

North Dallas Gazette



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NAACP, NNPA, and others urge FCC to approve AT&T's acquisition of T-Mobile USA

A coalition of advocacy groups, including the NAACP and NNPA, today encouraged the Federal Communications Commission to approve AT&T's acquisition of T-Mobile USA, saying the merger is in the best interests of millions of African Americans.

The coalition told the

FCC that the AT&T/T-Mobile deal will bring wireless Internet access to areas now lacking broadband, will save users money and will create new jobs nationwide.

"The merger of AT&T with T-Mobile USA stands to bring some much-needed relief to the African American community by helping to

close the digital divide and increasing access to vital services in urban and rural communities," wrote Hilary Shelton, senior vice president for advocacy for the NAACP, in a letter to FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski.

Joining the NAACP and NNPA in the letter were the leaders of a broad coalition of

civil rights and national black intergovernmental organizations representing 40 million African Americans.

The coalition pointed out that although African Americans are leaders in adopting wireless Internet access, they often must contend with poor service.

See NAACP, Page 16

Juneteenth celebration and concert planned for Irving

Jackie Townsell Bear Creek Heritage Center in Irving, Tex. is hosting a Juneteenth celebration that will include special events for the entire family. The program will feature museum tours, and vendors will be on site to sell food and drinks. The event planners are promising a concert with funk and old



school R & B performers.

In the US, slavery was officially abolished with the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation. However, the slaves in Texas were unaware of their freedom until June 19, 1865, a day now commonly celebrated as "Juneteenth." For many years it was primarily celebrated only in Texas, how-

ever as African Americans migrated it has become more common in other parts of the country.

The free event will be held at the Jackie Townsell Bear Creek Heritage Center located at 3925 Jackson Street. If you have any questions, for more information call 972-721-2501 or 972-721-2519.

Notification going out to African American farmers about \$1.25 billion class action settlement begins

The Court ordered process of officially notifying African American farmers and their heirs about the \$1.25 billion "Pigford II" class action settlement, In re Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation, is underway.

Class members should visit www.BlackFarmer-Case.com or call 1-877-810-8110 for complete information, including the detailed notice, key dates, and claims-filing information.

African American far-

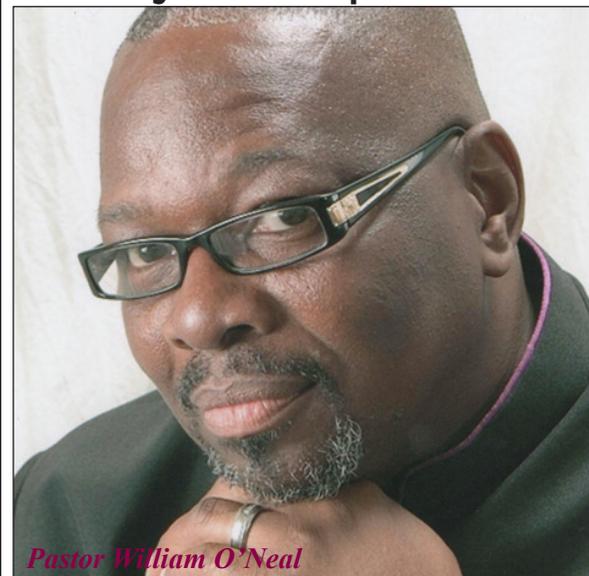
mers around the country who tried to file a claim in the 1999 Pigford Settlement but were unable to receive a decision on the merits because their claims were late are now receiving information about their legal rights and options

under the Settlement by postal mail. A comprehensive paid published notice program will complement this direct notice. The program will include a nationwide radio advertising campaign, including heavy

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COVER STORY

Irving's City Council Place 3 run-off election leaving minority voters no room to ignore this important election



Pastor William O'Neal

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Bobby Brown gets wasted in airport, passes out on plane

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

COMMENTARY

Work is a Necessity

By Julianne Malveaux (NNPA) I consider myself something of a word-smith, so I am always amazed in the work of others, especially when they are government bureaucrats. The most recent unemployment figures, which show the unemployment rate rising, and the pace of job creation slowing, are interesting and incisive. The Employment Situation says that the unemployment rate is "essentially unchanged" as it has moved from 9 to 9.1 percent. In April more than 200,000 jobs were created;

in May it was a scant 54,000. Still, the situation was "essentially unchanged". Give me a break. That means someone is fudging and smudging the fact that our economy is sputtering.

