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Methodist leaders seek Medicaid funding support in Austin

(NDG Wire) A delegation of 43 top leaders and community supporters of Methodist Health System traveled to Austin on Feb. 8 for crucial discussions with state legis-



Texas House Appropriations Chairman Jim Pitts (R-Waxahachie) (right) and Chief of Staff Aaron Gregg meet with Methodist Health System delegation members (from left) John Collins, Levi Davis, Dr. Stephen Mansfield.

lators regarding fund support for Medicaid to health care organizations. In an intense 13-hour trip, the group divided into five teams led by Methodist Health System CEO and President Dr. Stephen L. Mansfield and

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Gospel music *Flip Side* research uncovers secret civil rights messages

(Texas News Service) Gospel music of the 1950s and '60s often contained "secret messages" about the civil rights movement - secrets that were literally right under the nose of anyone who purchased a vinyl copy of a song.

That is the finding of

Robert Darden, a Baylor University researcher who oversees the school's Black Gospel Music Restoration Project. Darden says he was about a year into cataloging vintage gospel music sent in from all over the country, when he started looking closely at

the "B" sides of the older records.

"And here this stuff is, a wonderful spiritual hymn, 'Let's all be good and go see Jesus'; and on the flip side, it says, you know, 'People, we need to rally around Dr. King. This is important.'"

Darden is now focusing on the civil rights songs and messages, many found on records from singers unfamiliar even to gospel experts, and sometimes on record labels that do not exist in any catalogs. He

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Anheuser-Busch Foundation funds 46 scholarships

Hispanic Scholarship Fund and UNCF will benefit from \$125,000 donation

(NDG Wire) As part of a special initiative to benefit area college students while celebrating the biggest football weekend of the year, the Anheuser-Busch Foundation is donating \$125,000 to help fund 46 college scholarships



Diane Stephenson, UNCF Dallas Area Development Director, right, poses with Anheuser-Busch's Margarita Flores at a local reception on Feb. 2 to announce A-B's donation to UNCF in support of its Texas-based students.

throughout Texas and an educational training program for parents.

Anheuser-Busch and its foundation continue their longtime support of education in the Latino and African-American communities by present-

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COVER STORY

The annual Great 'I'm In Love' Search



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Sergeant Major Paul Allen discusses the history of the Buffalo Soldiers

For more information see pg. 10
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COMMENTARY

We should leave no community behind

By Congressman James E. Clyburn (SC-06)

In my home state of South Carolina, Orangeburg County is home to a 5400 ft. runway airport, two Class A railroads, two interstate highways, eight U.S. highways, two universities, a technical college, 67 miles of shoreline along the state's largest lake and more than 90,000 citizens. Orangeburg seems to have all that is necessary to be a strong and vibrant economic engine. The

County, however, has a median income of \$32,694 and is consistently ranked among the nation's ten poorest counties with a population greater than 65,000, ranking eighth based on 2008 data.

When I was elected to Congress, I was told that in spite of the infrastructure enumerated above, Orangeburg and other counties along the I-26/I-95 corridor would always be drags on the state's

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People In The News...



Michael Baisden



Paul Black



Dr. Gwen Clark

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Michael Baisden

A trial date has been set in a lawsuit filed by best-selling author and nationally syndicated radio and TV personality Michael Baisden. Trial was slated to begin on Feb. 14 in Houston, Texas, in the US District Court for the Southern District of Texas - Bob Casey Federal Courthouse Court Room 9-B.

Documents filed in the lawsuit allege that Defendants I'm Ready Produc-

tions, Inc., Image Entertainment, Inc., ALW Entertainment, Inc., Je'Caryous Johnson and Gary Guidry conspired to tour a stage-play without Baisden's permission and sold DVD's based on Baisden's best-selling novels, *The Maintenance Man* and *Men Cry in the Dark*, in violation of the Federal copyright laws.

The lawsuit also alleges that I'm Ready Productions and Image Enter-



tainment made millions of dollars using Baisden's name, likeness and popu-

larity to sell the DVDs by implying that he was involved in, or endorsed, the distribution. Baisden did not authorize the sale of the DVDs.

"This is my day in court in my fight to recover my intellectual property rights and prevent these Defendants from continuing to infringe upon my copyrighted novels," said Michael Baisden. "These novels are like my children. They reflect

years of hard work in writing them and promoting them to the level where they became best sellers. In the end, I hope I can also send a message to other copyright holders that they have a right to take a stand and fight those who are trying to steal their copyrighted works."

In the lawsuit, Baisden seeks an injunction to prevent the Defendants from any further use of the copyrighted works *The Maintenance Man* and

Men Cry in the Dark. Baisden is also seeking an award of actual damages, enhanced damages and attorneys' fees for having to institute a lawsuit to stop Defendants' infringement. He is represented by noted entertainment lawyers Daryl K. Washington and Aubrey "Nick" Pittman.

For more information on Michael Baisden, go to <http://www.BaisdenLive.com/> or join him at "Michael Baisden Live" on Facebook and "Baisden Live" on Twitter.

Paul Black

(NDG Wire) When Paul Black was a young man, he had dreams of being a screenwriter. However, one year of working in special effects department of low-budget, independent films soured him on the notoriously tough movie business.

"In high school I really enjoyed writing and I wrote a novella, a book of poetry and a treatment for novel. But when I got to college, I got into graphic design and

the visual side of it and got involved with advertising and graphic design as a profession, and that's what I do today," he said.

Black built Paul Black Designs, a successful graphic arts company in Dallas. But his urge to write continued, so he wrote his first science fiction novel and urban cyber thriller, "The Tels," in 1999 to good reviews; so good, it became the first in a trilogy with "Soulware" released in 2005 and "Nexus Point" released in 2007.

"The Presence" is his

latest book. Released a few weeks ago, it stays within the science fiction genre but follows another set of characters in a world where trade in illegal cloning is thriving. North America is one union and something Black calls Biolution has changed all the rules.

"It's kind of spy novel, but it's a bit genre-bending; not fitting into any hard genre," he said. It's definitely science fiction, but it has a bit of everything."

Sales for "The Presence" and Black's other books are strong. All are



available through bookstore giant Barnes & Noble, as well as independent bookstores, online booksellers and eBooks and Kindle vendors. They've also earned

critical praise from many such as *Midwest Book Review* and *Writer's Notes Magazine*; *Writer's Digest Magazine* even named "Soulware" 2005 Book of the Year for genre fiction.

"I've been told I write in a very visual style, and I like that way because I think the modern reader starts a movie in their head when they start a book," he said. "It's the nature of the culture and its media onslaught."

A book-signing event for "The Presence" is from 2-4 p.m. Sat., Feb. 19, at

Barnes & Noble Lincoln Park, 7700 W. Northwest Hwy., Suite 300, in Dallas. Another is scheduled from 2-4 p.m. Sat., March 12, at Preston Park, 2201 Preston Road, Suite E, in Plano.

Black just completed another book, which is not related to "The Presence." He's also writing a present-day thriller.

Black said writing fiction is very similar to making movies.

"You create the whole cast and crew and everything, and you have complete control," he said.

Dr. Gwen Clark

The Urban League of Greater Dallas will honor three educators who have given back to the commu-



nity through their service, Dr. Gwen Clark, Michael Traylor and Verna Mitchell at its Annual Meeting Community Report Luncheon on Friday, Feb. 25 at 11:45 a.m. at the Hilton Anatole Hotel, Khmer Pavilion Ballroom, 2201 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas. The theme of the Luncheon is *It's About Education: Our*

Youth = Our Destiny.

"We are proud to recognize this year's honorees," said Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, Urban League President and CEO. "As educators they understand that education is the foundation to ensuring that our youth are prepared to meet the challenges of this century."

Dr. Gwen Clark says there was no debate whether she would become a teacher. She merely followed in the footsteps of her Mother, aunts, cousins and assorted relatives who chose the teaching profession.

Armed with ambition and lots of encouragement, Dr. Clark graduated from Texas College with honors in three years with a Bachelor of Science Degree. She earned a Master of Education Degree from Texas Southern University, a supervisory certification from North Texas State Univer-

sity and a Doctor of Education Degree from Nova University. For over three decades, Dr. Clark has provided dedicated service to Dallas students as a classroom teacher, resource teacher, facilitator and elementary principal.

