

North Dallas Gazette



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Dallas City Hall Corruption Case Ends With Convictions



Don Hill and wife Sheila Farrington-Hill. (AP)

BY FREDERICK D. LEWIS, J.D.
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

Former Dallas Mayor Pro Tem Don Hill was convicted Oct. 5 on seven of nine counts charged against him. He faces a maximum of 100 years in prison and over \$1 million in fines. This does not include the IRS charges against him.

Hill, who was on the witness stand for five days in Dallas City Hall's corruption case, was found guilty of one count of conspiracy to commit bribery concerning a local government receiving federal benefits; two counts of bribery

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NTJCC Students Help Preserve Local History in Virginia

(NDG Wire) Two North Texas Job Corps Center (NTJCC) students joined six other Job Corps students Aug. 24-Sept. 4 to help preserve a bit of Virginia's post Civil War history.

NTJCC students Bryon McQueen and Glenn

Robinson worked with the other students to restore Long's Chapel, a small wooden church that served as a spiritual and educational center for a community of Zenda.

Newly freed slaves formed that community, also known as "Little

Africa," after the Civil War. Long's Chapel, which fell into disrepair over the years, is located in Rockingham County, VA.

The Job Corps students spent the two weeks insulating, re-siding and painting the structure. They also repaired windows and rein-

forced the chapel's foundation.

Students stayed at nearby Camp Horizons, where HYS headquarters is located, and traveled to the job site each day. During the evenings, students enjoyed activities at camp

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Family & Friends Celebrate the Life & Ministry of Garland Leader

Personal Reflections
BY RUTH FERGUSON
NDG EDITOR

A native of Dallas, son, husband, father, friend and a star athlete are just a few ways one could describe Dr. Roosevelt Eric Almond Griffin, Sr. However, he would prefer others to re-

member that he was a Servant of God and student of His Word. His warmth, generous and friendly spirit drew children and adults alike to St. Mark Baptist Church in Garland, the church he began in 1976 with his wife, Mrs. Linda Griffin.

Following his passing on September 29, Griffin's life and ministry was celebrated at St. Mark to what was undoubtedly the largest gathering in the church's history. Family, friends, members – current and former – joined with

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Dr. Roosevelt Griffin, Sr.

SPOTLIGHT

TechQuest Helps Innovators Find Their Perfect Match



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Chris Rock Doc Gets to the Root of Black Hair Issues

For more information see pg. 10
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COMMENTARY

First Friday Blues: Jobless Situation Getting Worse

BY JULIANNE MALVEAUX

(NNPA) The bureau of labor statistics issues a report, The employment situation, on the first Friday of every month (www.bls.gov). For the past several months, the report has contained no surprises. We know the jobless situation is getting worse, and we only wait for their statistical confirmation of our pain.

This month the unemployment rate rose to 9.8 percent. There were more than 200,000 jobs shed, but more than that, more and more people are shrugging the labor market off, feeling that they can not find work. The 9.8 percent for everyone translates into 9 percent for Whites, 12.7 percent

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People In The News...



Daniel W. Yohannes



Alexine Clement Jackson



Jacqueline Fitch

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Daniel W. Yohannes

(NDG Wire) Bread for the World announced their approval of the appointment of Daniel W. Yohannes to

be the new chief executive officer of the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC).



"We are excited that President Barack Obama has chosen someone with such an extensive financial background to lead the MCC," said Rev. David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World. "Daniel Yohannes' considerable experience in banking and investing – and his background

as an Ethiopian immigrant – makes him an ideal candidate to enhance what the MCC is doing for the world's poor and hungry people."

When submitting Yohannes nomination among others, President Barack Obama said in a statement, "These individuals have proven that they will bring skill, dedication and expertise in these important areas to my administration, and I look forward to working with them in the coming months and years."

At the age of 17, Yohannes came to the United States as an ex-

change student with only \$150 in his pocket. He worked part-time while studying to get a college degree. Yohannes' first job in banking was as a teller. From there, he worked his way up.

Prior to his MCC appointment, Yohannes served as president and CEO of M&R Investments, LLC, a privately held investment firm specializing in real estate, financial institutions and the green energy sector.

Previously, he served as vice chairman of U.S. Bank for the Commercial Banking Group, Consumer Banking Group and as Head

of Integration for Community and Public Affairs. In this role, his responsibilities included leading the integration of U.S. Bank and Firststar, which resulted in the 6th largest bank in the country, as he grew the Colorado franchise from \$2 billion to \$9 billion in assets.

From 1977 to 1992, he worked at Security Pacific Bank (now Bank of America), where he held a number of leadership roles.

Yohannes is on the Board of the National Jewish Hospital and Research Center, the Denver Art Museum, the University of Colorado Medical School

and Project C.U.R.E., which provides medical supplies to 110 countries.

Yohannes holds a B.S. in economics from Claremont McKenna College and a M.B.A. from Pepperdine University.

He replaces Darius Mans, acting CEO of the MCC. Bread for the World campaigned for the establishment of the Millennium Challenge Corporation in 2003.

Bread for the World (www.bread.org) is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.

Alexine Clement Jackson

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among African-American women and the second most common cause of cancer death, exceeded only by lung cancer. More than 6,000 African-American women are expected to die from the disease in 2009 alone.

These startling realities drive Alexine Clement Jackson, the first African-American female board chair of Susan G. Komen for the

Cure. "I am a 23-year survivor of breast cancer. I know early detection saved my life. Being a leader in the breast cancer movement empowers me to empower others," said Jackson.

A tireless volunteer, Jackson also served a five-year term as national president of the YWCA. She currently serves on the board of the Intercultural Cancer Council, the Cancer Research Foundation of America and the Na-

tional Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, among others. In addition to chairing the Komen for the Cure board, Jackson also co-chairs the Circle of Promise, a program designed to mobilize, motivate and empower African-American women to become active in public policy efforts.

Jackson is working to bring attention to the fight against breast cancer and encourage everyone to get in-



involved in this global movement during October, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

"Education and awareness are our greatest weapons against the myths, fears and

challenges surrounding breast cancer," Jackson said. "For our own sakes and for the future of our families, we must take charge of our health."

Komen hopes Jackson's leadership and presence will help recruit ambassadors for the Circle of Promise. Actress and breast cancer survivor Diahann Carroll has become the latest national ambassador for Circle of Promise. To learn more, visit www.circleofpromise.org.

Circle of Promise partner

TV One has produced a documentary titled, *Breast Cancer Examined: An African-American Perspective*, which airs on Sunday, October 11 on TV One at 7:00 p.m., with support from Luster Products. For more information visit www.circleofpromise.org

"We are very excited about building awareness during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and throughout the year. Working together, we will save lives and defeat breast cancer," said Jackson.

Jacqueline Fitch

(NNPA) For the first time in the United States Coast Guard Academy's 133-year history, an African American woman is leading the cadets.

Jacqueline Fitch, 22, of Catonsville, MD made her debut as regimental commander, the academy's highest-ranking cadet, on Sept. 26 when she led the Corps of Cadets in a parade on the academy's Washington Parade Field.

The regimental commander acts as a liaison between the commandant of cadets and the cadet corps. Fitch will be responsible for maintaining good order and discipline, overseeing welfare of the student body and ensuring cadets comply to the regulations and policies established by the superin-

tendent and commandant of cadets.

"This feels great. It's probably my greatest accomplishment so far," Fitch said. "It makes me feel happy because it's something that I did for my people and those who come into the academy after me."

Fitch said she did not initially realize her appointment made history.

"I didn't know I was the first," she said. "I applied and I knew we previously had an African-American male, but after people started asking me if I was the first, it made me wonder. Then I found out and it just feels great to be like a trailblazer."

Fitch hopes that her time as regimental commander will be well remem-



bered and she will serve as a model for the newest cadets.

"I decided to take this position because I want to challenge myself as a leader and I wanted to grow as an individual, but most importantly, I applied for this position because I wanted to leave an impression and influence those who will

come after me. I went to prep school and I trained the incoming class of students that went to prep school. I want them to know that they too can make a difference and can achieve anything that they desire," she said.

Fitch has held leadership roles since she attended high school at Western School of Technology and Environmental Sciences in Baltimore. She said she has enjoyed her family's support from the beginning.

"In high school she was a class representative, so she had leadership skills she carried into the academy

from school," Fitch's mother, Judy, said. "When I first heard the news I was so happy for her. She called

me and said 'Mom, they chose me for the position!' and I am just proud of her."

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It's Time to be Brutally Honest About the ACORN Debacle

BY REV. AL SHARPTON (NNPA) It was the 1960s, and after decades following the abolishment of slavery, African-Americans were still vying for simple fundamental human rights, including the most basic form of involvement in society – voting.

