

# North Dallas Gazette

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## Paul Quinn College showcases a revitalized campus and vision

BY DONALD WILLIS

"We come a long way baby" was the slogan used in the 1970's when the women movement took on the establishments in their pursuit of equality. The same can be said about Paul Quinn College the historically black college located in Dallas



John Stewart, from the Real Estate Council of Dallas and Paul Quinn President Michael Sorrells

after relocating from Marshall, Texas in 1970. An institution that has been on life support in recent years due to accreditation

issues, financial bliss and dwindling enrollments numbers almost closed this campus.

Yes, Paul Quinn is alive and kicking as the school demonstrated during its media day open house on Monday, December 19, to

See **CAMPUS**, Page 6

## Local veterans assistance program provides aid year-round

"Veterans are among the largest groups of homeless here in Dallas," said Treva McDaniel, Urban League Project Director of Residential Services. "They are mostly male, but we are now seeing the number of homeless Veteran females definitely in-

creasing."

The Urban League of Greater Dallas, the Veterans Administration and Dallas Metrocare have partnered to address the large numbers of homeless veterans in Dallas County through the League's Efficiency Apartment Support-

ive Housing Program (EASH). They also partner with the Catholic Charities of Fort Worth to implement the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) which provide supportive services to veterans and

See **VETERANS**, Page 13



Visit [Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette](http://Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette) to see how to win tix to 4 the Love of Basketball

## Dallas Resident John Darjeon Named Allstate Give Back Day Hero

Rodney Peete discusses importance of National "Give Back Day" in honor of Dr. King

Last month John Darjeon of Dallas was named a 2012 Allstate Give Back Day Hero. For the fourth consecutive year, Allstate is paying tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by encouraging individuals to volunteer in their communities on MLK Day 2012 (Jan. 16) through its Give



2012 Allstate Give Back Day Hero John Darjeon of Dallas speaking to local youth

Back Day program.

Rodney Peete, former NFL quarterback and co-founder of the HollyRod Foundation, is serving as national spokesperson to launch the 2012 program along with Darjeon and three other

outstanding community heroes who are recognized as leading volunteers in their communities. Peete and the four Heroes will be guiding Give Back Day activities in their home cities with Allstate.

Speaking by phone to

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COVER STORY

## Ala Gates' Share A Life Foundation



Blood Cancer Walk-A-Thon participants

See **LIFE**, Page 9



## 28th Annual KidFilm® Festival

For more information see pg. 10  
[www.northdallasgazette.com](http://www.northdallasgazette.com)

COMMENTARY

## Freedom's Dream: Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

BY CLARENCE E. GLOVER, JR.

sultant of the documentary.

As we celebrate the 26th anniversary of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday, I also pause to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the premiere showing of "In Remembrance of Martin," the PBS documentary marking the first National Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday held in Atlanta, Georgia in 1986 of which I was privileged to have served as Interview/Con-

I am filled with emotions as I reflect back on those two weeks in Atlanta when I along with Idanha Films, arrived in Atlanta to begin to document one of America's most important events. Certainly it would become one of the most important documented events in the history of African-Americans. There I was a young African-American man raised in Dixie, LA a

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## People In The News...



Doobie Brothers



Isabel Wilkerson



Sonya Hoskins

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## Doobie Brothers

The Children's Advocacy Center of Collin County (CACCC) has announced their largest fundraiser of the year, Gala 2012, will spotlight a performance by Grammy Award winning Doobie Brothers. Gala 2012, themed *A Moment in Time*, will be held at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas on March 31.

With more than 50 million records sold, two Grammy awards, 13 gold albums, The Doobie Brothers have established them-

selves as one of America's most loved rock and roll bands. They have achieved and sustained a phenomenal level of success, including 27 chart singles, 16 Top 40 hits and the rare honor of The Diamond Award for 10 million units of a single title, "Best of Doobies Vol. 1."

The CACCC Vice President of Development, Melanie Carroll, says, "The success of this event is vital in being able to provide abused and neglected in Collin County with our

services. That is why we have strived to make this year's event better than ever before. Not only will the evening include a jaw-dropping performance by the Doobie Brothers, but it will also feature an exciting live and silent auction, and the raffle of a brand new 2012 Lexus. This is one event you won't want to miss!"

Last year alone there were over 4,000 reports of child abuse made in Collin County, an alarming average of 10 reports daily. The CACCC CEO, Lynne



Mc-Lean, states "In these difficult economic times, children need our help more than ever. It is this Gala that provides the funds that

ensure that when children need us, we are there."

Honorary Gala Chair, Marsha Spa-rks, says "Early in its history, the Chil-

dren's Advocacy Center of Collin County committed to serve 100 % of all child abuse and neglect cases in Collin County, and so much remains to be done. Abuse numbers continue to grow; the Center must have the resources to respond. As a primary source of revenue in a changing landscape of funding, the CACCC gala is more important than ever. A phenomenal evening awaits...please join us."

For more information or to purchase tickets and sponsorships visit [www.caccollincounty.org](http://www.caccollincounty.org).

## Isabel Wilkerson

Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture will present the Seventh Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium on January 16, 7 – 8:45 p.m. in the Winspear Opera House in Dallas' AT&T Performing Arts Center. The theme for this year's program is "The World Dr. King Inherited & Changed." Keynote speaker will be Isabel Wilkerson, the first African American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize in Journalism for her work as Chicago Bureau Chief at *The New York Times*. ALON USA and

Baylor Health Care System are presenting sponsors. Dr. Robert Green and Dr. Carol Francois, both with direct links to the Great Migration, will lead the discussion panel following Wilkerson's keynote address.

"The World Dr. King Inherited & Changed" will address an aspect of Dr. King's legacy which is in danger of being forgotten: the social and cultural conditions that led to the Civil Rights struggles of the 1950's and 1960's. Wilkerson, the author of *The New York Times* bestseller *The Warmth of*

*Other Suns*, will be discussing the dramatic, untold stories of American history from the "great migration" of some six million black citizens who fled the South and Jim Crow laws from 1915 to 1970 in search of a better life. The Seventh Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium will also feature Dallas citizens who can recall and relate personal experiences before, during, and after the Civil Rights Movement led by Dr. King.

"For this Symposium we felt it was important to take our audience back to the time before the Civil Rights Movement swept the na-

tion," said Dr. Larry Allums, executive director of The Dallas Institute. "

The program will begin at 7 PM with a keynote address, followed by an interview and discussion until 8:45 PM. The discussion panel will include Dr. Carol Francois and Dr. Robert Green. Dr. Francois is a career educator, having served over the years as Teacher, Principal, Dean of Instruction, and Chief of Staff for Dallas ISD. Dr. Green is Professor Emeritus and a former Dean



at Michigan State University who worked in the 1960's for Dr. Martin Luther King,

Jr., as Education Director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

The MLK Symposium is open to the public, but attendance is by reservation only. Admission is \$20; admission for teachers and students is \$10. Group rate for 10 or more is \$15 per ticket. To register, call the Winspear box office at (214) 880-0202 or go to [www.attpac.org](http://www.attpac.org). For Group Sales (10 or more) contact Jason Keller at (214) 978-2878. For more information, call (214) 871-2440 or visit [www.dallasinstitute.org](http://www.dallasinstitute.org).

## Sonya Hoskins

Within the first week of the first month of the Dallas Black Chamber of Com-



merce ("DBCC") 2012 Chair of the Board's tenure, the new leader will be working with a new executive committee and lead a search for a new DBCC

President.

Attorney Sonya Hoskins, co-founder and partner, Robinson & Hoskins L.L.P., a local law firm with national reach, was elected DBCC Chair for a one-year term beginning January 1. A longtime DBCC board member, Hoskins moved up from first Vice Chair on the Chamber's Executive Committee to assume the chair position, having served for more than seven years as an officer in several roles on DBCC's Executive Committee.

Launching her 2012 theme: "*Building on Our Legacy of Economic Empowerment*", the incoming chair has developed an ag-

gressive work plan and has assembled a diverse leadership team to help execute her vision.

"We have a great leadership team and tremendous depth on our board," Hoskins said, adding, "The Dallas Black Chamber has the technical qualifications and requisite capabilities to continue its legacy of providing constructive leadership to the Dallas/Fort Worth region and beyond."

A key action step on Hoskins "to do" list is to appoint a search committee to find a new chamber president. "The Chamber has been providing constructive leadership since 1926 and we will continue that legacy," Hoskins said. "We will have a search committee named by the end of January and conduct a thorough search to find the right skills set to manage our day-to-day operations."

Hoskins received her Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Texas at Arlington and her Juris Doctor with cum laude distinction from Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Hoskins' many professional and business affiliations include being an active member of the National Bar Association, where she served on the Board of Governors for 15 years, Vice President and Co-Chaired the Association's 76th Annual Convention in 2001, which was held in Dallas. She is past President of J.L. Turner Legal Association, a local affiliate of the National Bar Association.

Hoskins is a member of The Links, Incorporated, past Trustee of the Dallas Women's Foundation and past member of the Dallas

Convention & Visitors Bureau Board of Directors.

Hoskins has been a  
**See HOSKINS, Page 16**

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## DREAM, continued from Page 1

son of the South preparing to help preserve for all times the memories of the first National Holiday for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., one of the South's greatest sons.

During the celebration, I would interview. Mrs. Coretta Scott King, Bernice King, Mrs. Christine King Ferris, President Jimmy Carter, Dr. Ralph David Abernathy, Senator Ted Kennedy, Dick Gregory, Bill Cosby, Bishop Desmond Tutu, John Lewis and Rev. Jesse Jackson along with a host of others who came to celebrate the life of a man who helped America to fulfill "Freedom's Dream."

While time would only permit us to show clips of the interviews, I am full of the memories and moments that I spent with each individual as they shared their personal stories with me of their time with Dr. King. Their stories are as important as Dr. King's life itself, for their lives, interwoven with his and the countless thousands of others, who worked and marched with him, make up the fabric of freedom that has become the garment of the America we know today. Their lives and stories are the foundation

upon which we continue to build the promises of a better future for those yet unborn.

