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IRS delays tax filing for certain taxpayers

By Kedra Williams

NDG Special Contributor

For most taxpayers, the 2011 tax filing season, which reports income and deductions for the calendar year 2010, began on January 14, 2011. However, tax law changes enacted by Congress and signed by President Barack Obama on December 17, 2010 meant

there were taxpayers that must wait until mid- to late February to file their tax returns so that the necessary allowance and extensions can be updated in the IRS systems.

The Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act extended many of the tax provisions set to end

in December, 2010. Because these were still technically in affect at the time the Act was passed, there is no residual impact from these changes on this filing season. However, there were three major provisions that were actually expired with the 2009 season that

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COVER STORY

3-2-1 ... Happy New You!



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KHVN Heaven 97 wins the 2011 Stellar Radio Award

(NDG Wire) KHVN Heaven 97 was named the 2011 Stellar Radio Station of the Year, Major Market Award at Central City Productions, 26th Annual Stellar Awards, held in Nashville, TN on January 15, 2011. The Stellar Awards is the first and the only Gospel Music Awards show in the country, honoring Gospel Music Artists, writers, and industry

professionals for their contributions to the Gospel Music Industry.

The Radio Stations of the Year Ceremony has become an exciting addition to the Stellar Awards weekend. After many entries, recommendations and research from the panelists, four finalists were selected. This



award was designed to honor those who play a major role in the delivery of Gospel music by helping to foster the steady increase in the demand for gospel music. Based on KHVN's Market Impact, we were nominated, and have now received the

title of 'Best in the Industry.'

The Stellar Gospel Music Awards now airs in more than 125 markets around the country and features all the best that Gospel music has to offer. This year's show is scheduled to air on Saturday, March 5 at 7 p.m. on GMC (Gospel Music Channel), and in syndication from January 22 to March 13.



What is up with Usher?

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

COMMENTARY

Advancing the Agenda of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

(NNPA) One of the most important matters that we face in 2011, as we celebrate the 82nd birthday of The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., during the numerous official national, state and local King Holiday observances across the United States, is the question of advancing the social, political, and economic empowerment agenda that Dr. King articulated 37 years ago. King was more than a dreamer. He was a passionate and com-

mitted activist leader. He was a preacher of the Gospel and the visionary force of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). The Civil Rights Movement under Dr. King's leadership successfully challenged and transformed American society.

Together the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and SCLC in the 1960's made a big difference in the lives of mil-

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Legendary Chaka Khan is UNCF headliner

The United Negro College Fund will host a viewing party to preview the broadcast of the UNCF's televised fundraiser - *UNCF An Evening of Stars Tribute to Chaka Khan* presented by Target - at the African American Museum in Fair Park, 3536 Grand



Chaka Khan

Ave. in Dallas' Fair Park on Jan. 28 from 7 to 11 p.m.

The event will include food and beverages, swing-out dancing, vendors and museum galleries. There will also be a special 2011 UNCF Shining Star Award

presentation. Organizations that donate \$500 or more that night will also receive special recognition. Tickets for the event are \$35. To donate or purchase tickets call the UNCF office at 972-234-1007. More details are

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People In The News...



Dr. Francesca Fibey



Bishop Neil C. Ellis



Delfeayo Marsalis

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Dr. Francesca Fibey

Addiction – to gambling, to alcohol, to food, to any compulsive human behavior without regard to consequences – can ruin lives.

Dr. Francesca Fibey, a new researcher in the Center for BrainHealth and an assistant professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, is an expert on the subject who wants to learn still more. “I hope to be able to reveal the interactions between genetic and environmental factors that lead to addiction,” she said

about her research.

The brain’s ingenious plasticity, or the ability to alter itself as circumstances dictate, “is best demonstrated in the addicted brain,” Dr. Fibey noted. She described how drugs and alcohol “hijack the brain” so that its reward system, which evolved in order to keep humankind sustained, stops responding to natural rewards such as food when more potent stimuli – such as the buzz from powerful intoxicants – are introduced

into the system. Brain plasticity occurs so that the organ can adapt to these changes – what Dr. Fibey terms “heightened levels of reward” – in order to maintain proper equilibrium. “It is the brain’s ability to change and adapt that attracted me to the field of addiction,” she said.

Dr. Fibey, who graduated from King’s College in London and arrived at her Dallas research base via the University of New Mexico’s Mind Research Network, says today’s research is buoyed by technological innovations that are illuminat-



ing once-hidden pieces of addiction puzzles.

“Advances in imaging and genetics methods show us that there are individuals

who are at higher risk for addiction due to a hypo-responsive reward system, [meaning] this group requires more stimulation in order to experience the same amount of pleasure as those not at risk,” she said. Sadly, within this group the hypo-responsive reward network is “also accompanied by an inefficient control system” which makes keeping the urges in check extremely difficult despite all potential negative consequences.

It was BrainHealth’s po-

tential that brought Dr. Fibey here. “The Center bridges innovations in science with a practical approach that facilitates solutions to today’s critical questions,” she explained. “In my short time here, I have been impressed by the synergistic relationship that BrainHealth has with the local community, which is truly a unique quality.” She added that state-of-the-art facilities, ample resource accessibility and “the overwhelming collegiality of scientists and staff” at the Center quickly sold her on making it her research home.

Bishop Neil C. Ellis

Footsteps of ten new revered civil rights icons will be added to the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame during the 2011 Trumpet Awards events. This induction ceremony is scheduled for Friday, January 28, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, National Park Service, located at 450 Auburn Avenue (Atlanta, GA). The program preceding the in-

duction ceremony will be held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church.

The 2011 honorees in this distinguished group include Arthur Blank, James Brown, The Reverend Dr. Gerald Durley, Bishop Neil C. Ellis, Leon Hall, Bishop Barbara King, Marc H. Morial, Mayor Carl Stokes, Congressman Louis Stokes and Henry “Hank” Thomas.

The International Civil Rights Walk of Fame was



created in 2004 to give recognition to the foot soldiers of justice who sacrificed and struggled to make

equality a reality for all. This extraordinary display has become one of the most visited tourist attractions in the city of Atlanta and has enriched the heritage of the civil rights movement. The shoes used to create the footsteps will also be on display during the unveiling program.

The International Civil Rights Walk of Fame, now in its eighth year, is sponsored by the Trumpet Awards Foundation, Inc., and was created and designed by Xernona Clayton,

founder and executive producer of the renowned Trumpet Awards. Ms. Clayton states, “This is a permanent testimony to those who have dedicated themselves to human progress. Many of the shoes we use in the display remain on exhibition within the Visitors Center for those who visit the King Complex.”

Previous inductees include Congressman James E. Clyburn; Cathy Hughes; Earvin “Magic” Johnson; the Reverend Al Sharpton;

Dr. Maya Angelou; Dr. Benjamin Hooks; Lerone Bennett, Jr.; Tony Bennett; Marian Wright Edelman; Sir Sidney Poitier; Desmond Tutu; Stevie Wonder; Henry Aaron; Julian Bond; President Jimmy Carter; Medgar Evers; Dorothy Height; Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.; and Congressman John Lewis.

The roll of honorees is growing year by year and others will be added to the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame.

Delfeayo Marsalis

(NDG Wire) Internationally acclaimed trombonist, composer, producer and 2011 NEA Jazz



Masters Award recipient Delfeayo Marsalis brings *Sweet Thunder: Duke & Shak* a theatrical jazz production featuring actor Kenneth Brown Jr. and a jazz octet – Marsalis on trombone, Lynn Grissett on trumpet, Shaena Ryan on bari sax, Mark Gross on alto sax, Don Bryon on

tenor sax and clarinet, David Bryant on piano, Dezron Douglas on bass, and Winard Harper on drums – plus full stage set and costuming to 36 American cities and towns from January through May 2011.

The performance comes to the Majestic Theatre, 1925 Elm St. in Dallas at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 28. Tickets are \$30 for general admission, \$42.50 for priority seats and \$17.50 for students with a 15 percent discount for groups of 15 or more. For tickets visit www.ticketmaster.com

For a generation, the Marsalis family has been a huge force in American music. A procedure for mega-stars such as Harry Connick Jr. and his brothers Branford and Wynton, Delfeayo Marsalis is a

marvelous trombonist, composer and arranger. With this major production he is now stepping out into the limelight as never before.

William Shakespeare’s work defined the scope and depth of English and world literature in a way that remains immediate and powerful to this day, 4000 years after they were written; similarity, Duke Ellington’s work outlined what American music could become and laid out the key elements that still define jazz. In 1957, Ellington and collaborator Bill Strayhorn were invited by the Stratford (Ontario) Shakespeare Festival to compose music in tribute to Shakespeare. They came up the *Such Sweet Thunder*, which yielded, among other pieces, the poignant portrait of Romeo and Juliet, *Star Crossed Lovers*.