After her retirement in 1986, Dr. Clark has served on several boards and as a volunteer for many non-profit organizations including Vogel Alcove Childcare Center, Senior Citizens of Greater Dallas, Center for Community Cooperation and Dallas Nutrition Program. She is currently a member of the board of directors at Black and Clark Funeral Home and serves on the Advisory Board of the Dallas Post Tribune. She is also Intergenerational Specialist for the American Association of Retired Persons.

Her other affiliations include Golden Life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Alpha Xi Omega

Chapter and a member of the St. Luke Community United Methodist Church. She is the mother of two children, Melody Clark Fletcher and Gary D. Clark.

Melvin D. Traylor is an experienced Director who has a successful track record leading diverse teams of professionals to new levels of success. He feels it is the extraordinary education and the foundation he received as a teacher and principal for over 30 years that resulted in his achievements.

He received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry and Physics from Bishop College and a Masters Degree in Administrative Leadership from the University of North Texas.

In addition to his teaching positions, he has served as Director of the Dallas County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program, Pinnacle - Family Programs and Office of

Student Responsibility at Dallas IDS Central Office. He is currently Director of Casa Youth Emergency Shelter for the Salvation

Army.

Traylor is a member of the Board of Directors at

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States look to cut funding for ex-inmate programs

By Judge Greg Mathis

One of the first places state and federal governments look to make cutbacks in an attempt to balance their ballooning budgets is in the penal system. As a result, ex-offender reentry programs that help rehabilitate those who are at risk for returning to prison are on the chopping block. Sure, cutting funding to these programs may help balance budgets in the short term. But, as ex-offenders become repeat offenders and return to jail or prison, we end up shelling out more money in the long run to incarcerate them. Additionally, communities and individuals will continue to be victimized by crime and trapped in a seemingly

never-ending cycle.

Recently, USA Today reported on these cutbacks and the impact they could have on states across the country. Florida, for example, saw a small decrease in the number of ex-offenders who committed a new felony while on probation. Instead of looking at the bigger picture and continuing to invest in programs designed to reduce recidivism, Florida, in an attempt to get its fiscal house in order, plans to cut such programs. Other states are also weighing significant budget cuts to all parts of their criminal justice systems.

This is just bad business. In many states, the number of ex-offenders committing new crimes has

increased, partly because of cuts to programs that help them transform their lives and stay out of prison.

Any state considering such cuts should look to Michigan for guidance. Budget gaps and increasingly high unemployment rates have lead lawmakers there to address both problems with a novel plan: help ex-offenders find and keep jobs that will keep them out of prison. According to a report by the Institute for Research on Poverty, Michigan has used job placement programs to cut the prison population by about 15 percent over the last four years and has saved more than \$200 million each year.

Here's hoping other locales will follow Michi-

gan's lead. With your help, maybe they can. Call or write your county, state and federal legislators and demand they not be so short sighted; ask that they avoid making budget cuts to prison reentry programs at all costs.

In these difficult economic times, it is only reasonable that lawmakers conserve resources where they can. The criminal justice system, particularly ex-offender reentry programs, is not the place to make these cuts. Our lawmakers must think about the effect these budget reductions will have on our overall safety and the economic impact they will have on taxpayers down the road.

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economy unless we solved their most pressing challenge: access to clean, safe, drinkable water. I immediately went to work to solve this problem. Today, because of good cooperation and planning by local officials and targeted congressional expenditures, in the Orangeburg County town of Santee located on I-95, we have a state-of-the-art water plant with reaches into four surrounding counties. We have great hope that we can begin to turn the economic conditions around in these historically depressed communities, but further assistance is needed.

In the United States, there are 474 counties where 20 percent or more of the population has been living below the poverty line for the last 30 years. The counties are as diverse as our great nation; Appalachian communities in Kentucky and North Carolina, Native American communities in South Dakota and Alaska, Latino communities in Arizona and New Mexico and African American communities in Mississippi and South Carolina. They lack access to quality schools, affordable quality health care and adequate job op-

portunities.

This is not a partisan issue. In 2009, these counties were represented by 43 Democrats and 84 Republicans in the Congress. Democrats represented 149 of them, with a total population of 8.8 million; Republicans 311, with a total population of 8.3 million; and 14, with a total population of 5.3 million, were split between Republicans and Democrats. I represented seven such counties.

When we drafted the Recovery Act, I fought to ensure that no communities were left behind. We all know that President Roosevelt's "New Deal," which was credited with ending the Great Depression, was not a good deal for many of these persistent poverty counties. At my urging, the Recovery Act included a provision that directed at least 10 percent of Rural Development investments to communities where 20 percent or more of the population had lived below the poverty line for the last 30 years.

I understand that my 10-20-30 amendment in the Recovery Act was responsible for funding 4,655 projects totaling nearly \$1.7 billion in per-

sistent poverty counties. I can speak of two counties in my district that benefited from this program. Construction began last year on 51 miles of water lines to the Brittons Neck, Centenary and Gresham communities of Marion County, South Carolina. These communities had tried for decades to replace their contaminated wells with a water system, but could not afford the matching funds required by traditional federal programs. Through the 10-20-30 program, the Marco Rural Water Company received a \$5.8 million grant and a \$2 million loan to provide clean, potable water to these communities for the first time.

In Orangeburg County, three similar water projects are being funded through the 10-20-30 program. One of those is a \$5.6 million investment to bring potable water to a Global Logistics Triangle on I-95 at U.S. 301 that will soon be home to a Jafza logistics, industrial and distribution park. That public investment is leveraging an estimated \$600-\$700 million in private investments that may ultimately create up to 10,000 new jobs in this persistent poverty

county. That is an investment in innovation and creativity that will yield significant dividends in the near future and hopefully lift Orangeburg County out of its quagmire as one of the ten poorest counties in the nation.

I am urging Congress to include the 10-20-30 approach in future funding proposals, and expand it to all federal agencies. It doesn't require additional funding -- only the stipulation that at least ten percent of any agency's appropriated programmatic funds be invested in 10-20-30 communities.

We have been so heavily focused on easing the national unemployment rate that we have not given adequate attention to communities that are suffering from chronic distress and Depression-era levels of joblessness. They must be included in our efforts to get the entire nation on the right track. If we provide them the engines they have been lacking, these communities can join the rest of America to compete and "win the future."

Congressman James E. Clyburn (SC-06) is the Assistant Democratic Leader, U.S. House of Representatives.

Camp for grieving children

(NDG Wire) Camp Dragonfly is for children who have lost a parent or someone close to them within the last two years. It is sponsored by Home Hospice of Grayson, Cooke and Fannin Counties. On March 4-6, children between the ages of eight and 12 will gather at All Saints Camp on Lake Texoma with one thing in common: they are grieving.

Losing a loved one can be devastating at any age. How children experience the death and their subsequent grief varies according to age, developmental stage, and their relationship to the deceased. It is estimated that one in 20 children under age 15 will suffer the loss of a parent.

Adults sometimes mistakenly believe that a child is too young to understand,

and has the resiliency to bounce back quickly. Professionals at Home Hospice of Grayson, Cooke and Fannin Counties know that if a child is old enough to love, he or she is old enough to grieve. While there is no one right way to process the unique sadness of losing a parent or someone close, there is help at Camp Dragonfly.

The three-day camp em-

phasizes healing through thoughtfully designed activities that are meaningful, fun, and often, life changing. "It helps just to know that there are other people out there who have felt the same things you do," said one 11-year-old camper. "I learned that through good times and bad times, there are always people there for you."

Each child is invited to

participate in games, art activities, nature hikes, conversations with counselors, and special ceremonies. "The camp is more about life and living than about death and dying," said camp director Jolene Senek, LBSW, "We help kids experience a healing journey and also provide tools for dealing with their loss."

Children report that the camp is "really fun" and

that they found value in making memory boxes, learning new ways to trust, and in meeting "nice and funny" people. "It's amazing that kids can be serious and very focused while working on clinical matters and then be ready to 'play' as activities shift," said Vicky Smith Lindsey, LCSW. She said that some

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TWU to host Open House/Spanish Language Open House Feb. 19 Radio Station La Kalle 107.9 to broadcast live from the event

(NDG Wire) Texas Woman's University will host an Open House for prospective students and their families in English and Spanish Saturday, Feb. 19 from 8 a.m. until noon on the TWU Denton campus.

