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McKinney author addresses turmoil among God's people

NDG Staff Writer

McKinney native Joveeta Seals was once the talk of the town. Approximately 20 years ago, she received the calling to bring the unchurched to Christ by organizing a youth choir. To the normal eye, her mission should have earned applauds. However, some of her own Christian warriors had a problem with her actions. "He calls us to be ambas-



sadors in Christ," Seals said.

"I still did it because God called me to do it. The devil was trying to use people I knew to bring me down. The devil will use the spiritually immature to block your progress. You cannot let friendly fire deter you from what you have to do."

"As I was praying one day in the spirit I heard these words, 'Tell my people they are fighting in the wrong battles and losing the war.' This is my attempt to obey the voice of the Holy Spirit," Seals adds.

Stories like these compelled Seals to write her first book, Friendly Fire: Fighting in the Battle and Losing The War. The author said too often Christians – regardless of denomination - get too

See TURMOIL, Page 12

Local churches reach out via social media

By Stephanie Ward NDG Special Contributor

Social media has made its way into the local pulpits with pastors twittering, friending, posting and blogging. Some see Facebook and other social media sites as the new mission field while others look on with guarded optimism saying

that it could get in the way of authentic relationships.

Larry Williams, pastor of Dallas Ave. church of Christ, is new to social media but can see where the possibilities are limitless. So far, he spends about one hour a week managing his 90-friend Facebook page.

"When I started, I

thought that social media would be an avenue that the Lord would approve of." Currently, most of the people on his Facebook page are members of his small south Dallas congregation. He uses social media to share information to members who

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Find out how to win a free Amtrak ticket at Facebook.com/ **NorthDallasGazette**

Ford says 2010 goal was exceeded for spending with minority, women businesses

announced today that it exceeded its supplier diversity sourcing goals by goods and services from

minoritynesses

"Ford Motor Company takes very seriously its ing and growing a diverse supply base," said Tony Brown, group vice president, Global Purchasing. "These companies offer a

Congressional Black Caucus celebrates 40th anniversal



The Congressional Black Caucus work to keep the issues of African American in the forefront.

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New Boyz release second album

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

Consumer **Financial Protection Bureau under assault**

By Charlene Crowell Less than a year ago, President Barack Obama signed into law the bipartisan Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), a cornerstone of this historic law was created to streamline financial consumer protection regulations and prevent financial crises like the Great Recession from recurring. CFPB is a single new agency whose sole purpose is to protect consumers from the types of abusive, unfair lending practices that sparked the current financial crisis.

Now, as the new agency prepares to begin operating this July, some on Capitol Hill are working to undermine it. The House and Senate are considering a variety of bills that together would fundamentally weaken the integrity and independence of the CFPB. These bills would do the following:

· Allow bank regulators the ability to veto the

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Ford Motor Company The increase from \$2.7 In addition, Ford's tiercommitment to develop-

purchasing \$4.1 billion in its tier-one minority- and women-owned business enterprises in 2010.

billion in 2009 reflects higher vehicle production volumes, expanded sourcing to existing suppliers and the addition of several new and women-owned busi-

one suppliers spent \$1.29 billion with tier-two minority- and women-owned businesses in 2010, an increase from \$1.02 billion in 2009.

wealth of innovation, and

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People In The News...



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Delia Jasso



Coquese Washington

People in the News www.NorthDallasGazette.com

Deborah Owens

How did five women pay off \$30,000 in debt and jump-start their savings in less than a year? Their inspiring story is featured on a national news segment and told in the May issue of Essence Magazine.

Essence joins the growing list of publications to profile author and wealth coach Deborah Owens and her dynamic campaign to empower one million women with financial literacy

The Baltimore based radio talk show host and sought after public speaker is

featured along with the Women of Purseistence, one of the Purse Groups inspired by Owens' effort to teach women how to build wealth.

Learn how Deborah's 7 Wealthy Habits, taken from her latest book *A Purse of Your Own* by Simon and Schuster, are transforming women's lives as they form Purse Groups and take control of their finances. "Purse Groups of five to ten women work because each step of the way these women are holding each other accountable," says



Owens. "Nine out of ten women are going to be responsible for their own finances which is why it is crit-

ical they create a purse of their own. The journey to financial freedom is a lot easier when someone you know and trust is taking the trip with you. "

Owens would be delighted to show your viewers how to form their own Purse Group, and can discuss:

* Why African American women must trade in their counterfeit purses that have less than \$2 in

* How they can use their shopping prowess to fill up their purses and build wealth * What every women can do to break the patterns that sabotage financial success.

* What women can do right now to find the money to save and invest

The Purse Groups are tracked and supported by an online community. Women can log onto the http://apurse-ofyourown.com the Purse Community website, share their experiences on the road to financial freedom, and get smart money advice from Owens.

Deborah Owens is also the author of *Confident In*vesting and *Nickel and Dime* a former Vice President at Fidelity Investments. She is a twenty-year veteran of the financial services industry and a sought after speaker who has spoken to more than 100,000 people. Owens is on a mission to help people of all incomes build wealth. Her Financial Fitness column appears in Cents Magazine, an American Airlines publication. Owens has also been featured on CNN, ABC, The Washington Post and Shape Magazine. For more information visit www.deborahowens.com

Your Way to Wealth. Owens is

Delia Jasso

The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future, announces the recipients of the 34st Annual Maura Women Helping Women Award. This year, the Museum is proud to name seven recipients, out of many amazing candidates, for their service for women and girls in the community.

The 2011 Maura recipients will join past recipients and Museum supporters on Thursday, May 19, 2011, to celebrate these special women and their accomplishments for Dallas/Fort Worth women and girls. The 2011 recipients include (bios below):

• Wanda R. Brice, chief executive officer emeritus, The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future

• Phyllis Farragut, president & chief executive officer, Admiral Communications

• Delia Jasso, Dallas City Council District 1

• Cathy Moffitt, founder and president, Heartfelt International Ministries, Inc.

• Jan Pruitt, president and chief executive officer, North Texas Food Bank

• Pat Vaughan, volunteer philanthropist

• Alinda Wikert, chairman/president, The Alinda Hill Wikert Foundation Established in 1978 by the Women's Center of Dallas, the Maura pays tribute to those who have made significant contributions to improving the lives of women and girls in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. This is the fifth year the Museum is hosting the awards ceremony.

"We are proud to host this meaningful award and the driven, talented women who have earned it by supporting women and girls throughout our local community and internationally," said Lyn Scott, COO, The Women's Museum. "This is not only a chance for us to say thank you to this year's recipients, it's a



time to reflect on the many ways we can all give back to the mothers, sisters, daughters, friends, and business colleagues we all encounter every day."

This year's event is co-

chaired by Brenda Jackson ('91 recipient), ONCOR, and Kelli Rod, TXU Energy. Proceeds will benefit the mission of The Women's Museum. Tables and individual tickets available, call 214-915-0872 for more information.

Sponsors for the evening event include: Al G. Hill, The Alinda Hill Wilkert Foundation, Lyda Hill Founda-

tion, Patti and Bill Alcorn, AT&T, Henry's Daughter's Development Co, LLC, JP-Morgan Chase, The Lightner Sams Foundation, Inc., ONCOR, TXU Energy, Patricia Vaughan, Wells Fargo Advisors and others. To view list of all sponsor, visit www.thewomensmu-seum.org/maura.

The Women's Museum, in association with the Smithsonian Institution, is the nation's only comprehensive women's history museum that chronicles the lives of American women through interactive exhibits. The Women's Museum is supported, in part, by the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs. Museum hours are Tuesday through Sunday, noon to 5:00 p.m. (closed Mondays). more information, please visit www.thewomensmuseum.org

Coquese Washington

The 2011 BCA Coach of the Year recipients are: Coach Shaka Smart, VCU Head Men's Basketball Coach as the Fritz Pollard BCA Male Coach of the



Year, Coquese Washington, Women's Basketball Head Coach, Penn State. The recipient of the BCA Myles Brand Administrator of the Year award will be presented to Mr. Dan Guerrero, Athletic Director at UCLA. In addition, BCA will honor two (2) individuals as the High School Coach of the year. Coaches Carmen

Jackson, Track and Field Coach at Miami Northwestern Senior High Community School and Coach Ruth Lovelace, Boys Varsity Basketball Coach at Boys and Girls High School in Brooklyn, N.Y. will both receive the High School Coach of the year award.

"Our honorees are not just successful professionals, but they are also outstanding individuals that have demon-

strated dedication to student-athletes and higher education", said David Leitao, BCA President.

The BCA Award recipients will be honored during

the 2011 BCA National Convention and Expo, during a luncheon event on Friday, May 27, 2011 at the historical and beautiful Renaissance Vinoy St. Petersburg Resort & Golf Club. You may join BCA as we pay tribute to outstanding athletic coaches and administrators. The Luncheon event is open to the public. Tickets for the awards banquet can be purchased by calling 1.877.789.1222 or visit www.bcasports.org.

Coach Coquese, in her fourth season coaching the Lady Lions continues to enjoy the level of passion from fans, the community and administration as she continues to build the program. The third season saw the Lady Lions return to the postseason for the first time since 2004-2005 with a WNIT berth.

Dan Guerrero has been the Athletic Director at UCLA for the past eight years, and has established a pattern of "image and substance" that few in his profession can match. BCA is proud to recognize the commitment to student-athletes involved with intercollegiate athletics at UCLA, under the direction of Dan Guerrero.

Coach Ruth Lovelace has received many awards and recognition, not only as a woman coaching boys basketball, but as a coach that continues to win. The Varsity Boys Basketball team finished 28-7 and was nationally ranked as high as #16 in the country by ESPN and USA Today Super 25. Coach Carmen Jackson continues to produce very talented athletes on the field as well as sending them on to college with track and field scholarships. work with student-athletes and her winning record has

resulted in being named the "Florida Dairy Farmers Girls' Track and Field

Coach of the Year in 2001, 2007, 2009 and 2010.

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Phone: 972-516-4191 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 www.facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette

Website:

www.NorthDallasGazette.com

STAFF

Chairman Emeritus

Jim Bochum 1933 - 2009

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Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Production

Sharon Jones-Scaife

Special Projects Manager

Edward Dewayne "Preacher Boy" Gibson, Jr.

Religious/ Marketing Editor

Shirley Demus Tarpley

Editor

Ruth Ferguson

Business Manager

Lora Cormier

Staff Writer

Tonya Whitaker

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National Solution to Black High School Dropouts

By Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

(NNPA) For the last several years there has been an endless stream of negative reporting about the growing and persistent problems of the terrible rate of high school dropout rates for Black American students across the United States. Of course, it is always important to focus on the most critical problems that beset the quality of life of the African American Certainly, community. there is no greater challenge than encouraging our young sisters and brothers to stav in school to complete their high school education, and to prepare for their life careers by going on to finish college and graduate school or to enroll in some type of hands-on career training or to start their own businesses that may require special entrepreneurial internship and mentorship.