Driven by a long-term affinity for both Duke and the Bard, Delfeayo (rhymes with Romeo) studied literature on the master’s level at the University of New Orleans, where he nurtured his love for William Shakespeare. While connections between the Bard and Duke in the form of a thesis paper relating the two, and was inspired to create a fresh new interpretation of *Such Sweet Thunder*.

“I’ve always believed that each generation is responsible for preserving and furthering the work of their forefathers while maintaining originality,” said the 45-year-old New Orleans native.

While researching at the Smithsonian Institute in D.C., Marsalis said he discovered the original scores from *Such Sweet Thunder*.

“I am fairly certain

Duke secured copies of these scores with the expectation that the material would be developed by a student of the music in the future. More than any

other Ellington suite, *Thunder* is extremely rich in melody, yet modest in development.”

Sweet Thunder is now available in stores.

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3401 Custer Rd., Suite 169 • Plano, Texas 75023

Phone: 972-516-2992

Fax: 972-509-9058



Publisher's Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

opportunity@northdallasgazette.com

Editorial Department:

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

www.twitter.com/NDGEditor

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Website:

Website: www.NorthDallasGazette.com

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Ruth Ferguson

Business Manager

Lora Cormier

Published By

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Production

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Tonya Whitaker

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Edward Dewayne

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Marketing Editor

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Theater Critic

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The Black Community Crusade for Children

By Marian Wright Edelman

As our country remembers the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., new research conducted for the Children's Defense Fund has found the vast majority of America's Black community, seven in 10 adults, view these as "tough or very bad times" for Black children and many see poor Black youths falling further behind. When 40 percent of Black children are born poor, 85 percent of Black children cannot read or do math at grade level in fourth grade and later almost half drop out of school, and a Black boy born in 2001 has a one in three chance of going to prison sometime in his lifetime, we know we are facing a crisis. So, an intergenerational group of Black leaders have just committed to a renewed movement to reweave the fabric of family and community for Black children and to provide a

stronger voice for children in their states and nationally.

We met in December for three days at the Children's Defense Fund-Haley Farm near Knoxville, TN to address what many of us believe is the worst crisis faced by millions of Black children since slavery. The meeting had three purposes: (1) to wake up the Black community and the nation to the ominous clouds encircling Black children and youths whose life chances are less positive than their parents and White peers; (2) to commit to replacing the Cradle to Prison Pipeline® with a pipeline to college, productive work, and successful adulthood for all Black children; and (3) to launch the second phase of the Black Community Crusade for Children (BCCC) on the 20th anniversary of the launch of the first Black Community Crusade for Children to Leave No Child Behind®.

In December 1990, CDF co-convened with Dr. John Hope Franklin and Dr. Dorothy Height 22 Black leaders for five days at the beautiful Rockefeller Foundation Conference Center in Bellagio, Italy to discuss the condition of the Black child and family. We concluded that the Black child and family were in a crisis and that we had to take action. Efforts quietly catalyzed by BCCC include the CDF Freedom Schools® program, which has served over 90,000 K-12 children and trained 9,000 college mentor leaders to serve them, and the Harlem Children's Zone, whose President and CEO, Geoff Canada, now chairs CDF's Board and is a co-convenor of BCCC along with PolicyLink Founder and CEO and CDF Board Vice Chair Angela Blackwell. A range of intergenerational youth leadership development programs have touched about 20,000 prom-

ising high school and college students and young adult leaders.

BCCC will highlight and build on these and other best practices and successes in a number of areas crucial to healthy child and youth development and move them to scale and into policy. Since the linchpins of success are leadership and education of the next generation, our goals include doubling summer Freedom Schools during the next five years; training 5,000 next generation servant-leaders of color—at least half Black males—to carry on the struggle for a fair playing field for all children; encouraging more young servant leaders in Freedom Schools and other youth leadership training programs, especially Black and Latino males, to become teachers to fill as many as possible of the expected one million

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lions of African Americans and many others who were crying out for freedom, justice, and equality. Today, at a time when there are many counterproductive, revisionist tendencies to deny or play down the reality of the progressive and transformative impact of Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement, it is critical to distinguish between the myths of those who opposed Dr. King and the realities of those who followed and supported Dr. King.

Voting rights, fair housing rights, economic justice rights, environmental justice rights, quality health care access rights, employment rights, prison reform rights, education equality, and educational reform rights are all fundamental issues that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. asserted as priority agenda items. In 2011, these issues are still our priority concerns.

The best way to celebrate Dr. King's living legacy is to advance the agenda that he gave his life to address. Yes, Dr. King's dream of equality and empowerment for all is

still relevant today. But, the question now is what is it that we must do to fulfill King's dream? King's dream was an American dream, but it also was a global dream where all people in all places throughout the world will live and work together as brothers and sisters in the human family in response to the "oneness of God's love." The "Beloved Community," as Dr. King defined it was the ideal community of brotherhood and sisterhood of love and justice for all. King affirmed, "The solidarity of the human family."

We still must march for voting rights in Alabama, Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, the Carolinas, and in Virginia. We need educational reform in all 50 states to ensure that our children get a better education. In every region, at the top of the agenda should be the economic development and empowerment of our communities. We have to put pressure on the Congress of the United States not to repeal the historic Health Care Reform Act that was enacted

just last year.

Today, there is no question that if Dr. King was with us, he would be advising President Barack Obama to keep pushing forward to make life better for the millions of African Americans, Latino Americans, and others who are still stuck at the bottom of society in abject poverty and misery. Dr. King would intellectually and spiritually take on the so-called Tea Party and all of its minions who want to take America backward to the days of Jim Crow and overt oppression. One thing for sure, Dr. King was not a coward. He was a fearless leader who used the power of his oratory to remove social fear and doubt from the mindset of millions. That is why this year's King observances are so very important because we need to refocus and rededicate ourselves to both the dream and the agenda.

I believe Martin Luther King III said it best recently, "I pray that all Americans will embrace the challenge of social justice and the unifying spirit that my father

shared with his compatriots. With this commitment, we can begin to find new ways to reach out to one another, to heal our divisions, and build bridges of hope and opportunity benefiting all people. In doing so, we will not merely be seeking the dream; we will at long last be living it."

In the aftermath of the Tucson Massacre, once again we are all reminded that hatred by an individual or by a group is never the solution to our societal problems. In 2008, the majority of Americans went to the polls to vote for change in a manner that would have pleased Dr. King. In 2011, we are witnessing a growing backlash in public conscience and reaction as if the forces of division are gaining ground. Let's work to revive the movement for more change. Let's work to keep Dr. King's dream and agenda alive and fulfilled.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. is Senior Advisor for the Black Alliance for Educational Options (BAEO) and President of Education Online Services Corporation.

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To learn more about the State of Texas HUB Program, visit the Texas Procurement and Support Services web page at: <http://www.window.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/>

Mother and daughter of convicted former Mayor Pro Tem launch petition drive

(NDG Wire) Mary Hill and Sherrica Farrington, the mother and daughter of Don and Sheila Hill, launched a petition drive during the annual Martin Luther King Parade on Monday, Jan. 17. Hill, the 85 year-old mother of the former Mayor Pro Tem and Farrington, the 17 year-old daughter, hopes to attain a minimum of 5,000 signa-

tures over the next 30 days to send to the United States Attorney General Eric Holder asking him to investigate the sentencing of the Hills. Both believe the sentencing was excessive in light of the sentences received by Brian and Cheryl Potashnik and former US House of Representative Tom Delay.

Hill was indicted and

found guilty on various counts including of bribery, extortion, wire fraud and money laundering along with his wife Shelia Hill, DeAngelo Lee, Darren Reagan and Ricky Robertson. Hill received an 18 year sentence and is at a Federal prison in Ashland, Kentucky while his wife received 9 years in Marianna, Florida.

Fundraiser for domestic violence event upcoming

(NDG Wire) Five hundred women will gather to put a stop to the cycle of domestic violence by attending REDAZZLE 2011, A Benefit for Hope's Door on

special discounts. Redazzle will feature 20 vendors offering special discounts and incentives to raise more money for Hope's Door. These vendors range from local artists to special services.

Redazzle supports Hope's Door, the only battered women and children's shelter in Collin County which spans more than 30 cities and townships and houses nearly 800,000 residents. Hope's

agency opened its own shelter and began providing temporary housing to victims of domestic abuse. Since 1989, Hope's Door has provided safe shelter for over 3,787 women and their children, and answered over 16,000 crisis line calls.

Join Trendsetters International & Total Body Health by attending Redazzle and help put a stop to the cycle of domestic violence on Thursday, February 24. Recycle your accessories and restore hope to others.

Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. Visit the website, www.TrendSettersInt.org or call Cat Vizcaino at 469-964-2688 for more information.



Thursday, February 24 at 6:00 p.m. in McKinney at the Cotton Mill located at 610 Elm Street.