This could well be expected given the fact that most cities and states are now grappling with ways to balance their budgets, and that includes layoffs of government workers. Furthermore, we can expect a sputtering economy given the drama that is taking place in Washington around increasing the debt

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People In The News...



Lateef Sarnor



dianne gibson



Faith Morris

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Lateef Sarnor

AOL Advertising has announced that Lateef Sarnor has been named Industry Practice Head for the Multicultural category. Sarnor will be responsible for partnering with sales leadership to execute a national audience-specific strategy working with the team from Blackvoices.com, the number 2 web site in the African American category, and AOL Latino, a top five web site in the Latino category, to help develop breakthrough ideas and creative solutions for marketers. He will also repre-

sent AOL at industry events providing insights and trends in the two industries. He is based in the New York office.

"I believe my strong relationships with key agencies and advertisers combined with my vast experience will help me to lead the multicultural team in a positive direction. I'm eager to find new ways to drive revenue in this expanding space."

Six Industry Practice Heads, including CPG/Health, Travel, Automotive,



Finance, Entertainment and Technology were announced recently as part of the newly

formed Industry Development team led by John Burke who joined AOL earlier this year.

"The Industry Development team is the next evolution of our strategy to be the most customer centric sales team in the marketplace," said John Burke, Senior Vice President, AOL Global Sales Strategy. "The Industry Practice Head brings domain expertise, strategic vision and significant client experience in their respective categories." Burke continued, "Lateef

Sarnor has incredible experience and a deep understanding of the marketplace's needs, as well as the ability to translate those needs into saleable solutions. He will be a great addition to the team focusing on the ever growing multicultural market."

Sarnor has more than fifteen years of experience at high profile media and entertainment companies, including BET, Black Enterprise, PowerOne Media and Def Jam Records. He spent nearly four years at BET Networks, most recently serving as Director for the Brand Solutions Group where he oversaw op-

erations of the business unit focused on revenue generating product integrations, branded entertainment programs and high impact advertisement programs across all BET platforms. He was primarily responsible for identifying digital strategies and integration opportunities for BET's large roster of advertising clients.

Prior to BET, Sarnor worked at Black Enterprise where he coordinated the daily operations of the interactive group, and was a key driver behind the content and user strategy for the website.

See SARNOR, Page 10

dianne gibson

dianne gibson ("Miss Community") and State Farm Insurance Companies, will receive the Urban League of Greater Dallas' highest awards at its annual Gala on Saturday, August 27, 2011 at the Hilton Anatole Hotel, 2201 Stemmons Freeway. Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

"This year's honorees continue to set high standards through their service to our communities," said Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, Urban League President and CEO.

gibson will receive the Whitney M. Young Jr. Humanitarian Award for her long-standing support of the

Urban League of Greater Dallas and her contributions and volunteerism to organizations throughout the Dallas Fort Worth Metroplex. For over 25 years, gibson, a Community Court Manager for the City of Dallas, has worked with the community to provide social services and housing. She is an experienced public relations and media professional and has developed programs including "Give-A-Kid A Chance Back-To-School Program which has provided school supplies and clothes to over 4,000 children; YMCA Health and Fitness Fair, Summer Camp for

Youth; and food and clothing programs for the homeless.

As part of her community outreach, gibson has coordinated advance work for national, state and local officials at grassroots events throughout the Dallas Fort Worth area. She shares a 15 year partnership with WFAA-TV's Santa's Helper Program and other non-profits which provides toys, food, and finances for families during the holiday season. She is also well known for her "Miss Community" radio show on K-104 FM which keeps the community informed about events. She is a member of Concord Missionary Baptist Church and has one son, Damorris Dock who serves in the United



States Navy and is currently stationed in Japan.