While 1986 was indeed an outstanding and moving moment for me, I would be even more moved to return in 1987 to experience the world premier showing of the documentary. It was truly a star studded affair of civil rights icons who gathered along with Mrs. King and her family, to view the documentary that we had spent the previous year producing.

There on the screen was the culmination of hours of shooting and editing that would now become the official story of the first Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday Celebration. As I sat there with the audience anticipating each moment, I began to wonder had I asked the right questions, had we gotten the right shots, had we edited the right scenes? This was not just any documentary; this was the documentary by which the world would remember Dr. King's First National Holiday Celebration. Millions of individuals would come to experience this celebration through this

documentary. The documentary would be among the many sources that would serve to help future generations interpret the American story of freedom.

As we are facing what Dr. King prophetically called "some difficult days ahead" the documentary can serve as a compass to guide us through the rough waters of uncertainty today. Through his voice and the voices of others in the documentary, we today can gain new insights into what it means to organize and work for justice for all people; to call America to live up to its better self, and embrace the true meaning of the "beloved community;" to embrace non-violence as a life style that extends from our house to the "world house;" to work to insure, that justice rolls down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream.

"In Remembrance of Martin" is a documentary for all times. Its message is for all of us who dare to believe in the possibility of a shared humanity. As we reflect on those days in Atlanta in 1986, when thousands gathered to celebrate not only a man but a movement,

we also are carried back to 1955 and the beginning of the modern day civil rights movement birth by the actions of Mrs. Rosa Parks. We are moved and inspired as we began to see men and women, boys and girls, Jews and Gentiles, black, white and brown, work together and walk together to make real the promises of freedom for all Americans.

I invite you to join me Tuesday, January 17, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the City of Dallas' Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 2922 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, for a commemorative showing of "In Remembrance of Martin." Admission is free.

As you and your family pause to celebrate the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday this year, take the time to purchase "In Remembrance of Martin" from PBS and share it all year long. And as you do, I encourage you to become an active participant in the continuing civil rights movement to fulfill "Freedom's Dream."

Clarence E. Glover, Jr. is CEO of Sankofa Education Services, www.sankofaeducationservices, clarence-gloverjr@aol.com or 214-393-1861

## Chief Consumer Watchdog arrives in 2012

By Charlene Crowell  
As 2012 unfolds, America's consumers have now gained a top cop in a wide

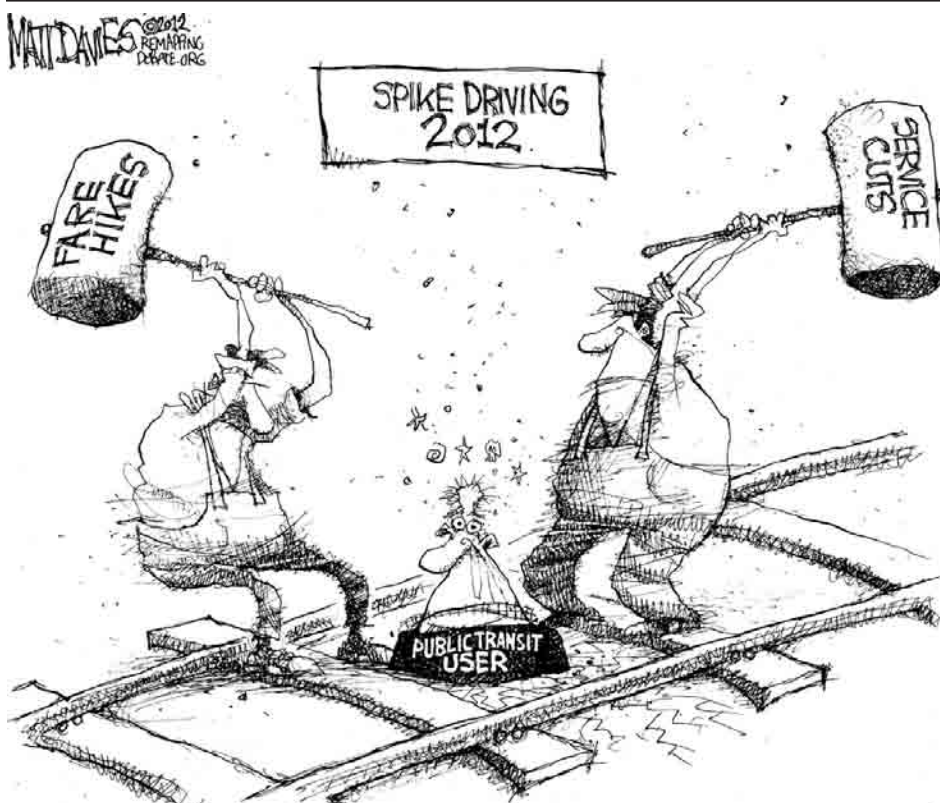
range of financial affairs. Richard Cordray, a former Ohio attorney general and state treasurer was ap-

pointed this week by President Obama to become the first director of the Consumer Financial Protection

Bureau (CFPB). After the greatest financial collapse since that of the 1930s Great Depression, the historic Dodd-Frank Act created a new bureau to comprehensively address lending abuses and the accompanying power to enforce regulatory change.

With a director in place, CFPB can now take on oversight of payday lenders, mortgage companies and credit bureaus, writes rules for the non-banking industry, and becomes the consumer's voice in financial services regulation. Last year in late July, CFPB began ongoing monitoring and regulating of large depository banks.

Announced January 4 at an appearance in Cleveland, President Barack Obama said in part, "The financial firms have armies of lobbyists in Washington looking out for their interest. You need somebody looking out



See CHIEF, Page 12

## Walking often a battle of obstacles in Texas

BY TIM MORSTAD

Walking is good for the heart, but in many Texas communities, it can be hazardous to your health and safety.

As many of us make New Year's resolutions to shed excess holiday pounds and get healthier, we often find the deck stacked against us even as we take our first step... right in our own neighborhoods. That's too bad because walking is a wonderful form of exercise. In fact, some studies suggest walking 10,000 steps per day can yield considerable health and weight reduction benefits.

The fact remains that

while many of us truly enjoy walking, most of our communities simply aren't "walker friendly." They were built instead for motorists, resulting in unsafe intersections, streets without sidewalks, and a lack of benches for resting or waiting for public transportation. These and other factors prevent many of us from walking regularly and using this easy, cheap, physically and environmentally healthy mode of transportation.

Unfortunately, Texas' largest population centers fall in the "worst offender" category for pedestrian safety. A recent Transportation for America study identified

Houston, Dallas-Fort Worth, Austin and San Antonio among the 25 most dangerous places for pedestrians in the country. According to the report, more than 4,200 pedestrians were killed in Texas over the past decade, including more than 500 over age 65.

This is why AARP is engaging volunteers in a statewide effort to make more transportation options available -- such as bus and rail service -- and to design safer roadways and sidewalks. The initiative is supported by a coalition including businesses, cycling enthusiasts and aging groups. The premise behind the effort

is simple: Streets are not just for drivers but for everyone who uses them.

The ultimate goal is to pass a "Complete Streets" law in Texas that encourages transportation planners and decision makers to think in terms of access and safety when planning communities or renovating streets. This forward-thinking legislation wouldn't cost the state additional money. It merely requires cities and counties to plan with the needs of motorists, public transit users, cyclists and pedestrians in mind.

Last year, the measure was adopted by committees of both House and Senate but

not by the full Texas Legislature. The coalition will try again when the Legislature convenes in 2013. In the meantime, we'll continue to educate Texans about the problem and work with cities and towns on resolutions supporting such goals.

AARP and partner organizations are talking to local officials and doing pedestrian safety audits in places like Houston, San Antonio, Dallas, El Paso, Austin and San Angelo. Older Texans are among those who depend most on a variety of transportation options and, ironically, some of the worst intersections are in right in front of senior centers.

The solutions are often simple, and they can save lives. For example, older pedestrians or people using walkers and wheelchairs could benefit from curb cuts and walk lights that tell them how much time they have to cross the road.

There is no good reason why crossing a street in Texas should turn into a near-death experience. Any one of us can help make things better and safer for pedestrians, cyclists, motorists and transit riders across Texas. To learn more, visit [www.safestreets-texas.org](http://www.safestreets-texas.org)

*Tim Morstad coordinates AARP Texas' mobility initiative.*

## HERO, continued from Page 1

the *North Dallas Gazette*, Peete shared why he considers this effort an important initiative.

"It is all about service, and giving back to others," according to Peete. He pointed out that his family has been very fortunate and they want their children to understand and appreciate how fortunate they are and the responsibility they have to give back to the community.

"We feel there is a responsibility to serve others and to give back. This program that celebrates giving back to the community was a tremendous opportunity to team up with a company that gets it," Peete added.

His children range from 6 -14 years old and as the holiday season approached he discussed how their family's commitment to service and helping has impacting the kids.

"They have started to get it, especially the older ones. It [giving back] is in their heart." Peete shared how this appreciation has grown for the older children over the years. "We started giving gifts to families years ago. Now the older children are looking forward to picking out families. They are starting to get more fulfillment in what they see on the faces of those they give to. Even my 9 year old is excited about giving another kid his age a gift they will enjoy."

Peete joked that for the

six year, it is still a bit of a challenge.

Joseph McCormick, field corporate relations manager for Allstate's Texas Region discussed the attributes of Darjean, the local hero selected for Dallas.

"John Darjean is a remarkable individual who selflessly gives back, keeping Dr. King's legacy alive through his passionate commitment to service. The volunteer efforts of the Give Back Day Heroes reflect the values and causes important to Allstate and communities across America. We hope their stories inspire others to put their good hands to work in their

own communities every day and on Jan. 16, in honor of Dr. King."

Darjean has served as a mentor and coach for the past ten years, teaching inner-city youth the fundamental of baseball in an effort to keep them off the streets and out of trouble. Darjean grew up in a rough neighborhood and struggled in school but baseball was the one thing that was able to keep him out of trouble. After four years playing minor league baseball for the New York Yankees, Darjean started Majors 2 Minors, a baseball league for inner-city kids. He co-founded the Dallas Baseball Alliance, a pro-

gram aimed at coaching kids the fundamentals of baseball, while using the sport as a vessel to teach them discipline and life skills.