Redazzle, A Benefit for Hope's Door is an event presented by women in Collin County for women in Collin County. Redazzle is part style show, silent auction, trade show, networking, and best of all, an accessory exchange.

Guests bring their gently used accessories and exchange them with other guests. As women repurpose their accessory wardrobe, they are giving battered women and children a new purpose. Trendsetters International together with Total Body Health and many other Collin County businesses have contributed to this cause by way of donations, sponsorships and

Door is a shelter and counseling center that offers comprehensive programs and services that are designed to help break the cycle of domestic abuse. Hope's Door provides direct intervention and prevention services to families affected by domestic abuse in Collin County, Dallas County, and surrounding areas. Hope's Door has a mission to offer intervention and prevention services to individuals and families impacted by domestic abuse and to provide educational programs that enhance the community's capacity to respond.

When Hope's Door first opened its doors in 1986, the agency operated a 24-hour crisis line, but did not have the space to provide shelter. Clients were housed at local hotels. In 1989, the

Contractors must now be registered with the City of Dallas

(NDG Wire) On January 12, 2011, the City of Dallas amended Chapter 52, "Administrative Procedures for the Construction Codes," of the Dallas City Code to require the following contractors to be registered with the City of Dallas Building Inspection: commercial general contractors, residential general contractor, concrete/asphalt/paving contractor, demolition contractor, fence contractor, foundation contractor, gas well contrac-



tor, landscape contractor, pool contractor, roof contractor and tree service contractor. Also defined as contractors are energy code, gas well and green building providers.

These are providers that are engaged in the business of reviewing plans or making inspections for verification of compliance with the respective Dallas Code and reporting such compliance to the building official.

A contractor listed who is not registered by the city as a contractor may not obtain any permit required for work performed by contractor.

The registration fee will be \$120 per year.

Plano-Richardson Elks to start emergency duffle bag project

(NDG Wire) The Elks National Foundation, the charitable arm of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Plano-Richardson Elks will pack emergency duffle bags for individuals and families in crisis. They will coordinate with the local Neighborhood Youth and Family Counseling Center to distribute them when they are needed.

The Emergency Duffle Bag Project will be funded by an Impact Grant awarded to the Plano-Richardson Elks by the Elks National Foundation. Impact Grants are the

newest addition to the Elks National Foundation's Community Investments Program. They are competitive grants designed to

help Elks make a difference in their community. This year, Plano-Richardson Elks Lodge No. 2485 is



one of 51 recipients nationwide to receive an Impact Grant. The grants range from \$2,500 to \$10,000.

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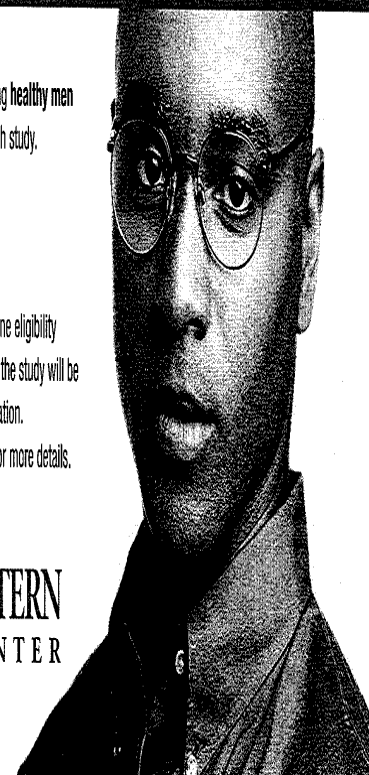
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January is School Board Recognition Month

(NDG Wire) Governor Rick Perry has proclaimed January 2011 as School Board Recognition Month. Districts across the state will use this opportunity to show their appreciation of the critical role elected boards of education play in their local schools and communities.

"The biggest challenges facing the education system can also be among its greatest strengths. For example, during a time when state and national mandates rightly place more emphasis

than ever on setting the bar high for education, it remains important for each community to retain control of its own educational system," Governor Perry said.

"Balancing the need for local control with directives coming down from larger governmental bodies is a difficult and oftentimes unappreciated task, but for over two centuries, American school boards have risen to such challenges. School boards also deal with issues such as the rap-

idly expanding role of technology in the classroom, the challenge to keep our children both well-educated and physically active, and—as always—the difficulties inherent in dealing with budgetary priorities.

"The people who make up these boards volunteer their time because they care about their communities and their schools. Each year, the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) designates January as School Board Recognition Month, to em-

phasize the importance of the services these dedicated men and women provide to the schools and students of Texas. At this time, I urge all Texans to recognize the invaluable contributions realized through the work of our school boards," he said.

"More than 7,000 locally elected school board members serve a crucial role in our communities and schools. These dedicated men and women strive to maintain the health of every district and serve as strong

advocates for our kids. In a time of financial uncertainty, they are willing to step forward to face the critical challenges facing our public schools," said James B. Crow, TASB executive director.

"We hope every community will say thanks to these board members for their commitment and offer support as they voluntarily tackle the important task of

governing school districts. Local trustees tirelessly work with parents and educators to develop sound education policies and set high standards for student success. We applaud them for shouldering enormous responsibilities and making the time to share their vision and voice about the future of Texas schoolchildren," Crow said.

UNCF, continued from Page 1

available at www.uncf.org/dallas. Proceeds will benefit UNCF's mission of making sure that every child gets a good education from pre-school through college.

"Chaka Khan has consistently supported UNCF throughout her career, inspiring and empowering young people to pursue education," said Diane Stephenson, area development director. "This pre-taped show that we are screening honors her for her contributions to the entertainment industry and for her dedication to helping minority students earn the college degrees. We invite everyone to support UNCF and join the fun as we watch this entertaining show on the big screen."

UNCF An Evening of Stars® Tribute to Chaka Khan, the 32nd annual edition in the UNCF An Evening of Stars® series, will air locally at 9 p.m. on Jan. 29 on TXA 21, as well as stations around the country including WGN, and will be shown on BET, Jan. 30 at 10 p.m. The program features stars from the worlds of music, TV and education paying tribute to UNCF Award of Excellence recipient Chaka Khan. Honoring Khan with performances of many of her best-known songs are Fantasia, Melanie Fiona, Bettye

LaVette and Herbie Hancock, Angie Stone, Ledisi, El DeBarge, Estelle, Faith Evans, Ginuwine, and 25-time Grammy Award winner Stevie Wonder. Performing a duet are Chaka's brother, Mark Stevens and her daughter, Indira Khan. Joining UNCF president and CEO Dr. Michael L. Lomax and the performers celebrating Khan's artistry and longstanding support of UNCF are Academy Award winner Mo'Nique, Taraji P. Henson, Akon, Boris Kodjoe and Nicole Ari Parker, *Access Hollywood's* Shaun Robinson, Tom Joyner, Glee's Amber Riley, LeVar Burton, Kim Coles, Quincy Jones, CNN's Soledad O'Brien, Bobb'e J. Thompson, Tracie Thoms and Lauren Vélez.

"I am honored to be able to contribute to UNCF's mission of helping kids get a good education from pre-school through college," Khan said. "Education opens doors of opportunity and will enable our youth and our nation to have a brighter future."


The stars that will be featured on the broadcast of UNCF An Evening of Stars® contributed not only their renditions of Khan's greatest hits, but also special appeals throughout the program for UNCF's Campaign for Emergency Student Aid to

help UNCF students whose graduation is threatened by the lingering recession. Family layoffs, pay cuts and the disappearance of many private student loan programs have left students owing money for tuition, text books, and dormitory rooms—bills they must pay before they can graduate. From the stage and in specially videotaped appeals, the stars asked the studio audience and TV viewers to text "UNCF" to 50555 on their cell phones to donate \$10 to help these students walk the last mile to their education.

UNCF An Evening of Stars® Tribute to Chaka Khan is presented by Tar-

get. National corporate broadcast sponsors include AT&T and McDonald's. Official sponsors of the broadcast of UNCF An Evening of Stars® are American Airlines, Wells Fargo Company, BET Networks and WGN America, and Major sponsor is the U.S. Army. Clear Channel is the national Media Partner. UNCF is offering limited edition DVDs of this year's 32nd anniversary UNCF An Evening of Stars® Tribute to Chaka Khan to Super Viewing Party attendees who donate \$100 or more. (DVDs will be shipped after the party and show broadcasts).

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Eldercare Friends Volunteer Training set for February 16

Pictured: The Visiting Nurse Association needs Eldercare Friends volunteers to visit the homebound elderly.



(NDG Wire) The Visiting Nurse Association's Eldercare Friends program is looking for volunteers to visit the homebound elderly in Collin County and provide assis-

tance with shopping, escorted transportation, errands, or other activities.