But, to just keep describing and analyzing the "problems" of Black American high school dropouts or pointing the fingers at the internal and external forces or contradictions that plague the African American community will do very little to change this situation. It is not a hopeless

state of being that cannot be changed. There are solutions to this problem. Brother Malcolm X reminded all of us that in life you are either going to be part of the problem or part of the solution to the problems that confront the daily life circumstances of Black people in America and throughout the world.

Recently, there was a related article in the Economist magazine that typically described the problem of the direct causative relationship between the high rate of Black unemployment and the high rate of Black high school dropouts. Among African Americans, 70% of those who have dropped out of high school are also devastatingly unemployed. But, the article in the Economist offered no solutions. It painted, what may appear to most of its readers, a hopeless situation for Black high school dropouts.

During my 50 years or more in the Civil Rights Movement, we were always confronted with sometimes life-threatening problems and challenges. But, we never let fear or hopelessness determine our strategies for progress and success in the very face all those forces of oppression and repression. We kept our faith in God and in our own abilities to participate in the development and implementation of "movement for change" organizing, mobilizing, and in the institutional-building process so necessary to move our race and community forward. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) along with countless Black churches and other grassroots organizations, including organized labor, helped to build and sustain a movement that irreversibly changed America for the better.

Now today in 2011, we must address today's educational problems and challenges with that same kind of fortitude, alternative institutional-building, and resilience. The education of our children and young adults, and in particular the millions who have dropped out of high school during the last 10 to 20 years, is of paramount concern. During the last couple of years I have been blessed to work directly with innovation in the educational system.

The rise of online education from K-12 to post-secondary undergraduate to graduate school has seen to many new and effective educational alternatives that have emerged in the United States as well as internationally. Education Online Services Corporation has gain invaluable experience helping Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) enter successfully onto the online degree program global marketplace. The Black Alliance for Educational Options (BAEO) continues to lead the way to encourage Black parents and students to explore and select the best educational options available today to give students from our communities the best quality education inclusive of considering charter schools and other innovative educational models that have proven to be effective in 2011.

Thus, today through the National Newspaper Publishers Association, America's Black Press, I am announcing a unique solution and my personal contribution to make this solution available as an option for

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legislation if banks complain about cutting into fees and other revenue sources. These are the same offices that failed to provide the consumer protections in the past and could have averted the mortgage crisis;

- Remove the agency's independent funding potentially giving big bank lobbyists the ability to hamstring the CFPB through the annual Congressional appropriations process;
- Replace the single, accountable director as the head of the agency with a weaker five-person commission - where no one individual would be responsible for the agency's decisions: and
- · Delay implementation of the Bureau when the nation has waited long enough already!

In response, the Center for Responsible Lending and other consumer advocates and allies are urging Congress to reject the new proposals. Recently, more than 65 national and state organizations together advised Congress that the bills, "ignore the lessons that have been learned about the regulatory failures that triggered a housing and economic crisis and caused extraordinary pain for millions of Americans."

It would be wise for Capitol Hill to heed these pro-consumer voices. Has Congress so soon forgotten the reasons CFPB was created? It was the absence of consumer protections that led to millions of foreclosures and a public bailout of the institutions that operated with ill-advised practices and only short-term profit perspectives. After taxpayer dollars bailed out taxpayer dollars bailed out these

lenders, doesn't the public deserve protection too?

It was not that long ago that the financial services industry dedicated billions of dollars for efforts to deny the nation financial reform more than any other industry lobbying expenditures over the past decade. That translates into \$1.4 million a day and includes 1,726 registered federal lobbyists paid to woo 100 U.S. Senators and 455 Members of Congress, according to the Center for Responsive Poli-

At best, the proposed bills are premature, as the agency will not even come into existence until July 2011. At worst, they are a brazen attempt to preserve privilege and profits for large lenders at the expense of everyday citizens.

For communities of color, the stakes are high in

ensuring that reforms remain strong and meaningful. The financial crisis has widened the racial wealth gap and ongoing foreclosures are hitting minority communities the hardest. According to CRL's research, over \$350 billion in wealth has been lost to African-American and Latino communities.

Consumer protection and bank safety should go hand in hand. Restoring this balanced approach assures us a more safe and sound financial system, and with it a more sustainable economy.

It's time to allow the CFPB to do its job.

Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending's communications manager for state policy and outreach. She can be reached at: Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org

Health www.NorthDallasGazette.com

Encouraging teens to wait

By Ryanne Persinger (NNPA) The statistics for babies born to teenage mothers is bleak.

According to the National Campaign To Prevent Teen Pregnancy, a teen mom has less than a two percent chance of getting a college degree before age 30.

Children born to teen mothers are more likely to be abused or neglected, rely on public assistance and the parent is likely to struggle in adulthood, according to the Durham-based Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Campaign of North Carolina.

"Ten percent of all the babies in Mecklenburg County are born to someone under the age of 20," said Elizabeth Finley, director of strategic communications of APPCNC. "That means that one in 10 babies start off with a serious disadvantage."

May is National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month, a period devoted to focus attention on the causes and consequences of adolescent pregnancy, as well as solutions to the problem.

Mecklenburg County's teen pregnancy rate in 2009 was 56.4 for every 1,000 15-

19 year old girls. Latinos accounted for 15.4, African Americans 7.7, and Whites 3.8, according to the North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics.

Finley said pregnancy prevention has to be a community effort, but starts with family.

"It has to be something that starts at home," she said. "Parents are the ones that children listen to first and most often. Teenagers themselves say they want to hear from their parents about being able to make healthy decisions."

Preeti Matkins, medical director at Charlotte's Teen Health Connection, said 80 percent of parents told their children not to have sex, but only 20 percent of them counseled kids on how to use contraception.

"Parents should focus on what you would like them to do as opposed to what you don't want them to do and why," said Matkins, the director of adolescent medicine at Levine's Children's Hospital. "Like what other options there are. What does it mean to love someone? What does it mean to have a boyfriend?"

In the Youth Risk Behavior Survey taken by Charlotte-Mecklenburg schools, 59.9 percent of African

Between 1991 and 2004, teen births in North Carolina cost taxpayers \$5.2 billion. Nationally, it cost taxpayers

National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy www.thenationalcampaign.org

Teen Health Connection www.teenhealthconnection.org

Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Campaign of North Carolina www.appcnc.org

Americans students have engaged in intercourse.

Finley, who has been in her profession for 16 years, says some youth report trying to become pregnant.

"If a young woman feels like she's not successful in school, does not have a sense of goals or feels like her goals are unattainable or bleak she may not actively prevent pregnancy," Finley said. "And, sometimes it's not uncommon for a parent to be OK with their child having a child."

When a teenager gives birth, the whole community bears the cost.

at least \$9.1 billion a year, according to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, an organization which works to improve the well-being of children, youth, and families by preventing unplanned and teen pregnancy.

In 2004 alone in N.C.:

- \$54 million went to public health care (Medicaid);
- \$36 million for child welfare;
- \$61 million for incarceration;
- \$105 million in lost revenue due to decreased earnings and spending.

"It all factors in how many of these teen mothers will end up on Medicaid, the increased likelihood that they may end up incarcerated or that the teen mom or child could drop out of school. We, as community members, pay for it," Finley said. "It creates communities of people who are less likely to prosper, even if they want to prosper."

Bill Albert, chief program officer at the NCPTUP, said it's important for different sectors to get involved.

"If people want a work force that is ready to work they have to invest and help keep an interest in them to stay in school," Albert says. "That will help bring down costs and bring in healthier babies."

Meanwhile, Albert said strides have been made in the crusade to lower teen pregnancy rates, which has decreased by 50 percent in the last two decades.

"We have had extraordinarily progress over the last two decades," Albert said. "In this day and age and in this challenging environment that we live in does anyone really think it's a good idea for a 16-year-old or a 17year-old to be mothers and fathers?"

Television shows like MTV's "Teen Mom," and "16 & Pregnant," Albert said, present teenage pregnancy as a cautionary tale as opposed to a celebration.

"We commissioned a public survey of teens last year and asked them if these shows glamorize teen pregnancy," Albert said. "It underscores the challenges of how hard it is to be a mother or father of an infant when you are a teenager."

Most importantly, Albert says, having open dialogue with teens about sex is a way to get through to them.

"I think we need to encourage teens to delay sexual activity," Albert said. "We also have to understand the teenagers who are getting pregnant are not using contraception and we need to encourage those teens who are having sex to use contraception consistently."

SOCIAL, continued from Page 1

do not attend church regularly

"I hope this is another way they can get a glimpse of God," Williams adds.

According to recent study completed by LifeWay Research nearly half (47 percent) of churches surveyed use social media and social networking as tools of engagement and interaction. Facebook is the most popular among all social media sites.

Bishop DA Davis, of the Intersection Church in DeSoto also uses social media tools: Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. In addition, he uses e-mails and teleconferencing to connect with his congregation and others nationwide.

"We use social media to broadcast seminars and workshops. This is a part of our strategy to attract others to our church. We hope that as they interact with us, they will be more inclined to come and visit our church," Bishop Davis shares.

Pastor Fred L. Jones of Christian Chapel "Temple of Faith" CME Church in north Dallas agrees and says social media has improved the quality of ministry and help move the church's objectives forward by enhancing communication, connecting, and directing the call to action.

"We use it to reaching all of our members and sending our review of bible study and message from Sunday sermon out. We also post events," he said. The Temple of Faith post sermon notes and other information on Facebook for members unavailable to attend Sunday service.

Pastor Jones says his church did a feasibility study and found that 70 percent of its members where either on internet, using social media or had a smart phone.

"We use it to keep people involved and to extend our reach by creating a virtual fellowship."

While many churches have found ways to use Facebook, and Twitter as the virtual missions' field, some pastors say there are drawbacks

"It eliminates the personal touch or contact that has been so successful in reaching souls," says Bishop Davis. "The ministry of evangelism is personal touch and interaction, and has been the auspices of what churches do in the ministry of evangelism. The personal touch is what has made the difference in church grow."

In addition, he says, church growth stats prove that an existing relationship creates a warm market. However with social media that personal contact is missing in physical form but it still can reach a person a least indirectly

"The church counts on the direct approach," Pastor Jones said.

Pastor Jones indicated his older members are often left out of the move to social media. Some of their older members are not technologically literate. But he laughs about a 100 year-old member that has seven numbers in her cell phone and his being one of them.

"She calls me every day," he said. "We still have to consider our older members in whatever we do."