A lifelong volunteer with the Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation, having endured sickle cell traits since birth, Darjean also volunteers with Dallas Police Athletic League, the American Cancer Society. Darjean played the role of shortstop in the movie "For The Love of the Game" and he is currently making an independent film about African Americans in baseball. In 2010, he was granted the NAACP Humanitarian Award for his

extensive work in the Dallas community.

Individuals interested in participating in Allstate Give Back Day 2012 can find local volunteer opportunities via Volunteer-Match, an online search engine promoting volunteerism and civic engage-

ment by matching volunteers with charitable organizations and non-profits. Visitors to the website can view profiles of the four Allstate Give Back Day Heroes and learn about their community involvement through a series of video interviews.

### Museum Of Nature & Science to stay open Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Plus Sharky Sunday

The Museum of Nature & Science will be open with regular hours on Monday (Jan. 16) for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day with fun for all ages throughout the holiday weekend.

A recent visit with a 2 year old, 7 year old and 11 year old boy was delightful. Even the toddler could enjoy himself expressing his "artistic" side on the daily mural children can add their sharks to. The middle child is fascinated with sharks so the exhibit was a special treat to him. He listened closely as the facilitator shared special details on specific sharks.

The interactive exhibit features short video vignettes which with a press of a button visitors can learn about sharks that swam the seas millions of years ago. One of the more fascinating exhibits to me was the teeth. Sometimes entire set of teeth were encased and displayed stretching the mouth to see that a small child would merely be a snack



for the shark on display. Also in a case a pile of tiny teeth totalled over 20,000 teeth.

Sharky Sunday kicks off with special guest speaker Chris Schreiber of the Georgia Aquarium on Sunday (Jan. 15) from 1 - 3 p.m. Schreiber recently appeared on "Ocean Mysteries with Jeff Corwin" collecting blood samples from wild whale sharks in Cancun. He will be on hand to talk about his field research in tagging, genetics and conservation.

Also, a third LIVE shark has just been added to the two-tank lobby aquarium display. Visitors can see the live sharks feed at 11 a.m. Friday (Jan. 13).

For more info and other highlights: 214-428-5555 or [natureandscience.org](http://natureandscience.org).

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## Nurse, counselor to speak at VNA Bereavement Luncheon January 26

Barbara Petsel, a registered nurse and licensed professional counselor, will speak on "Getting the Support You Need" at the January 26 bereavement luncheon hosted by the

Visiting Nurse Association.

The luncheon is from noon to 1 p.m. at the Church of the Incarnation on 3966 McKinney Avenue in Dallas.

There is no cost to attend the luncheon, but reservations are requested and can be made through January 24 by calling 214-689-2633.

## The coffee-only break?

For dieters, a snack with the mid-morning coffee can be trouble.

At the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Anne McTiernan looked at data on 123 overweight to obese women, ages 50 to 70, who were dieting. Mid-

morning snackers lost about 7 percent of their weight, but nonsnackers lost about 11 percent. Dr. McTiernan says it pays to watch what you eat – and when – and maybe drink something instead of eating:

"The best beverages

are things that don't have sugar in them – things like water, or tea, or coffee. But be careful with the coffee – that you're not loading it up with a lot of things like syrups or whipped cream."

So much for the venti caramel macchiato.

## A mother shares memories of her teenage angel

BY RUTH FERGUSON  
NDG EDITOR

*Editor's note: In our December 22nd issue in a story spotlighting the Collin County Chamber of Commerce event, it was incorrectly stated that Ms. Wilkerson's daughter, Dee Dee's death was the result of a suicide which was not correct. Ms. Wilkerson died as a result of an accident. We deeply regret this mistake and any distress it may have caused to Mrs. Sandra Wilkerson and family.*

Imagine if one day your child informed announced their deepest desire was to be a teenager in heaven. How

would you respond, would you even consider such a request seriously? These are the questions Sandra K. Wilkerson faced.

Nearly 30 years ago, Dee Dee Wilkerson at the age of 13 informed her mother, "I want to be an angel in heaven. You need to listen to me, because God is allowing me time to prepare you. All I am looking forward to is being in Heaven with Jesus. I want to be a teenager in heaven throughout eternity."



Understandably Wilkerson did not want to have these conversations with her daughter, admitting she initially dismissed the subject. However, eventually, "my heart was troubled and she would comfort me saying, 'I want you to be happy for me. It will be the happiest day of my life.'"

Within three months of their first conversation, in the hustle and bustle of a program at her school, Dee Dee fell and

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## Cece Winans headlining 29th Annual Black Music and The Civil Rights Movement Concert

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. led the fight for Civil Rights in America and on Sunday, January 15, 2012, The Black Academy of Arts and Letters (TBAAL) honors his legacy with the 29th Annual Black Music and The Civil Rights Movement Concert at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center located in the Downtown Dallas Arts District at 2501 Flora Street. Tickets are on sale now at TBAAL's Box Office for \$15, \$20 and \$30.

This moving tribute reflects on Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s and celebrates a new nationwide spirit of continuance change with potent film footage, narration, music and dance. The concert features multi-Grammy, Stellar and Dove award winner Cece Winans backed by TBAAL's 200 voice concert choir and dancers. Conceived and produced by Curtis King, the program promises to inspire and uplift the audience and further deepen the profound respect and admiration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his incomparable dedication and sacrifice for equal rights.

Winans is one of the most recognizable and incomparable voices in gospel music and has sold millions of albums during



**Cece Winans**

her 25-year music career. The beautiful charismatic singer has garnered eight Grammy Awards, twenty-one Dove Awards, gold and platinum albums, a host of #1 Gospel and Top Ten R&B hits and numerous other awards and recognitions. Cece, along with her brother Bebe, were recently honored with a star on the Hollywood (California) Walk of Fame. Despite her undeniable popularity, she has maintained a reputation as one of the friendliest people in the music industry.

The eighth of ten chil-

dren, Winans was raised in Detroit, Michigan with a strong church foundation. She sang her first church solo at the age of eight. In 1987, BeBe & CeCe

Winans signed an unprecedented gospel-recording contract with Sparrow Records that allowed Capitol Records to promote BeBe & CeCe's music in the urban market. Over the next eight years, they enjoyed R&B chart smashes including "Lost Without You," "Heaven," and "It's Okay." Their tunes "I'll Take You There" and "Adictive Love" both reached number 1 on the R&B charts. BeBe & CeCe released their much-anticipated reunion CD – their first full project in fifteen years - titled Still. The smooth single "Close to You" quickly reached number 1 on the gospel charts and top 10 on the Urban AC charts, demonstrating that Winans is as popular and in demand now as when she first started two decades ago.

"The Black Music and The Civil Rights Movement Concert has become the

cornerstone concert program of TBAAL's season and the King holiday celebration in Dallas. The remembrance of Dr. King is vital to the mission of ensuring the continued civil rights of all Americans," says TBAAL Founder and Director Curtis King. "This season, we are honored to have one of music's premiere artists, Ms. CeCe Winans, headline the King concert. Dallas/Fort Worth does not want to miss this year's King Concert because it will truly be an extravaganza of song and

dance."

To purchase tickets, call The Black Academy of Arts and Letters Box Office at 214.743.2400, Monday-Friday from 10 AM to 5 PM or on Saturday from 12 Noon to 4 PM, or log onto [www.tbaal.org](http://www.tbaal.org). Tickets are also available by calling Ticketmaster at 800.745.3000. For Group Sales information, contact Nora Wilson at 214.743.2506. To become a member and receive special Membership Perks, contact Anthony Davis at 214.743.2441.

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## New Life Skills Certificate program for African Women

The Life Skills Certificate introduces many basic elements of American culture through a weekly educational program for African women. The program seeks to help the women grow in self-confidence and personal leadership skills, while improving their family's level of academic and economic condition.

It is designed for women who have lived in the USA for 5 years or less. Also, women with a family situation requiring life skills development are welcome. The program is open to women who speak any of these languages: English, Amharic, Tigrina, French, Kuryndi, or Arabic.

The subjects covered in-

clude: USA culture, family health and wellness, using the public library, obtaining an ID or drivers license, raising a special needs child. They will also share financial literacy (opening a bank account, using a credit card) for economic education. Other topics include: domestic violence and family security issues, job skills, parenting for

success, steps to American citizenship, entrepreneurship, and much more.

Teachers will include community leaders and professional educators from the Dallas Public Library System, Catholic Charities, as well as professionals from the African diaspora.

The weekly Saturday classes are scheduled for Jan-

uary 28 – December 8 from 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Audelia Branch Library located 10045 Audelia Rd. (at Church St.) in Dallas.

The project is a partnership of the DFW International Community Alliance, United Eritrean American Families and the Mutual Assistance Association for the Ethiopian Community.

If you know someone who could benefit from this program or if you would like to volunteer as a mentor or educator, please contact Hellen Fissihiae hellen.fissihiae5@gmail.com or Anne Marie Weiss Armush at annemarieweiss@dfwinternational.org. A very limited number of positions are available.

## UNT at Dallas establishes The Remarcus L. West Memorial Scholarship Fund

**Anonymous donor provides \$100,000 lead gift**

The University of North Texas at Dallas has announced a \$100,000 gift from an anonymous donor to establish the Remarcus L. West Memorial Scholarship Fund in mem-

ory of Texas State Senator, Royce West's late son, Remarcus, who recently passed away after a prolonged illness.

Remarcus West graduated from Duncanville High School in 1997 and attended the University of North Texas

and Prairie View A&M University. He is remembered as a talented coalition builder among his peers. "He was a person who would often bring people with multiple, even opposing interests together," said his father. Remarcus had

hopes to continue his education by studying photography in New York, but his illness prevented him from achieving that goal. "He would always take one step forward with his education and then two steps back when he would get sick,"

said Senator West, "He knew

**See UNT, Page 13**

## CAMPUS, continued from Page 1

the media, civic and business leaders from the North Texas area. School President Michael Sorrells who has been the doctor, nurse, and sometimes the ambulance driver for this institution since his arrival. Sorrells' presentation reviewed the history of Paul Quinn and recent progress of the school. Changes include cutting salaries by 10 percent, demolishing several unused buildings on campus and creating a surplus of \$1.2 million.