Volunteer training will be held February 16 from noon to 1 p.m. at the Visiting Nurse Association's

headquarters on 1440 W. Mockingbird Lane in Dallas. Volunteer training can also be scheduled by appointment.

There is no cost to attend a volunteer training

class, but registration is requested. Contact Nancy Jellinek, VNA Eldercare Friends manager, at 214-689-2209 or jellinek@vna-texas.org.

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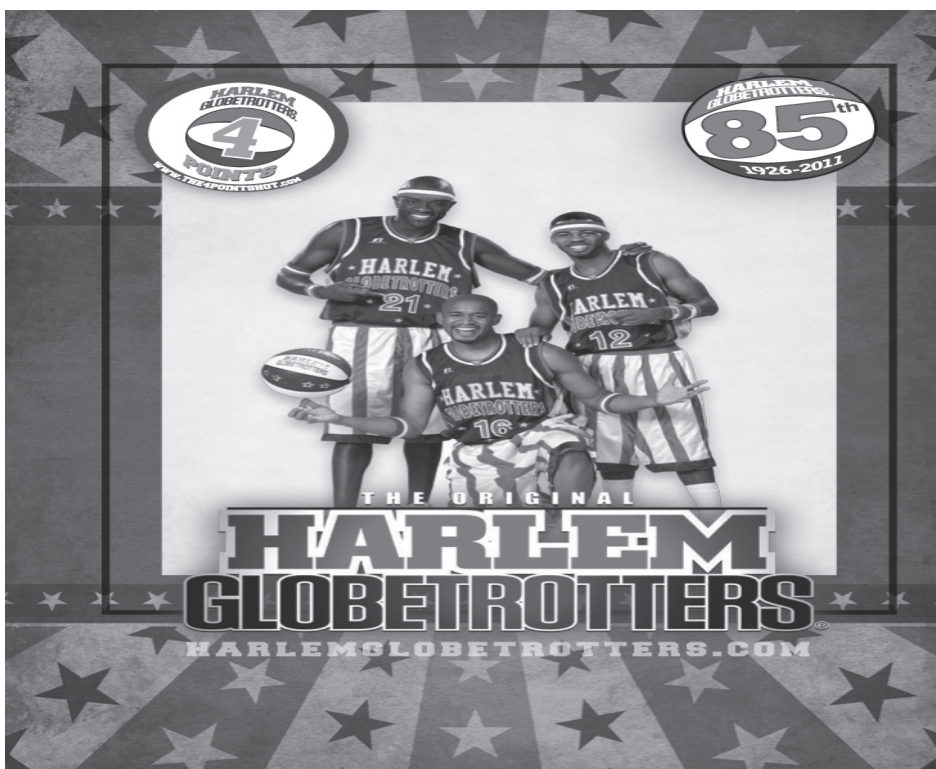
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Every Saturday

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

Every Tuesday

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

Ongoing

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

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

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

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

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch

1st Thursday at 1 pm in Plano Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com or 972-898-5882.

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

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

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

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

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

Through Jan. 23

AT&T Performance Arts Center presents **Young Frankenstein** at the Winspear Opera House. Tickets start at \$65 and are available at www.attpac.org

January 23

The Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive in

Richardson, presents The Bernstein Bears in **Family Matters, the Musical** at 2:30 p.m. in the Hill Performance Hall. Tickets range from \$11-\$21. Call 972-744-4650 or visit www.eisemanncenter.com

January 20

Public Input Meetings: Residents will have the opportunity to provide input to city staff and project architects on the new South Irving Library at community input meetings scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Jan. 17 and 20 at the Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd. The new library will replace the existing Central Library location, which is slated to open late 2012. For more information, call 972-721-2606.

January 21 – 30

The Plano Children's Theatre, 1301 Custer Road Suite 706 in Plano, will present several productions of **Godspell**. www.planochildrenstheatre.org

January 25

Seeking Common Good in the Midst of Growing Diversity featuring T.D. Jakes, Chief Pastor, The Potter's House; at the SMU Tate Series Tickets to individual lectures may be ordered online at smu.edu/tate or by calling 214/SMU-TATE 214-768-8283).

January 27

Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber's State of the City Address at the Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas, info: irvingchamber.com or 214-217-8484.

The **2011 Irving State of the City dinner** is set for the Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas, 500 W. Las Colinas Blvd. Info: www.irvingchamber.com or 214-217-8473.

Jan. 27-30 & Feb. 2-6

The NFL Experience coincides with Super Bowl XLV at the Dallas Convention Center, 650 Griffin St. in Dallas. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for children 12 years and younger. www.superbowl.com

January 28

M.I.N.G.L.E. Football Ed-ition is a professional networking luncheon featuring a panel of former NFL players turned entrepreneur, January 28, 2011 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. You can register online for \$40-\$50 at www.themarketinglady.com/events. The event will be held at Studio Movie Grill 11170 N Central Expressway in Dallas.

January 28-30

Funnyman **Earthquake** will make stop at the **Addison Improv**, 4980 Beltline Road #250 in Dallas. Tickets are \$22.

January 29

Comedian Kevin Hart's Laugh at My Pain slated for Verizon Theatre in Grand Prairie. www.verizontheatre.com

January 29-30

Sci-Fi Expo celebrating **Women of Sci-Fi** is slated for Saturday and Sunday in the Plano Convention Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy., from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. General admission tickets are \$10 per day, and \$20 for the Priority Pass, good for both days. Children ages 10 and younger are admitted free to the convention when accompanied by a paid adult. Parking is free. www.scifiexpo.com

January 30

The Plano Symphony Orchestra will present **Gone With the Winds**, begins at 3 p.m. at the Courtyard

Theatre, 1509 Avenue H, in historic downtown Plano, and will feature the woodwind section of the Plano Symphony Orchestra. Pre-concert lobby activities begin at 2 p.m. and include the Instrument Petting Zoo and arts and craft. Tickets for the event range from \$7 to \$11. Info: 972-473-7262 or visit www.plano-symphony.org.

February 4

The 20th annual Super Bowl Gospel Celebration is slated for Music Hall at Fair Park, 909 First Ave. in Dallas at 7:30 p.m. superbowlgospel.com

Super First Friday for Super Bowl XLV weekend in downtown Dallas to take place at the Magnolia Hotel, 1401 Commerce, starts at 8 p.m. Ladies 23 and older and men 25 older will be admitted. www.superfirstfriday.com

February 6

P. Diddy Live Grand Finale Tour at the Palladium Ballroom is scheduled. DJs include Go DJ HI C and MC Qua on the Serato and Mic. The show is for ages 21 and older. Buy tickets at www.aeglive.com.

February 12

UNCF's 12th annual **Red Hot & Snazzy Benefit Gala** details at www.uncf.org/dallas.

The Dallas Contemporary member's preview of new exhibit from artist **Michel Verjux**.

February 13

House of Blues Gospel Sundays is debuting **Sunday Gospel Brunch Kert-rina Dauway 'aka' Lady Diamond** at the World Famous House of Blues at 12:30 p.m. www.houseof-bluesdallas.com

February 19-16

The annual two-day **Spring Master Composter Training Course** will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Senter East Building, 228 Chamberlain St. To register, call 972-742-2296, or visit www.cityofirving.org/begreen, select "Educational Opportunities" and select "Master Composter Training." A refundable deposit of \$20 is required for registration. Registrants must attend both days to receive their deposit at end of the course.

March 5

The University of Texas at Arlington African American Alumni Association will honor the recipients of the **2011 Outstanding African-American Alumni Award** from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Hilton Arlington, 2401 E. Lamar Blvd. in Arlington. Recipients are Gary Bailey ('77), Rickie Rush ('82) and Lauretta Hill ('93). RSVP by Feb. 23. Tickets cost \$50 and are available for purchase at www.utablackalumni.com. Tickets will not be available for purchase at the door.

March 6

Comerica Collin County Marathon Info: www.collinmarathon.com.

March 12

1st Annual Ladies of Verity Teddy Bear Brunch will feature food, fun and inspiration on from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Cascade Event Center 5909 Stone Creek Drive The Colony, Texas 75056. Everyone will have the opportunity to make their very own cuddly friend...complete with birth certificate and take home carrier! For more details and ticket information, go to www.NoahsArkTeddyBearWorkshop.com or call 214-614-8468.

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3-2-1 ... Happy New You!

Successfully set and achieve your weight loss goals

(Family Features) As the pumpkin pie, holiday cocktail and sugar cookie memories begin to fade, we're reminded that the time has come to set or "re-set" our goals. Popular New Year's resolutions — to lose weight and/or stay fit — resurface with a bang year after year.

You've probably heard people say, "Those who lose weight eventually gain it back." Don't give up hope! Many people who successfully maintained a substantial weight loss for more than a year have done it on their own.