Routinely disenfranchised from the process via underhanded tactics such as literacy tests, and more blatant intimidation methods like outright murder and violence, the Black community found itself intricately excluded from actively participating in any discourse that may have altered their lives for the better. Following the murder of voting-rights activists in places like Mississippi, Congress finally passed the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that aimed to ensure equality in our election process.

Though we may not be physically attacked at voting stations or forced to pay fees at the ballot box, people of color are once again being excluded from the process in much more underhanded and disturbing ways. And the campaign to end ACORN is the clearest, prime example before our eyes.

The Association of

Community Organizations for Reform Now, better known by its acronym ACORN, was established in 1970 and through the years has worked diligently to register individuals from disenfranchised neighborhoods, help to construct schools, find affordable housing for the poor and more. It is in fact the largest membership organization of low and medium income people, and it has itself employed more than 13,000 registration assistance workers throughout the country.

Its housing corporation has assisted over 50,000 families facing foreclosure, and its tax and benefit centers have helped over 150,000 low-income families receive over \$190 million in Earned Income Tax Credits and other refunds. But perhaps most impressive under ACORN's extensive accolades has been its ability to register some 1.3 million to vote - and hence help give a voice to those who have been silenced for much too long.

For the past few weeks, the media has been fixated on a video that depicts ACORN workers allegedly giving advice to a man and a woman posing as a pimp and prostitute. While the

authenticity of this tape is still being investigated, let's not underscore the fact that the man behind the footage, James O'Keefe, is a long-time right-wing agitator and instigator who has a lengthy history of targeting reform institutions. Let's not forget that FOX News, upset over its dwindling viewership and simultaneous dwindling advertising dollars, has made it a point to attack anything that may have helped the first Black President win office.

And let's not dismiss the persistent and consistent efforts of conservatives to take down ACORN throughout the years, with trumped up voter fraud charges and more.

Even if we were to pretend that the footage of this tape has been authenticated, it still does not justify a cease of Federal funds to this vital organization. In no way am I condoning the behavior of these ACORN employees if they were in fact violating legal and ethical rules. But a few bad employees cannot account for the elimination of an entire institution that is so integral in our most underserved communities. Without grants from the Housing and Urban Development

Department, They would not be able to provide counseling on housing, education and outreach. And without governmental funds, it could no longer work with partners like Health Care for America.

Now to win the campaign on health reform.

It is time to be brutally honest about the ACORN debacle. It's about politics; it's about the 2010 mid-term election; it's about power and maintenance of the status quo; it's about the right to vote; and it's about the continued oppression of an already suppressed group.

I have not forgotten about the attempts to juxtapose Obama with ACORN during the campaign. I don't ignore the fact that ACORN has consistently been depicted as a Black institution, when in fact it is not. I shudder to think what would happen if we continue down this dangerous course of eliminating any individual or group that fights for the empowerment of the weak.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was established to level the playing field and remind everyone of our constitutional guarantees. Let us not regress now.

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for Latinos, and 15.4 percent for African-Americans. But the reported data are only part of the fact.

According to BLS, the real overall unemployment rate is more like 17 percent. Using the same algorithm, the rate for African-Americans is more like 27 percent.

Translation: One in six Americans is jobless. More than one in four African-Americans cannot find work.

Everyone else in the universe has been bailed out, especially the bankers

and mercenaries of our world.

What about the people, the ones who need their job to buy food, to pay for school supplies, to sustain families?

These are the folk who have been ignored by the so-called economic recovery, the folks who have been shrugged off by the notion that the economy is in recovery.

Recovery does not mean much when we know that the unemployment rate is a lagging indicator of recovery.

In other words, we can see some small bounce in the stock market, or even in GDP growth, but until people are put back to work, the economy will not soar. Until people are put back to work, they will not spend. Until people are put back to work, we are stagnant.

There are ways to put people back to work. We can simply make jobs - make jobs.

That means we can create public sector employment opportunities. We can put people to work

in libraries and in child care centers. We can have people administer the swine flu shots and provide public health information. We can offer government subsidized after school care.

Yes, the tea party crowd will go nuts, but so what. From where I sit, they are already nuts. Bottom line is that we need to create jobs so that we can jump start this economy.

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is an economist and president of Bennett College for Women.

Upcoming Health & Wellness Fair Hosted by Hamilton Park United Methodist Church

Editor's Note in the September 24th Issue this story listed the wrong church. We apologize for the confusion.

(NDG Wire) Hamilton Park United Methodist is hosting their annual health and wellness fair from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on

Saturday, October 24. The fair will be held at the church located at 11881 Schroeder Road in Dallas. The event is free and open

to the public.

During the fair, the public will have an opportunity to visit with up to 25 health professionals pro-

viding screenings, information and educational services. The event will also include immunizations for children, flu shots and

more.

For more information about the event or for directions, call 972-235-4633 ext. 7.

Triple Negative Breast Cancer: What is it?

(NDG Wire) The Greater Frisco Chapter of Jack & Jill of America, Inc. will host the Innovative Research Discussion on

Triple Negative Breast Cancer seminar to discuss innovative research focused on this subgroup of breast cancer. This cancer is estrogen-

receptor negative, progesterone receptor negative and HER2 negative.

Speakers will include Dr. Terre Q. McGlothlin,

General Surgery, Plano, Texas & Dr. Punit Kaur from Texas University, Health Science CTR, Proteomics Core Facility, Tem-

ple.

The event will be held at the Bluebonnet Room of Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital, 6200 W. Parker

Road, Plano, on Saturday, October 10 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

For more information call 972-981-8000.

The Healthcare Public Option is Still Alive

BY TERRY JOHNSON

(NNPA) For health-care reform enthusiasts, if there was ever an example of the rich shouting to the poor "let them eat cake" it came last week when the Senate Finance Committee rejected a widely supported provision attaching a public option to health-care reform legislation.

But the vote by the Finance Committee appears to have settled nothing. Supporters of the provision are regrouping.

"We are within two weeks of a showdown and we will know the outcome sooner rather than later," said Henry Nicholas, president of Local 1199c of the Health and Hospital Workers Union. "It is not that those knuckle-head Republicans don't know that the health-care system needs reform," he added. "What they are trying to do is reform their political opportunity versus the people."

Here is the problem: The cost of insurance is skyrocketing. In addition to that, companies are denying coverage to people with serious ailments — the exact time when they need coverage the most. Those who have lapses in their coverage can't get coverage again if they have pre-existing illnesses.

Between January and March of this year, a Center for Disease Control study found that 17 percent of

African Americans reported themselves as being uninsured. So for African Americans, Latinos and poor people, this is a life-and-death battle.

To understand the issues, a few things must be clarified.

First, the so-called public option emerged as a political maneuver by those either opposed to universal health care or those who believed that such a holistic approach would be politically impossible.

Robert Zirkilbach, who is with a national trade association for insurers called America's Health Insurance Plans, says the industry doesn't need any more rules.

"The health insurance industry is one of the most regulated industries in America, and particularly at the state level there are all kinds of requirements of information that needs to be provided to patients in paper and through the mail," Zirkilbach said.

But he adds insurers are just as worried as customers about the confusion that causes.

"We agree that reform is needed. In fact, that's why we've been working very hard to develop reforms to make the system more efficient," Zirkilbach said.

Under the universal approach, which President Barack Obama first supported and now compro-

mises on, all those living in the nation would be guaranteed health care of their choice.

For those who support universal health care, the public option is the last line in the sand. Under it, people who do not receive coverage through their jobs would be permitted to buy into a Medicare-type public health-care plan or shop for coverage plans in an insurance exchange.

Functioning as a single-payer system, Medicare provides health-care insurance for people who are 65 and over, or who meet other special criteria.

"If we don't get health-care reform, the economy will continue to go down, down, down," said Nicholas. "We have to get something and my choice would be single payer."

"My next choice," he continued, "would be the public option. If we fail to do that, we fail to get anything done that could be called health-care reform."

Says Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., about the public option: "Clearly, if we are serious about cost containment, private insurance companies must have competition from a public plan."

Republicans and conservative Democrats have come up with a variety of arguments against allowing people the Medicare-type option, but the two reasons

that seem to make sense is that they take campaign contributions from the insurance industry and some activists say even racism might play a part.

Members of the Finance Committee have voted 15 to 8 to block a public option amendment by West Virginia's Jay Rockefeller and block a similar proposal by New York's Chuck Schumer on a vote of 13 to 10.

The five Democrats who joined 10 Republicans to kill the Rockefeller amendment in a Senate committee receive huge contributions from industry lobbyists. They were Montana's Max Baucus, North Dakota's Kent Conrad, Arkansas' Blanche Lincoln, Florida's Bill Nelson and Delaware's Tom Carper.

Between 2005 and 2009, Baucus received more than \$1.7 million in campaign contributions from industry lobbyists.

"As long as health insurance companies are able to put their profits ahead of their responsibility to provide care, by denying people with pre-existing conditions and jacking up their premiums every year, no American is safe from a medical bankruptcy or other financial disaster," said Kati Sipp of SEIU Healthcare PA.