One of the drawbacks to a Facebook fan page is the inability to control the flow of the conversation, according to Pastor Jones. If you allow comments from all fans of the page, you cannot filter who can comment or be a part of conversation. However if deemed inappropriate page administrators can delete offensive content.

Overall, pastors are encouraged by the opportunities that Facebook, Twitter and other sites offer. They see social media as a way to connected with members amidst busy schedules and spread the gospel easy and effortless. An additional advantage is the fact it does take much money or manpower to implement or use it these tools

"People will go to your web site or Facebook page before they enter your doors. Social media has changed the way people look at church business," said Pastor Jones.

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www.NorthDallasGazette.com **Community News**

Federal Grand Jury returns multiple indictments in Plano

A federal grand jury returned multiple indictments this week charging individuals with separate federal crimes in the Eastern District of Texas announced U.S. Attorney John M. Bales today.

Michael John Klein, 66, of Frisco, Texas, has been indicted for bank fraud. If convicted, he faces up to 30 years in federal prison. This case is being investigated by the FBI and the IRS and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard J. Johnson.

Felipe DeJesus Garcia, 29, of Rowlett, Texas; Armando Valencia-Hernandez, 33, of Plano, Texas; and Vimal Patel, 27, of Lewisville, Texas, have been indicted for being involved in a conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute heroin. If convicted. they each face up to 40

case is being investigated by the DEA and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Maureen Smith.

Rodricus Rogers, 28, of Dallas, has been indicted for possession of a firearm during a drug trafficking crime and being a felon in possession of a firearm. If convicted, he faces up to 15 years in federal prison. This case is being investigated by the DEA and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Maureen Smith.

Cristoval Cervantes, 53, of Irving, Texas, has been indicted for being involved in a money laundering conspiracy and for being an alien unlawfully present in the United States after having been deported. If convicted, he faces up to 20 years in federal prison and deportation. This case is being investigated by

years in federal prison. This ICE/HSI and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney James E. Peacock.

> Ernesto Linares-Ramirez, 31, of Mexico, has been indicted for being an alien unlawfully present in the United States after having been deported. If convicted, he faces up to 20 years in federal prison and deportation. This case is being investigated by ICE/HSI and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Miriam E. Rea

Raul Aaron Salcido-Rubio, 26, of Mexico, has been indicted for being an alien unlawfully present in the United States after having been deported. If convicted, he faces up to 20 years in federal prison and deportation. This case is being investigated by ICE/HSI and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard J. Johnson.

Urban League job fair

Last year, 3,000 people participated in the Urban League of Greater Dallas Job Fair and Career Symposium and 10 percent were hired in a variety of jobs. Our efforts will work for you.

On Thursday, June 23, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., the Urban League is Re-Employing Dallas and Fort Worth at this year's Job Fair and Career Symposium. The event will be held at the Texas Discovery Gardens at Fair Park, 3601 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd, Dallas 75210.

More than 50 companies including Enterprise, Magic Workforce, DART Adecco, representing high demand industries, will accept resumes, applications and conduct interviews. Positions that are available include information technology, sales and marketing, banking, accounting and finance, manufacturing, construction, clerical, customer service, education and healthcare.

Applicant must be 18 years or older, be well groomed and professional and dressed in business attire. Dress code will be strictly enforced.

Workshops will be held on Wednesday, June 22 at the Urban League of Greater Dallas, 4315 S. Lancaster Road on interviewing tips, internet iob search, resume writing, networking 101 and marketing yourself in order to help job applicants be better prepared for the Job Fair.

For more information, call the Urban League Employment Department at (214) 915-4600.

Commuters Shift Gears

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With gasoline prices hovering near \$4 per gallon in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, 39 percent higher than this time last year, North Texans have one more reason pedaling

National Bike to Work Week culminates May 20, and North Texans will join others across the nation reaping the financial, health and environmental benefits of bicycling to work. New trails and transit options opened in the last year benefit the region and bicyclists. Additionally, several resources make it easy for North Texans to get ready to ride and track the benefits.

Information about trails and potential routes is available from NCTCOG at www.dfwmaps.com. Other online mapping websites also offer bicycling and walking directions. North Texans can combine transit and bicycling to go even farther. Bicycles are allowed on Dallas Area Rapid Transit buses and trains, the Trinity Railway Express, Fort Worth Transportation Authority (The T) buses and Denton County Transportation Authority Commuter Express buses. When the A-train service begins in June, bicycle racks will be available at each station as well as inside A-train vehicles. DART's low-floor rail

The T and North Texas Clean cars make it easy to roll bicycles onto the train and feature

stowing bicycles while riding. To get ready for Bike to Work Day, staff from DART, The T, NCTCOG and the North Texas Clean Air Coalition will gather with bicyclists and TRE riders at CentrePort on Thursday morning beginning at 6:30 a.m. REI will provide commuter appreciation coffee and donuts.

On Bike to Work Day,

Air Coalition will welcome bicyclists to the Fort Worth Intermodal Transportation Center where free bicycle inspections and refreshments will be available. The Fort Worth Police Bike Patrol, MedStar Bicycle Response Team and city, county and business employees will be at the event, which also includes a community-leaders news briefing.

Bicycling burns calories and saves fuel costs for indi-

See GEARS. Page 13

FORD, continued from Page 1

if we are to remain competitive, it is imperative that we connect with the best of the best. Not only does this strengthen our supply network, it creates jobs and economic growth for the communities that we serve "

The \$4.1 billion spent in 2010 surpasses Ford's annual goal of sourcing more than 10 percent of its U.S. production and nonproduction business with diverse suppliers.

Ford's Supplier Diversity Development program represents a commitment to providing a broad range of supplier opportunities and resources. Ford understands the value of ensuring that its suppliers represent all segments of the business community, and mirror those communities in which it does business. Ford's Supplier Diversity Development Office works with business leaders. trade associations and community-based organizations that represent the interests of diverse businesses to empower communities through economic development.

"Our suppliers are of paramount importance to our success as a company and in serving our diverse customer base," said Carla Traci Preston, director, Supplier Diversity Development. "At Ford, we are strongly committed to maintaining qualified and certified minority - and women-owned businesses."

Developing the next generation of diverse business leaders is an important part of a healthy, diverse supplier network. As part of this week's Michigan Minority Procurement Conference at Cobo Conference Center in Detroit, Ford and the Michigan Minority Supplier Development Council (MMSDC) are sponsoring the MMSDC Ford Diversity Internship Program. More than 70 high school juniors and seniors from schools throughout Metro Detroit are interviewing with minorityand women-owned businesses that will provide internships and mentoring to more than 20 students this summer

"This is an opportunity to match some of the best and brightest high school juniors and seniors throughout Metro Detroit with minority- and womenowned companies," said Preston. "These students represent the next generation of diverse business leaders who have the potential to significantly impact the future of our state, nation and the global economy."

discrimination

Ex-offender



Judge Greg Mathis

By Judge Greg Mathis When pundits discuss America's still too high unemployment rate, they usually tell stories of individuals with impressive work histories and college degrees who are having a hard time finding a job after being downsized. Or, they relate tales of former manufacturing employees lost in our new, more tech-driven economy. Rarely does anyone share the plight of the

more than 65 million Americans with some sort of criminal past who have a hard time finding work.

We need to talk about this population more often and come up with solutions to help them secure employment. The reality is that more and more people with criminal histories are trying to enter the work force but failed background checks

See DISCRIMINATION, Page 6

Come learn with us! Holy Family School Preschool & Transitional Kindergarten



McKinney, TX 75069 Contact us at 972-562-5476 or www.fhsmckinney.org

Are Freedom Rider seeds bearing fruit?

By Julianne Malveaux (NNPA) Fifty years ago this month, the Freedom Rides began. While the Supreme Court ruled that segregation in interstate commerce, including bus terminals, was illegal, the laws were not being enforced. Because the law failed to act, people of conscience, courage, and determination acted instead.

Resistance to desegregation was such that those who got on buses risked their lives. The Freedom Riders, who were both African American and White, were arrested and attacked on the bus route. Anniston, Alabama was an especially violent site of attack, where the local Klan and other residents, some still dressed in their church-going finest, were allowed to beat Freedom Fighters without police in-The plan terference. seemed to be that there would be an initial attack in Anniston, and a second

attack in Birmingham. Someone attempted to burn or bomb the bus that transported Freedom Riders.

As Freedom Riders became injured or delayed, often being denied hospitalization for extreme injuries, others kept coming, kept coming, kept coming. If they could get past Alabama and make it to Mississippi, they were often jailed in Jackson. Some were sent to the notoriously brutal Parchman prison, where they were treated with notable inhumanity. But, they kept riding until the walls of segrecame tumbling gation

Some of their names are household words. Congressman John Lewis (D-GA), Dianne Nash, James Farmer, Ruby Doris Smith. Hank Thomas, Stokely Carmichael. Others are less well known, but no less impactful. Their sheer determination, and willingness to sacrifice, literally changed history.

This month, there are many celebrations of the Freedom Riders, including a celebration at the new Freedom Riders Museum in Montgomery, Alabama, and at a Freedom Riders Reunion and Conference in Jackson, Mississippi. There will be time for reminiscing, reflecting, and reconnecting. From honors bestowed on Congressman John Lewis at the Joint Center for Political and **Economic Studies Dinner** in Washington, D.C., earlier this month, to an Oprah show featuring the Freedom Riders, to these celebrations and reunions the contribution of the Freedom Riders will be recognized, honored, celebrated.

It is notable that so many of these Freedom Riders were quite young when they got on buses to risk their lives. What will young people risk their lives for these days? Many of the Freedom Riders

were middle-aged, making the Freedom Rides a testimony to intergenerational activism and advocacy. Are there many such examples today? What will it take to galvanize people of conscience in this country? Many suggest that the mass incarceration of African Americans (see Michelle Alexander's book, The New Jim Crow) might galvanize people to act, but the unfortunate fact is that too many people are simply indifferent to the plight of the incarcerated. Some suggest that budget cuts and economic despair might galvanize people, but too many are celebrating economic recovery, no matter how spotty or uneven, for there to be mass action around economic issues. Fifty years ago, Freedom Riders were determined to challenge the status quo. Now the status

unequal treatment in the criminal just-us system, a rancid economy, a crumbling infrastructure, a challenged environment, and many other issues. Who will challenge this status quo?

