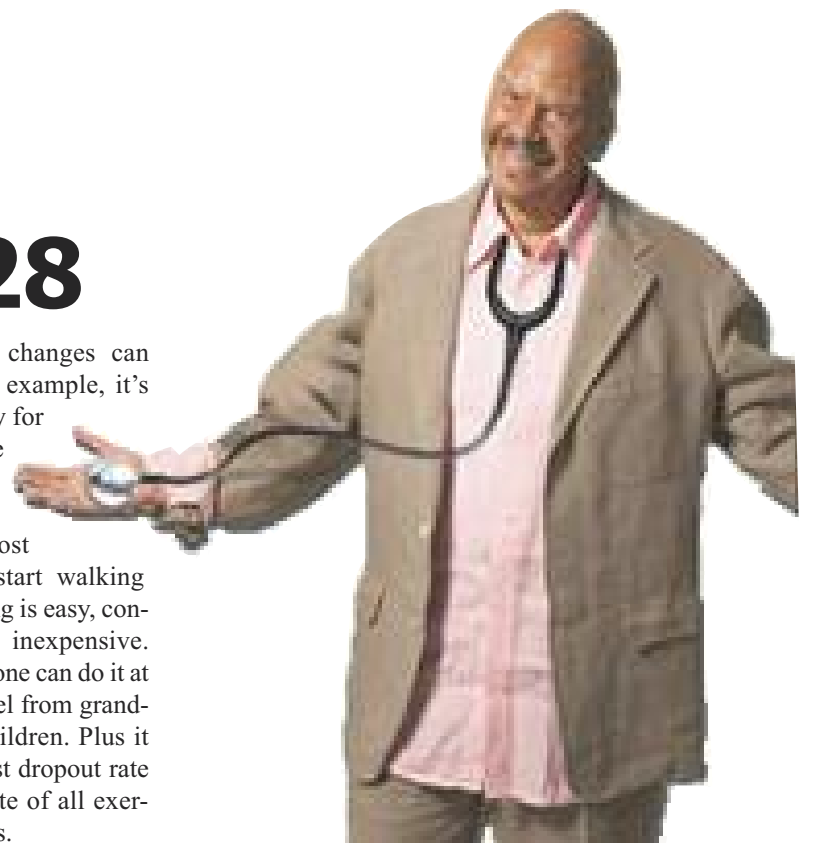
Studies show that people who have exercise partners — even if for a simple 10-minute walk a few days a week — stick with their exercise plans better than people who try to go it alone. So help your loved one find a neighbor or friend to walk with.

Also, almost everyone who commits to lifestyle changes will occasionally slip up by overeating, sneaking a cigarette or skipping a day or two of exercise. That's okay! We're all human. The key is to get your loved one to view those events as minor interruptions, not an end to their health effort.

Keeping a list of medications can help you and your loved one keep track of what they are taking, including prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines and supplements.

One easy way you can continue to help is by having a daily phone call with your loved one — just a few minutes — to check in and ask how everything's going.

Take the Tom Joyner "Take Your Loved One to the Doctor" pledge at www.BlackAmericaweb.com/drday. Your participation proves that it is important to not only take care of ourselves, but also those who we love and care about.



Questions To Ask Your Doctor

Your relationship with your doctor, including how well you talk with each other, affects your care. A good relationship — where you and your doctor share information and work together to make the best decisions about your health — will result in the best care. In addition to bringing your medications (or a list of them) and a list of any symptoms you may have, here are some questions to make talking to your doctor more effective:

Problem

- What is wrong? How do you know? What caused this problem?

Tests

- What tests do I need and why?
- What do the tests involve?
- How do I prepare for the tests?
- When will I know the

test results?

- Will my insurance cover the cost of the tests?

Treatment

- What are my treatment choices?
- What are the benefits and risks of each treatment?
- What are the side effects?
- Which treatment is most common for my condition?
- What do I do if treatment fails?

Medication

- What kind of medication(s) must I take? For how long?
- What does the drug do? Will there be any side effects?
- What should I do if I have side effects?
- Can I take a generic version of the drug?
- Will the medicine interact with any I am already taking?
- Should I avoid any kind of food or activity while taking this medicine?

Follow-Up

- Do I need to see a specialist? Should I get a second opinion?
- Do I need a follow-up visit?