In attendance were representatives from the Real Estate Council of Dallas to present their \$40,000 donation to the school for the building of a greenhouse. The school food program of farming will produce foods to sale, generating income for the school.

A tour of the campus for the media showed off the upgrades and the state of the art classrooms, which include video conferencing capabilities. A freshly painted gymnasium sporting the Tiger mascot on the gym floor is an eye catcher.

Other amenities include a student center with computers, plasma TVs, and new carpet makes it an ideal place for students to hangout. A new fitness center equipped with modern cardio and weight equipment will occupy the first floor of the student center.

The school has created exchange programs with institutions like Southern Methodist University, Penn

State University and Yale University. In the spring, Yale will visit Paul Quinn to review the exchange curriculum between the two schools.

Sorrells, the Board of Directors and its Chairman, Bishop Gregory Ingram have worked together to create a

vision for Paul Quinn College. It is to maintain a reputation of excellence in technology and academic, attracting students worldwide.

Paul Quinn has come a long way. Their vision of 2,000 students by 2020 is an achievable goal for students,

staff, and alumni.

You can listen to Donald 'Spider' Willis each Sunday from 7:00pm to 9:00pm on the Fishbowl Radio Network.com. For topics or opinions you can call 469 335 6668 or email dwillisdw@yahoo.com.

*The Black Academy of Arts and Letters presents*

# POETS n' JAZZ #1

*featuring*

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**Sharon Smith Knight**

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**For Tickets, Call TBAAL Box Office at 214-743-2400 or Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000**

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Inc. 2011-2012 35th Season programs are supported in part by the City of Dallas - Office of Cultural Affairs, American Airlines, DART, Centerplate, Dikita Engineering, MOG Records, The Dallas Weekly, Downtown Business News, Evans Engraving, TXA 21/CBS 11, Radio One-Dallas, Vinson Creative Solutions, and Wicks Design. American Airlines is the official air carrier for TBAAL's 35th Season.

## Which of these appeals to you?

a) Saving \$9,000 per year

b) Taking a nap on the way to the office

c) Getting to work like clockwork

✓ d) All of the above

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## IISD students attend Dream Tour

More than 800 middle school students from Irving ISD rallied behind science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education on December 7 at the Ellis Davis Field House during The Dream Tour, a high-energy motivational program presented by Dr. Bernard A. Harris Jr., the first African-American to walk in space.

Students from Irving ISD participated in the two-hour, inspirational program designed to encourage STEM-related careers. The high-tech event, supported by Irving Schools Foundation's partner, ExxonMobil Foundation, featured interactive science experiments, a simulated shuttle launch and firsthand accounts from ExxonMobil engineers about the rewarding aspects of their careers. The program concluded with a motivational address from Dr. Harris about how he overcame barriers through edu-



(from left) Demekia Biscoe, science teacher at Houston Middle School; Gwen Craig, IISD Board of Trustees member; Dr. Harris; Ronda Huffstetter, Board of Trustees Vice-President; and Mandy Hamilton, ISF executive director attended an Educational Forum at the Museum of Nature and Science where they were able to visit with Dr. Bernard Harris prior to the Dream Tour event.

cation and achieved his dreams to become a successful physician, businessman, NASA researcher and astronaut.

Prior to the Dream Tour event, several members of the Irving ISD Board of Trustees and Irving Schools

Foundation Executive Director attended an Educational Forum at the Museum of Nature and Science where they were able to visit with Dr. Harris about STEM-related programs in and around Irving ISD.

## Irving City Manager gives back at local YMCA

When Irving City Manager Tommy Gonzalez is not serving Irving residents and businesses, he is finding time to focus on its youth as a volunteer YMCA basketball coach.

For the past five years, Gonzalez has coached the Blazers, which constitutes two of the Irving YMCA's youth basketball teams in order to share his experiences and teach his players how to be better young men through the values of good work ethic, sportsmanship, respect, leadership and team work. Beyond that, he wants them to understand the importance of honoring God and applying those principals to their everyday lives.

"God doesn't want you to be exceptional just on Sunday," Gonzalez said. "He wants you to be exceptional every day. Just like it's not enough to get an education and a job. You need to work hard and produce every day."

Gonzalez began coaching the Blazers



(Left to Right) In front: Tommy Gonzalez, Sagen Gonzalez, Cole Duran. In back: Sagen-Marcus Hill, D'aron Spratley, Jack Nelson, Nuhom Biniam, Brandon Munoz, Joey Martini

when his two sons joined the YMCA Blazers. He wanted to demonstrate to his sons that being involved in a constructive, results-orientated activity with other less fortunate youth could help them honor God in their daily life. Since then, he can not see his life without these teams and plans to continue coaching the same boys he has for the past five years throughout the YMCA's season and all year round when he has

the Blazers play against other leagues.

"It's an honor to be able to work with these youth," Gonzalez said. "It's rewarding to play a role in how these boys will grow up and the values they will take with them throughout their life."

The Irving YMCA Blazers play the Falcons on Monday, January 16, 2012 at 7:30pm. While

See YMCA, Page 11

## Irving church celebrates 13 years of service to congregation and community by pastor and wife

Members and friends of West Irving Church of God in Christ (C.O.G.I.C.) celebrated the 13th anniversary of Pastor Andrew Jackson, Jr. and his wife Sandra last month. Together they work tirelessly to minister to not only the members of the church, but members of the community facing tremendous challenges. They include the homeless, victims of domestic violence and those who are spiritually lost as well.

The keynote speaker for the special occasion on December 11, 2011 was Supt. J.

E. Hornsby from Cathedral of Faith C.O.G.I.C. in Euless, Texas. The theme of the program was *Servants Sent by God to Execute the Master's Blueprint* and the Scripture reference was Proverbs 29:18.

Pastor Jackson was ordained in 1975 and has led West Irving COGIC since 1998.



Pastor Andrew Jackson, Jr. & wife Sandra Jackson

Throughout his tenure, the ministry has continually placed great emphasis on See CHURCH, Page 12

2012 WORLD TOUR

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Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets, Ticketmaster.com, the American Airlines Center box office or charge by phone at 1-800-745-3000.



**Ongoing**

Every two weeks on Monday the Plano City Council holds its **City Council Meeting** at the Plano Municipal Center, Council Chambers, 1520 K Avenue, Plano, from 7pm – 9:30pm. FREE and open to the public. Info: [planotx.org](mailto:planotx.org).

Harwood 609, 609 Harwood Street, Dallas, has **Salsa Night** every Thursday night starting at 9:30pm. Info: [609jazz.com](http://609jazz.com) or 214-740-0609.

Be Fit Frisco presents weekly **Fitness in the Square** sessions Thursday evenings 6:30pm – 7:30pm at Simpson Plaza in front of City Hall, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd, Frisco. FREE. Info: [friscotexas.gov](http://friscotexas.gov).

The Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood Street, Dallas, hosts **Jazz in the Atrium** every Thursday 6pm – 8pm. Performance included with general admission \$10 and under. Info: [dallasmuseumofart.org](http://dallasmuseumofart.org) or 214-922-1200.

Harwood 609, 609 Harwood Street, Dallas, hosts an **All You Can Eat Sunday Brunch with Smooth Jazz Sounds of Majik Touch** every Sunday at 11am. Info: [609jazz.com](http://609jazz.com) or 214-740-0609.

Want to become a better public speaker? **Toastmasters International** has helped people for decades in a mutually supportive, positive, and fun environment. See what it is like for FREE!!! Mtgs are every Monday at 5:45 p.m. Info: 214-566-4086 or <http://texins.free-toasthost.org/>

**Through January 20**

The Oak Cliff Cultural Center presents **La Virgen de Guadalupe Art Exhibit**

at the Oak Cliff Cultural Center is open Tuesday – Friday, 3-5 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

**Through January 28**

**The Lady: An exhibition** inspired by the myth of the Lady of White Rock. The seventeen local artists featured in this show found the story and its mystifying protagonist extremely appealing and created paintings, photographs, and mixed media small-scale works of art for display in this exhibition at the Bath House Cultural Center

**January 13-14**

Comedian Rodney Perry (Tyler Perry's *Madea's Big Happy Family*) will make the crowd laugh when he plays **Comedy Night at the Muse** for two shows at 9 p.m. All shows take place at the Clarence Muse Café Theatre in The Black Academy of Arts and Letter, corner of Canton and Akard streets in Dallas. Admission is \$20. [www.tbaal.org](http://www.tbaal.org)

**January 13-15**

**Texas Home & Garden Show - Las Colinas** at the Irving Convention Center

**January 14**

**R&B singer Charlie Wilson** will play WinStar at 8 p.m. General admission \$35. 1-800-622-6317.

**January 15**

The Texas Black Academy of Arts and Letters presents the **29th annual Black music and Civil Rights movement concert** starring CeCe Winans at 7:30 p.m. at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony

Center, 2501 Flora St. in Dallas. Tickets start at \$15.

**January 16**

**For the Love of Basketball II** featuring Prairie View A&M and Grambling State hoops scheduled to take place at the Ellis Davis Fieldhouse in the Kincaid Complex, 9191 S. Polk at Interstate 20. Women tip off at 3:30 p.m. and men at 6 p.m. Paul Quinn Men to take on St. Thomas at 1 p.m. [www.alwe.com](http://www.alwe.com)

**January 12**

**Texas Discovery Gardens Kicks off "Books 'N Bugs" series** from 11 a.m. to noon celebrating Eric Carle's book, *The Very Clumsy Click Beetle!* \$10/Child; \$8 for Texas Discovery Gardens Member Child. Adults pay regular admission. Info: [http://texasdiscoverygardens.org/events\\_and\\_classes.php](http://texasdiscoverygardens.org/events_and_classes.php) and at 214-428-7476 x 343.