What are the fruits of Freedom Rides? the Thanks to Freedom Riders, legal segregation crumbled. In November 1961, months after the beatings in Anniston, Alabama, the federal government began to enforce a 1955 Interstate Commerce Commission Ruling, and a 1960 Supreme Court ruling. One might argue that the sit-in movement and the Freedom Rides led to the March on Washington, the Voting Rights Act, and other revolutionary changes in our society

Why did we stop there? And, where are today's Freedom Riders? Today's young people face as many internal as external challenges. Too many first generation college students do not enjoy the parental or community support that first generation college students enjoyed in the days of Freedom Rides. Then, college students were considered the proud fruit of their communities. Now, many are indifferent, even hostile, to their achievement. We can't expect young people to be Freedom Riders unless we raise them as Freedom Riders But, we can't raise them up as Freedom Riders unless we are willing to challenge the status quo for freedom ourselves.

Our society changed because of the Freedom Riders, and those Freedom Rides represent the possibility of social change. When will we pick the fruit from the trees that our beloved Freedom Riders planted?

Julianne Malveaux is President of Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, North Carolina.

We need more than

Juneteenth baskeball game

Glam'r House (Guys & Girls Learning Academic & Moral Responsibility) and K104 FM announced plans to host a Charity Basketball Game on Saturday, June 18. The event will be held at Cedar Valley Community College, 3030 N. Dallas Ave., Lancaster, Texas, doors open at 2:00 p.m. and tip-off is at 3:00

Glam'r House and K104 will all come together in support of the charity organization by promoting quality mentoring programs and opportunities for at risk youth. This exciting hoops event for charity boasts fun and affordable family entertainment which includes an entertaining half-time show.

Proceeds will be donated to Glam'r House's First Spanish Literacy Program to offer free Spanish classes to youth between the ages 8 and up.

'Being able to contribute to the community is very important to me," Founder, Lonzella Green, said. "I am thrilled that K104 was able to join us in helping make this event a success"!

quo includes unequal edu-

cation, unequal treatment

in the labor market, and

All tickets for this event will be \$7.00 general admis-

To purchase tickets, call the Glam'r House office at (214) 394-3994.

DISCRIMINATION,

continued from Page 5

keep thousands of people from getting hired, some for offenses that are decades old and as minor as disorderly conduct, drinking and having too much fun in the street with friends. Some of those being denied work have never been convicted of a crime, only arrested.

Every year, more than 700,000 people are released from state and federal prisons: they all need to find work so that they may support themselves and their families, contribute to their communities and to ensure poverty, frustration and desperation don't force them to return to a life of crime. There are no federal laws that protect individuals with a criminal past from being discriminated against by employers. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, however, does suggest that employers take in account the severity of the offense, the amount of time that has passed since the crime was committed and how the crime relates to the position being

applied for.

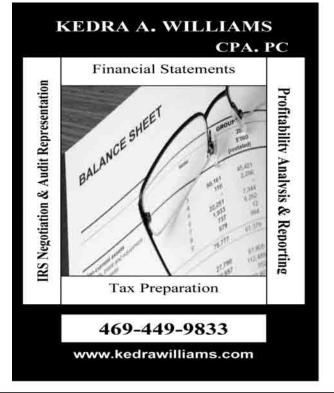
EEOC guidelines. There has to be a conscious effort by the business community to weed out practices that discriminate against ex-offenders. Most accept that some with a criminal past will not be able to work in certain sectors; for example, a child predator cannot work with children. But there are countless other positions this individual can hold that won't present a danger to society. Employers also need to understand that, just because someone committed a crime once does not mean they'll do it again. In fact, research shows that the farther back the crime occurred the less likely the offender will be to repeat that mistake.

Current hiring practices are locking millions out of the work force. This discrimination not only hurts the individuals in question, it damages America's long-term economic health. We're losing millions of workers and need to help keep our country moving forward.

DROPOUTS, continued from Page 3

those who may have dropped out of high school, for whatever reason, to be able to return to high school and to complete their high school education online and receive an accredited high school diploma together with career training, job placement, and college entrance incentives built into this "High School Re-engagement Program." That's right, I am going establish and run a national online high school expressly to reclaim, redeem, and encourage the re-engagement of Blacks and Latinos, in particular, back to high school with the mission of high school completion together with career training, job placement, and a direct access to a high quality college education. We will announce the name of this special and focused online high school in the very near future. But, I wanted to let our readers know now that we are serious about providing and participating in the "solution" process concerning this issue. We are serious about institutional building and capacitybuilding for the future. Education is the key to liberation and economic empowerment.

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



Football stars come out for grand opening



Steve Lossing, Scott West

The Foundry Big & Tall Supply Co., a concept featuring fashionable clothes for big & tall men, kicked off their grand opening weekend with a VIP launch party at their Frisco location, one of the six retail shops in the Dallas area.

The exclusive invitation-only grand opening event showcased the new concept and featured special appearances by Dallas football greats, Bradie James, Ed 'Too Tall' Jones, Chad Hennings, Tony Casillas and Charles Haley - all donning merchandise available at The Foundry Big & Tall Supply Co. The night was emceed by DayBreak's Scott West and former Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader Abigail Klein. Hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and music by Dallas' own, DJ Lucy Wrubel, complemented the evening.

The new specialty retail concept will focus on not only providing high-



Bobbi Lewis, Megan Flowers, Abigail Klein, Kourtney Ketterhagen, Leslie Ezelle



Party Crowd



Sam Perkins, Tony Casillas, Charles Haley, Abigail Klein, Bradie James, Ed "Too Tall" Jones, Chad Hennings, Scott West

end options for large men, but will cater specifically to the big & tall guy by featuring a shopping setting inclusive of flat screen TVs, an oversized poker table and comfortable seating. The stores will offer an unpretentious atmosphere and an unparalleled head-to-toe merchandise selection in big & tall clothing, footwear, and accessories. Featuring brands like adidas®, Callaway®, Calvin Klein®, Cole Haan®, Nike®, Perry Ellis®, Timberland®, and more, the microbrewery-like setting will allow men to relax in their own element while shopping for fashionable clothes that fit

The Foundry Big and Tall Supply Co. carries sportswear, tailored clothing, athletics, basics, footwear and accessories for the big & tall customer both in-store and online. For more information visit foundrybigandtall.com

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North Dallas Gazette gives you a chance to win round trip travel for 2 to San Antonio on Amtrak!



Enjoy the relaxing and comfortable amenities available on the

train, and you'll arrive at your San Antonio destination rested and ready for adventure. Take in the beautiful River Walk, the exciting culture, and more.

It's a train getaway, just for you and a friend. Get more details and register to win at: northdallasgazette.com

Register to win today!

OFFICIAL RULES

1. This Promotion Giveaway is intended for play and participation in Dallas/Ft Worth. Texas only, and shall be construed and evaluated according to the laws of the State of Texas and the United States.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN

2. Entry Period: Commences at 12:00:01 AM (CDT) on May 5, 2011 and ends at 11:59:59 PM (CDT) on May 25th, 2011 (the "Promotion Period").

3. **Eligibility:** Entrants must be at least 21 years of age or older at time of entry. By participating in this promotion, entrants: (a) agree to be bound by these Official Rules and by the interpretations of these Official Rules and by the interpretations of these Official Rules and NDG, and by the decisions of Amtrak and NDG, which are final in all matters relating to the Promotion; (b) to release and hold harmless the Amtrak, NDG and MON and their respective agents, employees, officers, directors, successors and assigns, against any and all claims, injury or damage arising out of or relating to participation in this Promotion and/or use or misuse or redemption of a prize; and (c) acknowledge compliance with these Official Rules.

4. To Enter: Visit www.Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette become a "Fan" of the page and post why you should win the grand prize

5. **Grand Prize Winner Selection/Notification:** One (1) Grand Prize Winner (as hereinafter defined) will be randomly selected on or about May 18, 2011. If the potential Grand Prize Winner cannot be reached within 48 hours, the potential Grand Prize Winner will be disqualified and an alternate Grand Prize Winner will be selected from among the remaining applicable Eligible Entries received.

6. **Grand Prize Winner Verification:** Entry into this Promotion constitutes that the Grand Prize Winner and Guest agree to the release of: (a) Amtrak, NDG, MON and their respective officers, directors, employees, agents, members, affiliated companies and subsidiaries, from any and all liability, loss, claims, demands, and causes of action for personal injury and/or damage, theft, loss, or any other harm suffered in connection with this Promotion; and (b) granting Amtrak, NDG, and MON the right to use their name and likeness for advertising and publicity purposes without additional compensation. (c) Grand Prize Winner and Guest also acknowledge that Amtrak, NDG, and MON have not and will not obtain or provide insurance of any kind relating to the Grand Prize and that Grand Prize Winner and Guest will be responsible for obtaining and paying for any life, travel, accident, property or other form of insurance relating to the Grand Prize.

7. Grand Prizes: The Grand Prize Winner will receive: One (1) Round-trip coach class train fare for two (2) from Dallas, TX to San Antonio Texas between June 15, 2011 and December 31, 2011. No cash in lieu of trip. Approximate value of trip \$300.00

8. **General Prize Terms:** All costs and expenses not specifically listed above, including, without limitation, meals, snacks, beverages, mini-bar, entertainment, tips, souvenirs, personal expenses, damages to hotel rooms, any equipment to be used in connection with the Grand Prizes are solely Grand Prize Winner's responsibility. The value of the Grand Prizes may be taxable to Grand Prize Winner as income. Grand Prize Winner must supply Amtrak, NDG and MON with his/her social security number for tax purposes. An IRS Form 1099 will be issued in the name of Grand Prize Winner, for the actual value of the Grand Prizes received. Upon entry into the Promotion, Grand Prize Winner (as well as all other entrants) is required to comply with any and all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations. All federal, state and local taxes, and any other costs not specifically provided for in these Official Rules are solely the Grand Prize Winner's responsibility. Amtrak, NDG and MON shall have no responsibility or obligation to a Grand Prize Winner or potential Grand Prize Winner who is unable or unavailable to accept or utilize Grand Prizes as described herein. The odds of winning depend on the number of Eligible Entries received.

No substitution, transfer or cash equivalent of the Grand Prizes or any portion thereof permitted.

9. General Terms: Noncompliance with any of these Official Rules may result in disqualification. ANY VIOLATION OF THESE OFFICIAL RULES BY A GRAND PRIZE WINNER OR ANY BEHAVIOR BY A GRAND PRIZE WINNER OR ANTRAK, NDG and MON INTO DISREPUTE (IN SPONSOR ENTITIES SOLE DISCRETION) WILL RESULT IN SUCH GRAND PRIZE WINNER'S DISQUALIFICATION AS A GRAND PRIZE WINNER OF THE PROMOTION AND ALL PRIVILEGES AS A GRAND PRIZE WINNER WILL BE IMMEDIATELY TERMINATED.