The Curse of Castle Mongrew on stage at the DCT

(NDG Wire) They're kooky and they're spooky! They're wacky and they're weird! No, not that other family! It's the Mongrews! Rosewood Center's Young Adult Rated Drama presents *The Curse of Castle Mongrew*, a gothic-horror comedy, playing October 8 – October 31, 2010 at the Dallas Children's Theater's (DCT) Rosewood Center for Family Arts.

This Halloween, visit the medieval castle of the Mongrews in the midst of the Great Grimpen Frogswamp! Complete with a mad matriarch, an apoplectic master, a dashing hero and a feisty, yet practical heroine, *The Curse of Castle Mongrew*, is a parody of Gothic romance.

Gothic romance is defined as a mystery laced with horror and usually involves a gloomy estate setting, a spirited young woman, a darkly handsome man, peculiar servants and eccentric family re-

lations. *The Curse of Castle Mongrew* includes all this and more as a hauntingly hilarious tale guaranteed to thrill and delight this Halloween season.

Commissioned by Seat-

tle Children's Theater in 1985, *The Curse of Castle Mongrew* was first presented by DCT in 1993.

The Curse of Castle Mongrew could be described as a Brontë style saga with a dose of *The Adams Family*. Director Artie Olaisen, states, "With the popularity of recent 'mash-up' novels such as *Pride and Prejudice* and *Zombies* and *Sense and Sensibility* and *Sea Monsters* it seemed a perfect time to revisit this material."

The Curse of Castle Mongrew presents a classical genre in a new and hysterical light.

Adding flavor from the silent movie era and horror film genre, *The Curse of Castle Mongrew* features live

musical accompaniment by B. Wolf. Wolf composed an original score for DCT's 1993 production, which she is thrilled to reprise, this time with several new compositions.

An ensemble cast plays multiple roles to bring the iconic romance characters to life. Reprising roles from the 1993 production are Douglass Burks as the wayward lord of the manor and Karl Schaeffer as the gruesome family retainer. Lauren Rosen plays the sunny, irrepressible Kitty. Ginger Goldman, Nick Caldwell and LisaAnne Haram make their DCT debut.

It's gothic horror! It's romantic comedy! It's madcap melodrama! It's not to be

missed by children 12 and older!

Performances times: Fridays at 7:30 pm; Saturdays at 1:30 pm & 4:30 pm; Sunday, October 10 at 1:30 & 4:30 pm; remaining Sundays at 1:30 pm (includes Halloween Day!)

The ticket prices are Friday - \$18 Adult & Youth Section A; \$12 Adult & Youth Section B; Saturday/Sunday - \$23 Adult / \$21 Youth Section A; \$18 Adult / \$16 Youth Section B; Saturday/Sunday senior discount - \$20 Section A, \$16 Section B; and Saturday / Sunday college student discount - \$19 Section A, \$14 Section B.

Tickets can be purchased at the DCT Box Office 214-740-0051 or at www.dct.org.



Michael Jackson's mother sues promoters of the late singer's planned concert tour

(NNPA) Michael Jackson's mother is suing the promoters of her late son's planned concert tour, saying they did not live up to a promises to provide him proper physical care and negligently hiring Dr. Conrad Murray as his personal physician.

The Jackson family matriarch filed the suit against AEG Live in Los Angeles Superior Court on behalf of herself and her son's three children. She is seeking unspecified damages.

The suit alleges AEG is responsible for the medical decisions made by Murray, who has pleaded not guilty to involuntary manslaughter in Jackson's death.

AEG spokesman Michael Roth said company officials had not seen the lawsuit and had no immediate comment.

The London concert tour was canceled after Jackson's June 25, 2009, death at age 50.

The suit portrays the singer as being "confused, easily frightened, unable to remember, obsessive and

disoriented" in the months before his death.

"He was cold and shivering during the summer rehearsals for his show, and as shown in photographs of him, he uncharacteristically wore heavy clothing during the rehearsals, while other dancers wore scant clothing and were perspiring from the heat," the suit states.

Rather than cut back on the rehearsal schedule so that Jackson could recuperate, AEG "insisted that he attend every rehearsal in a grueling schedule, threatening that if he missed even one more they would cancel the tour ...," his mother alleges.

AEG, "so that it could reap staggering profits from the tour," instructed Jackson to stop taking medication and that he be treated only by Murray, according to the complaint.

One of Jackson's sons, Michael Jr., "witnessed his father suffering and accordingly has suffered great trauma and severe emotional distress," the suit says.