**January 13**

**MLK Celebration Banquet at UTA Dinner**, entertainment, scholarships and awards at UTA Bluebonnet Ballroom, E.H. Herford University Center, 300 W. First St. in Arlington starting at 6:30 p.m. and the cost is \$40; Info: [www.UTAtickets.com](http://www.UTAtickets.com) or 817-459-6430

**January 15**

**MLK Celebration Hubert Moss Memorial Service in Arlington** A memorial ecumenical service for Hubert Moss with guest key note speaker Rev. Dr. Zan Holmes at the First Baptist Church, 300 S. Center St. in Arlington at 6 p.m. Info: Free event - [www.UTAtickets.com](http://www.UTAtickets.com) or 817-459-6430

**January 16**

**MLK, Jr. Symposium: The World Dr. King Inherited and Changed.** The Seventh Annual MLK, Jr. Symposium featuring Distinguished Speaker Isabel Wilkerson at 2403 Flora Street at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20; Info: 214-880-0202

**January 18**

**The Far North Dallas Democrats presents The Donkey Show** at Pocket Sandwich Theater, Mockingbird & Central [5400 E. Mockingbird Lane] Dallas at 7 p.m.

**January 18-24**

**Dallas Holiday & Home Expo** at the Dallas Market Center

**January 21-22**

**28th Annual KidFilm® Festival** taking place at the Angelika Film Center, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas

**January 23-April 2**

**Intermediate Sign Language Classes** will be offered on Monday nights from 5:30-6:45 p.m., in the Britain library, 631 Edmondson. Classes are free to families of deaf students, \$10 for district employees and \$20 for all others. For more information, call 972-600-3821

**January 26**

Barbara Petsel is the guest speaker at the bereavement luncheon hosted by the Visiting Nurse Association from noon to 1 p.m. at the Church of the Incarnation on 3966 McKinney Avenue in Dallas. FREE but RSVP @ 214-689-2633

**January 28 – December 8**

**New Life Skills Certificate program for African**

**Women** each Saturday morning from 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Audelia Branch Library located 10045 Audelia Rd. (at Church St.) in Dallas. Info: [hellen.fissihie5@gmail.com](mailto:hellen.fissihie5@gmail.com)

**January 27 – April 29**

Texas Discovery Gardens' gallery space unveils a new exhibition, **"Echoes of Remembered Gardens,"** by Dallas artist Susan Lecky; admission applies. \$8/adults, \$6/ages 60+, and \$4/ages 3 to 11. Free for members or on Tuesdays (butterfly house admission regular price).

**January 22**

**Fly A Sim** Everyone gets the exciting opportunity to fly a real jet simulator! Flights offer full motion, sound and visuals. 972-242-5999

**January 26**

Garland Mayor Ronald E. Jones will host his monthly "Mayor's Evening In" event from 5 to 7 p.m. The Mayor hosts **"Evening In"** events to broaden his accessibility to the citizens of Garland. This month's event will be held at the Mayor's Office, 200 North Fifth Street. It is necessary to schedule an appointment. For more information, call 972-205-2471 or email [edatomo@garlandtx.gov](mailto:edatomo@garlandtx.gov).

**January 28**

**"Come to the Tropics" Day** from 10 am to 2 pm at Texas Discovery Gardens. Stroll through our tropical butterfly house, which is temperature controlled to replicate a rainforest. Pick up your special passport at the front desk and "visit" the countries where we get our butterflies (including the Philippines, Costa Rica, Colombia, and more).

We'll stamp your passport at each table as you enjoy tropical and cultural themed activities. Admission is \$8/adults, \$6/seniors and \$4/children ages 3-11. Info: [http://texasdiscoverygardens.org/events\\_and\\_classes.php](http://texasdiscoverygardens.org/events_and_classes.php) and at 214-428-7476 x 343.

**January 27-29**

**ZestFest 2012** brings together the spiciest exhibitors and products from around the country at the Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas, 500 W Las Colinas Blvd., Irving

**February 4**

**Royal Comedy Tour** featuring Sommore, Arnez J, Earthquake, Mark Curry, and Tony Rock on tap for the Verizon Theatre. [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

**February 7**

At the request of the Garland City Council the public hearing for the **Envision Garland 2030 Comprehensive Plan** was rescheduled to allow for additional Council review.

**February 17**

**Old School 94.5 Love Train Tour** featuring the OJays, Chaka Khan, and hosted by Tom Joyner slated for American Airlines Center at 6 p.m. [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

**February 22**

**Hand In Hand** is a program designed for adults to enjoy with their preschooler. Each week enjoy stories, music, activities and c... Dallas Museum of Natural History. 214-428-5555

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# Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community



# Ala Gates' Share A Life Foundation

BY SHIRLEY  
DEMUS TARPLEY

Ms. Ala Gates, Founder and CEO of Share A Life Foundation officially started in January, 2009. The 501(c)(3) organization began to farther extend compassion and practical assistance to all people facing today's challenges by encouraging and ensuring them that opportunities for growth and development is available to everyone.

Gates was born in Clarksdale, Mississippi; it has a population of approximately 17,500 and is said to be the original birthplace and World Capital of the Blues. It is also the location of the famous Crossroads intersection of Highway 61 and 49. Three of Gates' role-models are her mother, Donna Gates, who raised her and resides in Jackson, Mississippi and her grandparents, Mary & Herbert Quinn; has also been a big influence on her life. Mary and Herbert reside in Clarksdale, Mississippi. Gates' stated, "I love my mother and grandparents so much. There is nothing in this world that I would not do for them. They have always stuck with me through thick and thin and supported me through it all. It is such a blessing to have people that care about YOU just as much as you care for yourself. I want to make them proud and honor them by giving back to the community."

Gates graduated from The International Business Academy at Newman Smith High School in Carrollton, Texas in 2006.



**Share A Life Foundation sponsored the Tchula, MS Best Lady Horse Rider for 2011 in their 1st Annual Gated Horse Show.**

When she completed High School she had received 30 college credit hours from Brookhaven College in Farmers Branch, Texas. She earned these credits taking evening, weekend and summer school courses. Gates also took the entrance exam to Brookhaven College in the 10th grade at the age of 16



**Back to School Drive with Multiple Motorcycle Clubs taking the kids on a ride around the facility parking lot after receiving their school supplies.**

and entered as a dual credit student. Also, she attended Champions School of Real Estate in 2007 and is now currently a student at University of North Texas.

Through the years Gates has loved giving; it's something that her mother instilled in her. She loved watching her mom give to the less fortunate and taking her to homeless shelters as a young girl so that she could learn the



**School children getting rides on motorcycles and in the bounce house after picking up supplies for a day of fun and excitement.**

true value of life. When Gates was 18 she decided that she wanted to do something big; she started giving a tremendous amount of time to the community. Later, she went to her mother and asked for help in how to help the community. With her mother's advice and help Gates decided she wanted to start a non-profit organization to help the homeless, underprivileged families with children,

senior citizens and at-risk youth. Gates stated, "My goal is to touch as many hearts as I can. I want people to feel the love I have in my family that they may not have. Love gives strength and confidence. I just want to help the communities around the world in any way I can."

Before founding her own or-

ganization, Gates volunteered for the Girl Scouts of America, Special Olympics, American Heart Association, Scottish Rite Hospital, etc.

Gates' dream is to invest in Individuals, help build strong families, encourage healthy communities and provide hope to children and youth. Her favorite quote is, "Be the change you want to see in the world." By

Maya Angelou.

Share A Life Foundation started a new facility in Jackson, MS on April 1, 2011; it is a foundation which is successful and active in the community. "Mr. Shandell Henderson, Director of Special Events, has done a great job of exposing the community to different ways to help the underprivileged and youth excel," Gates said.

Events have included school supply give-a-ways, community events for children and their families that included free food, games, horseback riding, motorcycle rides, etc.

Share A Life Foundation has had several fundraising events for local dance teams, 8th grade ball for a local public school, a Holiday Rodeo, food and gift drive for under-privileged families, and they hosted a Walk for Blood Cancer to educate the community on the different types of blood cancer.

In Texas, Share A Life Foundation has been going to different organizations and shelters with their volunteers giving of their

time. Also, this past year they hosted their 2nd Annual Holiday Food and Gift Drive. Share A Life has also been adopting families through the year.

Gates would like to open up

for board and staff effectiveness and to ensure they are aware of and able to meet the needs of their clients.

The foundation operates under the philosophy that they

grams, and much more.

Volunteer are always needed for Share A Life Foundation, Inc. because they are the men, women, and children who confirm and endorse our goals and dreams. The organization touches a wide variety of human and family needs. In life, there are moments when an individual or family must reach beyond themselves for support, help, and understanding. Volunteering is ultimately about helping others taking part in impacting people's welfare and happiness. What better way is there to connect with your community and give something back? People and societies co-depend on each other for survival.

Gates said, "The benefits of being a volunteer increases your base of experience for future employment, it opens doors for career considerations. It helps you develop personal skills while helping others. Volunteering gives you the opportunity to learn new skills, volunteers can complete requirements for school and



**Donna Gates, Ala's Mother, collecting donations for the Walk-A-Thon.**

a full service center for Share A Life and homeless shelter in the near future in the Dallas Metroplex area as well as become a motivational speaker full time to youths with a message to let them know that you are never too young to make a difference.

Share A Life Foundation mission is to be committed to ensuring that opportunities for growth and development are available to everyone by working with them to define and solve the problems they face today; while creating real and lasting changes for our communities. They provide the tools for people to live happier and healthier lives.

Their purpose is to raise awareness of the way of life and the challenges adults and youth encounter. This is a charitable organization that exists for and is responsible to the community it serves, recognizing that people are individuals with changing needs. It seeks innovative approaches that are accessible and responsive, emphasizing each person's wholeness and uniqueness.

"Share A Foundation is a comprehensive program for the underprivileged that goes beyond the provision of services within its own community and attempts to affect changes within society that lead toward a fuller life for all people. Education, training, and research are important aspects of improving the quality of life and should be carried out in a manner that recognizes and respects an individual's privacy, dignity and lifestyle," Gates said.

Share A Life is committed to excellence through teamwork, recognizing that open and effective communication is essential

are responsible for helping communities. They believe that life is precious and magnificent and that they were put on this earth for more than just survival. People have the birthright to love, to prosper, to grow, and to learn more than what it means to live. The organization strives to make



**Ala Gates, Founder and CEO of Share A Life Foundation.**

people aware that they deserve to be free and deserve to recognize and experience their hidden gifts.