"We still believe that creating an option for the uninsured to buy health-care coverage from the gov-

ernment is the best way to make sure that every American has coverage, and that the insurance companies are forced to compete on a level playing field and can't tilt the odds in their favor," she added.

Opponents of the public option are going against polls that show widespread support for the public option.

"I've been contacted by a lot of members of Congress, senators and members of the House," said Wendell Potter, a former CIGNA executive turned whistleblower, "and I've had a chance to sit down and talk with them about some of the things that I

know as a former insider, someone who's worked 20 years in the industry. Not once have I heard from anyone on Senator Baucus's team."

A recent *New York Times* poll showed that 65 percent of all voters support giving Americans the choice of a public option and only 26 percent oppose it.

Even in swing districts, where voters swing between the Democratic and Republican Parties, the public option is also popular.

Support for the public option is so widespread that

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Old Downtown Carrollton Association's Santa Fe Days

(NDG Wire) Experience the traditions and culture of the Native American Community during the Old Downtown Carrollton Association's Santa Fe Days on the Square from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oc-

tober 10 and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 11.

Throughout the weekend, enjoy the sights, sounds and tastes of Native American culture with continuous craft demonstra-

tions and vendors offering jewelry, pottery and other goods for sale. Experience educational and entertaining cultural presentations such as Native American dances in full dress and on-site pottery making demon-

strations.

As part of the Cultural Presentation, the Mexihca-Nahuatl (Aztec) Ceremonial Dance group will perform dances that honor the Four Directions and the Four Sacred Elements.

Mexihca is a term that included eight different clans who settled the areas of modern day Wyoming to present day Mexico City. The dances have been passed down generation-to-generation since 1521,

when it went underground during the Spanish invasion.

For more information about Santa Fe Days, call 972-242-6453, more-info@santafedays.com or santafedays.com.

Dallas Lawyers Answer Legal Questions – FREE!

(NDG Wire) Volunteer attorneys will answer legal questions at no cost from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, October 14 and Wednesday, October 21 via

LegalLine, a call-in program sponsored by the Dallas Bar Association.

LegalLine is a community service for Dallas County residents, provided

the second and third Wednesdays of each month. On these designated nights, anonymous lawyers are available to answer questions in many law-related

areas ranging from divorce and child support matters, to wills, insurance, employment and criminal law matters.

Residents needing assis-

tance should call LegalLine at 214-220-7476 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, October 14 or October 21.

Individuals may also re-

ceive referrals to local, legal or social service agencies. LegalLine volunteer attorneys typically answer between 50 and 90 calls each night.

Garland Hosting 2009 Neighborhood Summit

(NDG Wire) The City of Garland is hosting the annual Neighborhood Summit with the theme *Great Neighborhoods: From Concept to Reality*. The 2009 Summit is set for Saturday, October 24, from 8 a.m. to

2 p.m. Registration for Garland residents and stakeholders is \$15. For those not related to Garland, the cost is \$25.

The keynote speaker is Robert Miller, director of the Minneapolis Neighbor-

hood Revitalization Program. He will discuss the keys to creating great neighborhoods.

The scheduled workshops, Building a Sustainable Organization, Developing Effective Partner-

ships, Developing a Resident Driven Neighborhood Action Plan and Understanding the Concept of Community Leadership will provide important tools, information and models to lead participants

down a path of building and sustaining a great neighborhood.

The event will also feature information about the Envision Garland comprehensive plan project and the opportunity to explore the

Office of Neighborhood Vitality's Social Capital Library.

For more information or to register, call 972-205-3864 or e-mail fconner@ci.garland.tx.us.

Traditional Gala Disappears – Crossroads Brings in International Magician

(NDG Wire) In lieu of a traditional gala, Crossroads Family Services has elected to sponsor a family-oriented fundraising event by brining International Magician of the Year, Rob Lake, to North Texas.

Crossroads Family Services has been serving the families of Collin County and North Texas since 1991. Many non-profits elect to host fancy soirees to raise much

needed funds. Departing from that tradition, Crossroads has decided to host a high-quality event open and affordable to all persons and families to help raise money for its community services.

"Donors are in short supply and grants are becoming harder and harder to come by. Many families are experiencing the same economic crunch as non-profits, and we made the decision not to turn away

from the families we serve, but to host a quality fundraiser that everyone can attend – not just those with deep pockets," stated Bob Fine, Crossroads' executive director, adding, "Families don't need a silent auction. They need quality time with each other."

Lake is an internationally renowned magician who has agreed to a special performance for children and families just in time

for the Halloween holiday. He has traveled across the globe wowing audiences with illusions and fantastic spectacles.

Lake won the 2008 Magician of the Year award – an honor bestowed upon Earth's finest illusion artists. In anticipation of the coming show, Lake exclaimed, "I'm looking forward to being in North Texas on October 30. The show is for a good cause and will be one the

audience won't forget!"

The Crossroads-sponsored event, entitled *A Night of Illusions*, will be at 8:00 p.m., Friday, October 30, 2009, at the Eisemann Center, 2351 Per-

formance Drive, Richardson, Texas. Tickets range from \$20 - \$30, and can be purchased online at www.eisemanncenter.com/tickets or by calling 972-744-4650.

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such as the high ropes courses, a horseback trail ride, swimming and campfires. Students also traveled to Washington, D.C., during the weekend to watch a NFL game between the Washington Redskins and the New England Patriots. The following day, they toured the monuments of Washington, D.C.

In addition to getting valuable hands-on experience with this preservation project, students also received work-based learning credit toward the completion of their career technical training programs.

McQueen is enrolled in the brick masonry career technical training program at NTJCC, and Robinson is

enrolled in cement masonry.

The other six students were from Muhlenberg career development center and the Sacramento and Whitney Young Job Corps centers, all operated by HYS.

The preservation efforts are coordinated by The Longs Chapel Preservation Society, which was estab-

lished to restore and preserve the chapel so descendants of slaves and of slave owners, as well as the general public, can visit the site to honor the legacy of faith and freedom memorialized by the simple wooden structure. The students' volunteer efforts were coordinated and supervised by HYS.



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Symposium to Focus on Future of Public Education in Dallas

(NDG Wire) The Dallas Bar Association will host a 7th annual education symposium on Wednesday, October 14, at the Pavilion at the Belo Mansion to bring together community leaders in the interest of improving public education in the Metroplex.

The half-day event will include a "the state of the district" address from Superintendent Michael Hino-

josa. In addition, symposium topics include: a Reading Panel Discussion, a presentation by Irma Lerma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School and a student panel discussion titled, "What Works & What is Needed."

"We invite school administrators, PTA volunteers, church members, business leaders, parents — anyone who is interested in

improving the public education of our youth," said Christina Melton Crain, president of the Dallas Bar Association. "It's no secret that the success of our schools translates into the success of our society for generations to come. With the 2009 Dallas Bar Association theme being 'Mentoring the Next Generation,' we know that we all have a stake in this out-

come and want to be as much a part of the solution as possible."

Linus Wright, a former school teacher and coach who was recently appointed to the Chairmanship of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas, will be presented with the "Jack Lowe Sr. Award for Community Leadership" during the Symposium luncheon. The award is named for the

founder of TDIndustries, who served as the first chairman of the Dallas Alliance Education Task Force, a multi-racial group dedicated to a broad-based community solution to achieve desegregation in DISD.

The public is invited to participate in the symposium. Registration begins at 8 a.m., and the registration fee of \$35 includes lunch.

The Belo Mansion is located at 2101 Ross Avenue, in Downtown Dallas (in the Arts District). Parking is available in the Pavilion Garage for \$3 (enter from Olive Street). Seating is limited.

RSVP to Alicia Hernandez at ahernandez@dallasbar.org, or download the agenda and registration form at www.dallasbar.org.

Grant Will Fund Outreach to High School Students

(UTD) University of Texas at Dallas (UT Dallas) has received \$100,000 to support the statewide Closing the Gaps higher education program, which helps increase the number of under-represented minorities enrolled in colleges and univer-

sities.

The Go Center Mentor Grant will go toward hiring 10 UT Dallas students who will serve as mentors to students at three Dallas-area high schools.

"The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

has provided universities with this funding opportunity to help us reach out to the community," said Raul Hinojosa, community engagement director for the university.

The UT Dallas mentors will work with students at Conrad High School, Hill-

crest High School and the Roseland Community Teen University. The mentors will help the students research different colleges and universities, complete admissions and financial aid applications, plan and write admissions essays, and exploring

possible careers and their education requirements. The students will also give advice from their own experiences at UT Dallas.

Working together with the Office of Sponsored Projects, Dallas ISD and Central Dallas Ministries, the Office

of Diversity and Community Engagement put together the proposal for the grant.

UT Dallas is one of 32 Texas universities to receive funding for the program out of the \$5 million the state has designated for the Closing the Gaps program.