Sessions on freshmen admission, financial aid and campus life — including a panel of current students — will be offered in both English and Spanish. In addition, prospective students

and their families will have the opportunity to meet faculty and participate in a campus tour.

Univision radio station La Kalle 107.9 with DJ Danny Luna will broadcast from the Spanish Language Open House from 10 a.m. to noon and give away prizes to attendees.

Prospective students also could win \$1,000 to be applied to fall 2011 tuition and fees at TWU. Three

awards of \$1,000 each will be presented to one freshman, one transfer and one graduate student at the Denton Open House. Students must be eligible for admission to TWU to claim the awards.

The open house begins at 8 a.m. in Hubbard Hall, located on Administration Drive between Oakland Street and Bell Avenue in Denton. Information sessions are scheduled until

noon, followed by campus tours and residence hall viewings. Free parking is available throughout the Denton campus during the open house.

For more information or to register, visit www.twu.edu and click on "Denton Campus Open House," email TWU at admissions@twu.edu or call 940-898-3014 or 1-866-809-6130.

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four campus presidents. Each team met with different members of the House and Senate, including all those who represent areas served by Methodist facilities. The full group of civic and hospital also received a legislative update from the president and SVP of legislative affairs of the Texas Hospital Association (THA) and Sen. Royce West before beginning their visits with 15 representatives/aides, six senators/aides, the Health & Human Services aide for the Speaker of the House, and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst. Six state representatives also participated in an evening reception sponsored by Methodist at THA headquarters.

"Given that Medicare and Medicaid as federal and state administered programs are substantial

payer relationships for hospitals and physicians, it is vitally important that hospital and health system boards and executives be involved in providing feedback to legislators about the impact of proposed changes to either of those programs," says Dr. Mansfield. "Given that per THA statistics, Texas Medicaid currently reimburses only about 60 cents on the dollar of hospital costs, further reduction in Medicaid reimbursement can only further compromise the level of care available for those with Medicaid as well as the services available from the state's safety net hospitals like Methodist."

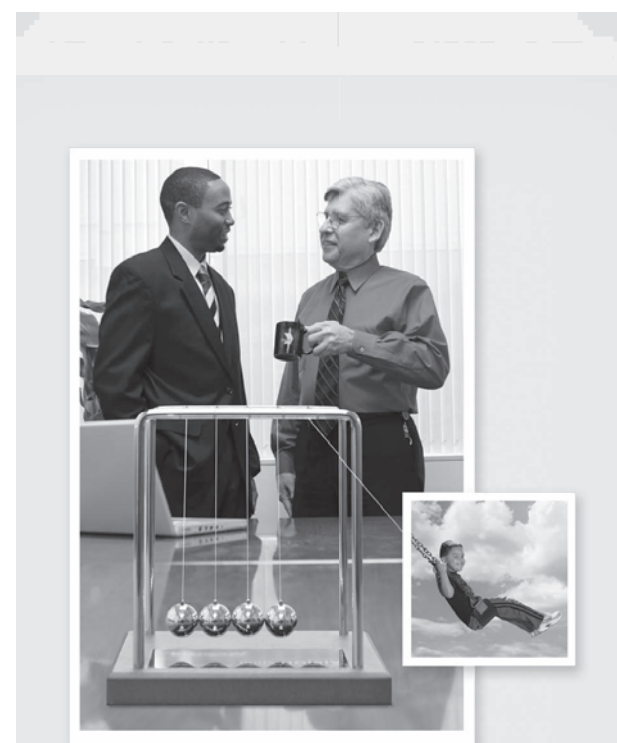
Discussions with legislators emphasized (1) working to insure that federal matching dollars set aside for Texas hospitals

and physicians in Washington were not left unclaimed when they are desperately needed here, to support North Texas' largest safety net hospitals recoup some of their Medicaid losses; and (2) consideration of tapping some of the state's "rainy day fund" to mitigate the size of the state budget deficit.

"Even if we do all of that, the state's hospitals and physicians will still have to do some serious belt-tightening in order to keep the Medicaid program viable but we at Methodist will step up and do our part," says Dr. Mansfield. "Ultimately, we have to evolve the Medicaid program to one that is more prevention and wellness focused as opposed to treatment focused, but that takes time. During the transition from

here to there, our state's safety net hospitals need our legislators to do all they can to support Medicaid financing. That was our message in Austin and it was one that seemed to be generally well-received."

Methodist leaders and advocates participating in the trip included senior executive management, vice presidents and staff, board members, and community leaders who visited the Capitol to talk about how proposed state Medicaid funding cuts would adversely affect Methodist and others crucial to health care safety networks for Texans. THA President Dan Stultz indicated that the Methodist group made very effective presentations to state lawmakers facing critical challenges on budget cut issues.



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Junior Olympic Fencing in Dallas

(NDG Wire) From Feb. 18-21, the Dallas Convention Center will host a few of the continent's finest athletes at the 2011 Junior Olympic Fencing Championships. The Junior Olympics will be one of the premier events in U.S. Fencing's season, at which World Champions will compete for the right to represent the U.S. team at Junior and Cadet World Championship competitions in the months to come.

This is an excellent opportunity to see some of the world's finest athletes competing in the original extreme sport.

More than 1,500 fencers will come to Dallas for the four days of competition. Events will be held in the Under-20 and Under-17 age categories in the six fencing weapons: men's and

women's foil, epee, and sabre. Athletes from the U.S., Canada and Europe will compete.

Top Locals: Dallas fencer Mona Shaito (16, Dallas, Texas/Fencing Inst. Texas) won the Under-17 (Cadet) Women's Foil event at the North American Cup held at the Dallas Convention Center just a few weeks ago, Jan. 14-18. Shaito also won the bronze in the Junior (under-20) Women's Foil event. This has been a great season so far for Shaito, who earned the bronze at the 2010 Junior Nationals and silver at the November 2010 Junior NAC held in Milwaukee. She also won silver at a European Cadet event in Germany this past November. She's now on the short list for the 2011 Junior World Championships team.

Erica Zhao (16, Plano, Texas/Dallas FC) won silver in the Junior Women's Saber event in Dallas in January. Zhao has recently had good results at World Cups, as well; Zhao won a European Cadet Cup in Germany on December 13. She is ranked seventh in the US Under-17 standings.

Both are hot contenders for spots on the team to the Junior & Cadet World Championships in Jordan in April. The Junior Olympics will be a final, critical competition in their attempt to reach this team.

All events will be free and open to the public. Competition starts Friday, Feb. 18. Fencing begins at 8:30 a.m. each morning, and will continue through the early evening. Local volunteers will be on hand to provide spectator information.

Free Texas Tax Prep is IRS-approved

(Texas News Service) Free tax prep with no strings attached. That's the offering at AARP Tax-Aide sites throughout Texas, where income taxes are prepared and filed by volunteers certified by the IRS. Those volunteers receive at least 80 hours of training and are re-certified every year. Some are retired accountants and executives, and others are accounting students getting hands-on experience.

Harold Wiggins has served as a Tax-Aide volunteer since 1997.

"I enjoy working with

numbers; I also enjoy helping the people out there. They really appreciate our help, and they need our help."

One tax break volunteers are trained to look for is the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). It's a refund for lower-income taxpayers.

IRS spokesman Richard Panick says EITC checks can range from a few hundred dollars to more than \$5,000.

"What we're seeing is folks in unusual economic circumstances, who perhaps in prior years weren't

eligible for the credit. But because of setbacks they may have suffered because of the economy, they may not know that they're now eligible."

Tax-Aide was created to help lower- and middle-income taxpayers with returns that aren't too complex. Taxpayers don't have to be an AARP member or senior citizen to use the free service.

Information on Tax-Aide office locations is available by calling 888-227-7669 or online at www.AARP.org.

Miracle Temple Fellowship Church extends to Garland

(NDG Wire) Miracle Temple Fellowship Church of Lancaster, TX has now opened an east location in Garland under the leadership of Pastors Fredrick and NiaCara Lawrence. Worship services take place Sundays at 12:30 p.m. and are held in the Days Inn

Garland Meeting Room. The address is 3645 Leon Rd., Garland.