State Farm Insurance Companies will receive the Buddy J. Minyard Award which recognizes a corporate partner that supports the League and its mission. State

Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company®, the largest auto insurer in the United States and well known for being a "good neighbor" by "being there" for its customers, was founded in 1922 by retired farmer and insurance salesman George Jacob "G.J." Mecherle. His original vision was simple, operate fairly and do the right thing for customers. While his vision still guides the company today, the continued mission is to be the first and best choice in the products and services they provide.

State Farm also works to build safer, stronger, and better educated communities

across the United States and Canada. They are committed to the future by helping raise the levels of achievement of teachers and students and building strong communities by supporting programs that enable home ownership. They are heavily involved in and support communities through sponsorships, safety programs, education leadership, and service-learning.

One of Rhythm & Blues music's most beloved and consistently popular vocal groups, The Whispers, will provide the entertainment for this year's Gala. For ticket information, call 214-915-4600. For hotel reservations call the Hilton Anatole at 800-955-4281, group code ULD

Faith Morris

Owens Morris Communications announced the launch of an expanded practice to in-



clude segmented lifestyle and lifestage marketing. With this change comes a new name, Merge Consumer Marketing.

"We're expanding our practice to include an emerg-

ing consumer marketplace," said Faith Morris, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Strategist, Merge Consumer Marketing. "More Americans than ever before are merging with other cultures, creating new mindsets on how they perceive, purchase and engage with brands based on where they live, who they love, and with whom and how they socialize. Being brand champions who use consumer insights to reach beyond eth-

nicity to address the ways people interact and respond in this new blended society is pivotal. It's life marketing which helps us to reach, connect and motivate the target

audience based on what's most important to them and their needs."

Hello Merge. "We know consumers have choice, but framing their preferences to create and sustain loyalty to our clients' brands is a science that requires stepping outside the traditional lines and creating new strategic approaches that resonate and deliver," added Morris. "Our clients benefit from us stirring things up a bit and finding innovative ways to effectively reach the consumer."

The Merge team, assembled by Morris, has been further strengthened by the addition of Kevin Williams who, as Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer, solidifies the agency's experience in developing and implementing strategies for clients in a blended consumer environment. Williams' career spans developing marketing campaigns to engage con-

sumers globally for Coca-Cola's PowerAde brand to marketing automotive brands such as BMW and tourism destinations such as Bermuda. Williams led the marketing to reach and motivate the black population for the 2010 US Census, which drove record participation.

"I'm thrilled to join Merge's Executive Management Team. The consumer marketing landscape has evolved beyond traditional marketing approaches. Agencies must be willing to re-engineer their methodologies," said Williams. "Our business model provides us with the flexibility to address, in real time, the ever-changing business, client and consumer dynamics."

Chicago-based Merge Consumer Marketing, Inc. (Merge) is a full-service segmented marketing agency providing advertising, media planning and buying, public

relations, experiential marketing (events & promotions),

and television production. Visit www.getmerged.com.

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Threat to Blacks in the Public Sector

By: Lee Saunders

Radical conservative politicians want to slash city, county and state jobs - and undercut the economic security of African-American families, says this union official.

When I was growing up in Cleveland, some of the most respected people in my neighborhood were the folks who worked for the city, county or state. My father was a city bus driver who took great pride in getting people safely to and from their jobs every day. My mother was a community college teacher who loved preparing her students for success.

It turns out that my family was far from unique: Twenty-one percent of all black workers are public employees, making the public sector the largest employer of black workers, according to a recent University of California, Berkeley study (pdf). The

wages that African Americans earn in the public sector are higher than those we earn in other industries. Furthermore, there is less wage inequality between African-American workers and nonblack workers in the public sector than in other industries.

The author of the study, Steven Pitts of Berkeley's Center for Labor Research and Education, emphasizes that his analysis is based on the national workforce. In cities where African Americans are a larger proportion of the population, "the importance of the public sector to black employment prospects" is even greater.