Allen High School Hosting Substance Abuse Prevention Workshop

(NDG Wire) Allen High School announced today that they will offer the notMYkid substance abuse workshop, a national initiative of the notMYkid organization that educates parents, schools and children on substance abuse prevention. The workshops help parents create a family drug prevention plan that includes the use of a home drug test kit as a key prevention method.

The notMYkid presentation will be held Tuesday, October 27 at 6:30 p.m. at Allen High School, 300

Rivercrest Blvd., Allen. All area parents are invited to attend this program, but it is not open to students.

Parents will learn about drug issues, trends, terminology, see photos of paraphernalia and be given tips on talking to their kids about drugs and establishing a proactive drug prevention plan for their families. Each family that attends is also given a First Check drug test kit to take home with them. It tests for seven illicit and five prescription drugs, and often just having the kit in the home is enough of a

deterrent for middle school students.

"notMYkid's program is unique because it encourages proactive, two-way communications between parent and child to prevent drug use before it happens," said Julie Shockley, manager of Adult Educational Services for notMYkid.

"We provide resources so parents can develop a substance abuse prevention plan that works for their family, and offer home drug test kits, which offer kids an easy way to say no to peer pressure."

Kids are susceptible to peer pressure and drug experimentation during the transition years, grades 5-9 and then into high school. The average age for first time drug use is 13 years old, which is why notMYkid believes it's so important to educate parents before their kids are teens.

Parents need to understand what their kids face every day, in order to protect them. Teens ages 12-17 say that prescription drugs are easier to get than beer. In fact, of those who use or abuse prescription drugs 65

percent are getting them either from their home or a friend's house. Additionally, 50 percent of teens who come home past 10:00 pm on a school night report marijuana or other drug use occurring according to the 2008 Center for Addiction and Substance Abuse report.

notMYkid was founded in 2000 and is dedicated to helping parents, teens, educators and communities with adolescent behavioral health issues. The substance abuse workshop launched in 2004 as Project 7th Grade and is in all 50

states.

The program is free and partners with schools, community groups and police departments across the country to educate parents about drug issues, trends, terminology, and paraphernalia. It also teaches them how to create a proactive drug prevention plan for their family. notMYkid educated over 100,000 people in 2008.

For additional information on notMYkid, contact Jill Woods at 602-652-0163 or jilll@notMYkid.org or visit www.notMYkid.org.

Texas Womens University Receives \$300,000 Work-Study Mentorship Grant from the Coordinating Board

(NDG Wire) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has awarded Texas Woman's University a \$300,000 grant for its G-Force student-mentorship program, which is designed to increase enrollment among first-generation college students in Texas.

These grant funds will go directly to TWU students in the form of wages earned for working in the TWU Go

Centers.

"The TWU G-Force program has been a great success in reaching more than 10,000 students with the message that college is accessible for all," TWU Chancellor Ann Stuart said. "I am pleased that the THECB has recognized the achievements of our G-Force program and is rewarding TWU students with these funds."

G-Force members mentor high school students, participate in college enrollment workshops and staff TWU-sponsored Go Centers in area high schools. A Go Center is a physical space where students can find admission and financial aid application assistance and other information that encourages them to attend college.

TWU's G-Force is the

largest in the state with 70 student members.

"G-Force is an amazing organization, and grants like this are what help keep its members active by helping us with our tuition, books and expenses," said Luis Rendon, a senior English major and the TWU G-Force president. "The funds help us remove some of our financial road blocks in order to pursue our goals as TWU

students and G-Force mentors."

TWU currently operates 13 Go Centers in four North Texas counties and will be opening its 14th center in Lake Dallas this fall. The TWU Mobile Go Center, funded by the College for Texans Foundation, also travels to area schools and community events for college-readiness programs.

As part of the state's

Work-Study Student Mentorship Program, funded in 2009 for the biennium, the THECB is allocating funds to institutions of higher education with existing G-Force programs based on the number of student mentors in the program.

More information on TWU's G-Force and Go Centers is available at www.twu.edu/o-sl/intercultural/GoCenter.html.

Showing Love and Appreciation

Former students, co-workers and associates please join us in
celebrating and congratulating

Mother Shirley Demus Tarpley

for over 40 years of dedicated service to God and humanity.

When: October 10, 2009

Where: The Crowne Plaza Near the Galleria

14315 Midway Road

Addison, TX 75001

Time: 6:00 pm



Mother Tarpley will be featured on the Leslie Taylor Hare Show on October 8 @ 7:30 pm,
along with gospel recording artist, Tommye Young-West; and on
October 17 @ 7:00 pm the Leslie Taylor Hare Talk Show will host a live recording of
2009 "Celebrate Life" Gospel Fest at the Word of Life Church,
featuring Tommye Young-West.



Tommye Young- West



Leslie Taylor Hare



Pastor Gregory Voss

To purchase tickets for the appreciation or for additional info call Sis. Reese at
469-789-6899, email wordoflife09@live.com, or contact the church at 972-416-5300.

To view the Leslie Taylor Hare Talk Show visit www.access34.tv, or
Digital Network Channel 34.1 @ 7:30 pm CST.

These events are sponsored by the Word Of Life Church of God in Christ, Evangelist Gregory Voss, Senior Pastor
Word of Life COGIC, 2765 East Trinity Mills Road, Suite #305, Carrollton, TX 75006, 972-416-5300

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 - Every third Thursday \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm at 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 meetup.com/378.

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch 1st Thursday at 1 pm in Plano Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com or 972-898-5882.

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

Thru October 24

My Sister in This House presented by Wingspan Theater Company at The Bath House Cultural Center on White Rock Lake, 521 East Lawther Drive, Dallas. Tickets \$15-20, Info: 214-675-6573, wingspan@wingspantheatre.com, or www.wingspantheatre.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

Thru December 4

Adriatic First Fridays Art Walk 6-9 p.m. Adriatic 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

October 8

Eastfield College Back to School, Back to Work Job Fair 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at The Pit on the Eastfield College campus. Contact Career Services at 972-860-8310.

October 10-11

26th Annual International Bar-B-Que Cookers Association Cookoff at Traders Village in Grand Prairie.

Old Downtown Carrollton Association's Santa Fe Days on the Square from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, October 10 and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, October 11 in Downtown Carrollton.

October 10

Appreciation Banquet for

Sister Shirley Demus Tarpley at Crowne Plaza Dallas in Addison.

Garland NAACP Youth Council Noon at Gale Fields Recreation Center, 1701 Dairy Road

October 13

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

October 13 - 18

There Is One In Every Family 8 p.m. nightly - A Soul Stirring Inspirational Stage Play starring Shirley Murdock, Luther Barnes & Curtis Von at Majestic Theater, 1925 Elm Street Dallas. Tickets 800-745-3000

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 16 - 18

Heart of Texas Arts and Crafts Show at Plano Centre - Free Friday Admission with postcard invitation. Admission is \$5 for adults and free for kids 12 & under. Info: 903-217-8081 or www.heartoftexas-show.com.

October 17 - 18

A Taste Of Plano Sat., noon - 8:00 pm. Sun., Noon - 6 p.m. Activities include food samples for purchase, wine tastings, demos, music and more. 15th Street at Avenue K. Admission is \$5 for ages 12 and up. Ages under 12 get in free. Info: www.visitdowntownplano.com.

October 17

Free Workshop-Marketing 101 for Congregations 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. To RSVP, contact Suzy Yowell at

syowell@sacredplaces.org by Friday, October 9, 2009.

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 *Life Is* at 7 p.m., Renaissance Dallas Hotel at 2222 Stemmons Freeway. Info: www.humanitarianhands-foundation.com or Mary Christopher 972.331.6098.

The Holocaust in Contemporary Consciousness, Culture and Curriculum 7:00 p.m. at the Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record Street, Suite 100, Dallas.

Metroplex Technology Business Council hosting Brown Bag Lunch Topic: *Making the Web Work for You*. 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at 411 Belle Grove Drive, Richardson. Fee: \$5.00, bring your lunch, beverages provided www.metroplextrbc.org/Events/Brown-Bag-Luncheon.aspx

Geriatric Wellness Center of Collin County 30th Anniversary Bash Luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. \$40 per person. Info: 972-941-7335 or www.gwccc.org.

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 p.m. \$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. Noon - 3 p.m. Register for this FREE event: EBONYJET.com or (800) 530-9636.

National Finals Rodeo - Doors Open at 6:30 p.m., Rodeo at 8 p.m. at the Mesquite Championship Resistol Arena, I-635 LBJ Fwy. at Military Pkwy. The largest multicultural rodeo in the country celebrates Cowboys and Cowgirls of all colors including Buffalo Soldiers, Ceremonial Dancers, and Pony Express Rides educate about Western heritage. Tickets \$30 Box Seats; \$14 Grandstand Reserved; Call for details: 972-285-8777

NAACP Irving Branch Freedom Fund Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., DFW Wyndam Hotel North, 4441 Esters Rd. @ Hwy 114

City of Garland - NAACP Garland Branch Fair Housing Expo, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Garland NAACP Meeting, 7:30 p.m., at Garland Women's Center 713 Austin Street @Glenbrook agenda will include an overview of the GISD School Desegregation Court Order and job opportunities with the Internal Revenue Service.