Family Christian Education Night, a time for the whole family to learn more about the Word of God, is Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. MTFC East is a nondenominational ministry focused

on empowering all to become victorious by equipping believers to overcome obstacles and live a life of Godly freedom through the power of the Word of God.

For more information, email mtfchurch-east@hotmail.com.

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ing \$75,000 to the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (with \$25,000 of this allocated to Parents Step Ahead) and \$50,000 to UNCF (United Negro College Fund).

Representatives of the organizations, joined by prior scholarship winners from UNCF and HSF, received the donation on Wednesday, Feb. 2.

This is the latest in Anheuser-Busch's longtime support of the HSF and UNCF. The company has supported both organ-

izations for more than 25 years.

"The HSF and UNCF deliver support to students who need it the most — students who otherwise could not realize their dream of a college education," said Margarita Flores, vice president of community affairs at Anheuser-Busch and a member of the board of directors for HSF. "During the past three decades, tens of thousands of students have received an education because of Anheuser-Busch's support of these great organizations."

Parents Step Ahead is a Dallas non-profit with the mission of increasing parental involvement in the education of their children. The group will partner with the HSF to create a program in the Dallas area to help guide parents through the college preparation and financial aid process.

"Anheuser-Busch has partnered with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund for the last three decades, and their great support has helped more than 20,000 students earn a college degree," said

Frank Alvarez, president and CEO of the HSF. "We look forward to partnering with Parents Step Ahead to help parents in the Dallas area with college planning for their children."

Anheuser-Busch has been the largest corporate contributor in fundraising efforts for HSF, with the company and its 600 wholesalers nationwide contributing more than \$24 million since 1982.

"For many years Anheuser-Busch has supported UNCF's mission to help students of color get the college education they need and the nation needs them to have, and to nurture a whole new generation of good neighbors and civic leaders," said UNCF president and CEO Michael L. Lomax, Ph.D.

"Anheuser-Busch's commitment to education has helped all of us live up to the ideal expressed in UNCF's motto, 'A mind is a terrible thing to waste.'®"

The Anheuser-Busch Foundation contributed \$250,000 to UNCF for educational scholarships in 2010.

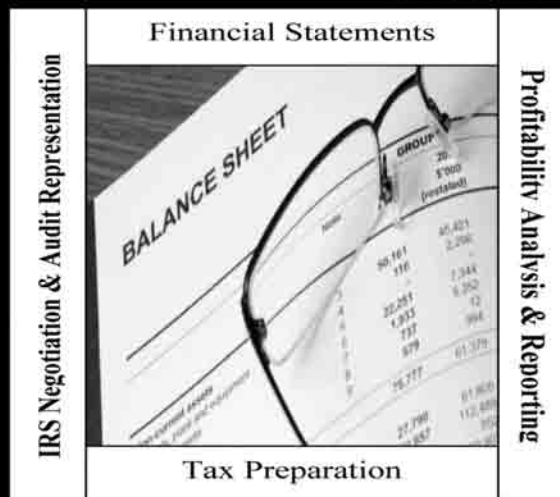
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Project Still I Rise hosting S.T.E.M. Empowerment Conference

(NDG Wire) The advent of technology and globalization in the new millennium makes it critical for students in the United States to have the educational foundation which prepares them to compete in the modern economy. There are many nationwide initiatives devised to inspire young people to cultivate an interest in science, technology, engineering and math that they need in order to become the problem solvers of tomorrow.

Statistically, the United States is currently falling behind in math and science (our students ranking 25th in math and 17th in science), with so many countries currently outpacing the US each year, including Finland, Hong Kong, China, Canada, Japan, France, Korea, New Zealand, Germany, UK, Australia, Belgium, Ireland, Sweden, Denmark (Source: The Programme for International Student Assessment, based on worldwide assessment of teens' math

and science literacy). For kids in middle school today in the US, by the time they enter the job market – it will be nearly impossible to succeed without a good foundation in math and science.

On Saturday, Feb. 19 join Project Still I Rise at the University of North Texas at Dallas campus as PSIR addresses issues related to S.T.E.M. [Science,

See RISE, Page 11

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2011 Annual Meeting & Community Report Card Luncheon

Friday, February 25, 2011
11:45 a.m.

Khmer Pavilion Ballroom
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Greater Dallas & North Central Texas



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Former MLB pitcher Andy Pettitte visits The Heights Feb. 6

By David Alvey

We all face uncertainties about the future. Ace New York Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte is no exception. On Feb. 6, Pettitte shared his feelings about retirement with members of The Heights Baptist Church in Richardson. It was his first public appearance since announcing his retirement from the New York Yankees.

Pettitte was invited to

speak by John Wills, executive pastor at The Heights. Wills was the chaplain for the Houston Astros when Pettitte spent several seasons there.

Pettitte told the crowd that last season after the Rangers defeated the Yankees to win the AL Championship Series, he turned to his wife Laura and said, "I think I'm done. God's just taken a bit of the desire away from me."



Dr. Gary Singleton, The Heights senior pastor; with Andy & Laura Pettitte; and John Wills, The Heights executive pastor

But during the off-season, when the Yankees failed to sign Cliff Lee, Pettitte felt pressure to return for one more year. "In my mind, I was going to play another season. But every time I'd go to call the Yankees to tell them I was coming back, I just couldn't do it. It just didn't feel right. I don't know why God didn't want me to play another year, but I just felt like it (retiring) was the right

thing to do."

Pettitte quoted Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

"God has plans for our lives," Pettitte said, "and it's a good plan. I know I have a purpose in my life and that's to serve God no

See HEIGHTS, Page 11



Dream Team from Prince of Catholic School include Brianna Hoelting, Avery Elliott, Blair Hatzmann, Annie McGinnis and Francesca Genera. Two girls who are part of their team but not pictured are Casey Doane and Katie Lund and their coach is Walt Doane.

First Dream Team selected

(NDG Wire) MetroPCS and the Texas Legends first "Dream Team" was the Prince of Peace Catholic School's Stars, the school's 8th grade basketball team and D1 Dallas Parochial League Division winners. The Prince of Peace Stars were recognized at the Texas Legends game on Friday, January 28.

TBAAL mourns loss of Hargrove

By Tonya Whitaker
NDG Staff Writer

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters (TBAAL) recently mourned the loss of one of its champions, Gwendolyn Hargrove.

The Dallas Morning News reported that Har-

grove, 64, was found dead in her home on Feb. 6. Services for Hargrove were held Feb. 12 at First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park in Richardson. A community memorial is scheduled for 5 p.m. on March 6 at the BAAL, lo-

See LOSS, Page 13



Yvonne Stewart

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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 Meetings 4th Thursday, 6:45 p.m. Northaven United Methodist Church, 11211 Preston Rd (between Forest & Royal Lanes).

Target Second Saturdays at Latino Cultural Center On the second Saturday of every month family-friendly activities celebrating Latino arts and culture. Come in for one hour, or stay the 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 March 8

The Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Center in Richardson, will host a painting collection of Lisa M. Cardenas **Metaphoric Landscapes: Then and Now** exhibition at in the Green Mezzanine-Gallery. www.eisemanncenter.com

Through March 26

The PDNB Gallery, 1202 Dragon St. in Dallas, will

host **Neil Leifer: For the Love of the Game**, every Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Photographs Do Not Bend Gallery. Leifer, a longtime *Sports Illustrated* photographer, showcases the greatest moments of professional sports since he began shooting pro football at the NFL Championship Game in 1978. The exhibit is free.

Through – March 11

Texas Sculpture Association's Annual Membership Exhibition at The Oak Cliff Cultural Center.

February 18

Crow Collection After Dark: Year of the Rabbit Celebration from 6 p.m. – midnight. Info: 214-979-6430 or visit crowcollection.org.

February 19

The city of Carrollton Parks and Recreation Department and the Carrollton Police Officers Association will host the annual **Daddy/Daughter Dance: Daddy's Little Angel** from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Creekview High School, 3201 Old Denton Road. All proceeds from the event benefit the Carrollton Police Officers Association, which assists police officers and their families in times of need and also supports community programs. Dinner will not be served. Visit carrolltondance.eventbrite.com or call 972-968-5438.

Cornerstone Baptist Church, 1819 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Dallas, will host **African American Read-in 2011** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Call 214-426-5468.