Some services they provide are workshops, career days/continuing education, mentors, community service, canned food drives, scholarships for elementary through college. Fundraisers, tutors, disaster relief programs, and physically disabled citizen services are also provided. They have programs for at risk youth and low income families along with emergency community support services, resource referral pro-

develops new friendships."

Training is provided for vol-



**Share A Life Foundation sponsored the Tchula, MS Fastest Quarter Horse for 2011.**

unteers. Our Mailing Address is P.O. Box 815131, Dallas, Texas 75381; phone number is (800) 509-2277 or (214) 537-1824. We can also be reached by email at [agates@sharealife.org](mailto:agates@sharealife.org) or [info@sharealife.org](mailto:info@sharealife.org). Our Website is [www.sharealife.org](http://www.sharealife.org).



## Giant on stage at Dallas Theater Center

*Giant* a co-production of the Dallas Theater Center and The Public Theater kicks off this weekend at the Wyly Theatre

The production features Aaron Lazar as Bick. Lazar has appeared in seven Broadway productions and was recently seen in the revival of Stephen Sondheim's *A Little Night Music*. He was nominated for a Drama Desk Award for his role in the revival of *Les Misérables* and was recently seen in Clint Eastwood's film *J. Edgar*. Tony Award nominee Kate Baldwin (*Finian's Rainbow*) will play Leslie. Baldwin has performed at theaters across the country and has ap-

peared on Broadway in several productions including *The Full Monty*. The role of Jett will be played by P.J. Griffith who recently starred in the original Broadway production of *American Idiot*.

Three-time Tony nominee Michael Greif (*Rent*, *Grey Gardens*, *Next to Normal*) will direct *Giant*, which is written by Michael John LaChiusa (music and lyrics) and Sybille Pearson, based on the novel by Edna Ferber.

Tickets for *Giant* are on sale now. Base ticket prices range from \$15 - \$85 and are available online at [www.DallasTheaterCenter.org](http://www.DallasTheaterCenter.org) or by phone at 214-880-

0202.

All performances of *Giant* will be held at the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre at the AT&T Performing Arts Center located at 2400 Flora St., where it runs Jan. 18 - Feb. 19. Preview performances began January 18 and run through January 26. Opening night is Friday, Jan. 27 at 8:00 p.m. Performance times are Tuesday through Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.; and select Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for *Giant* are available by calling the box office at 214-880-0202 or by visiting [DallasTheaterCenter.org](http://DallasTheaterCenter.org).

## 28th Annual KidFilm® Festival

The USA Film Festival have announced the schedule of events for the 28th annual KidFilm® Festival taking place Saturday, January 21 and Sunday, January 22 at the Angelika Film Center, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, Texas.



KidFilm is the oldest and largest children's film festival in the United States, featuring an entertaining, educational, and diverse line-up of new and classic films for both children and adults.

This year's line-up features an all-animation celebration. Program highlights will include

-- Salute to award-winning children's book author

and illustrator Peter Brown (in person), creator of "The Curious Garden," "Children Make Terrible Pets" "Chowder" and other favorites. (FREE books will be distributed to families attending this FREE admission program.)

-- Tribute to Studio Ghibli, featuring a retrospective of 11 titles ranging from *Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind* (1984) to a special preview of the new film *The Secret World of Arrietty* (2012), all presented in new 35mm prints.

-- Special sneak preview footage of *Dr. Seuss' The Lorax* with appearance by the Lorax character; Children can have their photo taken with the Lorax. (FREE admission program.)

USA Film Festival Board President Dave Perry-Miller said, "We are so pleased to receive a special grant from Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater North

Texas and The Eugene McDermott Foundation to support the Festival's KidFilm outreach programs. Their support will enable us to present outreach programs for over 6,000 DISD students and teachers this year."

Tickets are \$5.00 per program for kids and adults (\$4.00 for USA Film Festival members). Tickets for the "Books Come to Life on the Big Screen" program featuring author Peter Brown and the *Lorax* are FREE (available on a first-come, first-served basis on day of show only).

Advance tickets -- are available beginning January 9 for the Studio Ghibli films by contacting the USA Film Festival at 214-821-6300 or via email at [usafilmfest@aol.com](mailto:usafilmfest@aol.com).

Day of show tickets -- are available at the Angelika Film Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. each day for that day's shows only.

More info at [WWW.USAFILMFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.USAFILMFESTIVAL.COM).

## Imaj Multi-talented artist and singer set to perform at TBAAL

Brining in 2012 with two concerts, local rising star, Imaj is performing at The Black Academy of Arts & Letters on January 27 and 28. The busy artist also has a concert scheduled at The House of Blues on February 25.



Imaj

Imaj is a singer/songwriter, visual artist and novelist from Miami Beach, Florida, now residing in Texas. Imaj was literally raised in the industry and is world travelled as a set/studio baby. Her father is Philip Michael Thomas better known as Tubbs on the popular TV show *Miami Vice*.

Although Imaj's first love in music is country, her shows feature several genres including pop, opera and soul. She even sings in several languages

including Spanish, Japanese, Italian and German.

A talented young trailblazing African-American country singer, Imaj has even received compli-

ments from the legendary Charley Pride. She also has opened for legends like Collin Raye, Lorrie Morgan and Gretchen Wil-

See IMAJ, Page 15

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[DallasTheaterCenter.org](http://DallasTheaterCenter.org) (214) 880-0202



## Dr. Walter Sutton to receive MLK Justice Award from DBA

Dr. Walter Sutton, Associate General Counsel - Legal Administration and External Relations at Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., will be honored by the Dallas Bar Association at the 20th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Luncheon as the recipient of the 2012 Martin Luther King Jr. Justice Award at a noon luncheon on Monday, January 16, at The Belo Mansion (2101



Dr. Walter Sutton

Ross Avenue in downtown Dallas). The event is open to the public.

The award is presented to local leaders whose lives and practice exemplify the principles embodied by Dr. King's leadership. Former recipients include the late Hon. Barefoot Sanders, Senator Royce West, Mayor Ron Kirk, Kim Askew, Commissioner John Wiley

Price, Rhonda Hunter, E. Leon Carter and Justice Carolyn Wright.

"Walter Sutton is a role model to many. He has mentored young attorneys not only through his words, but by his actions. Dr. Sutton has been at the front lines of promoting inclusion in our profession for decades," said Paul K. Stafford, DBA's 2012 president.

Dr. Sutton's contributions to the community and legal profession are many. While Dr. Sutton was in Dallas, he was appointed by Dallas Mayor Steve Bartlett to serve as the first African-American to head the Environmental Health Advisory Committee. He was also Chair of the Environmental Law Section for the Dallas Bar Association, was President of the J.L.

Turner Legal Association and served as President of the National Bar Association. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Wiley College in Marshall, Texas.

The MLK award luncheon is open to the public; the plated lunch costs \$12.76. RSVPs are required. Contact BAvina@dallasbar.org.

## ANGEL, continued from Page 5

as a result of her injuries she suffered a ruptured spleen. Later that evening, Dee Dee Wilkerson died at the hospital. March 19, 2012 will mark the 26th anniversary of her passing.

For years Wilkerson never told another member of her family, not her husband or six surviving children. But speaking by telephone to the North Dallas Gazette in December, she said the Lord would not give her rest. So she told her family and spent two years to writing the book *Memoirs of a Teenage Angel*.

"God inspired me to be a help for those going through loss. All those years passed by, but I kept notes. I did not want to write the book, because I had to take myself back there each time I sat down to write," according to Wilkerson.

Essence Publishing, the first publisher to which Wilkerson submitted her manuscript, accepted and published the book. The company also publishes the popular monthly African American female themed magazine. Through book signings at different

churches and networking of friends, the book has been well received.

"God is really blessing me to get the book out," Wilkerson is confident the book will help others facing loss, whether it is divorce, job, serious illness or significant change in their life.

Wilkerson encourages them to, "Believe God for whatever situation they were in."

*Memoirs of A Teenage Angel* is available on Amazon.com or <http://www.memoirsofateenageangel.com>.

## YMCA, continued from Page 7

Gonzalez and the Blazers are undefeated this season, some of Gonzalez's biggest contributions to the YMCA are happening off the court.

"Volunteers are critical to the success of Irving YMCA programs to fight childhood obesity, help at-risk youth and promote school readiness in our community," said Doug Fox, Executive Director of the Irving YMCA. "It's even more important

when someone of Tommy's stature is out there for all the right reasons. He works with all our programs and promotes our work to the entire community all while providing a positive adult male role model to our youth."

According to Fox, Gonzalez's involvement in the Irving YMCA has been instrumental in promoting all of the YMCA's programs. This year, Gon-

zalez was able to secure a \$30,000 gift from Sam's Club to support the YMCA's pilot "Play and Learn" program that promotes literacy for disenfranchised children through caregiver/child classes that are developmental based to encourage and teach both the parent and the child. Since the program began, schools have started to reach out to implement the program on their campuses.

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**FARMERS**

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation, often including the threat or use of violence. Battering is a form of domestic violence that involves a cycle of tension building, battering, and reconciliation. It often begins with behaviors like threats, name-calling, and violence in the presence of others, such as punching a fist, and/or damage to property. It may escalate to physical, sexual, or psychological abuse, including sleeping with others, kidnapping, sexual assault, trapping, or it may continue with behaviors such as breaking the use of weapons.

**NEW BEGINNING CENTER'S STRIKE OUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**Honeywell**

**9th Annual BOWLING TOURNAMENT**  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2012

1:30 pm - 4:00 pm • Plano Super Bowl

Join the fun and help us to strike out domestic violence during our 9th annual bowling tournament Saturday January 28, 2012 from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Plano Super Bowl. Enjoy an exciting afternoon of friendly competition and loads of laughs. We will have two divisions - competitive and recreational. Prizes will be given out to the highest scoring team, best dressed, most strikes, best team spirit and more. All proceeds will go to New Beginning Center to support the fight against domestic abuse. Join us for this worthy cause.