Registered dietitian Tara Gidus, also known as the Diet Diva, knows it can be a struggle to set goals and stick to them. "Prime weight loss season is upon us, and the need for realistic, achievable and tasty ways to make healthy lifestyle changes is as important as ever," said Gidus. "An exercise and healthy eating focus, along with a positive attitude and the right tools, can lead to a happier and healthier you — a new you."

Help yourself to successfully achieve your weight loss resolution with

shop or exercise for stress relief. Stress hormones have been tied to weight gain.

—Break It Down. Have an ultimate goal, and then break it into mini goals that are easily achievable. This makes the road to success seem easier and allows you to celebrate along the way.

—Flavor It. Calorie moderation doesn't have to mean boring. Use Hidden Valley Original Ranch Salad Dressing & Seasoning Mix to add a punch of flavor without compromising calories. It's especially great to use in dips and other game day snacks.

—Keep Track. People who keep track of what they eat can lose up to twice as much weight as people who don't. Jotting down how much you ate and how you were feeling can also help you connect food to energy and mood.

—Get Your Zzz. Snooze your way to weight loss. Getting enough sleep is critical to keep the hormones that control your appetite in check.

—Flex Your Muscles. The more muscle mass you have the more calories you

burn while you are sleeping.

—Don't Multitask. Turn off distractions like the TV and computer while eating or you could lose track of how much has gone in. Tune in to your body's hunger and fullness cues to know when to eat and when to stop.

For great eating ideas using Hidden Valley products, check out these recipes, or go to www.hiddenvalley.com.

Weight Loss Profile

People who have successfully achieved long-term weight loss tend to have common characteristics:

- Eat breakfast every day
- Monitor their weight weekly
- Watch less TV (i.e. less than 10 hours/week)
- Daily exercise (i.e. 30 to 60 minutes/day)

Baked Chicken Tenders

Prep Time: 20 minutes
Chill Time: 6 to 24 hours
Cook Time: 16 to 18 minutes
Makes 8 (3-ounce) servings
1 packet (1.1 ounces) Hidden Valley Original Ranch Salad Dressing and



- 1 1/2 cups low-fat buttermilk
- 1 package (20 ounces) fresh 99% fat free chicken tenders
- 1 cup whole wheat bread crumbs
- 1/3 cup sliced almonds
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- Olive oil cooking spray

1. Combine 1/2 packet Ranch Dressing and Seasoning Mix with yogurt; refrigerate.
2. Combine remaining Ranch Dressing and Seasoning Mix with buttermilk; refrigerate.
3. Rinse chicken and thoroughly pat dry on paper towels.
4. Combine chicken and buttermilk mixture together in a food storage zipper bag.
5. Refrigerate 6 to 24 hours.
6. Heat oven to 425°F.

7. In a food processor, combine breadcrumbs, almonds, garlic powder and pepper.
8. Coat chicken in breadcrumb mixture.
9. Set a wire rack on baking sheet and coat with cooking spray.
10. Lay chicken pieces on wire rack and spray with more cooking spray.
11. Bake 16 to 18 minutes until no longer pink (internal temp at least 170°F).
12. Use yogurt mixture as a dipping sauce.

Original Ranch Spinach Dip

Prep Time: 5 to 10 minutes
Chill Time: At least 30 minutes
Makes 12 (1/4-cup) servings
1/2 packet Hidden Valley Original Ranch Dips Mix (0.5 ounce)
1 cup plain non-fat Greek yogurt

1 cup light sour cream
1 box (10 ounces) frozen chopped spinach, thawed and well-drained
1/3 cup chopped walnuts*

1. Combine Ranch Dips Mix, yogurt, sour cream, spinach, and walnuts.
 2. Chill 30 minutes or until just before serving.
 3. Serve with whole wheat crackers and raw vegetables.
- *Pecans or water chestnuts can be used in place of walnuts.

Cheesy Ranch Popcorn

Prep Time: 5 minutes
Cook Time: 3 1/2 minutes
Makes 6 (2-cup) servings
1 bag (3 ounces) reduced-fat, low sodium butter-flavored microwave popcorn
1/4 pack (0.25 ounce) Hidden Valley Original Ranch Salad Dressing and Seasoning Mix
3 sprays from olive oil mister
3 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese
1. Pop popcorn according to package directions. Immediately open the bag and pour the popcorn into a large serving bowl.
2. Spray the popcorn with three sprays from the olive oil mister, toss with Ranch Salad Dressing and Seasoning Mix and then toss with the Parmesan cheese. Serve immediately.

Introducing Hidden Valley Salad Kits

Just add lettuce! The makers of Hidden Valley introduce Salad Kits — four prepackaged kits containing tasty ingredients sure to liven up everyday salads.
To learn more about new Hidden Valley products, visit www.hiddenvalley.com.



Gidus' tips.

—Think of You. Take "me" time to rest, relax,

burn while you are sleeping. Stay fit by doing strength training twice a

Seasoning Mix, divided
2 cups non-fat Greek yogurt

'Round about DFW

By Tonya Whitaker
NDG Staff Writer



Sean Paul

January 21

Rappers **Sean Paul and T-Pain** come together for a memorable performance at the Dallas Convention Center, 650 South Griffin St. in Dallas. Tickets are \$40 to \$100.

January 22

Fashion, music.art comes to Zouk, 703 McKinney Ave. in Dallas, from 7:03 to 10 p.m. Cost is \$10. Proceeds benefit Texas Next Top Designers. www.zouk-dallas.com

January 28

Cirque du Soleil will open with its latest big top touring production, **OVO**. OVO will



T-Pain

perform for a limited engagement under the trademark blue-and-yellow Grand Chapiteau (Big Top) at the Dr Pepper Arena in Frisco. Tickets start at \$27. www.cirquedusoleil.com/en/shows/ovo/tickets/frisco.aspx

Internationally acclaimed musician **Delfeayo Marsalis** to perform at 7:30 p.m. at the Majestic Theatre, 1925 Elm St. in Dallas. Tickets are available by calling Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000.

Call 504-897-3033 for more information.

January 27 – February 19

The Garland Civic Theatre will showcase **The Sugar Bean Sisters** through Feb. 19, with Thursday performances on Jan. 27 and Feb. 3 at the Granville Arts Center, 300 N. Fifth St. in downtown Garland. Tickets are \$15 for the "preview" Thursday and \$20 for other performances. Call 972-205-2790 for tickets.



OVO

Read more entertainment online at www.northdallasgazette.com. Submit entertainment announcements to assignmenteditor@northdallasgazette.com.

Gazette Gossip

By Tonya Whitaker
NDG Staff Writer

Super Bowl shuffle

Would you like to see **Prince** and Dallas native **Erykah Badu** perform at Reunion Arena on Feb. 4 during Super Bowl weekend? Cough up \$1,500 and you are in. *the Event* will feature the pair performing as part of a high school scholarship benefit for The



Mashonda

Goss-Michael Foundation.

It is about to get dirty

Word has it that victim in the **Swizz Beatz/Alicia Keys** affair has signed on to become a part of a new reality show on VHI titled *Love and Hip Hop*. **Mashonda** will join two other rapper girlfriends in the show. I do not know if Mashonda will say anything about her ex-hubby and Alicia, but I am sure

she will drop some hints in a tactful way.

What is up with Usher?

During a Germany stop on his OMG tour, **Usher** delivered a performance that garnered boos. The person who recorded the concert was overheard saying, "Usher go home." and "I want my money back." Read more details on www.northdallasgazette.com.



Usher

Can I have fries with that?
Vikings running back

Adrian Peterson got a McDonald's manager fired last week because she let the all-pro back into a Minnesota McDonald's after hours because he had to pee-pee. Find out more details on our website and let us know what you think about the situation.

Read more Gazette Gossip online at www.northdallasgazette.com.

IRS, continued from Page 1

will need implanting for 2010.

Those who need to wait to file include:

- Taxpayers Claiming Itemized Deductions on Schedule A. - Itemized deductions include mortgage interest, charitable deductions, medical and dental expenses as well as state and local taxes.

stitution – is claimed on Form 8917. However, the IRS emphasized that there will be no delays for millions of parents and students who claim other education credits, including the American Opportunity Tax Credit extended last month and the Lifetime Learning Credit.

- Taxpayers Claiming the Educator Expense De-

23 and Form 1040A, Line 16.

Even though some taxpayers have expenses that qualify for itemization, in order to itemize using Schedule A, the total deductions must exceed the standard deductions available based on your filing status. For 2010 the standard deductions are: \$11,400 for Married Filing Joint Filers; \$5,700 for Married Filing Separately or Single Filers, and \$8,400 for Head of Household Filers. If your Schedule A Itemized deductions are below these thresholds and you are not affected by the provisions below, your filing deadline will not be delayed.

If you are unsure about how these tax items affect you and your filing deadline you should consult your professional tax advisor.

Kedra A. Williams CPA PC, 3940 St. Francis Avenue Suite 103, Dallas, TX 75228 specializes in complex tax issues and IRS negotiations. Williams can be reached at 469-449-9833 and www.kedrawilliams.com.