Aisha Tyler celebrates her 40th birthday



Aisha Tyler. Photo courtesy of Wire Image / Chris Weeks

(NDG Wire) On Friday, September 17 Grey Goose, hosted an intimate cocktail party for Aisha Tyler's 40th birthday at Vibiana in downtown Los Angeles.

Guests sipped on specialty cocktails including the Grey Goose Classic Martini, the Toasty Goose and the Grey Goose Orange Blossom while snacking on tray passed

hors d'oeuvres including crispy pork belly, aged goat cheese tarts, bacon wrap-ped scallops and venison carpaccio.

The Vibiana garden and downtown skyline provided a classy and elegant backdrop for Aisha, in a Catherine Malandrino mini, and her family and closest friends to dance and mingle all evening long.



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\$14 million in grant funds for DFW

(NDG Wire) The Dallas Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) is receiving \$14 million in grant funds from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for phase two of the rehabilitation and construction of its Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Training Facility.

The \$14 million is in addition to the \$3 million awarded in August for phase one and will be used towards furthering improvements of ARFF.

"I'm glad that DFW is receiving funds to continue with this important project," said Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson.



"The on-the-ground training provided at the DFW Fire Training Academy not only prepares local, regional, and nationwide emergency response personnel, but has also trained emergency workers from as far away as Latin America and Europe. We are privileged to have such an outstanding facility in North Texas."

The rehabilitation of ARFF is required to extend the useful life of the facility. The grant will also enable DFW to continue to meet

the federal regulations required for training aircraft rescue and firefighting personnel.

"This grant is an important step in moving the project forward, and it's great news, not only for DFW, but also for airport firefighters and responders around the world," said Jeff Fegan, DFW Airport CEO.

"More than fifteen thousand airport firefighters from 29 states and 23 countries have trained at the DFW fire training facility over the past 15 years, so it is vital to the aviation community as a whole that we maintain this important resource."

An Open Letter on Poverty to America's Local, State and National Leaders

BY REV. JESSE L. JACKSON SR.

(NNPA) The US Census Bureau's recent report on poverty in the United States is a clarion call to our nation and our elected leaders.

We in the United States possess the greatest resources and wealth ever known to humankind. So, to have over 44 million people - 14 percent of our population - and 20 percent of our children living in poverty strains the soul of America.

That fully one in four Americans - 72 million people - are "near poor" (officially, a family of four earning just \$32,634 in 2009) should call us into action. It's a moral disgrace.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is credited with saving or creating 1.4 million to 3.3 million jobs, and kept more than 6 million additional people from falling into poverty. Despite these efforts, it is unfathomable to think that poverty continues to grow in America - three million more in 2009, and more poor people living in poverty now, than 50 years ago when data was first published.

These realities are devastating. In 2009, poverty jumped to 14.3 percent, and

the number of people without health-care insurance broke 50 million for the very first time. The ranks of the unemployment rate swelled from 7.7 percent at the beginning of the year to 10 percent.

The unemployment rate of African-Americans and Latinos is nearly double and sometimes even triple the national average. The middle class continues to sink. Major cities around the country are losing public transportation jobs, public school teachers, public housing and home foreclosures are on the rise. The effect of such devastating poverty is under cutting excellence in public education and it is overwhelming American families.

I just spent a weeklong bus tour meeting and with congregations, students, and workers at plant gates in Michigan. Astonishingly, for example, Detroit has 90,000 vacant homes and or lots and not one national chain grocery store or retailer. While Detroit faces mounting hardships, we bailed out General Motors, a company's whose number one market for Buick is China, and new manufacturing plants are being built there and in Mexico. The

cries of babies in Appalachia, the tears of mothers in the rural south, and the frustration of workers laid off in urban cities across America - is this the face of America in 2010?

As people of conscience, as elected leaders of the greatest democracy in the world, we ask ourselves, is there not a need for a new war on poverty or a great society plan similar to that enacted by President Lyndon B. Johnson. Dr. King's cry for a Poor Peoples Campaign has come full circle. There must be a sense of urgency to address this moral and economic crisis. In Stimulus I, we have watered the leaves. We need Stimulus II to water the roots.