CHURCH, continued from Page 7

building strong families through the power of God's Word.

Residents of Bedford, Texas for 25 years, married for 33 years with a family, which includes two sons - Anson (30), Griffin (26); one daughter, Leigh (22); and a daughter-in-law, Grace. They delight in their young granddaughter, Annalise Grace.

However, as devoted servants of Christ, their passion for family and children extend beyond their own immediate loved ones. Pastor and Mrs. Jackson work closely not only with children within the congregation, but children throughout the community.

Pastor Jackson is a mentor in both the Irving Independent School District and Hurst-Euless-Bedford. He serves as Jurisdictional Youth President of Texas Northeast First Jurisdiction under Bishop J. Neaul Haynes and District Youth President of the Dallas Mid-Cities District under Supt. J.E. Hornsby and serves as YPWW Regional Vice President of the Southern Central Region.

First Lady Jackson not only shares her love of dance through the is teaches etiquette classes to the young ladies at West Irving Church

The partial list of church and community outreach activities for the couple is extensive.

Pastor Jackson is the President of Lifting Hands Inc., an outreach ministry of West Irving Church. The ministry feeds the homeless, ministers to the abused and battered women, and offers educational and mentorship for the youth throughout the community. First Lady Jackson serves on the board for the ministry.

In addition to his duties with the church, Pastor Jackson serves as a volunteer chaplain for DFW International Airport and on the Board of Directors for the DFW Airport Interfaith Chaplaincy.

First Lady Jackson is described as an excellent teacher of the Word of God and as a woman who prays and seeks God in all things.

CHIEF, continued from Page 3

for your interest and fighting for you – and that's Richard Cordray."

Ohio consumers would readily agree. As state attorney general, Cordray recovered more than \$2 billion from Wall Street to repay the state's wrongly-foreclosed consumers, the state's looted pension funds, and its cities and counties. His reputation as a fair and reasonable advocate attracted widespread support that included businesses, civil rights and consumer advocates, and 37 state attorneys general.

Speaking to the specific consumer needs in communities of color, Wade Henderson, president and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights said, "Communities of color have always been targets of predatory lenders who created a financial mess that resulted in losses of \$194 billion in the African-American community and \$177 billion in the Latino community, the largest exodus of wealth ever recorded for these groups. . . We are ready to work with Director Cordray to ensure that no community is ever victim to these practices again."

The biggest factor contributing to this historic loss of minority wealth has been foreclosures wrought from high-cost and unsustainable loans. Published in November, CRL's updated foreclosure research, Lost Ground, examined disparities in mortgage lending and foreclosures. CRL found that although the majority of people affected by foreclosures have been white families, borrowers of color are more than twice as likely to receive high-risk loan products – even after accounting for income and credit status.

These mortgage defaults are strongly tied to abusive loan terms, such as prepayment penalties, 'exploding' adjustable-rate mortgages and loans originated by mortgage brokers. In many cases, brokers received kickbacks for placing borrowers in these more expensive and high-risk loans.

With the CFPB and other provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act, the kickbacks known in the mortgage industry as 'yield spread premiums' are banned. Further, lenders are now required to ensure a borrower's ability to repay a loan.

Another and lesser known duty of CFPB includes oversight on student loans for higher education. With authority over private student lenders, CFPB will require lenders to follow fair rules and provide families with information they need to make informed and smart choices in financing a college education for their children. This particular provision will benefit African-American families - 36 percent of whom already fund college educations with student loans.

For consumer advocates such as the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL), Richard Cordray's appointment was viewed as welcome news not only for consumers but also for businesses and the economy. CRL said in a statement "Finally, the agency can run at full speed, policing the financial marketplace to make it fairer and more competitive. . . By promoting sensible oversight of businesses and sounder choices in consumer financial products, the CFPB will help restore our economy and prevent another meltdown."

Charlene Crowell is a communications manager with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at: [Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org](mailto:Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org).

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## VETERANS, continued from Page 1

their families. These programs serve at risk, recently homeless and chronically homeless veterans populations who were honorably discharged.

**Eligibility Requirements** for the EASH program: If you are an unaccompanied homeless veteran with a disability and at least 18 years or older, have been either continu-

ously homeless for one year or more, or if you had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years, EASH will help you secure housing and case management services. For more info on the EASH program, call 214-915-4605.

The SSVF Program, in partnership with the Fort Worth Catholic Charities and the VA provides sup-

portive services to very low-income Veteran families residing in or transitioning to permanent housing.

**Eligibility Requirements for SSVF Program:** A Veteran who is a single person; family in which the head of household, or the spouse is the head of household; very low income (at 50% below the area median income); veteran families

earning less than 30% of area median income; veterans with at least one dependent family member; chronically homeless veteran families; and formerly chronically homeless Veteran families. For more info on the SSVF program, call 214-915-4619.

The programs offer the following services:

- Rental Assistance

- Utility Assistance
- Case Management Services

- Security Deposits or Utility Deposits
- Moving Costs
- Emergency Supplies
- Child Care

The goals are Housing Stability; prevent and reduce homelessness; identify best practices and promising approaches; improve

targeting who is a risk of becoming homeless; offer services and resources to produce immediate impact; provide case management to assist Veteran and family with employment and benefit resources that will promote long-term stability; address critical barriers to housing including legal issues, transportation, child care and family issues.

## UNT, continued from Page 6

what it was like to have to overcome obstacles to complete his education and so creating a fund that will help others surmount barriers to their dreams is a significant way to honor him."

"We are all very saddened to learn of Remarcus' passing. My heart goes out to his family and friends," said Dr. John Ellis Price, president of UNT at Dallas. "We are privileged to be able to create this memorial fund in Remarcus' name, and deeply appreciative of the anonymous donor's generous lead gift. With the Remarcus L. West Memorial Scholarship Fund, we can help students attain the educational goals that were a challenge for him, and continue his legacy by teaching others the art of building coalitions."

"We hope that the lead gift to endow this Scholarship Fund at the University of North Texas at Dallas in memory of Remarcus will encourage others to contribute," said Douglas Smith, vice president

for university advancement of UNT at Dallas. "Providing educational opportunities for the young people of greater Dallas, Best Southwest Cities and the North Texas region is of paramount importance to the West family, and a most fitting tribute to Remarcus."

In working jointly with state and local officials to establish UNT at Dallas, Senator West is credited with being the driving force in bringing the first and only four-year state university to the City of Dallas. Legislation was passed in 2001, which called for the creation of the new Dallas uni-

versity and the first building was completed in 2006.

Donations to the scholarship fund may be made by check and mailed to the University of North Texas at Dal-

las, Office of University Advancement, Attn: Remarcus L. West Scholarship Fund, 7300 University Hills Blvd., Dallas, TX, 75241, or online at <https://development.unt.edu/givenow/dallas.htm>. If you wish to make a wire transfer, please contact Douglas Smith at [Douglas.Smith@unt.edu](mailto:Douglas.Smith@unt.edu) or call 972-780-3616.

For additional questions, please contact Ana Rodriguez at [Beverly.Mendoza@unt.edu](mailto:Beverly.Mendoza@unt.edu), Ana.Herrera@unt.edu or call 214-536-0655.



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**January 19, 12 Noon**

Come to a “Between Jobs Support Group” meeting at the Christian Works for Children, 6320 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX 75240. Call 972-960-9981 to register.

**January 29, 10:45 a.m.**

Take charge of your life and your health, come for our Worship Services and stay for our FREE Blood Pressure Clinic.

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Minister**  
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**BIBLE WAY  
COMMUNITY  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

**January 15**

Join us in Sunday School at 9:35 a.m.; and Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. as we worship and praise God. The Word of God transforms lives.

**January 18, 7 p.m.**

You're invited to our Bible Class as we study the Word of God and give Him honor and praise.

**Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Sr.  
Senior Pastor**  
4215 N. Greenview Drive  
Irving, TX 75062  
972-257-3766  
www.bwcbc.com

**EIRENE CHRISTIAN  
FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**

**January 15, 8:45 a.m.  
and 11 a.m.**

Join us in Morning Worship as we honor and praise God for His blessings.

**January 18, 7:30 p.m.**  
You're invited to Bible Class as we study the Word of God and give Him honor and praise.

**Pastor Autry**  
701 E. Centennial Blvd.  
Richardson, TX 75081  
972-991-0200  
www.followpeace.org

**FELLOWSHIP**

**CHRISTIAN CENTER  
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**Monday – Friday  
9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

TheShip3C's Prayer Lines for those in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567 or they may be submitted via email to: prayerline@theship3c.org

**January 15, 9:30 a.m.**

Join us in our Sunday Morning Worship at Story Elementary School, 1550 Edelweiss Drive, Allen, TX. We will praise God for His blessings.

**January 18, 7 p.m.**

You're invited to our Wednesday Night Live in the Joyce Turner Fellowship Hall on Belmont Drive. Also, come to our Corporate Prayer and our Kidz Zone (an environment to equip children to grow and to show God's love.)

**January 30**

It's Super Sunday at F3C; join us and experience the joy of praising and worshipping God to the fullest.

**Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr.,  
Ed.D.**

**Senior Pastor**  
1550 Edelweiss Drive  
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www.theship3c.org

**MT. PISGAH  
MISSIONARY  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
“The Rock”**

**January 15, 10 a.m.**

Join us in Sunday Worship as we give God excellence praise without excuse.

**January 18**

Come to our Noonday Bible Study to learn more about the Word of God; and at 7 p.m. for our Wednesday Night Bible Study.

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

**NEW MOUNT ZION  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

**January 16, 10 a.m.**

Join us as we watch our youth participate in the Dr. MLK Parade. Call the church for details.

**January 17, 6:30 p.m.**  
Reading and Math tutoring starts for grades 1-6, call for details.

**January 22, 6:30 p.m.**

The 2012 Youth Study Kick-Off Class starts and teachers are needed; call Sis. Donna Bolden for details.

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

**NORTH DALLAS  
COMMUNITY  
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP  
CHURCH**

**January 14, 9 a.m.**

Join our Single Adult Ministry at a Prayer Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Call for details.