Skywarn severe weather program on from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Granville Arts Center in Garland. The event is free and open to the public.

African American Read-In from 11:00-1:30 at Cornerstone Baptist Church located at 1819 Martin Luther King Blvd in Dallas. Info: 214-426-5468.

Victory Covenant Community Ministry Valentine Ball at 7 p.m. at the Waxahachie Civic Center 2000 Civic Center Lane, Waxahachie, Texas 75165

February 19-20

The Home Improvement Show at the Dallas Convention Center. Meet the Experts, get ideas, see new products, attend informative seminars and win prizes. www.homeimprovement-shows.inc.com

February 20

The Family Symphony Sundays Series interactive concert **"Brass-a-Palooza"** will introduce patrons to the trumpet, French horn, trombone, and tuba The concert is at 3 p.m.; Pre-Concert Lobby Activities at 2 p.m. at the The Courtyard Theatre, 1509 Avenue H, Plano. Tickets are \$7 to \$11 order at www.planosymphony.org or 972-473-7262.

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/be-green, 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.

February 20

Black Arts Music/Film, Poetry & Steppin. Geno's Studio at 1805 Royal Lane Ste. 101, Dallas (near Luna Rd.).

Admission - \$5

February 21

Dallas Chapter of the **Real Estate Staging Association (RESA)** invites all professional stagers, real estate agents, and industry-related professionals in DFW at the "Egg and I" breakfast and lunch restaurant located in Addison, at 11:30 a.m. The topic will be Social Media 101. No membership dues required to enjoy the benefits of the RESA Dallas Chapter meetings however lunch is on your own.) A \$5 fee (limit 2 visits) is applied for non Realtors and non-RESA Dallas members who would like to attend. Seating is limited for this event.

The Dallas chapter of the **Real Estate Staging Association**, a member governed trade association for Home Stagers, will host the **Egg and I** breakfast and lunch restaurant in Addison, at 11:30 am on Feb. 21. Realtors in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex are welcome to join the RESA-Dallas Chapter for FREE. A \$5 fee (limit 2 visits) is applied for non Realtors and non-RESA Dallas members who would like to attend. www.realestategingassociation.com

February 24

Garland Mayor Ronald E. Jones will host his quarterly **Mayor's Evening Out** from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Hollabaugh Recreation Center located at 3925 W. Walnut Street, Garland.

Redazzle, a benefit for **Hope's Door**, Collin County's only battered women and children's shelter, will take place at 6 p.m. at The Cotton Mill, 610 Elm St. in McKinney. Cost is \$15. www.hopesdoorinc.org

February 25

The South Dallas Picture Show a free Senior Cinema

Program at 10 a.m. held at the South Dallas Cultural Center

February 26

The **Bridge Breast Network** will hold *Fly Away With the Bridge*, the organization's annual benefit, from 7 to 11 p.m. www.bridgebreast.org

March 3 – 6

Sesame Street Live "Elmo's Healthy Heroes" Verizon Theatre at Grand Prairie, 1001 Performance Place, Grand Prairie, TX 75050

March 5

UTA African American Alumni Association will honor the recipients of the **2011 Outstanding African American Alumni Award** at the Hilton Arlington, 2401 E. Lamar Blvd., in Arlington from 6 to 9 p.m. Honorees are Gary Bailey ('77), Rickey Rush ('82), and Loretta Hill ('93). Tickets are \$50. RSVP by Feb. 23. www.utablackalumni.com

March 6

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

March 12

The 1st 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.

April 17-24

Dr Pepper Dallas Cup XXXII Info: www.dallas-cup.com

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Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community

The annual Great 'I'm In Love' Search

James and Valder Beebe, married Valentine's Day 1985, are inspired to launch the annual Great "I'm In Love" Search for others who have stood before GOD and weathered the changes of life to embrace 'love and marriage.' They feel there are many who exemplify LOVE and MARRIAGE, and welcome your submissions for The 2012 Great Annual "I'm In Love"

The City of Garland Mayor Ronald and his wife Peggy were the winners selected for 2011. Meet the Beebes and a few of the couples from the 2011 contest as they share their story of love in their own words.

James and Valder Beebe



Photography-by-james.com

We love the power of love in our 26-year marriage journey. Believing that GOD is the greatest power (LOVE) we married Valentine's Day 1985. This once-in-a-lifetime union has been profiled in various magazines, including Essence Magazine, numerous newspapers and web sites. 2007, we were inducted in the National Black Marriage Hall of Fame. James, the romantic wrote our wedding vows: "I say these vows once and only once to thee. Be My Love, My Life, My Partner in Productivity (PIP Production)." As we have taken on the adventures of life, we have stood on the foundation of our belief in GOD; created four children; had 26 annual love celebrations; created our company, PIP Production; managed our individual careers and shared our collective paths of success as husband and wife and a family.

Each couple profiled in The 2012 Great Annual "I'm In Love" Search exemplifies the power of being in love and being married, as they have committed before GOD, each other and society.

I take you to be my beloved, to love GOD, you and our family. To honor you, to treasure you, to be at your side in the good times, and in the bad, and to love and cherish you always. I promise you this from my heart and soul, for all the days of my life.



Photo by Gregory Hamilton

Mayor Ronald and Peggy Jones

During our 44 years of marriage, we can truly say that I Corinthians 13:4-7 has been our model. Love is patient, love is kind, and is not jealous...

We have found marriage to be like a stew that is blended and simmered over a lifetime. Our "marriage stew" has the components of love, respect, trust, adoration, communication and commitment. All of these components are important, but the key ingredient is commitment. You must be committed to Christ, committed to each other, and committed to the marriage.

Selfless love is what we share and we are best friends. We enjoy being together and doing things together. Our joy



is making sure that each other's needs are met while encouraging, affirming and supporting each other as we fulfill God's purpose for our lives. We are thankful to God for this perfect union, for he has sustained us through the vicissitudes of life. Knowing that God is love helps us know how to sacrifice, forgive, comfort and care for each other. We feel truly blessed that God ordained the marriage that we both dreamed about. And, we are doubly blessed that He has sustained our marriage by giving us two sons, two daughters-in-law, and eight grandchildren. We are as much in love today as the day we got married.

Bob & Sylvia Klinger

We will celebrate 20 years of marriage on June 11, 2011. We pray together frequently during the day, and we compliment each other often. We respect each other at all times and

say, "I love you" a lot. We communicate constantly – it's like having a lifeline between us. We admire each other very much. We both love the Lord and each other with all our heart, spirit and body.

Ray & Pamela Baker

My husband, Ray, and I met 30 years ago at a Martin Luther King Day church program. He played the sax and I read a poem. It was in my first year of college at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, and he was a Manhattan native home for the weekend. We had a long-distance relationship during that time, and we would write each other about every week. After two years, we decided we really liked each other and married in 1983. My husband is a music producer,



jazz sax player and pianist. We perform and co-write contemporary Christian and jazz music. In 1994 my husband produced one of his first jazz CDs called Sweet Honey. He dedicated the CD to me because my name, Pamela, means, "all honey." My husband and I minister to couples in prison during weekend marriage retreats a couple of times a year. We have been married for 27 years and can truly say that we love being with each other.

Keith & Lorraine Brock

My husband and I are an all-American couple. Ours is a modern love story entwined with an old-fashioned fairy tale. Our parents have each been married to the same person for over fifty years and have mirrored for us what lasting commitment looks like. Married before we had children, I was a teenage bride who adored her husband, and still does almost 23 years later. We still enjoy date nights, late night rendezvous in the hot tub, and a marriage that is envied by many.

First and foremost, the reason for the success of our marriage is the undying truths that are held in God's word (The



Bible). These truths on how a committed relationship is to work and function has given our marriage a firm foundation on which to stand.

Search at ValderBeebeShow.com, click on E-Mail Valder and submit your great love story to win the 2012 Great Annual "I'm In Love" contest.

February 18

Kem, El DeBarge and Ledisi to perform at the Verizon Theatre in Grand Prairie. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show begins at 8. www.verizontheatre.com



Sergeant Major Paul Allen

February 18 and February 19 **George C. Wolfe's *The Colored Museum*** comes to **The Black Academy of Arts and Letters**, Room T-314 at the Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex, corner of Canton and Akard streets in Dallas. Friday's showing at 8 p.m. Saturday's shows are 3 and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15. www.7thstageproductions.org.