- Taxpayers Claiming the Higher Education Tuition and Fees Deduction - This deduction for parents and students – covering up to \$4,000 of tuition and fees paid to a post-secondary in-

duction - This deduction is for kindergarten through grade 12 educators with out-of-pocket classroom expenses of up to \$250. The educator expense deduction is claimed on Form 1040, Line

CNN plans comprehensive coverage of State of the Union Address, GOP response

(NDG Wire) Lead political anchor Wolf Blitzer, joined by Anderson Cooper, Candy Crowley, John King and Piers Morgan will headline the network's coverage of President Barack Obama's State of the Union address on Tuesday, Jan. 25, beginning at 8 p.m. Shortly before the 9 p.m. address, King will preview the president's remarks from Capitol Hill, where he will be reporting live throughout the evening.

Additionally, Kathleen Parker and Eliot Spitzer, along with senior political analysts Gloria Borger and David Gergen, and political contributors Roland Martin and Erick Erickson will add insight and analysis.

The network will provide its signature three-dimensional graphics to help explain information and data pertaining to issues the president is expected to raise during his speech. Ali Velshi and Joe Johns will utilize the virtual tool to present com-

prehensive analysis on the current economic climate, employment rates, impact of health care reform and more.

A special edition of

John King, USA will air live from Capitol Hill at 7 p.m. and a special edition of Anderson Cooper 360 ° will follow the State of the Union coverage at 11 p.m.

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Plano General Obligation Bonds Maintain 'AAA' Rating Status

(NDG Wire) City Manager Tom Muehlenbeck has announced the City of Plano \$21.4 million General Obligation Bonds, Series 2011, has attained a coveted "AAA" bond rating

status from the nation's three major rating companies.

Moody's Investors Service, Fitch Ratings and Standard & Poors have each assigned a "AAA" rat-

ing to the bond series, confirming the stability of Plano's historically strong financial profile, sound management practices and economic outlook. The 2011 designation maintains

the prestigious "AAA" rating status Plano has continually held since 2000.

"The bond ratings reflect the quality of our financial management, coupled with our ability to de-

velop and maintain effective budget forecasting and contingency planning," said Muehlenbeck.

"The ratings lend credence to the continuing work by our City Council

and municipal staff in fostering a stable financial climate for our residents and businesses as we face the challenges created by our national economic uncertainty."

Super Bowl Xlv Playbook Workshop Series for small, minority and female business owners

(NDG Wire) The NFL has partnered with the Super Bowl Host Committee and several North Texas business development agencies to deliver a series of business workshops designed to educate, engage and empower the owners of North Texas'

booming minority and women-owned small business community. The workshops are presented by the NFL Emerging Business Program as part of the NFL's broader business outreach initiative.

These educational and networking opportunities

offer local business owners professional development forums. One was held in early January at Southern Methodist University's Cox James M. Collins Executive Center, and the second workshop will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 25 at Texas Christian

University's (TCU) Brown-Lupton University Union (2901 Stadium Drive, Fort Worth).

The workshop at TCU will serve as a business development primer and focus on issues facing small businesses today. The area of focus for

the workshop at TCU will be taking a business to the next level. The workshop will be interactive, and each business will leave with the beginnings of a game plan that they can build on for future success. Featured speakers include DR. RAY SMILOR, a faculty

fellow at the Neely School of Business at TCU, and PAUL SPIEGELMAN, Founder and CEO of The Beryl Companies.

For more information, contact Clare Graff at 212-450-2435 or clare.graff@nfl.com.

CRUSADE, continued from Page 3

teacher openings during the next four to six years (only two percent of public school teachers are Black males); helping to catalyze and mount an irresistible and sustained intergenerational movement to dismantle the Cradle to Prison Pipeline; and effective community organizing to tackle the pervasive poverty, racial disparities, miseducation, and joblessness plaguing Black children and youths.

Today, the toxic cocktail of poverty, illiteracy, racial disparities, violence, and massive incarceration is sentencing millions of children to dead end, powerless, and hopeless lives and threatens to undermine the past half century of racial and social

progress. This is the moment to act with urgency, vision, and courage to combat the growing racial and class segregation in America; to close the achievement gap; to reweave the fabric of family and community; and to build a loud and effective adult voice for children. Building a powerful intergenerational movement is crucial to protecting children and transforming our nation's addiction to punishment and incarceration as a first rather than last resort. We must establish better child investment policies and stronger, more skilled and innovative advocates, community networks, and institutions to implement them. We must increase

community capacity, sustainability of practices and programs that work, and create as many effective new servant leader voices for more just national choices as possible. There is not a moment—or child—to waste.

We know what to do to provide all children a healthier, fairer, and safer start in life and the chance to reach successful adulthood. What is missing is a critical mass of caring adults thinking and acting out of the box and raising an effective and persistent ruckus to counter the forces of status quo and regression. The 140 leaders who gathered in December at CDF-Haley Farm to launch the BCCC's second phase represented many dif-

ferent disciplines, skills, and gifts and the extraordinary power within our community to make the impossible possible when necessary. This is the beginning call to sustained action to do whatever is needed for as long as it takes to save the futures of millions of Black children. This is no one, two, or five

year effort. Nobody is going to care more about our children than we do and the reality of Black child life today should shame and cause all of us to move into emergency action inside and outside of the Black community.

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's

Defense Fund whose *Leave No Child Behind®* mission is to ensure every child a *Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to www.childrensdefense.org.*

Is using the dealer for vehicle warranty required? The answer is no

(NDG Wire) Many motorists believe that a car dealer can refuse to honor the factory warranty if someone other than the dealer services or repairs the vehicle. That is not so, according to the recent consumer alert issued by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

The FTC alert states that "It's illegal for a dealer to deny your warranty coverage simply because you had routine maintenance or repairs performed by someone else. Routine maintenance often includes oil changes, tire rotations, belt replacement, fluid checks and flushes, new brake pads and inspections."

"It's a common misconception that only car dealers can perform the maintenance services on a newer vehicle that is under warranty," said Rich White, executive director, Car Care Council. "The recent FTC Consumer Alert is very clear on the issue. Con-

sumers can have maintenance services performed by their local independent repair shop or even do the



work themselves without affecting the warranty, even if dealers and manufacturers suggest the opposite. It is also important to note that using aftermarket parts does not void the warranty."

Consumers are protected by the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, enforced by FTC, which prohibits a manufacturer from voiding the vehicle warranty because service was done by a non-dealer.

When using a non-

dealer, independent aftermarket shop to maintain your vehicle, the council strongly recommends keep-

ing records and receipts for all maintenance that is done to the vehicle and adhering to scheduled maintenance requirements. If a warranty claim arises, these records will provide proof that maintenance has been done in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations and requirements.

The Car Care Council is the source of information for the "Be Car Care Aware" consumer education campaign promoting the benefits of regular vehicle care, maintenance and repair to consumers. For a copy of the council's Car Care Guide, which is now available electronically, or for more information, visit www.carcare.org



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Local executive earns top healthcare management credential

(NDG Wire) Terry J. Fontenot, FACHE, Chief Executive Officer, Texas Regional Medical Center at Sunnyvale, recently became a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the nation's leading professional society for healthcare leaders.

"Because healthcare management ultimately affects the people in our communities, it is critically important to have a standard of excellence promoted by a professional organization," says Thomas C. Dolan, PhD, FACHE, CAE, president and

chief executive officer of ACHE. "By becoming an ACHE Fellow and simultaneously earning board certification from ACHE, healthcare leaders can show that they are committed to providing high-quality service to their patients and community."

Fellow status represents achievement of the highest standard of professional development. In fact, only 7,500 healthcare executives hold this distinction.

To obtain Fellow status, candidates must fulfill multiple requirements, including passing a comprehensive ex-



Terry J. Fontenot

amination, meeting academic and experiential criteria, earning continuing education credits and demonstrating professional/community in-

volvement. Fellows are also committed to ongoing professional development and undergo recertification every three years.

Fontenot is privileged to use the FACHE credential, which signifies board certifi-

cation in healthcare management and ACHE Fellow status. A resident of Sachse, Texas, Fontenot has more than 30 years of senior-level executive experience developing, starting up and operating medical/surgical hospitals

and was named CEO of TRMC-Sunnyvale, near Dallas, in 2008.

The 70-bed TRMC-Sunnyvale, which Fontenot participated in the development and start up, opened in September 2009.

Plano will participate in Collin County Homeless Coalition Count

(NDG Wire) The City of Plano is gearing up to hit the streets on Thursday, Jan. 27 to count the homeless as part of the Collin County Homeless Coalition. The annual count will occur simultaneously with other counties and cities across Texas to prevent a count overlap.