The Amtrak, NDG and MON are not responsible for any problems or technical malfunction of any telephone network or lines, computer online systems, servers, or providers, computer equipment, software, failure of any e-mail or players on account of technical problems or traffic congestion on the Internet or at any web site, or any combination thereof, including, without limitation, any injury or damage to participant's or any other person's computer related to or resulting from participation or downloading any materials in this Promotion. CAUTION: ANY ATTEMPT BY ANY INDIVIDUAL TO DELIBERATELY DAMAGE ANY WEB SITE OR UNDERMINE THE LEGITIMATE OPERATION OF THE PROMOTION IS A VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAWS AND SHOULD SUCH AN ATTEMPT BE MADE, SPONSOR ENTITIES RESERVE THE RIGHT TO SEEK DAMAGES FROM ANY SUCH INDIVIDUAL TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

10. **Request for Name of Grand Prize Winner and Official Rules:** For the name of the Grand Prize Winner and/or Official Rules, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

North Dallas Gazette PO Box 763866 Dallas, TX 75376-3866

All requests for a copy of the Official Rules and for the name of the Grand Prize Winner must be made by July 31, 2011. Please note on the front left-hand corner of your outer envelope whether you are requesting "Official Rules" or the name of the "Grand Prize Winner".

Ongoing

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce, CC-BCC General Meetings, 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:30pm. Call 469-424-1020 or email: info@ CCBlack Chamber.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.TheNo-LimitNetwork.com or 972-898-5882.

The National Business Women Enterprise Network (NBWEN) Learning Over Lunch Series: 4th Saturdays, 11am-1pm, ReMarkable Affairs Cafe, 2727 LBJ Fwy., Suite 140, Dallas. \$20 for members; \$35 for nonmembers, \$5 off for early bird registration. www.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-fri-endly 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. Info @ 214-942-6698.

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.

Oak Cliff Cultural Center, 223 West Jefferson Blvd. in Dallas, offers Tango classes every Wed-nesday from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person or \$15 per couple per class. www.tangocanyenguedallas.com

The Art Centre Theatre, 5220 Village Creek Drive in Plano, will hold auditions for its summer productions. Seussical on May 7 and May 14; Into the Woods on May 21 and May 28 and 13 on June 11 and June 18. All auditions will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The theatre will also host a slew of summer dances for young children. www.artcentretheatre.

May 18

Wanderlust Yoga In The City celebrates the modern day culture of yoga, Wanderlust will be making its stop at YITC: Annette Strauss Artist Square at 5:00 p.m. to rock out with the burgeoning local yoga and wellness community—benefiting Off the Mat Into the World. Event is free with registration at dallas.wanderlustfestival.co m.

May 19

Friends of the Carrollton Public Library will present a Whodunit mystery theater fundraiser at the Carrollton Public Library at Josey Ranch Lake 1700 Keller Springs Road at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each and will be available at the door, or by emailing a reservation to

rusty.dean@verizon.net. Complimentary refreshments will be available. Adults only.

Garland Chamber of Commerce 2nd Annual Business to Business Ex-po Noon - 3:00 p.m.; 520 N. Glenbrook Dr., Garland, TX 75040

2011 Business to Business Expo will be held from noon - 3:00 p.m. at the Garland Chamber of Commerce.

Plano City Council will meet with District 3 residents in a **Plano Neighborhood Roundtable** discussion from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Plano Sports Authority StarCenter, 6500 Preston Meadow. The meeting is focused on District 3; however, all Plano residents are welcome to participate.

May 20

UTD Spring Lecture Series: "Helping Adolescents Use Electronic Co-mmunication for Good" Dr. Marion Underwood.

May 20-May 21

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters will host A Handsome Woman Retreat starring Kim Wayans as part of its Dress Performance Theatre Series on Friday and Saturday at 8:15 p.m. at the Clarence Muse Theatre in the Dallas Convention Center at the corner of Canton and Akard streets. Admission is \$15. www.tbaal.org

May 21

Dallas Free to Breathe® 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Walk 6:45 a.m. – Event day registration begins at Oak Point Park and Nature Preserve located at 2801 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano. Fees range from \$15 - \$25, info at http://freetobreathe.com/

May 21 -May 22

Ultimate Women's Expo presents a perfect commercial platform for exhibitors to showcase & promote their

products and services in front of the potential attendees. It will demonstrate a stunning range of women's products, women's fashion items, outfits, shoes, bags, cosmetics, accessories. household goods, interior designing stuff and many other lifestyle goods from across the world. The event will also feature beauty studio, cooking theatre, entertainment stage, tasting lounge, hair makeover stage, martini bar & nail bar, fashion show, beauty lounge and holiday entertainment stage. http://www.dallaswomensexpo.com

May 21 - July 23

Market Cooking Demonstrations at Dallas Farmer's Market 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

May 21 – 22

My Chemical Romance is playing at the House of Blues.

May 22

Arts District Chorale Season, Broken Boundaries and Ancient Lands: An American Quilt, SMU's Perkins Chapel. Info: artsdistrictchorale.org.

May 24

Dallas City Wide Health Fair at Dallas City Hall, 6th
Fl Flag Room from 9 a.m. – 2
p.m.

May 26

McKinney ISD and the Care Van will offer free immunizations for infants to 18 year olds from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Lawson Early Childhood Center, 500 Dowell St. in McKinney. Child must be accompanied by parent or guardian. A copy of child's immunization record necessary for immunizations and no is appointment necessary.

Garland Mayor Ronald E. Jones will host his monthly "Mayor's Evening In" event on Thursday, May 26 from 5 to 7 p.m. This

month's event will be held at the Mayor's Office, 200 North Fifth Street. Info: 972-205-2471 or edattomo@garlandtx.gov.

May 27

Comedian **Sinbad** will perform at Centerstage at **Choctaw Casino** in Durant, Okla. Tickets are \$39.50 and \$75. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Show starts at 8 p.m. www. choctawcasinos.com

Devin The Dude brings his show to Granada Theatre, 3524 Greenville Ave. in Dallas at 7 p.m. Individuals 21 and older admitted. Tickets are \$20. 214-824-9933.

Culinary demo with wine pairing at Cityfest Arts hosted by Regional Executive Chef David F. Holben of Del Frisco's Double Eagle Steak House serving Barbecue Spice Rub Chicken with Mango Mojito Chutney and wine pairing: Robert Mondavi Private Select Chardonnay and Robert Mondavi Select Cab

May 31

This Memorial Day holiday escape the summer heat by heading over to Buttons Restaurant to enjoy the "Buttons, Blues & Barbeque" dinner. Beginning at 5 p.m., this celebratory dinner will feature a variety of Chef Keith "Buttons" Hicks barbeque classics including smoked brisket, smoked chicken, smoked sausage and pork ribs, as well as his famous potato salad, deviled eggs, barbeque red beans and collard greens. The soulful sounds of Texas Blues music will set the mood for the evening, so guest should bring both an appetite and their dancing shoes! To make reservations, please call the restaurants directly or visitwww.buttonsrestaurant.com

June 3

McKinney High Graduation scheduled for 10 a.m. at

Prestonwood Baptist Church, 6801 West Park Blvd, Plano. Info: 972-820-5000, prestonwood.org

June 4

DeSoto Parks and Leisure Services presents Creekfest from 3 to 9 p.m. at the DeSoto Amphitheater, 211 Pleasant Run Road in DeSoto. 5 Second Rule will perform at 4 p.m., Sons of God at 5:30 p.m., Lil Cane at 5 p.m., Joe King at 6:45 p.m. and Havana NRG at 7:45 p.m. www.ci.desoto.tx.us

June 11

Home Buying Expo from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Friendship West Baptist Church, 2020 West Wheatland Road, Dallas. Info: 214- 819 6060 or email HLCC@dallascounty.org for more information

June 18

Urban League of Greater Dallas 2011 Women's Health Expo. The event, which works in partnership with National HIV Testing Day, will be held at Southwest Center Mall, 3663 W. Camp Wisdom in Dallas from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

June 23

From 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., the Urban League is *Re-Employing Dallas and Fort Worth* at this year's **Job Fair and Career Symposium**. The event will be held at the Texas Discovery Gardens at Fair Park, 3601 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd, Dallas. 214-915-4600

August 20

AnyEvent Event Planning Services is hosting **Event Planners Boot Camp** at UTA, 701 S. Nedderman Dr. Arlington, from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Info: Teri Robinson at 214-376-6530 or at teri@anyevent.org. Register online at www. anyevent.org.

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Congressional Black Caucus celebrates 40th anniversary

By Ofield Dukes (NNPA) This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC).

The contributions of CBC members in ushering a new era of Black political empowerment are enormous. Unfortunately, these history-making legislative accomplishments of Black members of the U.S. Congress are not as well known by their constituents and the new generation of young Black Americans as they should be.

So, in a classic contemporary alliance between Black politicians and Black publishers, Danny Bakewell, the chairman of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), has invited present and former CBC members to submit commentaries that will appear in local NNPA newspapers about the challenges they faced across America, and especially in the U.S. Congress, in responding to legislative and societal issues relevant to African Ameri-

I had the privileged of assisting in organizing and coordinating public relations for the first CBC dinner, held on June 18, 1971.

Rep. Charles Diggs, Jr. (D-MI) as the senior Black member of Congress, began a deliberate process of organizing the CBC.

Having a prior friendship with Rep. Diggs, a Democrat who was a popular Detroit funeral home director, I was aware of his concern that President Richard Milhous Nixon might try to dismantle the historic civil rights legislation and Great Society programs passed under the courageous leadership of President Lyndon Baines Jonson. Diggs also took umbrage that President Nixon refused to meet with the 13 Blacks that were in the Congress at that time.

Ms. Carolyn P. DuBose, a former press secretary to Rep. Diggs, described in her well-researched book, "The Untold Story of Charles

Diggs," how Diggs began organizing the CBC by establishing a Democratic Select Committee in 1969. She quoted Rep. Diggs as saying: "They did not call me. I am the one who called them. I am the guy that called the meetings."

Added Diggs, according to Ms. DuBose, "I deliberately did not come in there Pharaoh-style. I wanted things to come up through the group to set the pattern about what they wanted to

In addition to a climate of White House hostility, in the civil rights movement, there emerged a militant Black power movement led by Stokely Carmichael and H. Rapp Brown. They both advocated meeting White with Black violence, contrary to the non-violent approach of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

There was also fear and anxiety in the White community in linking such a radical effort by Black members in the U.S. Congress with the Black power movement.

tions firm out of the National Press building when Rep. Diggs called me out of great concern for White and even Black perceptions associating the newly formed Congressional Black Caucus with the Black power movement.

Diggs and I discussed a strategy of my firm convening a press conference at the National Press Club to clarify the objectives of the CBC. At the press conference, CBC members Rep. Louis Stokes and Rep. Williams Clay eloquently explained the political objectives of the Black Caucus and the planned first dinner that June.