Business Basics for Entrepreneurs, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Christian Chapel 14120 Noel Rd. Dallas, \$45.00

Hamilton Park United Methodist is hosting their annual **Health and Wellness Fair** from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at 11881 Schroeder Road in Dallas. The event is free and open to the public. Info: call 972-235-4633 ext. 7.

October 27

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

October 30-31

Woman to Woman Conference - 3000 Women in Pink at the Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center, 1501 Gaylord Trail, Grapevine. \$139.00 includes hotel room, breakfast, lunch, workshops and conference materials. Register at: www.woman2womanctcc.com

November 14

Jazz Series at Bishop Arts Theater Center featuring Jeff Lorber

TMethodist Richardson Medical Center Foundation presents the **Yellow & Black Tie Gala** benefitting Methodist Richardson Cancer Center at the Marriott at Legacy Town Center Plano. Info: www.yellowandblacktiegala.com or 972-498-7678.

Toilet Trade-In Program 9:30 a.m. to noon at Home Depot at Firewheel, 3261 North George Bush Highway, Garland

November 19-22

Curious George swings onto the stage at the Nokia Theatre at Grand Prairie. Tickets are on sale now and start at just \$16

November 27

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

December 3

Christmas on the Square in Downtown Garland 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

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Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community

TechQuest Helps Innovators Find Their Perfect Match

BY RUTH FERGUSON
NDG EDITOR

Imagine speed dating – for business – and then you will understand Metroplex Technology Business Council's (MTBC) TechQuest program.

TechQuest aims to

This quarter's host is Alcatel-Lucent, and the deadline for submission is Oct. 16. So far, 20 applications have been received.

Alcatel-Lucent partners with service providers, enterprises and governments worldwide,

10 applicants, and Tellez said the head of TI's venture capital arm was so impressed with one presentation, they offered funding on the spot.

Tektronix and Fluke Networks were the host companies for fall 2008.

companies or even start-ups should not be afraid to apply. In fact, Tellez added, they are encouraged. "All that matters is if you have an innovative idea," he said.

Tellez has managed the program since its inception in 2007, and he said it has been an exciting venture for the host companies and applicants. "We have seen strategic relationships developed because of these meetings. They often continue discussions regarding future projects. Marketing expenses and efforts were cut dramatically for innovators seeking funding opportunities," Tellez said.

And he said the host companies have been surprised to discover the talented innovation in their own backyard. Tellez said one TI executive commented, "They have traveled all over the world, but had it not been for TechQuest he would not have been aware of the local opportunities." In fact, he was hopeful TI would launch a similar program in the locations they have around the world.

Tellez said that selecting a diversity of companies to host the program is important, and they look to the wide variety of hi-tech companies in the telecom

He is an active social media marketer, and this has brought applications and inquiries from Canada, Spain, the Netherlands, Ukraine, India, and Russia. And bloggers in India and Pakistan have featured the TechQuest program.

"We are heavily focusing on LinkedIn. Facebook and Twitter are other tools we are using to heavily leverage the program,"

We have streamlined the application process. We have developed an orientation that successful applicants are asked to attend to help them prepare for the face-to-face meetings."

A reception is hosted with the MTBC board members and high level executives of the host company. This informal gathering helps to break the ice for the applicants.

For this quarter's



TECHQUEST

match hi-tech innovators with major North Texas hi-tech companies. So if you have a hi-tech solution or idea, TechQuest may just be the place for you to get it noticed.

Richardson-based MTBC is the largest technology trade association in Texas, and it wants to give these innovators the chance to pitch their ideas and solutions to key decision makers.

TechQuest program applicants typically range from hi-tech university researchers, inventive start-up companies, small to midsize companies and individuals with great ideas they work on everyday in their home office. The common thread amongst them is their belief that if they could just present their idea to the right person, they could change the world.

Each quarter (except the summer) a leading high technology company is the host for the program. The company posts what it is seeking on MTBC's Website and applicants can submit proposals and ideas in the hopes of being chosen to meet with company decision makers.

providing solutions to deliver voice, data and video communication services to end-users.

Manuel Tellez is the research and marketing manager at MTBC. He serves as the liaison between applicants, the review committee and the hi-tech companies.

Tellez said the program has seen success with the help of host companies including Texas Instruments (TI), Tektronix, Fluke Networks and Raytheon.

TI was the first host company in the spring of 2008. They were interested in potential development partners in a wide range of application and technology

They received close to 25 applications and met with eight companies.

Raytheon was the host company this spring, and from their 25 applications they met with seven companies.

Applicants vie for the opportunity to present their hi-tech solutions to large companies. From these meetings, Tellez said, anything could happen. They could be offered funding, strategic partnership agreements, licensing or customer supply relationships.

The key criteria the review committee considers

Alcatel • Lucent



areas including health electronics, Open Source software for TI platforms, RFID technologies and semiconductors. Key executives from TI met with

Tellez said is uniqueness. "We try to determine what makes this so unique. If it is not unique, it is not innovative," said Tellez.

Individuals, small

corridor for this. "If we selected several semiconductor related companies, it would not give software companies an opportunity," said Tellez.

finer. For example, Tellez said, the selection process has improved. "We have learned to work closely with the main point of contact at these companies.

"We try to determine what makes this so unique. If it is not unique, it is not innovative,"

Manuel Tellez
Research and Marketing Manager
at MTBC.

said Tellez. He said that Google analytics confirms LinkedIn is really producing results, with Twitter second in providing web traffic.

Social networking is a new initiative for promoting TechQuest, said Tellez. "In the past, we simply relied on email blasts to our members and them forwarding the blasts to their members," he added. They also included announcements on their Website and in newsletters, which they continue to do.

The program is continually reviewed and re-

TechQuest, Alcatel-Lucent is seeking innovative ideas in the mobile applications arena. There are currently over 35,000 mobile applications, and within three years mobile tools will exceed laptops.

Alcatel-Lucent is seeking applications and services that will benefit from improved connectivity, especially in these key areas: Public Safety; Media and Entertainment; eHealthcare; eLearning.

Tellez points out, "Mobile is much more than just a phone. Alcatel-Lucent wants to be a player in that market."

This quarter's application deadline is Friday, October 16. Applications are available at www.metroplexmtbc.org/Events/Tech-Quest-Program/Current-Innovation-Seeker.aspx. Application fee is \$100 for an individual and \$250 for a company. The fee helps cover the administrative costs of the program. If an application is denied, Tellez will provide feedback on why you were not selected.

Chris Rock Doc Gets to the Root of Black Hair Issues

BY KENYA VAUGHN

(NNPA) - It's hard to know what to expect when you hear "Chris Rock," "documentary" and "good hair" used together within a film synopsis.

But the actor/comedian/filmmaker/producer takes an idea inspired by his little girl and transforms her insecurity into a film that is as eye-opening as it is compelling.

"Daddy, why don't I have good hair?" Rock quoted his three-year-old daughter as the introductory credits roll. And so the film – and a historical overview of Black woman's love/hate hair relationship – begins.

Although it starts with the historical concept of texture, *Good Hair* quickly unravels into several aspects of the cosmetic practices that come with the territory of black hair.

Good Hair goes from relaxers, the business of black hair care to weave – including the thoughts from the women who wear them and the men who hate, deal with

or love them.

The candid film is an unlikely offering by Rock, but he makes the most of his wit as he enlists everyone from women considered to be the standard for black beauty to ordinary black women attempting to feel beautiful by any means necessary.

Rock presents a balanced and surprisingly extensive study of the ups and downs as black women attempting to feel pretty from head to toe – starting with the head.

Video model Melyssa Ford; black actresses Nia Long, Lauren London, Raven Simon, Salli Richardson-Whitfield; black community heroes Dr. Maya Angelou and Rev. Al Sharpton; and rap group Salt-n-Pepa are among those who offer opinions that are blended together to discuss black hair from every perspective.

In *Good Hair* (which also includes a brief appearance by 13-year-old St. Louis native Nia Varner) Rock interviews women and

men from all regions, age groups, walks of life, from esteemed to ordinary, getting perspectives and delivering laughs and "a ha!" moments along the way.

The topic of good hair has been an ongoing debate within the black community for generations. A symbol of status for some, a source of resentment for others and the unattainable aspirations for those in between – like Rock's daughter.

But in an ingenious expansion of the concept, Rock goes beyond the surface of the age-old "good hair" vs. "happy to be nappy" debate.

What is probably most refreshing about the film is that *Good Hair* doesn't point any fingers or take sides.