In the past Plano Police have performed the count but this year community volunteers will be utilized also. Individuals who would like to help with the count should arrive at Plano Municipal Center, 1520 K Avenue, at 7 p.m. for a one-hour training session.

Immediately following training, groups will split up to cover the city with Police accompaniment. Volunteers must be 18 or older; or accompanied by an adult to participate in the count.

Cara Mendelsohn, Chairman of the Collin County Homeless Coalition said, "We know the counts in the past have not fully reflected the number of homeless in our county. Many families have found themselves seeking shelter with family and friends over the last couple of years; and they are just as homeless as the person sleeping on the streets each night. The support of volunteers will help make Plano's count more complete, which in turn can help bring funding to our agencies and needed services to our community. I think the

volunteers will have an experience that changes their perception of homelessness and inspires them all year."

During the count, volunteers will provide the homeless with care packages provided by the students, staff and faculty of Collin College's Collin Serves Committee. Care packages include a snack, socks, gloves, toiletries and an emergency contact card.

Two surveys will be performed in English and Spanish with one for adults and one for youth. The surveys are kept confidential and do not have a space for name or any form of self identification. It includes basic questions such as where are you sleeping; where are you from; and who lives with you.

In 2010, only 76 individuals surveyed in Plano met the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) narrow definition of being homeless.

During the same count, the Plano Independent School District used the U.S. Department of Education's definition of homeless, which included "couch surfers" and "over housed," and found 114 children attending were homeless.

This year HUD's definition will for the first time recognize individuals and families who are "couch surfers" and "over housed," as well as people living shelter to shelter to provide a much more accurate count.

HUD requires the count in order for community agencies to qualify for funding to support programs and resources to assist the homeless. If someone you know is homeless and borrowing a room or couch in Plano, please contact Shanette Brown at 972-941-7151.

For more information on the Coalition, e-mail caraathome@gmail.com or visit Collin County Homeless Coalition on Facebook.

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FW Workforce Solutions, Urban League announce career training and trade events

By Tonya Whitaker
NDG Staff Writer

Are you in need of a job or could you use a little networking to build your business? The Urban League of Greater Dallas and Fort Worth Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County recently announced events for the public's disposal.

The Urban League of Greater Dallas will sponsor orientation for its get paid while training program Jan. 20 and 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Urban League, 4315 South Lancaster Road in Dallas. Various occupational positions could lead to full-time employment.

To be eligible for training, applicants must fall into one of the three following employment categories: unemployed, exhausted unemployment benefits or laid off since Jan. 1, 2008; be 18 years or older; possess two forms of identification (social security card, state-issued ID or driver's license); professional and work ready; current resume; reliable transportation; registered with Selective Services (for males); registered with Work in Texas; and no criminal record (ex-offenders are evaluated on a case-by-case basis).

All potential candidates may not be eligible for this program.

In addition, in Fort Worth, the DFW Training Providers Coalition will host a Career Training Provider Fair at Goodwill Industries, 4005 Campus Drive in Fort Worth from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Feb. 25. Also, on Feb. 25, the Hurst-Euless Bedford Chamber of Commerce will host a business-to-business expo at First United Methodist Church, 521 W. Pipeline Road in Hurst from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information on the provider fair, contact Christina Robinson at crobinson@atenterprises.edu. For more information on the chamber expo, call 817-283-1521.

Job training program at North Lake receives grant

(NDG Wire) Owens Corning Roofing and Asphalt LLC in Irving has partnered with North Lake College to provide job training using a \$100,740 Skills Development Fund grant from the Texas Workforce Commission.

The grant will be used to custom train 56 new and incumbent workers. The

grant will maximize the employees' electrical, mechanical, management and leadership skills. Those trained will include industry machinery mechanics, first line supervisors and shipping clerks. Upon completion of training, the workers will earn an average hourly wage of \$26.74.

INVITATION TO BID

EAGLE CONTRACTING L.P.;
an Equal Opportunity Employer, is soliciting Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprises for Subcontract and Material Supply Bids for the following project:

**Trinity River Authority of Texas
Central Regional Wastewater System
PHASE I SOLIDS MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS
SOLIDS THICKENING BUILDING IMMEDIATE
STRUCTURAL REPAIRS PROJECT**

Bid Date:
January 27, 2011 @ 2:00 p.m.

Contact:
Jimmy Smith
Or
Dave Mullenix
Metro: 817-379-1897 • Fax, Metro: 817-379-0610

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

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Dallas
Contract 0008-08-070 for PLANING, FULL DEPTH REPAIR AND OVERLAY in DALLAS County will be opened on February 09, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office. Contract 0008-08-071 for LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT in DALLAS County will be opened on February 08, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
Contract 0091-06-052 for INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS in DALLAS County will be opened on February 09, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office. Contract 0092-02-118 for INSTALL OF WIRELESS INCIDENT DET & RESPONSE in DALLAS County will be opened on February 08, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office. Contract 0095-13-030 for FULL DEPTH CONC PVT REPAIR in DALLAS County will be opened on February 08, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 35334

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

Dallas District
District Engineer
4777 E. Hwy 80
Mesquite, Texas 75150-6643
Phone: 214-320-6100

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



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www.avefchurchofchrist.org**

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**On Going
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

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

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

**EIRENE CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**

February 6, 4 p.m.

Join us for Super Sunday Celebration! Our 12th Anniversary Big Game Party at the Studio Movie Grill, 11170 Central Expressway. Call the church for tickets and details or RSVP at

**BigGameParty@eireneccf.org
Pastor Autry
701 E. Centennial Blvd.
Richardson, TX 75081
972-991-0200**

**FELLOWSHIP
CHRISTIAN CENTER
CHURCH IN ALLEN
"The Ship"**

**On Going,
9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Monday – Friday**

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

On Going, 7 p.m.

Wednesday Night Live at our main campus on Belmont Drive.

February 6, 4:30 p.m.

Join us for food, fun and fellowship at our Super Bowl Party at our main campus on Belmont Drive.

February 12, 7 p.m.

FCCC Marriage Takes 3 Sweetheart Banquet will be held at the Southfork Hotel in Plano. Attire is Semi-formal. Call 972-359-9956 for tickets and details.

**Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr.,
M.Div.**

**Senior Pastor
305 N. Alder Drive, in
Allen for Sunday
Morning Worship.
Church Address is
200 W. Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956
www.theship3c.org**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
OF HAMILTON PARK
"First Church"**

On Going,

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Let your children join us for fun, fellowship and Bible learning at our Annie Pearl Foster Children Center in Room 238.

**Dr. Gregory Foster,
Senior Pastor
300 Phillips Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-235-4235
www.fbchp.org**

**MT. PISGAH
MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH
"The Rock"**

January 29, 3 p.m.

Come to our book discussion group on Light Bread at the Bachman Lake Branch Library for ages 18 and above.

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

**NEW LIFE IN JESUS
CHRIST MINISTRIES**

On Going

You're invited to our Sunday School Service at 9:30 a.m., our Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m., our Wednesday's Bible Study at 7 p.m. and our Friday Night Service at 7 p.m. as we worship and praise God.

**Pastor A. L. Felton, Jr.
Senior Pastor
17720 Dickerson Street
Dallas, TX 75252
972-380-4100
www.nlijcm.org**

**NEW MOUNT ZION
BAPTIST CHURCH
OF DALLAS**

January 29

Join our Youth Ministry's 4th Annual Parent and Youth Conference as they present It's Not JUST My Child – It's Me Too! Their 2011 Theme: "Press Toward the Mark" in Philippians 3:13 & 14.

On Going

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

On Going

Let your child or children attend TTS (Test Taking Skills) for math classes for TAKS (5th – 12th Grades) and special TTS for math Class (5th – 8th Grades.) Call 214-235-3190 or 214-541-8292 for time, place and other 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**

On Going Help

God never expected us to bear our burdens alone; our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide emotional and spiritual care when you need them. Call 972-437-3493, Ext. 153 for details.

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

**PROFESSIONAL
ACHIEVERS FOR
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EXCELLENCE (PACE)**

February 20, 4 p.m.

PACE, in partnership with the Carrollton Library at Josey Ranch Lake at 1700 Keller Springs Road in Carrollton will host its "Annual Read In." Come to hear and enjoy works by African American authors. Various readers will recite and perform excerpts of stories, poems and songs. FREE books will be given (while they last) and light refreshments will be served.

**Roxanne Forrester,
Publicity/Historian
www.historian@pacedfw.org**

**SAINT MARK MBC
IN MCKINNEY**

On Going

Join us each Wednesday for Prayer at 6:30 p.m. and for Family Ministries at 7 p.m.

January 30

You're invited to an exciting Youth Rally at the church, call for details.

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

**SHILOH MBC
IN PLANO**

On Going

Wednesdays, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Mid-Week Service as we praise and worship God for His blessings.