A White syndicated columnist had written that the CBC dinner in June could

be raising funds in support of a CBC member planning



Actor, orator Ossie Davis (center) gave an electrifying speech at the founding dinner of the Congressional Black Caucus on June 18, 1971. Bill Cosby (left) also participated in the dinner that attracted a record crowd. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Rep. John Conyers, Jr. (D-MI) although Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-NY) actually

lease on the CBC dinner, I wrote: "Funds from the \$100 per plate banquet will be used by the Caucus to finance a permanent, independent staff to conduct indepth analysis of issues and polices relevant to Black and poor America."

The news release continued, "In a formal statement, the Caucus said. 'Rumors. news reports, editorials and other media statements are appearing frequently, implying sponsorship of the dinner is related to secret plans in support of a black member of Congress for the presidency in the 1972 elections. The Congressional Black Caucus categorically denies that any money raised by us at this affair will go to support one black or white, Democrat, Republican, 3rd party or 4th party who is a candidate for the presidency.'

In my firm's handling the public relations for the first dinner, there was concern about people coming to the nation's capital paying as much as \$100 to attend a dinner. That was quite a

sum of money at that time. But at the dinner, there was an overwhelming crowd. The hotel ballroom had a capacity of 2, 400, 10 persons at 24 tables. However, there were 2,800 excited people squeezed into the ballroom, a standing room only crowd.

We had an anxious moment at the hotel when the fire marshal threatened to do something about the unsafely of such an overflow crowd. That could have led to a riot and a public relations disaster.

The dinner, itself, was a huge success, with entertainment by singers Nancy

Wilson and Billy Eckstein, humor by Dick Gregory and Bill Cosby, and an electrifying speech by actor/orator Ossie Davis.

Davis told the audience that "It's not the man; it's the plan; it's not the rap; It's the

Davis went on to say, "At the time when Dr. King died in 1958, he was in the process of organizing his forces and calling upon his people to come one more time to Washington, D.C. And, I have a feeling that had he come that time he would not have said, 'I have a dream.' He would have said, 'I have a plan." And, I feel that that plan that he might have made a difference.'

Ossie Davis' profound remarks that inspired the founding 13 members of the Congressional Black Caucus and the thousands who attuned that first dinner 40 years ago are as relevant today. And, so is the work of the Congressional Black Caucus.



Thirteen members of the Congressional Black Caucus were the original founders of the organization in 1971. The CBC has now grown to 42 members as the CBC celebrates its 40th anniversary. The 13 founding members in the photo are (front row, from left) are Rep. Robert N.C. Nix, of Pennsylvania; founding CBC Chairman Rep. Charles C. Diggs, Jr., of Michigan, Rep. Shirley Chisholm, of New York, and Rep. Augustus F. Hawkins, of California.

Standing are (from left to right) are Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, of Maryland, Rep. Charles B. Rangel, of New York, Rep. William L. Clay, of Missouri, Rep. Ronald v. Dellums, of California, Rep. George W. Collins, of Illinois, Rep. Louis Stokes, of Ohio, Rep. Ralph H. Metcalfe, of Illinois, Rep. John Conyers, Jr., of Michigan, and Rep. Walter Fauntroy, Non-voting Delegate of the District of Columbia.

I was in the second year to run for president. The of operating my public rela-

suggested candidate was

ran for president in 1972. In my initial news re-

Gazette Gossip: Keys comes clean about being a home wrecker ... four years later

By Tonya Whitaker NDG Staff Writer

Now that singer Alicia Keys and her hubby Swizz Beatz are happily nestled in their nuptials, Keys has decided to speak out about the accusations that she was home wrecker who lured Beatz from his then-wife Mashonda Tifrere. In an interview with Essence magazine, Keys said Beatz and Tifrere were separated

when she and Beatz hooked up. "We didn't start seeing each other until months after they had separated," she said. "I was aware of all the false things that were being said about me; it definitely hurt." I don't care what sob story she is attempting to tell, Beatz was a married man. Separation and divorce are two different things, lady, and I really don't understand why she

has take so long to comment. Boo-hoo, she was hurt was by the words of others. You were getting your groove on with a married man. Of course, people would talk. Don't forget Beatz had a baby with British singer Jahna Sebastian while he was married to Tifrere. He cheated on Tifrere with Keys and Sebastian. Alicia needs to file these two adages in the

back of her mind: "Once a dog, always a dog" and "what comes around goes around."

Did Serena go too far?

On May 4, a 40-yearold Florida man was arrested for stalking tennis star **Serena Williams**. Last Friday, Williams found herself in hot water after she posted a provocative photo of herself on Twitter. Gos-



Serena Williams

sips mills were abuzz be-

cause some people thought the photo invited stalkers, especially since Patenema Ouedraogo attempted to find out where she was located by following her tweets. If there is a deranged idiot like Patty O following her, he has the problem. If a person wants to stalk someone, it doesn't matter how little or how much clothes the individual is wearing.

Round About DFW

May 19

DeSoto Parks and Leisure Services presents the first installment of announce its 2011 Music in the Park season of events with a performance from Soul Cake at 6:30 p.m. and Don Diego at 8 p.m. Performances will take place at the DeSoto Amphitheater, 211 Pleasant Run Road in DeSoto. www.ci.desoto.tx. us

May 19-June 11
Rover Dramawerks
will present *Murder at the Orient Burlesque* by awardwinning local playwright
Carol M. Rice. Performances will be at the Cox
Building Playhouse, 1517 H
Avenue in Plano (next to the
Courtyard Theater), continuing through June 11, with

shows on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and an additional matinee performance on Saturday, May 28 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$16 on Thursdays and matinees and \$20 on Fridays and Saturdays and may be ordered online a

www.roverdramawerks.com . Season ticket packages are also available. Thursday, May 19 is Preview Night, and all seats are "pay-what-you-can" at the door.

May 20-21

Black Cinematheque Dallas, South Dallas Cultural Center and P.O.V. will host the 14th annual Black Men's Film Festival. On Friday night at 7:30 p.m., a tribute to Malcolm X will feature the film *Mal*-

Malcolm X

colm X: Make It Plain. Saturday at 7 p.m. will feature Revolution '67, a piece that chronicles the black power protests during the year. In addition, a short film takes a look at the black church and AIDS. On Saturday morning at 11, free films for youth include Barack and Curtis: Manhood, Power and Respect and Revolution '67. Barack and Curtis fea-

tures President Obama and Curtis Jackson, a.k.a. 50 Cent. All films are screened at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh St. in Dallas. Donations accepted at the door.

Call 214-426-1683.

May 25 - 26

Registration for the Simon Cowell singing show, The *X-Factor*, will take place at the Dallas Convention Center, 650 South Griffin Drive in Dallas, on Wednesday at 6 a.m. Wristbands will be distributed until Thursday at 6 a.m. Auditions begin at 8 a.m.

www.fox.com/theXfactor.

May 27

Comedian **Sinbad** will perform at Centerstage at **Choctaw Casino** in Durant, Okla. Tickets are \$39.50 and \$75. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Show starts at 8 p.m. www.choctawcasinos.com

May 27
Devin The Dude brings

his show to Granada Theatre, 3524 Greenville Ave. in Dallas at 7 p.m. Individuals 21 and older admitted. Tickets are \$20. 214-824-9933.

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

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Breakfast at Tiffany's a part of upcoming CityArts Festival

Love old movies? Looking for a unique date-night destination or a free Fridaynight activity with friends? Head to CityArts Festival, and enjoy a free outdoor screening of the 1961 classic *Breakfast at Tiffany's* at 9 p.m. Friday, May 27, at historic Fair Park. Bring a blanket and get cozy on the lawn next to the WRR 101.1 build-

ing. CityArts Festival's outdoor film screening is sponsored by Capital One Bank and hosted by the Dallas Film Society.

Directed by Blake Edwards and based on Truman Capote's novella, *Breakfast at Tiffany's* is the story of Holly Golihtly (Audrey Hepburn), a socialite with a sordid past who finds herself

captivated and falling for an aspiring and struggling writer, Paul (George Peppard) in New York.

Guests may bring blankets and small chairs. Outdoor food and drink is NOT permitted. Concessions (including beer and wine) will be available for purchase.

Admission is free. The City of Dallas charges \$10

for parking within the gates of Fair Park. Enter at Gate 6 (off Robert B. Cullum Blvd. at Martin Luther King Blvd.), or ride DART's Green Line Rail.

CityArts Festival will run Friday, May 27, from 6 – 10 p.m.; Saturday, May 28, from 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.; and Sunday, May 29, from noon – 6 p.m.

New Boyz release second album

Rap duo Ben J and Legacy of the New Boyz are back with their sophomore release, Too Cool To Care, which hit stores May 17, 2011 via Shotty/Warner Bros. Records. The album's first single "Backseat" was inspired by the international club scene and enlists the help of electropop producers The Cataracs and their starlet Dev for a dance-floor banger. With 15

increases at Top 40, the song is now #18 on the Top 40 chart. The gold-selling "Backseat" marks the group's 4th consecutive Top 5 record at Rhythmic stations. Along with The Cataracs, DJ Khalil,

Kane Beatz, Bei Maejor, and a host of other talented upand-coming producers lend their talents to the wideranged album that is now a featured release on Walmart's online "Sound Check."

Mastering Cash Flow Management Part I

In the world of business, cash is king. You can have the best product on the market, but if you run out of cash, it doesn't matter. Poor cash flow is one of the primary reasons businesses fail.

"Companies sometimes aren't realistic when it comes to predicting their income and expenses," says Glenn Lauter, Senior Vice President of Business Banking with Comerica Bank. "Businesses will overestimate their income, underes-

timate their expenses and won't see a cash shortage coming and end up running out of money."

Cash flow is the movement of money within a business, both expenditures and income. The lag between the two is the problem. Cash flow management, delaying outlays of cash as long as possible while encouraging anyone who owes you money to pay it as quickly as possible, is the solution. Successfully

managing cash flow means being able to answer "yes" to the question, "do I have enough cash in my bank account to cover my expenses?"

Lauter offers four tips to make sure your business cash flow management stays on track.

Watch for warning signals. It's easy to get wrapped up in day-to-day operations and overlook indications of upcoming cash flow short falls. To avoid cash flow problems, watch out for and heed early warning signals like account balances that continue to be lower than anticipated for long periods of time, sales slowing down, payments to suppliers being continually delayed and plans for growth that keep being put off. All of these problems should be considered warning signs and should be addressed immediately

Establish a cash flow budget. "A cash flow budget

will enable you to predict your company's ability to take in more cash than it pays out," says Lauter. "It can also predict cash flow gaps so that you can take steps to close, or at least narrow these gaps."