**January 15, 9:30 a.m.  
and 11:30 a.m.**

You're invited to join us for Sunday Worship as we give God praise for His blessings.

**January 20, 7 p.m.**

You're invited to our Single Parent Support Group. Call Pastor Cooper at 972-437-3493, Ext 104 or email him at rcooper@ndcbf.org for details.

**January 21, 12 Noon**

For those in need, come to our Grief Recovery Support Group. Call Tera McFarland at 972-437-3493, Ext 111 or email her at tmcfarland@ndcbf.org for details.

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

**ROCKBRIDGE CHURCH**

**January 15**

Join us in Prayer with Pastor at 8:30 a.m. and stay for Worship Celebration at 10 a.m. as we honor and praise God for His blessings.

**January 18, 7 p.m.**

You're invited to Bible Study and Awana as we worship and praise God.

**Timothy Jones,  
Lead Pastor**  
21 Prestige Circle  
Allen, TX 75002  
214-383-9993  
www.rockbridgechurch.com

**SAINT MARK MBC  
IN MCKINNEY**

**January 15, 9:30 a.m.**

Join us in our Education Ministries; and stay for our Worship Celebration at 10:45 a.m.

**Dr. Charles Wattley  
Senior Pastor**  
1308 Wilcox Street  
McKinney TX 75069  
972-542-6178  
www.saintmarkbc.com

**SHILOH MBC  
IN PLANO**

**January 15, 8 a.m.  
And 11 a.m.**

Join us in our Morning Worship times and stay for our Sunday School at 10 a.m.

**January 18, 7 p.m.**

You're invited to our Midweek Service as we worship and praise God.

**January 15 and 22  
at 11 a.m.**

Come to our Youth Worship Services in our Chapel and our Children's Worship Services in our Annex each month.  
**Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.**

**Senior Pastor**  
920 E. 14th Street  
Plano, TX 75074  
972-423-6695  
www.smbcplano.org

**THE INSPIRING BODY  
OF CHRIST CHURCH**

**January 15, 7:30 a.m.**

Join us as we worship, honor and praise God's Holy name.

**January 16, 7 p.m.**

Come to Monday School as we study the Word of God and worship and praise His name.

**Pastor Rickie Rush**  
7701 S. Westmoreland Road  
Dallas, TX 75237  
972-372-4262  
www.ibocjoy.org

**THE NEW LIGHT  
CHURCH**

**January 15, 2012**

You're invited to worship with us on Sunday Mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Sunday School and 11 a.m. in Morning Worship as we celebrate, praise and worship God.

**Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor**  
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**WORD OF LIFE  
CHURCH OF  
GOD IN CHRIST**

**Early Prayer**

Join us in prayer early in the morning at 6 a.m. on Monday - Friday at 1-661-673-8600, Code # 142219 and please put your phone on mute. Prayer will change people, things and situations. God is moving in powerful ways in early Morning Prayer.

**January 14, 2012**

Deaconess Donna Murray will be the MC for the Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.'s program immediately following the Christ Community Connection's and the City of Carrollton's Annual Parade at the Ted Polk Middle School at 2001 Kelly Blvd. in Carrollton.

**January 15, 4 p.m.**

Come and be blessed in a Prayer Revival with Every People, Tribe and Nation Evangelistic Association, Inc., with speaker Dr. JoAnna Rochester at the Church. Be delivered from spiritual strongholds and receive healing for wounded hearts. 2 Chronicles 7:14 (KJV)

**January 17, 7:30 p.m.**

You're invited to Pastoral Care Night as Pastor Voss; who is also a prophet, bring the Word of God; and we worship and praise His Holy name.

**January 19, 7:30 p.m.**

Join us in our Gift Stirring Night as Saints of God bring God's Word and reveal their God-giving talents.

**Dr. Gregory Voss,  
Senior Pastor**  
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Story Elementary  
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9:30 AM

**Wednesday Night Live Service**  
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7:00 PM




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Pastor Gloria Fenceroy

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- Sunday Morning Prayer 9:30 am
- Sunday Service 10:00 am
- Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm

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**Sister  
Tarpley**

On January 16, 2012 our nation will celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a Nobel Peace Prize winner in 1968, for his contributions to our nation and to the world.

Dr. King (January 15, 1929-April 4, 1968) was born Michael Luther King, Jr., but later had his name changed to Martin. His grandfather began the family's long tenure as pastors of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta honoring and praising God, he served from 1914 to 1931; Martin's father served from then until his death and from 1960 until his death Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. acted as co-pastor.

Dr. King attended segregated public schools in Georgia, graduating from high school at the age of 15; he received his B. A. degree in 1948 from Morehouse College, a distinguished Negro institution of Atlanta from which both his father and grandfather had graduated.

After three years of theological study at Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania where he was elected president of a predominantly white senior class, he was awarded the

**IMAJ,**

continued from Page 10

son. Recently, she performed at a charity gala, which featured CNN's Soledad O'Brien as the keynote speaker. She was also interviewed on ESPN's 103.3 FM by Dallas Cowboy linebacker, Bradie James.

Imaj writes her own music, and has published a novel of literary fiction called, HARLOW. If that was not enough demonstration of talent, Imaj's art was displayed at the Dallas Museum of Art. Imaj's ultimate goal is to use her gifts to inspire world peace.

## Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

B.D. in 1951. Dr. King received his doctorate in 1955. In Boston he met and married Ms. Coretta Scott, a young woman of uncommon intellectual and artistic attainments. Two sons and two daughters were born into the family.

In 1954, Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. became pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama and he was a member of the executive committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the leading organization of its kind in the nation. In December 1955 he accepted the leadership of the first great Black nonviolent demonstration of contemporary times in the United States; the bus boycott lasted 382 days. On December 21, 1956, after the Supreme Court of the United States had declared unconstitutional the laws requiring segregation on buses, Blacks

and Whites rode the buses as equals.

In 1957 he was elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, an organization formed to provide new leadership for the now burgeoning civil rights movement. The ideals for this organization he took from Christianity; and its operational techniques from Gandhi.

In the eleven-year period between 1957 and 1968, Dr. King traveled over six million miles and spoke over twenty-five hundred times, appearing wherever there was injustice, protest, and action; and meanwhile he wrote five books as well as numerous articles. In those years, he led a massive protest in Birmingham, Alabama, that caught the attention of the entire world, providing what he called a coalition of conscience. and inspiring his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail", a manifesto of the Black revolution.

tion.

Dr. King planned voter registration drives in Alabama and he directed the peaceful march on Washington, D.C., of 250,000 people to whom he delivered his famous address, "I Have a Dream", he conferred with President John F. Kennedy and campaigned for President Lyndon B. Johnson.

He was awarded five honorary degrees; was named Man of the Year by Time magazine in 1963; and became not only the symbolic leader of American Blacks but also a world figure.

At the age of thirty-five, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was the youngest man to



*Minister Edward Davis, Word of Life COGIC in Carrollton, bringing the Word of God on New Year's Eve 2011. Message: Jesus Sat with the 12. Matthew 26:20 (KJV)*

have received the Nobel Peace Prize. When notified of his selection, he announced that he would turn over the prize money of \$54,123 to the furtherance of the civil rights movement. Thank God for Dr. King.

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## Calendar of events celebrating Martin Luther King Day

Throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth community activities are scheduled to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Several are listed below, if your church, school or community organization has an event scheduled, please post on our Facebook page at Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette or email editor@northdallasgazette.com.

### January 13

**MLK Birthday Celebration Award Banquet** at Omni Dallas Hotel, 555 South Lamar in Dallas beginning with a VIP Reception at 6:30 a.m. and program at 7:30 p.m. The Keynote Speaker is the Honorable Eric Johnson, Texas House of Representatives District 100.

### Saturday, January 14

The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. -

Alpha Sigma Lambda Chapter will host in partnership with the Dallas MLK Jr. Center their annual **Martin Luther King, Jr. Candle Light Ceremony**. This event features the Rev. Kedric L. McKnight as the speaker and will take place at 7 p.m. in the gymnasium of the Dallas MLK Jr. Center (2922 MLK, Jr. Blvd Dallas, TX).

Admission is FREE and open to the public.

### January 14

The Dallas **MLK Birthday Celebration March/Parade** will start at 10 a.m. at Dallas City Hall

The NAACP Garland Branch presents the **23rd Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade**. The 2012 theme is "Celebrating God's Drum Major: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." Grand marshals for 2012 are: Youth Pastor Stafford



Counts of Zion Baptist Church in Rowlett, Texas, and Pastor Aaron Gaddis, Assistant to the Sr. Pastor at Mt. Hebron Baptist Church in Garland, Texas. The parade begins on Dairy Road at Garden Drive (near Embree Park), at 10 a.m. and concludes at the Granville Arts Center with a commemorative ceremony.

### January 15

The Garland NAACP's **Youth Extravaganza** is a celebration in dance, art, spoken word, song, and

theatre. Performed by the diverse children of the tricity communities (Garland, Rowlett, and Sachse) it celebrates the life and works of the late Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The program is 4 - 6 p.m. at the Granville Arts Center. Info: NAACP Garland Branch 972-381-5044 or www.garlandtxnaacp.org.

### January 16

**African American Pastors Coalition 17th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration** at 11 a.m. at the Christian Chapel "Temple of Faith" CME Church, 14120 Noel Rd. in Dallas. The Rev. Dr. William Watley of Atlanta, GA is the keynote speaker. Dr. Watley is Senior Pastor of Saint Philip AME Church in Atlanta. The theme of the celebration is "Breaking the Chain: With our Voice, Our Vote and Victory"

## HOSKINS, continued from Page 2

member of the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce for 14 years, where she has served as a member of the Board of Directors, Vice Chair and chaired various committees. She received the Dallas Black Chamber

of Commerce Volunteer of the Year Award in 2002 and 2009. Hoskins' theme for the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce is "Building on Our Legacy for Economic Empowerment".

### Bible Way Community Baptist Church



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Charles S. Wattley  
Senior Pastor

### SUNDAY

Education Ministries  
9:30 a.m.

Worship Celebration  
10:45 a.m.

### WEDNESDAY

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