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

**THE NEW LIGHT
CHURCH**

On Going

Join us every Wednesday at 6:30 pm for Girls in Action meeting. Girls 6-17 are encouraged to explore Christ and the Word of God.

You're invited to our Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. and Morning Worship at 11 a.m., First Sunday evening Service at 6 p.m. and Thursday Night Live of Prayer, Praise and Proclamation at 7 p.m.

**Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor
9314 Elam Road
Dallas, TX 75217
214-391-3430
www.newlightchurch.com**

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

On Going

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.

Thursdays, 7 p.m.

You're invited to hear anointed men and women bring the Word of God.

**Dr. Gregory Voss,
Senior Pastor
2765 Trinity Mills Road
Building 300
Carrollton, TX 75006
214-514-9147**

NEW LIGHT CHURCH



9314 ELAM ROAD - DALLAS, TEXAS 75217
www.newlightchurchdallas.com
Office: 214-391-3430

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Morning Worship – 11:00 a.m.

Evening Service – First Sundays – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday Night Live (Prayer, Praise and Proclamation) - 7:00 p.m.

**Pastor Shaun Rabb &
Co-Pastor Marian Rabb**



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A Kingdom Building Church
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(972) 359-9956 - www.theship3c.org



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9:30 AM

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Live Service
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KGGK 1040 AM, Monday - Friday @ 5:25 pm - 5:30 pm



Sister Tarpley

This is the start of a "New Year" you can learn from mistakes that was made last year to make positive changes in your life from this day forward. You will be happier and so will those around you, because---

Life is short no matter how long we live, so use it wisely. Life never seems to be enough no matter how long one gets to live. I have never heard anyone (in the right frame of mind) say, "Ninety years is enough living for me, so I will just die now!"

Usually, people just don't speak like that when it comes to their life. Generally, everybody wants to live to that ripe old age, and if we (only) had a say

in how long we should stay, we would all shout, "Forever!" It's true most of us love life! What do we know about this thing we hold so dear?

- It's a gift from God
- It's not ours to keep; it can be taken away at any time
- It can be worthwhile or worthless (it depends on the individual)

Those of us who are alive need to know that we are at the mercy of "God." The time that we have been given should not be spent on trying to preserve this life, but fulfilling the purpose for which we were created.

Knowing that we all must go the way of the flesh, should hasten our resolve (especially now, a New Year) to put things in perspective. Some of the

questions you should be asking are, "What have I done with my life? What do I want to do with the rest of my life?"

If this was your time to die, would your life be celebrated or mourned? You are the one who will say how the rest of your life story plays out. Will it be *WORTHWHILE* or *WORTHLESS*, the choice is certainly yours to make.

We may not always realize that everything we do, affects not only our lives, but also others, too!

For a little bit of thoughtfulness that shows someone you care creates a ray of sunshine for both of you to share.

Yes, every time you offer someone a helping hand—every time you show a friend you care and understand—Every time

you have a kind and gentle word to give, you help someone find beauty in this precious life we live.

For happiness bring happiness and love always bring love; and giving is the treasure that contentment is made of.

Positive Thoughts for the New Year: God is on the throne and His grace abounds. (*Psalm 47:8 and Romans 5:20.*) God mercies are new every morning and He keeps His promises. (*Lamentations 3:22 and 2 Corinthians 1:20.*)

God is forever faithful and He is working out His



Dr. Gregory Voss, Senior Pastor, Word of Life C.O.G.I.C. in Carrollton, Texas receiving an appreciation plaque for his leadership in the church and service in the community from Minister A. J. Wilson on behalf of all members in the church.

plans for you. (*Isaiah 49:7 and Ephesians 1:11.*) God will provide for His believers and He blesses them with every spiritual blessing in Christ. (*Philippians 4:19 and Ephesians 1:3.*) God

loves you with an everlasting love and His precious blood has the power to cleanse your sins. (*Jeremiah 31:3 and 1 John 1:7.*)

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

Teddy bear brunch fundraiser upcoming in March

(NDG Wire) The Ladies of Verity are hosting their 1st Annual Teddy Bear Brunch along with a Noah's Ark Teddy Bear Workshop. Children of all ages will have the opportunity to make their very own cuddly friend with their own hands.

During the workshop, they will receive a high quality un-stuffed cuddly friend, hand-stuff it with our "love stuffing", wish upon and insert a rainbow star and then snap it closed. They

will fluff the finished cuddly friend, give it a name, complete a customized birth certificate then dress it in the most fashionable adorable outfits. Then each participant will receive a cozy take home carrier for safe transport of their new best friend.

The event includes a full-scale brunch catered by the Marriott and notable inspirational speakers and community leaders.

The Teddy Bear Brunch will be held on Saturday

March 12 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Cascade Event Center 5909 Stone Creek Drive, in The Colony, Texas. For more details on the event, to book your reservation, or to purchase tickets, go to www.LadiesofVerity.org or www.NoahsArkTeddyBearWorkshop.com

Ladies of Verity is a non-profit organization that is changing the way young children look at themselves one community at a time. They provide Charm School

Etiquette Training, Mother-Baby Mentoring and Veteran Families Assistance Programs, to enhance skills, bolster self-esteem and link participants to viable community resources. A portion of ticket proceeds will benefit social and/or economically disadvantaged children. *If you are unable to attend your words or encouragement and in-kind donation is very much appreciated and will be acknowledged at the event and on the*

sponsorship page of our website. Ladies of Verity, thank you in advance for

helping us make a difference one community at a time!

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"Raising the Standards"

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Dallas, TX 75252

Phone: 972-380-4100/ALT: 972-999-7114
E-mail: pastor@nljcm.org

Sunday 9:30a.m. Sunday School
11:00a.m. Morning Worship
Wednesday 7:00p.m. Bible Study
Friday 7:00p.m. Prayer/Victory Service

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A Kingdom Building Church offering DELIVERANCE, RESTORATION, PURPOSE and PROSPERITY

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

Worship Services

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

Office Hours

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

Contact Info Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229
Office: 972-241-6151
Email: info@dallasmpisgah.org
Website: www.dallasmpisgah.org

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Two Sunday Worship Services:
8:45am & 11:00am
Wednesday Bible Study
7:30pm

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity To Celebrate 100 Year Anniversary

(NDG Wire) On the night of January 5, 1911 on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington, ten African-American college men came together to found what is known today as Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated. And on Saturday January 29, the area II cluster of Kappa that encompasses all college and alumni chapters between Texarkana to the east and Wichita Falls to the west will convene in Richardson, Texas for the 29th Joint Founder's Day Celebration and Banquet. Featured speaker for this event will be undergraduate national board member Mar-

vin Carr, a graduate student at Morgan State University in Baltimore.

Although the banquet is a closed event for fraternity members only, the public is invited to participate later in the evening at the Holiday Inn – Richardson, 1655 North Central Expressway at 9:00 p.m. for the "Ladies in Red" social with DJ Blood.

"Every four to six years this event rotates back to the Richardson-Plano Chapter. We are especially proud to serve as host this year being that this is the Centennial Celebration of the fraternity," says Kevin Burnett, the Chapter Polemarch.

The celebration will continue the following day as the fraternity will thank the Creator for guiding them through 100 years of service to the community as Kappa brothers worship with the congregation of the Shiloh Baptist Church in Plano. Shiloh page 10 has partnered with Kappa locally as a participant in their Sunday of Hope endeavor benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

With over 700 chapters around the world, Kappa Alpha Psi has undertaken programs of national significance with the recent donation of over \$ 1.2 Million to St. Jude in Memphis. Other

projects the fraternity has undertaken include a national partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, a partnership with federal bankruptcy judges to conduct financial literacy workshops to college students, the fraternity's own national Guide Right Program that targets youth, and the iKare program that continues to provide aid and assistance to those affected by the ongoing disasters in Haiti.

For questions about any events with Kappa's upcoming centennial celebration you may contact event chairman, Elwood Shannon at 972-966-9701.

Harris Hollabaugh Park and Recreation Center Dedication Ceremony

(NDG Wire) The City of Garland will dedicate the new Harris Hollabaugh Park and Recreation Center Saturday, January 22, starting at 10 a.m. The dedication ceremony will include the unveiling of the Harris Hollabaugh plaque, which will be mounted inside

the entrance to the recreation center. Mayor Ronald Jones, District 6 Council member Barbara Chick, and members of Harris Hollabaugh's family will be part of the dedication ceremony.

The park and recreation center is located at 3925 West

Walnut in Garland, just west of Jupiter Road. Due to the expected crowds at the ceremony, satellite parking will be available with free shuttle service. The event will wind up at noon, but the center itself will be open until 4 p.m. that day.

The park includes a

walking trail, open field, and playground. The 7,000 square foot recreation center includes an adjacent pavilion with kitchen access; a large multipurpose room and a classroom for programs, meetings, and rentals; and a fitness room with cardio and weight machines.



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