February 19

The Canadian Brass will perform at the Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive in Richardson at 8 p.m. www.eisemanncenter.com

[eisemanncenter.com](http://www.eisemanncenter.com)

February 20

A Nappy Hair Affair will host the **Gil Scott-Heron** and his **Amnesia Express-Paris** concert at the **Geno's Studio 1805** Royal Lane in Dallas from 2 to 5 p.m. Admission is \$5. Bring poetry from the Black Arts movement for the open mic. www.nappyhairaffair.com

February 20

The **Plano Symphony Orchestra** presents the final concert of Family Fun Sundays series with **Brass-a-Palooza**. The concert will begin at 3 p.m. at the Courtyard Theatre, 1509 Avenue H, in historic downtown Plano. Tickets for the event range from \$7 to \$11. To make a reservation, call the Plano Symphony Ticket Office at 972-473-7262. Tickets may be purchased online by visiting www.planosymphony.org.

February 23-February 27

Want some Marvin Gaye? How about a little Ray Charles? The Dallas Black Dance Theatre will host a Cultural Awareness Series to include... **And Now Marvin, Smoke and the spiritual suite Beams from Heaven** at the

'Round about DFW

Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St., in Dallas. Tickets are available at www.dbdt.com or by calling 214-880-0202.

February 23

The **Irving Black Arts Council** will host a one-hour program highlighting African Americans who fought in the Civil War at 7 p.m. in the Dupree Theatre at the center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. in Irving. The event is free. Youth from Ben Washington Baptist Church and Irving's Universal Academy will be in attendance.

February 24

Sergeant Major Paul Allen will discuss the history of the **Buffalo Soldiers** and will lead in drill reenactments of the African American U.S. Army unit at the Allen Library, 300 N. Allen Drive in Allen. Call 214-509-4911.

February 25

The hit stage play ***She's Your Sister*** will take place at 8 p.m. at Friendship-West Baptist Church, 2020 W. Wheatland Road in Dallas. Doors open at 7 p.m. The show features Fred Hammond and Tony Grant

(*Why Did I Get Married?*). www.friendship-west.com

February 26

Royal Comedy Tour with **Sommore, Bruce Bruce and D.L. Hughley** and more is coming to Verizon Theatre in

Grand Prairie at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$75. www.verizontheatre.com.

March 2

The Queen of Motown, **Diana Ross**, will perform at the Majestic Theatre in Dallas at 8

p.m. www.ticketmaster.com

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



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Competitors shown are subject to change.

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Tale of Lena Baker a tearful reminder of where we've been, how far we've come

By Tonya Whitaker
NDG Staff Writer

Lena Baker might not ring a bell with most of you, but by the time you read this piece you never forget her heart-wrenching story.



Mug shot of Lena Baker taken after police apprehend her for the murder of Elliot Arthur in 1944.

Baker was one of the many victims of the racial in-

See **BAKER**, Page 12

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Johnson Products Company featured in Walgreens Community Corner Initiative during Black History Month

(NDG Wire) Johnson Products Company, Inc. (JPC) is one of this year's minority-owned companies selected to be featured in Walgreens Community Corner program during Black History Month. As a

program participant, JPC and all of its beauty products that are sold at Walgreens stores will be featured all month long in select Walgreens locations across the country.

"We at Johnson Prod-

ucts Company are very excited to be a part of Walgreens Community Corner program that honors Black History Month," said Eric Brown, CEO of Johnson Products Company. "Their dedicated effort to support

minority-and-women owned businesses is commendable and we hope the program will continue to raise awareness amongst its consumers and the JPC consumer about the importance of supporting entre-

preneurs of color."

Walgreens launched Community Corner last year. The program allows Walgreens consumers to easily identify products by diverse vendors through displays, in-store signage

and announcements, national print and radio advertisements, in-store product demonstrations and a new "Community Corner" sticker that will be placed on each featured item.

Local businesses support 'Lucky U Home Giveaway'

(NDG Wire) Local North Texas businesses are showing their support for Mane-Gait by donating their services and providing products as part of the "Lucky U Home Giveaway." Mane-Gait is a non-profit organization providing therapeutic riding lessons for children and adults with physical, cognitive, sensory, emotional and learning disabilities.

One lucky North Texan will win a Darling Home in the Prosper community of Whitley Place. The home has an estimated value of \$370,000 and is approximately 2,900 square feet. Whitley Place community amenities include a greenbelt/park area, community pool, lake pavilion and walking trails.

Within the building community, several companies have embraced the "Lucky U Home Giveaway" as a significant way to give back to their community. These

sponsors include **Chandler Cabinets**, based in Pilot Point, this family-owned custom cabinet company serves the resident home building industry throughout Dallas/Fort Worth; **Stereo East** located in Frisco; **Independent Bank** in McKinney, Celina and Prosper and many others.

Other local businesses donating products and services include Market Street (early bird prize of 52 weeks of groceries), AG-Power, Allen Americans, Cindy & Saylor Photographers, Griffin Jewelry, Lee Lighting, Patina Green Home & Market, Prosper Pet Clinic, Rick's Chop House, and Royal Windows, Inc.

Tickets to register for a chance to win the Darling Homes "Lucky U" home are \$100 and are available now through April 5. Tickets can be reserved at www.LuckyUHomeGiveaway.com or by calling 1-888-71-

TICKETS (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST). Tickets can also be reserved at the "Lucky U Home Giveaway" home located at 820 Butchart in Prosper, Texas during open house tour dates slated for the weekends of March 18-20, 25-27 and April 1-3.

In addition to being entered into the home giveaway drawing, ticket holders are automatically registered for chances to win a variety of prizes ranging from dinner for two each month for one year to a three hour sailing trip on Lake Lewisville to 52 weeks of free groceries.

The "Lucky U" home giveaway drawing will be held at a special broadcast on KTVT CBS Channel 11 on April 12, 2011. Only 10,000 tickets will be sold for this home giveaway. Details, terms and conditions are also available at www.LuckyUHomeGiveaway.com.

HEIGHTS, continued from Page 7

matter what. But for the first time in a very long time my purpose wasn't to get ready for a baseball season."

Pettitte also said God had given him a special verse about 10 years ago that guided his career and his personal life: 1 Peter 4:11, "If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so

that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."

"I wanted to honor God in everything I did," said Pettitte. "I wanted to be great. But I wanted to be great for Him."

During his 20 year Major League Baseball career, Pettitte pitched 2,251 strikeouts with a career ERA of 3.88. He earned five World Series rings, 240 wins, and never had a losing season.

The complete interview between John Wills and Andy Pettitte, plus Dr. Gary Singleton's message "God Looks at the Heart," is available as a podcast at <http://www.truthcasting.com/player.aspx#showChannel=6>

The Heights is located at 201 W. Renner Road and U.S. 75 in Richardson. More information is available at <http://www.theheights.org>.

RISE, continued from Page 6

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF MCKINNEY ANNOUNCES COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR PLAN ADOPTION

Public Hearing Date: Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Time: 5:15pm

Place: McKinney Housing Authority

Community Center; 200 N. Tennessee Street; McKinney, Texas 75069

In accordance with Sec. 903.17 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the McKinney Housing Authority Five Year/Annual Plan to be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will be available through the public comment period. The Public Hearing for adoption of the final Plan will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at 5:15pm.

For further information, please call 972-542-5641, ext. 14.

Technology, Engineering and Math] in the Greater Dallas community, kicking off National Engineering Week. We are creating a dialogue amongst administrators, teachers, middle-school students, as well as S.T.E.M. professionals and other influential members of our intellectual community to discuss the importance and criticality of S.T.E.M. and how it will impact generations to come.

The event begins at 9 a.m. and will kick-off with an open forum discussion on S.T.E.M. with featured panelists from Texas Instruments, Rockwell-Collins, Cisco Systems as well as college students, followed by a presentation on technology by Desmond Brand. In the afternoon session, 30-minute workshops centered on math, science, and engineering will be open to the public to engage students, parents and community mentors on why S.T.E.M. is pivotal to their success. The conference will end promptly at 2pm with closing remarks from Kevin Mondy, Executive Program Director of PSIR.