Another recent finding makes Pitts' conclusions even more significant. According to the Economic Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., although the economy is showing some signs of recovery, African Americans in 2010 had unemployment rates of at least

15 percent in severely depressed states -- levels not seen since the Great Depression.

These revelations mean that the plans by radical governors to rob public employees of their rights, shrink pay and benefits, and cut jobs will have a disproportionate impact on black families and communities. In other words, white America's bad cold has turned into pneumonia for black America -- and it will get worse if ultraconservative politicians cripple public-sector unions, making them incapable of protecting their members.

Both of my parents were active union members because they knew that the labor-rights and civil rights movements were the way for African Americans to achieve upward mobility and equality. In fact, labor unions and civil rights organizations have worked hand in hand in just about

every fight for equality and economic justice that our nation has known.

When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, he was in Memphis, Tenn., on behalf of 1,300 sanitation workers, members of AFSCME Local 1733. They were on strike for more than a bigger paycheck; as their "I am a man" signs made clear, they wanted respect for the work they did. King stood with them because he recognized that freedom requires that workers have a voice, the ability to provide for their families and the power to shape their destinies.

Not only do public-sector jobs mean economic security for black families; they are also jobs that are vitally important to communities across this nation. Whether they are teachers, bus drivers, sanitation workers, snowplow opera-

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limit. The Tea Party folks, if they had their way, would fully dismantle government, throwing hundreds of thousands of workers into the streets. Rising unemployment? That's just the tip of the iceberg.

Yet in a society where most people work for a living, public policy must embrace work as a necessity. We have to ensure that any able bodied person who wants to be gainfully engaged in the capitalistic system has an opportunity to do so. That means that work has to work that people have to work, that people have to have the opportunity to work, that government must promote the creation of work, and that when necessary government subsidize the development of working opportunities.

Instead, we have seen a recession and a so-called recovery that has not embraced the centrality of work in our society. Too many people are living at the periphery of the economic mainstream. Those people were told, when the May un-

employment rates were released, that their misery is none of the government's concern. Yet they are homeowners and taxpayers, parents and producers, people who didn't plan for their factory to close or for the demand for their products to simply dry up. Economic recovery is a bitter pill for some to swallow when their lives have not recovered from the drama also known as a massive shift in the ways that Americans deal with work and economic integrity.

It seems that we have all sipped on the Kool-Aid that deifies the rich. They must have it going on, and why don't we? Why can't we spur a populist economic movement that says something else, instead? Why can't we embrace Dr. Martin Luther King's message when he said "I have the audacity to believe that people everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, peace and freedom for their spirits." In other words, how come we

can't decide that everyone can eat and be educated? How come we can't make eating and educating a cultural imperative?

To put some meat on the official numbers we should note that nearly 14 million people are officially unemployed, with 6.5 million (45 percent) of them being unemployed for more than half a year. These are just the official numbers. The unofficial numbers make these look miniscule. This is not a double the flavor, double the fun situation. It's called double the pain.

What do we do with all this pain? How do we begin to respond to our fellow citizens? The future of our nation hinges on our ability to engage more people in the business and the work of this economy. We engage people by involving them, educating them, empowering them. Yet, we are cutting education funds because we can't raise the debt ceiling, because we are broke.

At the end of the day, here is what we need to know. When work doesn't

work, life doesn't work for too many Americans. When work doesn't work, too many people are kicked to the curb, told they are usefulness and left to their own devices. In an entrepreneurial culture that can be a good thing. If we encourage entrepreneurship, people can invent, and promote their ideas. But when there are no open arms for those who have been sidelined, they are likely to engage in actives that can be interpreted as less than wholesome.

Too many people speak of the centrality of work without understanding how to make work happen. The most recent unemployment rates remind us that too many of our friends and neighbors have been placed outside the economic mainstream. What must we do to make it better, especially when this is a burden that falls heavy on the African American community?

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

June 5, 2011, marks 30 years since the first cases of AIDS in the U.S.