In Iraq and Afghanistan, we had a plan for Security, Stability, Investment Reconstruction, and Rebuilding infrastructure. Our people, our cities, our nation deserves nothing less. The Poverty Report is a call to Congress to pass a FY 2011 budget that expands funding to "war on poverty" programs supporting employment, education, and basic human needs. Focus on the least of these,

See LETTER, Page 12

SETTLEMENT, continued from Page 1

"While there are lots of very important causes, the Black farmers know that unless this bill is considered on its own merits other bills that have nothing to do with this issue -- including the Cobell Native American trust fund case -- may keep it from passing. Black farmers are dying, in fact another farmer active in the movement died this past week, and I can't let politicians use other issues as excuses not to vote on justice for Black farmers."

This Thursday, September 23, Boyd is expected to arrive at the USDA at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern) on his tractor "Justice" and join with other Black farmers for a march up Capitol Hill to a rally and press conference at 11:00 AM at or near the Senate Swamp.

The Black farmers settlement was reached by the Obama Administration and the Black farmers. The \$1.15 billion settlement has been approved in federal court but has yet to be paid.

However the settlement requires congressional approval. Earlier this year the U.S. House of Representatives provided their passed the settlement funding, but the Senate has failed to pass the funding on eight attempts this session.

Despite assurances by leaders in both parties say the funding is paid for, meaning offsets have been located and the funding will not add to the deficit the settlement still remains unapproved.

BANKS, continued from Page 3

companies than any other big bank. Other banks cited in the report were Bank of America, Credit Suisse, JP Morgan Chase, Fifth Third, Union Bank of California and US Bank.

Creditors' Predators also found that major banks and their subsidiaries have begun investing in the industry.

According to the report, as of June 30, 2010 Wells Fargo had a \$52 million investment in Dollar Financial. Banks also benefited other large payday lenders such as Advance America, Cash America and EZCorp.

Additionally, the report details how several current and former executives at major Wall Street banks hold leadership roles with some of the largest payday lenders. The board of Advance America, the nation's largest payday lender, includes multiple bank executives.

And Advance America was not alone. Goldman Sachs was a 10 percent owner of Dollar Financial Group at the time of its initial public offering (IPO). Before the company's IPO, two senior Goldman Sachs executives were also board members. The report suggests that these multi-layered relationships strongly influenced the payday in-

dustry's growth.

If one considers the dual developments of financial deregulation coupled with generous bank financing the rapid payday lending industry growth becomes more understandable. In 1995, there were 2,000 payday stores nationwide. Today, there are 20,611 stores nationwide, as common as McDonald's and Burger King Restaurants.

For Uriah King, CRL's vice-president for state policy, there is also a broader economic question to consider.

"Is it really helping our economy when the federal government is lending at less than one percent and struggling families are borrowing at over 400 percent?", asked King. "How in the world are those consumers going to lead us out of the potential double dip recession?"

Predators' Creditors reached a similar conclusion. "Instead of wading further into the business of predatory payday lending, big banks need to stop financing these lenders and instead lend to businesses and individuals that create wealth, rather than destroy it", concludes the report.

According to the CRL's independent research, also cited in the

new report, very seldom are payday borrowers able to fully repay the small dollar loan within two weeks. As a result, the profitability for payday lenders is repeat business or 'churning' the practice of quickly taking out a new loan after an earlier one is repaid.

Additionally, CRL has also determined that many of the worst payday abuses are almost exclusively in southern states where median incomes are modest and minority populations are significant. The states with the highest number of payday stores per household are: Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, South Carolina and Tennessee.

To date, a total of 16 states and the District of Columbia have limited payday interest to double-digit rates: Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Vermont and West Virginia.

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

Frito-Lay starts 'charge' on largest fleet of all-electric trucks in North America

(NDG Wire) PepsiCo's Frito-Lay North America division is setting the wheels in motion for what will ultimately be the largest fleet of commercial all-electric trucks in North America this week. New York City will become the first U.S. city to receive its favorite snacks from fully-electric delivery trucks, with five new trucks beginning routes this month.

In total, Frito-Lay will be deploying 21 electric trucks this year. The company projects it will roll out 150 additional trucks in 2011, making Frito-Lay the largest commercial fleet of all-electric trucks in North America. The trucks, designed by Smith Electric Vehicles, generate zero tailpipe emissions and operate for up to 100 miles on a single charge.

Electric trucks reduce fuel consumption, noise pollution and CO2 emissions, compared to traditional delivery trucks.

"Frito-Lay has implemented bold goals for reducing our use of key resources such as fuel to ultimately help us reduce our overall environmental impact," said Mike O'Connell, director of fleet capability for Frito Lay

North America.