The Collin County Governmental Purchasers Forum

Cordially invites you to the:

19th ANNUAL VENDOR FAIR ON FEBRUARY 23, 2011

12:00 – 3:00 P.M.

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PLANO, TX 75074

FOLLOW SIGNS TO THE CONFERENCE CENTER

PARKING ON THE NE CORNER

Meet purchasing professionals from Collin County Government entities and School Districts.

A presentation on "How to do Business with Government Entities" will begin at noon

followed by an open fair to meet with the various purchasing offices.

CLARK, continued from Page 2

Baylor Hospital Tom Landry Fitness Center; Dallas City Planning Commissioner for District Seven; Charter member of the African American Hall of Fame and a member of the Urban League of Greater Dallas. His many awards include an auditorium named in his honor at Roosevelt High School and the Texas School Improvement Initiative Award. He is a member of the Porter Temple C.M. E. Methodist Church and has been married to Jeffie D. Traylor for 42 years. They have one

son, Dwayne R. Traylor.

Verna George Brown Mitchell is a Dallas native and a graduate of Lincoln High School. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology and History from Huston Tillotson College, now Huston-Tillotson University and received a Master of Arts degree in Mid-Management from Prairie View A & M University. She also holds certifications in teaching, counseling, supervision and Reality Therapy.

During her 35 years of service in the Dallas Inde-

pendent School District, she held numerous positions including teacher, facilitator, specialist, assistant principal and principal.

Since her retirement she has served as Executive Director/Principal of Mt. Hebron Christian Academy and Principal of Dallas Can Academy - Ross Avenue Campus. Most recently she has studied at Harvard University' Principal's Institute and served on the State of Texas Textbook Panel.

She is active in her community participating in many professional, civic,

social and religious organizations including Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Trinity Chapter, The Links Inc., member of the African American Museum Board of Directors, volunteer at the Dallas Black Dance

Theatre and the Southwest Transplant Alliance. She is a member of Friendship West Baptist Church. Mitchell is married to William Mitchell and they are the parents of Jimmy, Byron and Bethany.

"This year's Legacy honorees will pass their legacy torch to the next generation of individuals who made achievements in their profession and contribute to the community," said Dr. Mitchell Brooks.

BAKER, continued from Page 10

justice prevalent in the court system before the Civil Rights Movement, and, just in time for Black History Month, her story is available for all to see on DVD.

Hope and Redemption: The Lena Baker Story is a heart-wrenching docudrama based on the true story of an impoverished black woman's struggles in Cuthbert, Ga. Lena Baker (played convincingly by Tichina Arnold of *Everybody Hates Chris* and *Martin* fame) was convicted of murdering her abusive, white employer, Elliot Arthur (Peter Coyote). Although the shooting was an accident, the facts of the case were not properly presented. Even if the facts were laid out during the trial, she did not have a chance in the trial - a jury of 12 white men tried her.

The trial and deliberations lasted four hours. She was sentenced to death by electrocution in Georgia, the only woman ever put to death by electrocution in Georgia. Lena Baker, the mother of three children, was just 44 years old when she died in 1945.

Lena Baker's story did not end with her unjust death. In 2005, 60 years after her execution, the Georgia Pardon and Parole Board granted a posthumous pardon, ruling that a "grievous error" occurred when she was denied clemency.

"I believe she's somewhere around God's throne and can look down and smile," said Lena Baker's grand-nephew Roosevelt Curry.

Lena Baker's redemption continued on Jan. 12 when a

headstone dedication was held at the Mount Vernon Baptist Church in Cuthbert, Ga., where Lena Baker worshipped.

The mother-daughter dynamic of the movie was significant to Baker coming to



Tichina Arnold as Lena Baker is taken away to jail after being found guilty of capital murder in the movie, *Hope and Redemption: The Lena Baker Story*.

terms with the cards she was dealt. Despite Lena's previous arrest for prostitution and Lena's decision to continue to work for Arthur despite his mistreatment, Lena Baker's mother, Annie Baker (Beverly Todd), placed all in God's hands and stood by her. Their relationship is the ultimate display of a mother's unwavering love for her offspring.

"This movie is a powerful piece. People today can learn from Lena Baker's struggle

and stories," Arnold told Fox 5 in Atlanta last March days before the theatrical screening of the movie. When this movie was premiered, there is not a dry eye in the house."

Arnold's comments were oh-so true. As I watched the movie, I fought back tears as I thought about the hardships of a single mother supporting her mother the best she could. Also, Lena Baker, who was a churchgoing girl as a child, got hooked up with the wrong people as a young adult. But, she tried as hard as she could to get back on track after serving time for sleeping with a

white man (prostitution was supposed to be the real crime). Then, in the end, only to become a pawn for the hatred that existed in the United States during this time. Lena Baker accepted her punishment, and stood strong until the end. In her death, she gives us all hope and something to ponder.

The Lena Baker Story was directed by Ralph Wilcox. The movie is rated PG-13 and runs 106 minutes.

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LOSS, continued from Page 7

cated at the corner of Akard and Canton streets.

Hargrove was born in Oakdale, La., in 1946. In 1964, she graduated from Allen High School in Oakdale. According to The Dallas Morning News, Hargrove earned a bachelor's degree from Southern Methodist University.

She worked for the city of Dallas in the Park and Recreation Department for more than 20 years before joining the staff of The Junior Black Academy of Arts and Letters as a full-time em-



Gwendolyn Hargrove

ployee in 1994. During her time at JBAAL, later be-

named TBAAL, Hargrove assumed the post of director of operations with unparalleled zeal and enthusiasm. She worked on such nationally recognized productions as the Dallas Arts Gala and the Black Music and The Civil Rights Movement series of concerts.

In 2008, she stepped down from her full-time position at TBAAL and went into semi-retirement. However, not ready or willing to

walk away from the institution, she began serving in the part-time capacity as volunteer coordinator.

Dallas' Erykah Badu, who was Hargrove's goddaughter, has announced that a fund is being established in honor of the memory of Hargrove that will provide opportunities for children pursuing a life in the arts. Donations can be made in lieu of flowers to Beautiful Love Inc., and mailed to: 1409 South Lamar, #004, Dallas, Texas, 75218.

Dallas Bar Association to host economy forum

(NDG Wire) – The public is invited to a forum discussion on the economy. The one-hour discussion will be held on Thursday, Feb. 24, and will focus on topics and trends related to the local, state and national economy.

Speakers for the event include:

• Jason Saving, Senior Research Economist and advisor at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

• Terry Clower, director of the Center for Economic Development and Research at the University of North Texas. The center provides economic and public policy consulting services to clients in the private, non-profit, and public

sectors

• Charles Dannis, president of Crosson Dannis Inc., a real estate valuation and consultation company

• Brendan Case, moderator for this forum, is a Texas economy and financial reporter at The Dallas Morning News

The forum will begin promptly at noon at the Pavilion at the Belo Mansion, 2101 Ross Ave. in downtown Dallas (garage parking available; enter from Olive Street). The event is free. An optional \$13 lunch buffet will begin at 11:30 a.m.

Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP to sevens@dallasbar.org so adequate seating is available.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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: Fort Worth

Contract 0094-08-006 for EROSION CONTROL in TARRANT County will be opened on March 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: 35604

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

Dist/Div Office(s)
Fort Worth District | District Engineer
2501 Southwest LP820 | Ft Worth, Texas 76133
Phone: 817-370-6500

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.



Texas Department of Public Safety

Is currently accepting
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Minimum Qualifications:
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**AVENUE F CHURCH
OF CHRIST IN PLANO**

February 17, 12 Noon
Join us for a "Between Jobs Support Group" meeting at the Christian Works for Children, 6320 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX 75240. Call 972-960-9981 to register.

**February 27, After
Worship Services**
Come for our Worship Services and stay for our FREE Blood Pressure Clinic.
**Brother Ramon Hodridge,
Minister**
1026 Avenue F
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8833
www.avefchurchofchrist.org

**DAYSTAR
DELIVERANCE
MINISTRIES**

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-away 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**

On Going
You're invited to our Wednesday Bible Study at 7:45 p.m.