There are items to consider when thinking of a cash flow budget. One is your sales forecast. Any forecast will face some uncertainty due to a difficult economy, inflation and competitive influences. How-

ever, a sales forecast is still an important step in attempting to predict major cash flow problems. You should also take into consideration projections of cash inflows and outflows. Does your business accept cash sales only or does it extend credit? Think of the cost of goods, expenses, major purchases and any debt payment to help predict your outflow as well. All of these will end up affecting your cash flow in the long run.

Dallas to receive \$15 million grant for the planning of high speed rail

Congresswoman Johnson applauds the Department of Transportation for their intention to award \$15 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA or "stimulus") funding for the preliminary engineering and project-level environmental analysis of a high-speed rail route from the Dallas-Fort Worth Area to Hous-

ton

"Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston are two of the largest metropolitan areas in the country," said Congresswoman Johnson. "I am very proud that Texas will receive \$15 million in order to plan and design this important high-speed passenger rail project to connect these great cities. I'm proud to have voted



DART light rail in Dallas, Texas, photo by edgebrook

for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that made this grant possible."

"As the nation's fastest growing region it is essential our residents have transportation choices," said Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) President and Executive Officer, Gary Thomas. "We are pleased to have the opportunity to further explore

how high speed rail could serve the citizens of Texas and specifically the citizens of North Texas."

The funds are part of a \$2 billion ARRA grant that includes \$423 million that newly elected Republican Gov. Rick Scott of Florida rejected. The funding will come from the Federal Railroad Administration.

Urban Jobs Act — A Powerful Weapon in the War on Unemployment

By Marc H. Morial

(NNPA) "Now that I have my second chance, I'm taking it to the max, taking advantage of it to the fullest." Ida DeLeon, 21-year-old participant in the Urban League of Rochester's Job Training Program

Last week, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, of New York, enlisted in the war on urban unemployment with the introduction of the Urban Jobs Act. Gillibrand's Urban Jobs Act is the Senate version of House Bill, H.R. 683, which was introduced earlier this year by New York Representative Edolphus Towns. Both bills would provide federal grant funding to the National Urban League and other non-profit groups to offer job training, education, and other support services for urban youth. The legislation will especially target those who have dropped out of high school or who have had some involvement with

the criminal justice system.

The Labor Department's April jobs report confirms the urgent need for this legislation. While overall unemployment is back up to 9 percent, African American unemployment has now risen to 16.1 percent. Even more disturbing, African American youth unemployment has now climbed to 41.6 percent, the highest rate of any group in the nation. In many urban communities, roughly one-third of minority youth are unemployed. For several years now, the National Urban League has been leading the call for targeted action to address the urban jobs crisis. Our 12point Jobs Rebuild America plan lays out specific strategies to achieve that goal. But Washington has been largely silent, until now.

Upon introducing the legislation, Senator Gillibrand said, "Supporting edu-

See JOBS, Page 12

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McKinney City Council lays out goals, vision Economic development tops the list

The McKinney City nity
Council adopted long-term from
goals and major priorities for
the coming year during their
regular meeting last night.
The five-year strategic goals

the community.
• Strong, balanced economy

include five major points for

- Fiscally sound, serviceoriented city government
- Vibrant, authentic historic district
- Progressive mobility within, to and from McKinney
- Sustainable, unique neighborhoods

"As a City Council, we are working hard to create a vision to keep our commu-

nity's identity as we move from a nationally renowned community into a world-class city. We know that McKinney is an unparalleled place to live, work and play now. By outlining what we are and what we want to be, we are creating the map to help keep us on this path as we grow," said Mayor Brian Loughmiller

The priorities and tactics for the coming year to reach the five-year goals were broken into top priorities and high priorities.

2011 Top Priorities

- 1. City economic development
 - 2. Gateway project
 - 3. Collin County Regional

Airport

4. Corporate business

2011 High Priorities

- 1. Quality development standards
 - 2. Aquatic center
 - 3. Historic District ordi-
 - 4. Annexation policy

Economic development continues to be emphasized. The direction of the Gateway development at the northeast corner of U.S. 75 and the Sam Rayburn Tollway, Collin County Regional Airport development and development of a corporate business park also top the list of priorities. Other high priorities focus on maintaining the city's identity

of a strong hometown spirit and historic ties by ensuring quality development standards, determining direction for an aquatics center, addressing historic district ordinances and creating an annexation policy. "Many of the priorities that take precedence this year are tied to the continued economic vitality of our city. City Council can play a big part in not only ensuring new business development, but managing how we develop to en-

sure that as a community, we keep our unique nature. This is an exciting time for McK-inney, and I believe with the pieces we have in place, we will see major achievements in the coming year," said Loughmiller.

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JOBS, continued from Page 11

cation and training for our youth is a smart investment that will pay dividends over the long term." We agree. We know that youth employment not only helps put food on the table of struggling families, a job can literally turn a young person's life around and provide the skills, work ethic, and experience necessary to grow into productive adulthood.

The Urban Jobs Act would create an Urban Jobs Program and allocate \$23 million in grants to national nonprofit organizations to provide a comprehensive set of services designed to prepare youth, ages 18-24, for the job market. These services include job placement, mentor-

ing, internships. and on-thejob training as well as GED preparation, reading and math remediation, educational enrichment. and post-secondary education. Support services include child care, health and nutrition referral and transportation and housing assistance.

The Urban Jobs Act will provide desperately needed resources to give young people who need it an all-important second chance. It will reduce the disproportionate incarceration of minority youth and prepare eligible young adults for entry into the world of work.

While the Senate bill has just been introduced, we need

to build more momentum in the House. We are urging citizens to follow the link below to sign a letter urging your Representative to join the current co-sponsors of H.R. 683. who include Edolphus Towns (NY), Robert Brady (PA), Corrine Brown (FL), Steve Cohen (TN), John Conyers, Jr. (MI), Alcee Hastings (FL), Jesse Jackson, Jr. (IL), Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX), Gregory Meeks (NY), Donald Payne (NJ), Charles Rangel (NY), Cedric Richmond (LA), Albio Sires (NJ), and Betty Sutton (OH).

Empower yourself, empower your community, and join us in the "War on Unemployment"!

TURMOIL, continued from Page 1

caught up in internal fighting instead of staying the course and bringing people to Christ.

Seals' book relays three messages to the reader: one, do not allow what others say hinder you from doing what God has called you to do; two, correctly identify the enemy; three, release the pain and not carry grudges against church members who hurt you.

"This book is about fighting people on your own team. Let's worship God the way He wants us to worship," said Seals, who is legal guardian of two boys.

Through the use of scenarios and scriptures, Seals helps individuals and

churches resolve their internal struggles. At the end of each chapter, a prayer for the reader to mediate on is offered. Seals said prayer is important for people to survive the friendly fire from other Christians, family and friends.

Seals, a licensed evangelist and member of New Outreach COGIC in McKinney, conceptualized the book 10 years ago. However, it was not until last year that she decided to write the book. Friendly Fire is her inaugural book, but she has others planned. Seals' first outing as an author contains a message of admonishment and encouragement that is needed today.

"The book is written to the ones who may be abusers and do not realize it. Christians can get so caught up in the work that losing sight of who gets the glory is easily done. There are so many people who have been wounded in the church, and they decide to stay away from church," Seals said.

"Helping others and bringing God the glory is our focus."

Friendly Fire: Fighting in the Battle and Losing The War is available for purchase at www.authorhouse.com or by ordering the title at a local bookseller or preferred online retailer.

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GEARS, continued from Page 5 viduals while reducing ozone-pool and transit trips to work,

viduals while reducing ozoneforming pollution and traffic congestion in the region. North Texans who ride their bicycles to work can calculate these benefits online at www.tryparkingit.com. This is the region's alternativecommute website where residents can log carpool, vanpool and transit trips to work, as well as bicycling and walking. The air quality benefits and miles saved from working from home, another alternative to driving to work alone, can also be calculated.

If biking to work Friday is not an option, residents are encouraged to consider an-

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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 0902-48-505 for REPLACE BRIDGE AND APPROACHES in TARRANT County will be opened on June
08, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office. All prospective
bidders are required to attend the pre-bid conference for
Contract 0902-48-505 to be held on June 01, 2011 at
10:00 am at the FT WORTH DISTRICT REGIONAL

TRAINING CENTER, 2501 SOUTH WEST LOOP 820, FORTH WORTH, TX 76133.

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: 36599

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.

other alternative that helps improve air quality and reduces traffic congestion.

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the transportation policy body for the Dallas-Fort Worth area, is dedicated to advancing bicycle/pedestrian planning and projects. The long-term met-

ropolitan transportation plan adopted by the RTC in March includes recommendations for more than 1,600 miles of off-street, shared-use paths designed for bicyclists, pedestrians and other non-motorized forms of transportation to be in place by 2035. More than 230 miles are already in use.

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CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Fort Worth
Contract 0171-05-087 for
INSTALL TRAFFIC SIGNAL in TARRANT County will be
opened on June 07, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
Contract 1330-02-041 for WIDEN FROM 2 LANE
TO 4 LANE FACILITY in TARRANT
County will be opened on June 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.

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200 E. Riverside Dr. | Austin, Texas 78704
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2501 Southwest LP820 | Ft. Worth, Texas 76133
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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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Remediation Project
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Contract 1 & 2 Plant Rehabilitation

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Contact:
 Jimmy Smith
 j.smith@eagelcontractinglp.cor

Dave Mullenix
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AVENUE F CHURCH OF CHRIST IN PLANO

May 21, 8 a.m.

You're welcome to our Men's Prayer Breakfast & Worship Training at the church. Bro. Batts or call 469-348-3312 for details.

May 29, 10:45 a.m. Take charge of your life and your health, come for our Worship Services and stay for our FREE Blood Pressure Clinic.

Brother Ramon Hodridge, Minister 1026 Avenue F Plano, TX 75074 972-423-8833 avefchurchofchrist.org

EIRENE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

May 22 You're invited to join us in praise and worship to God in our 8 a.m. service, our 8:45 a.m. or our 11 a.m. service.

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

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "The Ship"

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

May 21, 8:30 a.m.

You're invited to our Men's Prayer Breakfast for food, fellowship and the Word. Theme: "Not Locked Out, but Locked In To Jesus!" at 105 S. Anna in Allen.

May 29

Join us for Super Sunday as we celebrate family and

friends on this 5th Sunday.

June 18, 10 a.m.

All young ladies are invited to our 1st Annual "I Am Royalty" Teen Girl's Conference for ages 13-19 at the Old Fire Station in Allen for fellowship, information and fun. Call Sis. Cissi Morgan at 214-228-7291 for details.

June 18, 6 p.m.

You're invited to our father and daughter dance with food, fun and fellowship. Call the church for details.