There is no moment in *Good Hair* where Rock demands – or even merely encourages – women to revert to styles that showcase black pride. However, the film does manage to promote self-love and appreciation, whether our hair is relaxed

or natural.

The film manages to be radical and inspiring by successfully illustrating the fact that the elaborate (and, in some cases, unhealthy) hair practices are a symptom of the systematic inferiority complex imposed on black people for so long that somewhere along the way it was eventually embraced.

The film exposes the lengths (pun intended) black women impose upon themselves in an effort to camouflage and conform to Eurocentric standards for beauty.

Rock reveals the ravaging effects of relaxers and the main straightening ingredient sodium hydrochloride – yes, he breaks it down to a science.

He also offers a behind-the-scenes observation within the multi-billion dollar black hair care industry, tracing weave from its origin to the scalp of an unsuspecting, overcharged black woman.

Through the legendary Bronner Brothers (BB) 60th Annual Hair show and its

world champion style-off in Atlanta, he shows that black beauty can be an ugly business.

By visiting the Dudley Hair Care product plant and cosmetology school in North Carolina, he shows the promise and prosperity among black entrepreneurs and stylists.

But he also illustrates through interviews and footage that blacks – the sole consumers within the black hair care market – are getting the short end of the stick when it comes to profits.

Dudley and the Bronner Brothers are the exception to the rule as African-American manufacturers in an industry oversaturated by Asian and major mainstream companies such as Revlon.

Typical of Rock, in *Good Hair* he breaks all of the rules and taboos when it comes to the secrets of black hair care and puts them right on front street.

For example, the financial bind of a weave is real,

but rarely discussed in public. A black man saying how he feels about a woman's weave out loud could end a relationship and possibly lead to injury, but Rock uses charm and humor to get the guards of his subject permanently down.

A few of the points – especially the seemingly never-ending drama as contestants prepared for the Bronner Brothers hair competition finale – seemed to be dragged to death, but the film was otherwise a triumph.

Brilliantly using the "The first step of solution is admitting there is a problem" method, Rock bravely displays five-figure hair weaves, insecurities imposed from infancy, and potential poisoning by lathering the scalp with toxic chemicals. In this way, he uses *Good Hair* as an exposé into healing.

Good Hair opens in theaters nationwide on Friday, October 9. The film is rated PG-13 with a running time of 95 minutes.

Bancroft Family Concerts Begin October 31

(NDG Wire) The Bancroft Family Concert series opens October 31, 2009 with Gary Levinson, Senior Associate Concertmaster of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and pianist Dardjan "Baya" Kakouberi, providing samples from Baroque, Classical and Romantic violin masterpieces.

The program will culminate with a preview of Steven Harlos' newly composed *Sonata for Violin and Piano*, in Horchow Auditorium at the Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 N. Harwood, Dallas, TX 75201.

The auditorium doors open at 2:30 pm for the 3:00 pm concert. Preconcert commentary linking this concert with the Dallas Museum of Art's current exhibit *All the World's a Stage* begins at 2:45 pm.

No admission fee or reservations are required.

Children in Halloween costumes are welcome.

For more information, call Fine Arts Chamber

Players at 214.520.2219 or visit www.fineartschamberplayers.org.



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Gen Yers are Reshaping the Workplace – Are Managers Ready?

(NDG Wire) A workplace shift is underway. One that includes new methods of thinking, behaving, communicating and doing business as Generation Y continues to enter the workforce and influence corporate culture.

Defined by their use of flip-flops, iPods, Instant

Messaging and the phrase "Dude," Gen Yers are bringing new methods of thinking, behaving, communicating and conducting business to the workplace

Y in the Workplace: Managing the "Me First" Generation (Career Press, July 2009; \$15.99; ISBN13: 978-1601630711) defines

the psychological, social, environmental and cultural influences that have shaped the generation, and discusses how the values, attitudes and expectations of Generation Y have had an impact, positively and negatively, on corporate environments, intergenerational functioning and manage-

ment strategies.

With 73 million Gen Yers in the United States, the largest block since the 78 million baby boomers, company owners and managers are finding ways to adapt business practices as this generation has created its own unique workplace culture – and demands.

To help this generation successfully transition, while creating a shared vision, *Y in the Workplace* provides psychological insight into the character of Gen Yers as well as coaching strategies and solutions to enhance their strengths, minimize their weaknesses and reinforce their talents.

Y in the Workplace is a "must-read" for managers, leaders of organizations, HR professionals and teachers working with Generation Y as it offers an in-depth look into why this generation is the way it is, and how to successfully integrate them into the workplace setting.

Author's Pavilion, A Gold Mine at Congressional Black Caucus

BY SOPHIA ADEM

(NNPA) A variety of authors, including BET talk personality Jeff Johnson, Congressional Black Caucus Chairwoman Barbara Lee, former television star Bern Nadette Stanis from *Good Times* and Sheron "Umi" Smith, mother of Hip-Hop star Mos Def, participated in book signings, panel discussions and meet-and-greets at the CBC Annual Legislative Conference's Author's Pavilion late last month in Washington.

"We're bringing in literature to the folk who come in from all over the country," said Lee McDonald, executive producer for the Author's Pavilion and chief strategy officer for the Renaissance Group, which co-sponsored the event with Howard University Bookstore and the Hurston/Wright Foundation.

"When they come in they see the number of titles here all in one spot for folks to buy, specifically African-American literature. So the accessibility is very important."

Over the three-day period, attendees lined up in front of small round black tables where the author of their choice sat with their book and a poster behind them.

Janis F. Kearney, author of *Something to Write Home About*, spoke briefly about her biography.

The book is about my five years serving as Bill Clinton's personal diarist,"

Kearney said. "I try to contrast being a presidential diarist to the years growing up in a very, very poor sharecropping family in Arkansas."

Other attendees walked through the square pavilion with tables of more than 800 titles, searching for a book that captured their interest.

Senghor Jawara Baye, 9th Successor to Marcus Garvey and president of the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League, commented on the pavilion as he searched for books by Garvey.

"I think that it's excellent that people can have something to read that's written by other people of color. So, it's extremely critical that this is an addition to the conference," said 57-year-old Baye who has never missed a conference.

Even Howard University Book Store employees found the Author's Pavilion to be an exciting event.

"I was happy to see Cornel West and all of the other authors," said Shamette Franklin, 19, sophomore legal communications major at Howard University.

Franklin was not the only one interested in seeing Dr. West. Other guests filled the seats in and stood to see West, author of *Brother West: Living and Loving Out Loud—A Memoir*, along with several other prominent educators and writers.

Others were Haki Madhubuti, author of *Liberation Narratives*, and Wade Nobles of *Seeking the Sakhu*, in a panel discussion titled *Mind Readers: Mental Health, Wellness and Self Help*.

"In the end we all fail," West said, describing his memoir to the audience. "This book is fundamentally about how I have attempted to aspire to greatness but fail." Rita Joyner, president of Learning Solutions for Education and Empowerment, sat in the first row during the panel discussion.

"This is my first opportunity to attend," Joyner said. "Because I am such a follower of Brother West and Brother Madhubuti, I came here early to get a

good seat and it was a great panel."

The panel discussion on the "Impact of the Black Writer on Today's Culture: How Our Story is Told and Who Tells It!" also drew a large crowd to see broadcast journalist and 2008 presidential debate moderator Gwen Ifill, author of *The Breakthrough: Politics and Race in the Age of Obama* and Civil Rights activist Mary Frances Berry, author of *And Justice for All*.

At the end of the day, authors as well as the organizers expressed how much they appreciate the Author's Pavilion.

"We need the Author's Pavilion to highlight authors writing about diet and nutrition, education, and en-

riching our minds and giving us some more positive ways of looking at things," said Pedro Noguera author of *The Trouble With Black Boys: And Other Reflections On Race, Equity, and the Future of Public Education*.

Clyde McElvene, CEO of the Hurston/Wright

Foundation, agreed. "Our story is an intricate part of America and to the degree that we fail to tell our story we become invisible. And when you become invisible, you don't get what you deserve or you get things that you don't deserve and invisible people therefore don't matter."

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Garland Annual Multi-family Complex Meeting

(NDG Wire) The 2009 multi-family meeting for property owners/managers is scheduled for October 13, 9 a.m. to noon at The Atrium at the Granville Arts Center, Fifth and Austin

Streets in downtown Garland.

City departments will present information relating to ordinances that affect multifamily properties.

Attendees will be pro-

vided renewal packets for licenses and will have a chance to ask questions and network with other property owners/managers. For additional information, call 972-485-6400.

Free Health Seminar at the Garland Central Library

(NDG Wire) October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the Nicholson Memorial Library System and Baylor Medical Center at Garland will present a program on

Cancer Awareness.

The seminar will be held at the Central Library on Tuesday, October 27, noon – 1 p.m.

A local physician or other healthcare profes-

sional will conduct the free seminar.