On June 5, 2011, the United States marked "30 Years of AIDS." It was on that date in 1981 that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) published a report on the first cases of AIDS in the U.S. This was the first official report of what would become known as the "AIDS epidemic."

Today, an estimated 1.1 million Americans are living with HIV, and nearly one out of five people living with HIV do not know it, according to the CDC. Over the past 30 years, the U.S. and other countries have made great strides in HIV prevention, treatment, research, and policy. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) AIDS.gov program has compiled a timeline highlighting some of these key milestones.

While research for a cure is still under way, HIV testing is especially critical.

On June 27, the nation will observe the annual National HIV Testing Day, initiated 17 years ago by the National Association of People with AIDS. People can find a local HIV testing site and/or other services including housing, substance abuse, family planning, mental health, and health centers by entering their ZIP code into the HIV Prevention and Services Provider locator tool.

"We have made tremendous progress in addressing this epidemic over the past 30 years and we are not giving up the fight," said Howard K. Koh, MD, MPH, HHS assistant secretary for health. "I look forward to the day when this devastating disease is a part of our history, not our future."

Last July, with input from thousands of scientists, healthcare providers, AIDS advocates, and people living with HIV among others, President Obama launched the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, America's

roadmap for addressing this epidemic domestically. The primary goals of the strategy are to: 1) reduce the number of new HIV infections; 2) increase access to care and improve health outcomes for people living with HIV and AIDS; and 3) reduce HIV-related health disparities. Over the past year HHS has worked with government and community partners to implement the strategy and the nation continues to work to meet those goals.

As we approach "30 years of AIDS", National HIV Testing Day, and the one-year anniversary of the release of the strategy, the federal government has organized multiple events. AIDS.gov is hosting a stakeholder webinar and conference call on June 15, at 3pm (ET) where key government leaders will provide an update on The State and Future of HIV/AIDS

For more information on "30 Years of AIDS" activities, please visit AIDS.gov.

Dallas Bar Association Lawyers help Jewish Family Service of Greater Dallas

The Dallas Bar Association's Community Involvement Committee is hosting a food drive benefiting Jewish Family Service of Greater Dallas. The Jewish Family Service Food Pantry was established in 1983 to distribute food and household items to Jewish and non-Jewish members of the community in need. They serve low-income families from within Dallas county and 20 zip codes in North Dallas, and are an affiliate of

the North Texas Food Bank.

The DBA's Community Involvement Committee, led this year by Co-Chairs Paul Herring, of Andrews Kurth, LLP, and Christina McCracken, of Gordon & Rees, LLP, provides volunteer attorneys for community projects and activities such as Habitat for Humanity, annual food and clothing drives, blood drive, reading program at Mi Escuelita, Trinity River Mission and other commu-

nity organizations.

Donations will be accepted Friday, June 3, through Friday, June 24, at the Belo Mansion, 2nd Floor (2101 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX) or Jewish Family Service (5402 Arapaho Rd., Dallas, TX).

For more information please contact the Dallas Bar Association Community Involvement Committee Staff Liaison Kathryn Zack at kzack@dallasbar.org or 214-220-7450 for more information.

FARMERS, continued from Page 1

focus on areas where large numbers of class members are believed to live. A Summary Notice will also be published in a variety of print publications including African American newspapers, general market daily and community newspapers, and farming and ranching trade publications.

Finally, online ads will appear on a variety of websites.

The plaintiffs and USDA announced the proposed settlement in late 2010 and President Obama signed the bill authorizing payment of the Settlement on December 9, 2010. If approved by the Court, the

settlement will resolve discrimination claims related to USDA farm loans and other benefits. The proposed settlement includes \$1.25 billion for cash payments and loan forgiveness for class members who file valid claims.

Class members eligible for the Settlement are African Americans who farmed (or attempted to farm) between January 1, 1981 and December 31, 1996; were prevented from applying for or were denied a USDA farm loan during that period or were given a loan with unfair terms; and who filed or attempted to file a late claim between October 13, 1999 and June 18, 2008 in the original Pigford case that was never considered because they tried to submit it after the late claim deadline. Heirs or kin of people who fit this description but have since passed away may also be class members.