Specific benefits associated with Smith's all-electric trucks include:

- Can run up to 100 miles on a single charge
- Zero tailpipe emissions

• Emits 75 percent less greenhouse gas than diesel

• Operates virtually silently, eliminating noise pollution

New York will be the first of three cities in the U.S.,

along with Columbus, Ohio and Ft Worth, Texas, where Frito-Lay will be piloting electric trucks on regular daily routes. The company has already deployed six electric trucks in Canada.

FAIR, continued from Page 1

Line passengers transfer at Pearl Station; Northbound Red and Blue Line passengers transfer at Akard Station; and TRE passengers transfer to the Green Line at Victory Station.

Special connections are planned for Saturday, October 2 and Saturday, October 9, and some passengers may use buses to complete their trip. Go to DART.org/RedRiverRivalry or DART.org/BaylorTexasTechfor details.

Local Day passes for riders headed to the fair (DART Rail, local bus) will be \$4. Folks riding the TRE from Irving will pay \$5 (\$7 starting October 1) for a System Day Pass. Customers coming from Tarrant County need to purchase a Regional Day Pass for \$7.50 (\$10 starting October 1). The fares are good for trains or buses or both. Passes are available at Ticket Vending Machines located at all DART and TRE stations.

Fair highlights this year include three Saturdays of college football in the Cotton Bowl. DART has cre-

ated special web pages for each game with detailed information about the additional service to help fans plan their trips:

State Fair Classic, September 25: DART.org/StateFairClassic

Texas – Oklahoma, October 2: DART.org/RedRiverRivalry

Baylor – Texas Tech, October 9: DART.org/BaylorTexasTech

As game day nears, sign up for service alerts and get the latest information about rail and bus service at www.DART.org/StateFair, or call 214-979-1111. To help accommodate the expected large crowds before and after the games, DART is adding light rail and buses and TRE trains (service varies by event).

No matter which travel option you choose, be sure to allow plenty of travel time so you do not miss a minute of the action. The trip doesn't end with the final whistle, so DART is working with State Fair staff to make the post-game departure and wait smoother.

Staff will be on hand to get customers to the fastest areas to board for a return trip. Special service will continue for at least two hours after the game, so there's plenty of time to relax and get that extra corny dog.

On Saturdays and Sundays, motorists can ride the free "Big Tex Express" train between auxiliary parking at the fairgrounds to a gate near the Cotton Bowl. The State Fair of Texas offers acres of lighted and secured parking off Haskell west of Dolphin Road - easily accessible from I-30. Parking is \$15. The service operates continuously from 10 a.m. to midnight on Saturdays and from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Sundays. Note: The Big Tex Express does not run to Tarrant County.

Advance discount State Fair of Texas tickets with a DART Pass are available for \$16 at a participating Kroger. The price includes one-time State Fair® admission and transportation on DART Rail and local buses on date of use.

LETTER, continued from Page 11

and extend the TANF Emergency Fund to expand subsidized jobs programs – and end the tax breaks for the richest 2% of Americans that would yield \$700 billion in revenue over the next decade. Extend the reforms to the earned income tax credit, or EITC, and the child tax credit, or CTC. Focus on extending programs that support the least

of these, not those with the most.

Expand the weatherization program – and enact a modern-day urban home-steading program where the urban unemployed can reclaim lost homes, learn carpentry, plumbing and green jobs skills to rebuild America. We can begin to work our way out. Congressional leaders, take the bold step

of committing to reducing poverty by 50 percent over the next ten years – half in ten! America, give us a listening ear. The people are restless and rising up. America, please hear our plea. There is no time to waste. It's time for a change.

Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. is founding president and CEO of Rainbow/PUSH.

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Texas unemployment rises to 8.3 percent in August

Texas employers add 129,100 jobs since August 2009

(NDG Wire) The Texas unemployment rate for August rose slightly to 8.3 percent, up from 8.2 percent in July. The Texas unemployment rate continued to trend well below the U.S. unemployment rate for August of 9.6 percent. Total Texas non-farm employment was down by 34,200 jobs due to a loss of Government jobs, although Texas nongovernment jobs increased in August.

"Texas annual job gains have been broad-based with most major industries experiencing positive job growth," said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken. "More tempo-



rary workers in Texas hired by the federal government for the 2010 Census were dropped from government payrolls in August. That contributed to a decrease of 35,300 government jobs during that month, thus resulting in overall Texas job losses in

August."