Seating is limited and pre-registration is required. Please call 1-800-422-9567 to register. Free brown-bag lunches will be provided.

North Texas Doctors to Host Health Care Reform Round Table

North Texans Will Hear Directly From Those on the Front Lines of the Health Care Crisis

(NDG Wire) With the critical health insurance reform vote on the horizon, local North Texas doctors will gather Thursday, October 8, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. to field questions regarding President Barack Obama's health insurance reform plan. Local physicians have seen what happens when their patients are unable to get the quality medical care they need. They know as

well as anyone that inaction is no longer an option.

"Despite the frightening rumors and misinformation that have been spread, local doctors have seen firsthand what's broken about our health care system," said Luke Hayes, Texas State Director for Organizing for America.

"Local doctors understand President Obama's health insurance reform

plan will give Texans who have insurance more security and stability and it will make sure Texans without insurance have quality, affordable options, all while lowering the cost of health care for our families, our businesses, and our government.

The event is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at El Centro Community College, 801 Main Street, Dallas.

GRIFFIN, continued from Page 1

city dignitaries, including Garland Mayor Ronald Jones. Garland Independent School District (GISD) officials also attended the inspiring home-going celebration.

Griffin and his wife began St. Mark in April 1976 in a story-front building on First Street. Together, they were dynamic leaders who devoted so much of their time, energy and resources to the youth of the church. Mrs. Griffin is a current GISD School Board Trustee

When the property owners decided to go in a different direction and the church lost their lease, the couple opened their home to the members until the current property was acquired.

A proud native of Dallas, Griffin was a graduate of Hamilton Park High

School, where he was a legendary running back. He went on to graduate from Abilene Christian University with a Bachelor of Science; a Master of Ministry from Trinity Valley and a Doctorate of Divinity from the Bible-New Wines Ministries.

Griffin had a passion for teaching and sharing the gospel message. He continually reminded the members of the importance of "studying to show thyself approved," and that is one of the reasons why, even now, every auxiliary within the church has an assigned book to study as a part of their regular meetings.

During her comments at the service, Mrs. Griffin spoke of his can-do spirit, which resulted in his serving as the general contractor for the current sanctuary

in 1984. Some members helped frame the building; others helped lay the tile, all under his direction.

Griffin enjoyed learning and was an incredibly intelligent man, and his kindness and love of laughter made anyone feel comfortable with him.

"But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Matthew 4:4 (KJV)

Working as his secretary was my first job, and it prepared me for nearly every job I have held since then, including my position as editor. I never considered the idea of being a writer,

until a lunch-time conversation with Griffin.

Also, I observed how Griffin talked with members and guests in the office, engaging them in conversations about their profession and discovering their interests. Although I never received formal train-

ing, over the last nine years, I have enjoyed the opportunity to interview celebrities, community, political and business leaders, using what I learned from him.

In the early 1990s, St.

Mark began to study and observe the Christian Liturgical calendar, a more common practice in the Catholic tradition and other protestant denominations. Griffin introduced it to the congregation to strengthen their knowledge and understanding of church history and familiar symbols such as the Advent wreath and different colors of the liturgical seasons.

Perhaps many of my favorite memories of Pastor Griffin come from the Christmas holiday season. Advent, the first season of the liturgical year, begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve, when we would often hold a candlelight service.

At the beginning of the Advent season, he would remind us of two things. First, "Don't spend money

you don't have – to impress people you don't like."

Then he would remind the congregants not to leave the baby Jesus on the front of a Christmas card, or assume you know everything there is to know about Christmas. He cautioned against becoming so comfortable with the story of Christ's birth, losing reverence for the miracle and the opportunity for the promise of salvation it offers. He challenged that if we study and pray, every year, we can still learn something new about the birth of Christ.

Like the hundreds of others gathered last Saturday, I believe there are not enough words to say thank you for Dr. Griffin's many kindnesses to my family and me. However, I know he would simply say, "To God be the glory."

CONVICTIONS, continued from Page 1

concerning a local government receiving federal benefits; one count of conspiracy to commit extortion; one count of extortion by a public official; one count of conspiracy to commit deprivation of honest services by wire fraud; and one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering and violation of the Dallas City

Ethics Code.

He was found not guilty of extortion by a public official.

Hill's wife, Sheila Farrington Hill, was convicted on five of six counts charged, including one count of conspiracy to commit bribery concerning a local government receiving federal benefits; one count

of aiding and abetting bribery concerning a local government receiving federal benefits; one count of aiding and abetting extortion by public officials; one count of conspiracy to commit deprivation of honest services by wire fraud; and one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering.

Former Dallas City

Planning Commissioner D'Angelo Lee was convicted on all counts charged against him.

Darren Reagan, former head of the Black State Employees Association of Texas, was convicted on two of the four charges against him.

Local businessman and car dealer Rickey Robert-

son was convicted on two of the three charges against him.

The jury stated the evidence was overwhelming.

Lawyers and judges who attended or followed the trial indicated Hill's biggest mistake was to get on the witness stand.

The jury has spoken, but unless I am crazy this case

is not over till it is over.

I expect appeals on behalf of the defendants possibly all the way to the Supreme Court of The United States.

Frederick D. Lewis, J.D. is a national award winning TMCA Credentialed Distinguished Mediator. He can be reached at 214-628-6876.

Texas Veterans Leadership Program Success

(NDG Wire) The success of the Texas Workforce Commission's Texas Veterans Leadership Program (TVLP) has garnered international recognition in the



September 2009 issue of the Veterans of Foreign Wars *VFW Magazine*.

The magazine, which reaches 1.4 million readers worldwide, highlights TVLP in an article entitled *Texas Program Aids Returning Vets*. A copy of the article appears at the following link: www.texas-workforce.org/tvlp/vfwmagarticle_sept09.pdf

The story notes that

TVLP has assisted more than 2,100 veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan since it was launched in September 2008. TVLP is modeled after the successful Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program established by TWC Chairman Tom Pauken during the Reagan administration.

"TVLP is a program of veterans helping veterans find work and achieve successful transitions into civilian life," said Pauken, who himself is a veteran and a member of VFW Post 6796 in Dallas. "The *VFW Magazine* article is a wonderful opportunity to add awareness to the program and help us reach even more returning veterans."

Under the leadership of Retired U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Jason Doran,

whose military career spans 20 years, 28 Veterans Resource and Referral Specialists based in local workforce development board areas across Texas, assist their fellow veterans with job-search activities, training opportunities and other resources.

"The greatest thing we offer our fellow veterans is direction," Doran said. "We connect them with TWC services and other assistance that is out there." Details about TVLP and its services are available at www.twc.state.tx.us/tvlp/tvlp.html.

JOB DESCRIPTION - Maintenance Mechanic "B"

Reports to: Public Housing Property Administrator

This employee performs a variety of maintenance and repair functions at the level of a laborer as well as an ordinary skilled mechanic in one or more of the crafts or trades. This employee is capable of performing the duties in his craft or trade without supervision and has sufficient working knowledge of all maintenance crafts and trades to perform these duties with a minimum of supervision.

Specific Job Functions

1. cleans, paints, and refurbishes apartments as they become vacant
2. installs and repairs plumbing and fixtures in apartments and community building
3. makes minimum repairs to appliances such as stoves and refrigerators; also cleans stoves and refrigerators in vacant apartments
4. makes service calls for various repair work in carpentry, plumbing, electrical and mechanical according to work orders received
5. mows, edges, trims and performs other lawn landscaping jobs
6. makes repair to mowers, edgers and other maintenance equipment
7. cleans up and hauls off trash from property
8. cleans out sewer lines when necessary using appropriate tools and equipment
9. repairs and replaces screen doors, window screens and/or hardware and replaces window panes and door locks as necessary
10. cleans offices, warehouse, community centers and common centers
11. services and maintains Authority vehicles
12. reports unsafe conditions for apartments, grounds, and any other hazards to maintenance supervisor and/or Executive Director
13. assists maintenance supervisor and Maintenance Mechanic II when needed in water/gas/sewer pipe line inspection
14. performs other duties in relation to maintenance as required or requested be maintenance supervisor or Executive Director or duties that arise because of natural or man-made disaster
15. reports all equipment that needs repair including Authority vehicles and all maintenance equipment; report should be made to maintenance supervisor and/or Executive Director

Equipment/Materials Used

Use various carpentry, plumbing, electrical and mechanical tools and equipment such as saws, hammers, drills, paint brushes, rollers or sprayers, power tools, sanders, saw and pipe die, lawn mowers, edgers, weed eaters and roto-rooters. Must have valid Texas driver's license and ability to drive Authority vehicles. The use of equipment outside specialized trade will be used under supervision.

Working Conditions

Works in all types of conditions and weather. May be working in heated and unheated buildings or outdoors in winter and summer.