On Going, 7 p.m. Wednesday Night Live in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall on Belmont Drive. Corporate prayer starts at 7 p.m. and our Kidz Zone, an environment to equip children to grow and to

show God's love.

Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr.,

M.Div. Senior Pastor 1550 Edelweiss Drive In Allen for Sunday Morning Worship. Admin. Building Address Is 200 W. Belmont Drive Allen, TX 75013 972-359-9956 www.theship3c.org

FELLOWSHIP OF **BELIEVERS MINISTRIES**

June 12, 3:30 p.m. Join us at Unmerited Favor Church, 4420 Bonnie View Road, Dallas, TX 75216 for our "111 Men in Black and Red 7-UP Conference." Theme: Living in Expectation! Speakers are Ministers Ty Jones, Greater Mt. Olive COGIC, Dallas; Chris Coley, Another Chance Family Fellowship, Mesquite and Aaron Shaw. Pastors Kendron Bailey, Unmerited Favor Church, Dallas; Bryan Redfearn, Crossroads Ministries, Hesperia, CA; John Ross, Trinitarian Church, Dallas and Patrick Fellowship Diggs, New Church, Ft. Worth.

speaking is Minister Kelvin Sharpe, Ennis, TX Bishop G. D. Crawford, Pastor

469-254-5366

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK 'First Church'

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.

June 7, 11:30 a.m. You're invited to our Daughters of Sarah Luncheon, Leaving a Legacy, where we honor senior sisters and caregivers in our Family Life Center. Call the church for details.

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

HILL CHAPEL CME CHURCH

June 24-26

You're invited to our Just Between Sisters Women's Conference. Call the church for

1113 Avenue I Plano, TX 75074 972-423-4090

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

Each Wednesday

Join us at: Every Man's Battle class, Its Tough Being a Woman class and Understanding Spiritual Gifts class.

May 21, 10 a.m. All ladies 18+ years are invited to our Women's Ministry Monthly Enrichment program to get spiritually dressed in the Whole Armor of God for spiritual combat against enemy of souls.

May 21, 3 p.m. Men and women 18+ Men and women 18+ years join us at our Book Club Meeting at Bachman Lake Branch Library, 9480 Webb Chapel Road, Dallas, Texas. We are discussing The Shade of My Own Tree by Sheila Williams. Call the church for details

Pastor Robert Townsend 11611 Webb Chapel Road Dallas, TX 75229 Dallas, TX 752 972-241-6151 www.dallasmtpisgah.org

NEW LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST MINISTRIES

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

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.

May 21 Get information to help your child pass the TAKS Test and STAAR Test and graduate at our Test Taking Skills for Math Parent Workshop. Call the church for details.

June 13

The Summer Enrichment Program for Youth (SEPY) will kickoff. It is designed for boys and girls ages 7-16. The goal is to provide age appropriate education enrichment opportunities, spiritual learning experiences and recreation activities. Call the church for de-

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

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP **CHURCH**

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.

Wednesdays 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

SAINT MARK MBC IN MCKINNEY

Join us each Wednesday for Prayer at 6:30 p.m. and for Family Ministries at 7 p.m. Ďr. Charles Wattley Senior Pastor 1308 Wilcox Street McKinney TX 75069 972-542-6178

> SHILOH MBC **IN PLANO**

www.saintmarkbc.com

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**

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

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

> VICTORY BIBLE **CHURCH** INTERNATIONAL, (VBCI DALLAS)

May 22, 9 a.m. You are invited to a Life Transforming Service that will

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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 Praver will change people, things and

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

"O' Taste and See that the Lord is Good."



Our Soul Food Buffet:

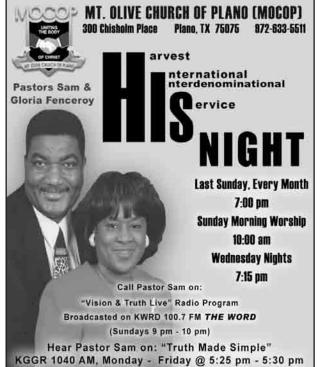
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.

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







Church Directory www.NorthDallasGazette.com



Sister Tarpley

"And David girded his sword upon his armour, and he assayed (tried) to go; for he had not proved it. And David said unto Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them. And David put them off him. 1 Samuel 17:39 (KJV)

Numerous people (and I am certain that all Christians) have heard the story of David and Goliath, the giant champion of Philistine; he was 9'and 9" tall and he had a brass coat and a brass helmet on his head. The Israelites were afraid of him

David, the youngest son of Jesse was a young shepherd boy; he heard the challenge from the Philistines to send someone to fight Goliath. The Philistine said, "I defy the armies of Israel this day give me a man, that we may fight together." Samuel 17:10 (KJV). And no one volunteered to fight except David.

Goliath was offended when David came to fight him and threaten to feed David's flesh to the fowls of the air and the beasts of the fields. But David said to the

Philistine, ". . . Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defiled. This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee, and I will give the carcases of the host Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beast of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel." 1 Samuel 17:45 & 46. (KJV)

King Saul reluctantly agreed and offered David his armor. David put on the weighty equipment, but quickly concluded he could not fight in this heavy armor. He gave it back to king Saul.

God equips each of us in such a way that is unique to the strengths and abilities that He has given us. David knew who he was and who he wasn't. David was trained as a shepherd to use another weapon. For David, it was a slingshot. David showed great maturity in realizing he could not be effective with Saul's armor

Think about the gifts and talents that God has given to

Know Your Shield

you. Have you ever tried to accomplish a task with tools you were not trained to use? God allows each of us to develop skills that are unique to our life. He will not call you to use someone else's gifts or talents. Jesus also used the gifts and talents of the men He picked to be His disci-

However, this is only half of the equation. These talents must be mixed with faith. Talent alone is not enough. Faith alone is not enough. It is only when the two are combined that God's power is released and manifested in the physical realm.

Sometimes we admire the talents of others and seek to emulate them. The temptation arises to be someone we are not. This is a mistake. Allow God to live His life through the unique you and you will be successful because you will be sure of your shield of God. Winston Churchill said, "Success is going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm."

When you use your God

given unique gifts and talents it will be the right decision. And, you must use your faith to know your shield (armor) and receive the power that God will give you.

It has been said that if you let God choose for you, it will be the right decision. If vou let God guide you, it will be the right direction. If you let God plan for you, it will be in the right timing. If you let God measure for you, it will be the right portion. If you let God help you, it will be the right care. If you let God instruct you, it will be the right teaching. If you let God prepare you, it will be the right training. If you let God counsel you, it will be the right perspective. If you let God fight for you, it will be the right outcome. If you let God work in you, it will be the right result.

With so much turmoil in the world today (killings of babies, family members and various other people; robberies, accidents caused by alcohol, drug overdoses, etc. it is good for Christians to re-

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member "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their

wicked ways; then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14. (KJV)



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	
Evening Worship	3:00 pm
Wednesday Rible Class	7:00 pm

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Two Sunday Worship Services: 8:45am & 11:00am

> Wednesday Bible Study 7:30pm

St. Mark Baptist Church hosting **College Megafest 2011**

As the school year wins down to a close St. Mark Baptist Church of McKinney invite high school students and their families to attend College Megafest 2011 weekend.

Events kick off with a comedy show and live jazz music on Friday, May 27 at 7 p.m. at the church. Limited seats are available but tickets are only \$5. The evening's special event will be held at First Baptist Church, 401 W. Erwin Street, McKinney.

One of the performers is Kassy Levels, a 15 year old, singer-songwriter McKinney, Texas. With influences from Beyonce to John Mayer to Journey, Kassy has created a unique sound within the classifications of pop leaning toward adult contemporary. Her first album "Storyteller" was released March 2011.

Kassy's amazing vocal



talents were recognized by her Sunday school teacher when she was just 9 years old. She convinced Kassy to start singing on the worship team with the adults. Not long after, she developed a passion for music and writing songs. She started with worship music that was used in the church where her father is pastor. The songs were so good that people started asking for recordings.

As Kassy entered her teens, she started to write songs that related to situa-

tions in her life. The songs have found a much broader audience then one might expect for a young teen as the depth of her lyrics speak to multiple generations, not just her peers.

Saturday, May 28 is filled with a special line-up for not only students but their families as well.

They include:

- •Health and Career Fair 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- •Praise Dance Fest 2 5

•Step Show 7 p.m.

Announced vendors for the Health and Career Fair

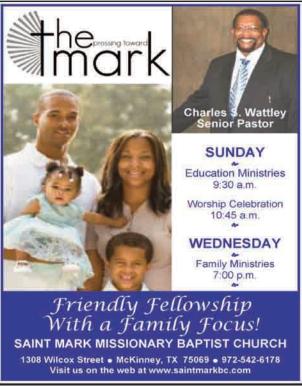
- 1. City of McKinney Fire and Safety
- 2. City of McKinney Police
- 3. Green Path Credit Service
- 4. Health Services of North Texas w/ The Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse

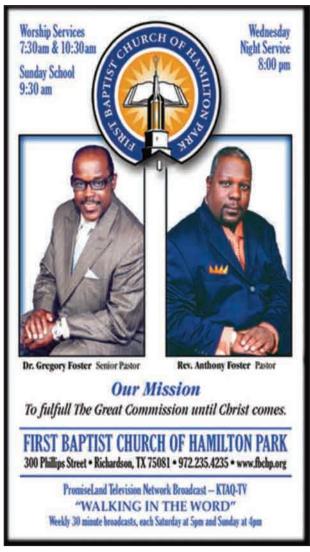
- 5. The Turning Point Rape Crisis Center of Collin County
- 6. The Geriatric Wellness Center
- 7. National Credit Solu-
 - 8. LA Fitness
 - 9. Massages by Amy
 - 10. Herbalife
 - 11. Week-n-Bargains 12. D-Tech Automotive
- 13. Molski Chiropractic
- 14. The Bridge Breast Network
- 15. Be The Match Registry

16. Legal Aid of North West of Texas- McKinney

These events are open to the public and will be held at St. Mark Church Campus located at 1308 Wilcox Street in McKinney. The cost of admission is a nonperishable food item benefiting our friends at McKinney Community Food Pantry.







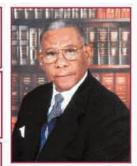


New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas

Sunday Service Morning Worship 7:30 am & 10:30 am 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



Dr. Robert E. Price, Sr. Senior Pastor

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Isiah Joshua, Jr. Senior Pastor

2011 Theme: One Family: Praying, Praising, Preaching and Participating to the Glory of God

www.smbcplano.org

Worship Times: 8 and 11 a.m. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Mid-week: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Youth Church: Every 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sunday at 11:00am AWANA: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Contact Information: 972-423-6695