Education and Health Services grew by 12,400 positions in August, and Professional and Business Services increased by 4,100 jobs over the month, representing the eighth consecutive month of employment gains in this industry.

"Texas job growth over the year represents opportunities for Texas workers," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. "However, for those individuals still looking for work and especially for those who no longer have access to unemployment benefits, the job-search situation

remains frustrating. TWC workforce centers across the state can assist with WorkInTexas.com and other job-search services."

Information industry employment, including media and telecommunications carriers, increased by 900 jobs in August, and the employment in the Manufacturing industry grew by 1,300 jobs over the month.

"Job gains in Education and Health Services, Manufacturing, and Professional and Business Services are encouraging to Texans seeking employment," said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Andres Alcantar.

"While the unemployment rate remains more than a full percentage point below the national rate, TWC and Texas

Workforce Solutions remain committed to assisting job seekers and employers across the state."

HANUMARA, continued from Page 2

Academia has also been hiring. Jonathan Caudill recently earned his PhD in criminology from the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences and is now on the faculty at California's Chico State.

"There were a lot of applicants in the pool this past year," he said. "If anything, speculation suggests that universities were very cautious in expanding their obligations. I applied to nine schools, interviewed at three and received two offers."

Cody Eilrich, who received his bachelor's in computer engineering, interned at the wireless networking company Enfora Inc. for two years before accepting a job as a software engineer there. His first internship position was as a tester, but things really took off after he acquired the skills to move into development.

"It has been a blast ever since," he said. "I learned so much from my internship, and I'm really excited about my full-time job."

Statistics from 2008-2009, the latest numbers available, indicate nearly 83 percent of UT Dallas engineering and computer science bachelor's degree recipients have jobs within a short

time of graduation, a statistic that compares favorably with other universities, according to Michael Doty, director of the UT Dallas Career Center. And the University's other schools have a success rate that's nearly as high.

Gurnoor Kang, who received her bachelor's in computer science, interned at AT&T and at Microsoft while still in school. Her intern experience taught her a lot about real-world problem solving, complementing her classes.

"The most important things I learned at the Jonsen School concerned creative and critical thinking," she said, "especially the importance of considering multiple available choices and checking the pros and cons of all available options."

Microsoft has hired her as a software development engineer.

Finally there's Nikunj Khankhanwala, who received his master's in electrical engineering in the spring and is now a radio-frequency (RF) design engineer at Research In Motion. He interned at ThingMagic Inc. in 2009 and 2010, where he was exposed to industrial design concepts and systematic ways of debugging problems,

but his education is what really paid off.

"I had no knowledge of RF design engineering when

I first enrolled at UT Dallas, and at the end of two years it is now my bread and butter," he said.



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October 2, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
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Every day we should be thankful to God for all of His blessings. And surely, Christians have many reasons to thank him.

Personally, when I think of the goodness of God, I am reminded of a song that I learned long ago, "Count your many blessings, count them one by one, count your many blessings and see what God has done."

If you will get in a quiet place and start thinking of the things that God has done for you, you will find that you have more pluses than minuses.

Even with the things that can and will go wrong, as a saying that I once heard, "I complained because I had no shoes, until I met a man who had no feet" we still have plenty to be thankful for.

People should live their best life each day because

no one knows if it is their last day in the land of the living or not. God Himself said, "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his soul?" I can tell you, it doesn't profit you anything.

It is best not to take for granted people or things that are closest to your heart. Cling to them as you would your life, for without them, life is meaningless.

Do not let your life slip through your fingers by living in the past nor for the future. By living your life one day at a time, you will live all the days of your life and learn to appreciate each day because tomorrow isn't promised to you.

Never give up when you have something to give. Nothing is really over until the moment you stop trying.

It is a very fragile thread that binds us to each other

and once the trust is gone, it is hard, if ever you can, regain the trust.

Do not be afraid to encounter risks. It is by taking chances that we learn how to be brave.

Do not shut love out of your life by saying it is impossible to find. It is said that the quickest way to receive love is to give love and the fastest way to lose love is to hold it too tightly.

Do not dismiss your dreams. To be without dreams is to be without hope. To be without hope is to be without purpose. To be without purpose is to merely exist and not live.