Physical Demands

Vigorous, strenuous work with lifting demanded. A physical examination and a drug test is required prior to final approval for employment. The Authority will be responsible for payment of physical exam and drug test.

Special Conditions

Employee must submit to random drug testing according to Authority's policy on drug free workplace. Employee must be available for emergency calls after working hours (during the week and weekends).



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Church Happenings

BETHANY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH October 12-14, 7 pm Nightly

Come to our Fall Revival with Rev. Dr. Johnnie Green, Jr., an Evangelist from Mt. Neboh Baptist Church in New York, NY.
Rev. Albert Haynes, Sr.
Senior Pastor
6710 Webster Street
Dallas, TX 75209
214-352-3552

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES October 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. The 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.

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK October 11, 10:30 am

Join us for our National Day of Prayer Service

October 11, 2009
After our 10:30 am Worship Services come to a Deb & Beaux Tea in our Fellowship Hall, especially

our 2010 graduating seniors and their parents.

October 17, 3 pm-6 pm
Don't miss our Fall Harvest Fest 2009 in our Family Life Center. There will be something for everybody.

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

HOPEWELL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH October 11, 3:30 pm

Join us for our Pre-Church Anniversary Hour with guest, the Ebenezer Baptist Church.

October 18, 3:30 pm
You're invited to our 81st Church Anniversary and Home Coming Services with speaker Rev. W. Locke, Pastor of New Mt. Gilead Baptist Church.
Rev. Michael R. Hubbard,
Senior Pastor

5144 Dolphin Road
Dallas, TX 75223
214-823-1018

NEW MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH October 16, 7 pm

All NMZ Senior Saints are invited to a "Movie Night." Come on out for an evening of fellowship and fun.

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

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVERS FOR COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE (PACE) October 10, 7 am-2 pm

We are having a Yard Sale and a Bake Sale for scholarships for high school students in the area. There will be clothing, household items, toys, books and more, something for everyone at 1808 Random Road in Carrollton. For more information call 214-995-5972.

Roxanne Forster
972-416-8148

WORD OF LIFE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST Tonight, October 8, 7:30 pm

Watch for Sister Tarpley on the Leslie Taylor Hair Show with gospel recording artist, Tommye Young-West tonight, October 8 @ 7:30 pm Central Time on the Digital Network 34.1 Channel or view the show online @ www.access34.tv

October 10, 6 pm
Former students, co-workers and associates help us to celebrate over 40 years serving God, community

and schools by Sister Tarpley @ The Crowne Plaza Dallas Near The Galleria on Midway Road in Addison, TX. Call 972-416-5300 or 469-789-6899 for tickets or details.

October 17, 7 pm
In conjunction with the Leslie Taylor Hare, we present "Celebrate Life: A Gospel Concert" featuring Tommye Young-West in a live recording. Call 972-416-5300 or 972-746-1013 for details.

Elder Gregory Voss,
Senior Pastor
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90 countries around the world. Their Web site, www.elderhostel.org, showcases many tours under \$600 including: a three-night Napa Valley winery trip, a five-night service trip in Maryland to help build a

See BARGAINS, Page 15

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KGGP 1040 AM, Monday - Friday @ 5:25 pm - 5:30 pm



In the course of various lives, there are certain truths about changing and entering new phrases. These are some of them:

Everything does happen for a reason. That's what Christians have always said, and they are right. Sometimes life gives you a good swift kick. It kicks you so hard that you end up light-years from where you were headed. You feel lost, so get the Bible and search the scriptures. It's OK to be afraid; but it's not OK to stop and give up.

Change in and of itself is not bad. Ponds that stagnate produce rot; lives that stagnate do the same. Life,

being an organic thing, must change and grow to keep from withering. My father said to learn to make lemonade. As embarrassing as that old cliché is, it does contain a seed of truth. If life hands you lemons, learn to make the best lemonade in town. Learn from your adversity. If you wallow in negativity, you'll only get negativity in return.

Let unexpected changes bring you wished for changes. Suddenly you will find yourself with more time on your hands to feel sorry for yourself. Make peace with change. Your life has changed somehow whether you recognize it or not. In this life, nothing stays the same. And whether you like it or not, someday you will

understand that it had to; there was a lesson to be learned from it. One day, you'll open yourself up to learn what that lesson is so that you can accept it and move on! Author Unknown

ATTITUDE: "The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearances, giftedness or skill.

It will make or break a company . . . a church . . . a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the atti-

tude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude . . . I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it."

--Charles Swindoll

FREEDOM FROM FEAR: You can live without fear. Despite what you see on the news tonight or what you hear, you can be at peace. Impossible? Unrealistic? No! Fear isn't just a reaction to external circumstances. It's a spiritual force. It begins inside a person, and it is totally destructive. In fact, fear is Satan's primary weapon. He moves in response to fear, the same

way God moves in response to faith. He challenges the promises of God with it.

An excellent example of this is found in Matthew 14:28 & 29 when Jesus invited Peter to come to Him on the water. "But when Peter saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying Lord, save me" in verse 30. Peter's faith in the Word of Jesus enabled him to walk on the water; and the fear of the wind defeated him. Peter looked at his circumstances and the result was defeat. If Peter had kept his focus on Jesus, his

faith would never have wavered. All the blustering and blowing in the world couldn't have drawn him off course.

Meditating on God's Word develops faith. Meditating on Satan's lies, on the other hand, develops fear. Such fearful meditation is called worrying. Don't worry.

The Word of God is the sword of the Spirit. Use it to fight Satan every time he comes against you. Hold up your shield of faith and quench all of his fiery darts. Speak words of faith, and fear will depart.

BARGAINS, continued from Page 14

Heifer Global Village and a one-night Dine Like a Critic experience in Cambridge, MA.

There are cruise deals aplenty these days. If you are interested in a specialty cruise for seniors only, visit www.cruisecompete.com, a cost comparison site. Searching under the seniors category will list offerings from various cruise lines and lets you compare features and pricing. Cruises for the end

of 2009 and well into 2010 are listed.

If sitting around the pool is too tame for you, look into the many active vacations available. The travel site www.away.com lists the Top 10 Active Baby Boomer Vacations.

There is also Passport in Time, a volunteer archaeology and historic preservation program of the USDA Forest Service. Work with professional archaeologists and his-

torians on archaeological survey and excavation, rock art restoration, archival research, historic structure restoration, oral history gathering, and analysis and curation of artifacts. Find out more at www.passportintime.com.

General Money-Saving Tips

Joining AARP nets discounts on hotels, rental cars, vacation packages and more. At www.aarp.org, they also have a Trend Tracker that lets you evaluate the least expen-

sive hotel and flight prices for the time of year you want to travel.

Sign up for promotional emails from several hotel, airline and travel sites, such as www.expedia.com, www.orbitz.com and www.travelocity.com. You will receive alerts on special promotions and fare reductions. Sites such as www.transitionsabroad.com have helpful tips and resources that can save you time and money.



The Honorable Richard Flemming is the first African-American Board of Trustee, on the Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District following a ruling by state district Judge Ken Molberg's decision to seat Mr. Flemming.



Ramon Hodridge, Minister

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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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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
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Wednesday Night Bible 7:30pm

OPTION, continued from Page 4

a poll by the firm of Anzeloni Liszt found that in 91 Blue Dog, Rural Caucus and Frontline districts 54 percent of voters in battleground districts support the choice of a public option.

Insurance companies are spending millions of dollars to defeat the public option. At the same time unions and health-care activists are organizing and holding marches and rallies against the private health insurance companies.

"I am disappointed by today's vote in the Finance Committee preventing the inclusion of a public option

in the health-care reform bill," said Sen. Arlen Specter, D-Pa., during the week.

Even with the defeats in the Finance Committee, the health-care bill will re-emerge at three key points in the legislative process. One opportunity to re-attach the public option is when the Senate begins melding the Finance Committee's legislation with that by the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee.

Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, the chairman of HELP, said that by his

count for the legislation his committee authored, there is a "comfortable" majority of senate lawmakers backing his public plan and that he believes Democrats can muster 60 votes to break a filibuster.

Such a move would shift the onus from those who support the public option to those who oppose the will of the American majority.

An important point will come when Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid merges the Finance Committee's bill with a more liberal proposal from the

HELP Committee.

"I will continue to work with my colleagues for a public option once the legislation arrives at the Senate floor," Reid told reporters.

"A robust public option will create competition in the marketplace and will help to provide affordable choices for American families."

House Speaker House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has promised to up the ante in favor of the public option when the House of Representatives produces its version of health-care reform

and passes it over to a House-Senate Conference Committee.

"The public insurance option is alive and well, no matter how often the skeptics declare it dead," said U.S. Rep. Chaka Fattah.

"The public insurance option will definitely be


part of the House bill," said Fattah.

"The president supports it, the House supports it, the vast majority of Democratic senators support it and, as repeated polls have shown, the American public overwhelmingly supports it."

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Wednesday
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