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

**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: prayerline@theship3c.org

On Going, 7 p.m.
Wednesday Night Live at our Administration Building in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall on Belmont Drive.
**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
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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

**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**

February 27, 3:30 p.m.
Our Youth Department will present "Continuing to Press toward the Mark" a celebration of African American History. They will feature exciting drama with uplifting musical selections entitled: "Who Am I? . . . A Journey of Self Discovery."

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 at-

tend 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
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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.

On Going
Wednesday Evenings
Youth Living in the Word at 6:30 p.m.; Worship and Prayer Service at 6:30 p.m. and Bible Study at 7:40 p.m.

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

**PROFESSIONAL
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February 20, 4 p.m.
PACE, in partnership with the Carrollton Library at Josey

Ranch at 1700 Keller Springs Road in Carrollton will host its "Annual Read In." Come hear the 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.
**Dr. Charles Wattley
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

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

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.

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

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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.

February 26, 6 p.m.

Join us as we partnership with Christ Community Connection, Inc. and host a city-wide Black History Celebration at our church honoring history makers of Carrollton and Black history makers worldwide.

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

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



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9:30 AM

Wednesday Night
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Sister Tarpley

The story of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, Father of Black History (December 1875 – April 1950), it is a captivating and inspiration story in itself.

In 1915, Dr. Woodson and the Rev. Jesse E. Moorland co-founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH.) Their goal was to research and bring awareness to the largely ignored, yet crucial role Black people played in America's and world history.

The following year, Dr. Woodson published and distributed his findings in The Journal of Negro History with the hope of that it would dispel popular mistruths; he also hoped to educate Black people about their cultural background and instill them with a sense of pride in their race.

The son of former slaves and the 2nd Black person to

receive a degree from Harvard University; he understood the value of education and the importance of preserving one's heritage

Dr. Woodson said, "Those who have no record of what their forebears have accomplished lose the inspiration which comes from the teaching of biography and history." Dr. Woodson, a distinguished Black author, editor, publisher, and historian put his money, life, blood, sweat and tears in establishing Black History Week, (in the 1960s it was established as Black History MONTH) he believed that Blacks should know their past in order to participate intelligently in the affairs in our country. He strongly believed that Black history—which others (even some Black Americans) have tried so diligently to erase—is a firm foundation for young Black Americans to build on

in order to become productive citizens of our society.

Dr. Woodson often said that he hoped the time would come when Negro History Week would be unnecessary; when all Americans would willingly recognize the contributions of Black Americans as a legitimate and integral part of the history of this country. His concept has given a profound sense of dignity to all Black Americans; and we must not forget it! Nor should we stop Black History Month.

Remember, this is not just Black History that we are celebrating; not just America's history, but world history. There are many great and useful inventions that are being used worldwide that are taken for granted that were invented by Black Americans. **Henry T. Sampson** in 1971 invented the **cellular phone**; how many cell phones do you see in use

today? On a trip to Hong Kong, China, it seems that everybody was talking on a cell phone. I asked one tour bus guide if she used her house phone as much as she formerly did before she purchased her cell phone, she told me that very few people had house phones now; the majority of people only use cell phones and now, to me, in America, the young people only use cell phones, you can do the same thing with a cell phone as you can a regular PC. **Dr. Philip Emeagwali**, considered a "father of the Internet" by many individuals, including former President Bill Clinton, helped give birth to the "supercomputer" the technology that spawned the Internet, **Otis Boykin** invented more than 25 electronic devices that are used in **computers and guided missiles** today. **Frederick M. Jones** on February 23, 1960 invented the **Thermostat**

Black History program in Carrollton

Word of Life Church of God In Christ in partnership with Christ Community Connection, Inc. in Carrollton will host a Black History Celebration on Saturday, Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. The affair will celebrate outstanding African Americans' accomplishments and contributions world-wide, and will reflect on former Black warriors of Carrollton from the 1800s to the present.

The church is located at 2765 Trinity Mills Road, Building 300 in Carrollton. For more information call 972-416-5300 or the Rev. Willie Rainwater at 972-242-0933.

Control. P. Johnson on November 2, 1880 invented the **Eye Protector**.

How many industries that are vital to America's success have been profoundly influenced by the contributions of Black Inventors?

There is an endless list of contributions by Black people in America. We would not have many agriculture and automobiles products; and communications as we know it. Thank God for **Black History Month**.

CAMP, continued from Page 4

children come to camp after showing behavior problems at school or a hesitancy to be away from the remaining parent. Others simply become more quiet and reserved.

Qualified staff and volunteers are carefully screened and trained in the grief process. They spend time getting to know each child. "Their stories break your heart, but it's easy to become attached to the

kids," said one volunteer.

When parents or guardians arrive on Sunday, they learn more about how to help their children in an informative session hosted by Senek and Lindsey. It is sometimes surprising to discover that, after the death of one parent, children may become especially protective of the remaining parent. One mother, whose son attended camp, realized that she was

so caught up in her own pain that she didn't give enough attention to his grieving. Many parents want to know if a child's behavior is normal.

Adults, like their children, leave camp with effective coping skills and new friends. "We tell them that although losing a loved one is horrific, the rest of their lives don't have to be," said Lindsey.

The camp is held twice

a year. "October's Camp Dragonfly was an extremely powerful experience," said Lindsey. "It was an honor to watch the children arrive at the camp, unsure and somewhat lost, and then to leave as part of a unified group, no longer alone, but with others to share their journey as none had before."

Cost of the camp is \$25. Scholarships are available. Children need not be

Grayson County residents to participate. For more information call 888-233-7455.

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

Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
The Rock
Still standing.... Est. June 1864
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

Avenue F Church of Christ
1026 Avenue F • Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8833
www.avefchurchofchrist.org

Early Sunday Morning 8:00 am
Sunday Bible Class 9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 am
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Red Cross seeks blood donations

University of North Texas at Dallas freshman Chelsie Jamerson watches as Red Cross phlebotomist Michael Latimer inserts a needle in her arm to draw blood during the blood drive Feb. 15.

(NDG Wire) Students and staff at the nation's newest university rolled up their sleeves Tuesday to give the gift of life.

The Red Cross set up a donation site at the University of North Texas at Dallas on Feb. 15 and was hoping 25 students and staff would come to donate.

As Information Technology Services Coordinator Angela Mosley waited for the

needle stick, she said she was giving because she had heard there was a nationwide shortage.

"I know that my little pint will help someone. I'm a little bit uneasy about the pain that I'm going to feel, but the pain is well worth it to help save someone else's life."

Louis Mancuso, donor recruitment representative with the Red Cross, said supplies are very low.

"The winter weather of



2011 has caused us nationally to cancel many many drives. We are over 25,000 units short of what we should have at this point. We're doing as much as we can to raise awareness and participation levels in the Dallas area as well as nationwide."

Araceli Romero, a senior

at UNT Dallas, said she has donated blood and volunteered with the Red Cross since high school.

"I think it's a good thing to do because you never know who might need the blood. It may be a your relative, it could be someone you really love. Knowing that you can do it just one time and could save a life really motivates me, and I want to be a teacher, and I know this also helps kids."

Go to www.redcross-blood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS for directions to the closest blood drive site. Mancuso said the Red Cross currently is holding blood drives seven days a week.

MUSIC, continued from Page 1

found lyrics describing civil rights marches and demonstrations in Texas and Tennessee, as well as graphic descriptions of violence in Atlanta, Birmingham, and Chicago.

Even radio stations that played gospel music at the time would have only paid

attention to the "A" sides of the records. Darden explains these records were commonly sold in furniture and grocery stores in Black communities throughout the South to reach their target audiences.

"So on the 'B' sides, they could really indulge what

was passionate to them. Every day, I'm just surprised about how straightforward and frank some of the messages are."

The project is being highlighted for February's Black History Month. Darden is looking for other vintage gospel recordings to

add to the research. The school's project pays all shipping costs, and returns the recordings along with digitized copies.

A few of the vintage gospel recordings, as well as samples of other songs, are online at www.baylor.edu/itunes.

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Senior Pastor

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9:00 am Sunday School

Monday Service
Men's Ministry 7:00 pm
Women's Ministry 7:00 pm
Young Adult Ministry 7:00 pm

Wednesday Service
Intercessory Prayer 6:15 pm
Bible Study 7:00 pm

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Sunday School
9:30 am

Wednesday Night Service
8:00 pm

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