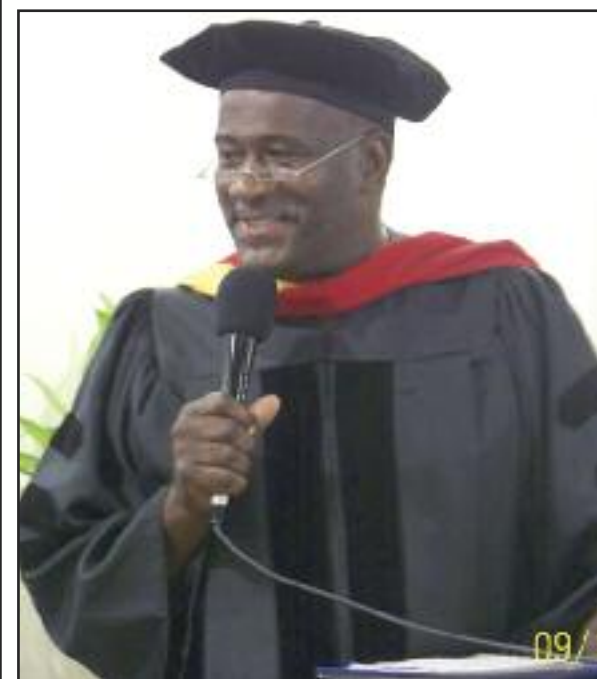
Do not run through life so fast that you forget not only where you have been but also where you are going.

Christians should always remember the faithfulness of God when their

trials come. If God say something, His Word can be fully trusted. He is faithful to fulfill every promise in His Word. Perhaps there are times in a Christian's life that he/she believes that God did not fulfill a desire that the individual had.

However, as Christians we must remember that God is more concerned about accomplishing His ultimate purpose in the life of every believer than giving Christians the desires of their heart. There are times that this creates a hardship for the Christian, however, God's faithfulness, more often than not, is accompanied by hardship.

Remember that God brought Joseph out of slavery to be greatly used in a nation. He delivered the people from Egypt and brought them into the Promised Land. He gave



Dr. Gregory Voss, Pastor of Word of Life C.O.G.I.C in Carrollton, Texas conducting a Bible Study Graduation on September 19, 2010.

Abraham the son of promise late in his life.

God delivered David from his enemies and made him a king. In story upon story in the Bible, we learn of God's faithfulness.

Something that is good

to remember is that it's the short words in life that counts, life, love, care, hope, peace and joy, to name a few; and that life is not a race but a journey to be savored each step of the way.

CLOSET, continued from Page 5

to be put on display in a positive light while increasing their self-esteem.

"There are no words to explain the excitement I feel about partnering with The Dallas International Street Church. This truly encompasses all of my passions

and gives me the opportunity to teach and encourage; all in the name of Fashion," says Lavarry.

Lavarry attributes the high-level of interest in the Swap and Expo to tough economic times and the success that so many had in

finding great clothes on last year.

All clothing that is left after the swap will be donated to The Dallas International Street Church. This community fostering event will take place at Excuses Art Bar & Cafe in Dallas on

Saturday September 25 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Admission to this event is free, however; a \$5 donation is requested at the door. For more information, visit www.talisalavarry.com and click on the latest news link or call 214-886-0696.

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Austin Science and Engineering Festival invites you to discover YOUR world

(NDG Wire) Austin Science and Engineering Festival makes its debut October 2-24, 2010, bringing the community together to celebrate and to raise family awareness of the city's resources in science and technology.

The month-long festival, which is a satellite event of the USA Festival, is expected to attract at least 50,000 visitors to events designed to engage the public with the latest thinking in science, technology and en-



gineering.

"The great thing about the festival is that it reaches the community as a whole," said festival director, Enrique Gomez.

"Science and technology are indispensable tools for empowering people and should be supported with

efforts that promote curiosity toward science and the intelligent use of technology."

Designed to be an inclusive public celebration, the festival will mobilize academic, educational and commercial scientific resources to showcase science

and technology in Austin and to increase citizens' awareness of local science-based opportunities, activities and resources. There will also be events at venues across the area and exhibits will be hands-on and interactive for the community.

Events throughout the community are slated to commence on October 2, 2010. The Festival culminates in a two-day Expo at the Austin Convention Center on October 23 and 24

with more than 150 science & engineering exhibits of science and engineering activities to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers.

The festival is open to

everyone and admission is free.

For additional information on The Austin Science and Engineering Festival, visit austinsciencefestival.org.

Lead Pastor: Timothy Jones

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TUESDAY: 7:00 PM
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Sunday School
9:30 am

Wednesday Night Service
8:00 pm

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