Class members' rights may be affected by the Settlement even if they do not act. Those who wish to object to the Settlement must do so by August 12, 2011. The deadline for filing claims under this Settlement may be as early as February 28, 2012. The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia will consider whether to grant final approval of the Settlement at a hearing in Washington D.C. on September 1, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.



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Counselor to speak at VNA Bereavement Luncheon on June 30

Larry Barber, a licensed professional counselor, will be the featured speaker at the June 30 bereavement luncheon hosted by the Visiting Nurse Association. Mr. Barber will speak on "Maintaining a Healing Relationship

When a Loved One Dies."

The luncheon is from noon to 1 p.m. at the Church of the Incarnation on 3966 McKinney Avenue in Dallas. There is no cost to attend the luncheon, but reservations are requested and can be

made through June 28 by calling (214) 689-2633.

VNA's bereavement luncheons offer supportive company from friendly and understanding people to individuals who have suffered the loss of a loved one.

Irving resident provides free transportation to Irving voting poll

Irving, it's time to get out there and vote. Early voting has started and will continue throughout the weekend until next Tuesday, June 21. But how can you vote if you can't get to the polls?

This is the question Irving resident Anthony Bonds asked himself when he decided that the voice of the people should not be determined by transportation or lack thereof. Many of Irving's eligible voters want to

get out there and be heard but are unable to get to the polls.

Bonds will be providing free transportation to the polls during the entirety of

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Timothy Carmack becomes third Veterans Court graduate on the 67th Anniversary of "D-Day"

Monday, June 6 on the 67th anniversary of the Allied Invasion of Normandy known as "D-Day", Dallas County Veterans Court Judge Michael Snipes approved the dismissal of a felony possession of a controlled substance charge against Timothy Carmack following his successful completion of drug rehabilitation at the VA clinic in Bonham, Texas. Carmack is the third Veterans Court graduate, following an Air Force veteran and Army veteran.

Carmack, a veteran of Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield was honorably discharged from the United States Navy in the early 1990s. Since then, he became addicted to heroin and homeless. While Carmack was living on the streets of Dallas, he was arrested and indicted for pos-

session of heroin. Carmack requested enrollment in Veterans Court shortly after the specialized court was created in 2010.

"Simply put, it is smart on crime to have this Veterans Court to address the specific issues that we see over and over again with the men and women who have proudly served our great nation, particularly those who have been in combat," said Craig Watkins, Dallas County District Attorney. "Thanks to the counseling and rehabilitative services provided through the Veterans Court program, Mr. Carmack has a second chance at life."

In Dallas County, honorably discharged veterans charged with first-time felony offenses that would normally result in a recommendation for probation can apply for Veterans

Court. If, after being assessed by a mental health specialist, the veteran is found to have a mental disorder — like drug addiction or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) — that caused or influenced the person to commit a felony, he or she might be eligible for Veterans Court.

Veterans Court participants attend court weekly to inform the judge and their peers about the progress they have made in returning stability to their lives. Depending on their diagnoses, they are treated for drug addiction, PTSD, traumatic brain injury, clinical depression, or a host of other issues that they suffer from,

at least in part, as a result of their honorable combat service. Each participant is also assigned a mentor who is also a veteran. The mentors help participants by serving as a sounding board and by recreating the "buddy teams" that bind military personnel in combat. Veterans' service groups, individual veterans and others also volunteer time and resources in order to ensure that veterans of our armed forces in Dallas County receive the help and support they deserve following their honorable military service. Many members of the Veterans Court team of prosecutors, community supervision officers,

mentors, and defense attorneys are also combat veterans, including Judge Snipes and the prosecutor, Craig McNeil.

The treatment and supervision of the Veterans Court participants are monitored by the court, the U.S. Department of Veterans Af-

fairs, the Dallas County Community Supervision Office and ultimately, by the Dallas County District Attorney's Office. In accordance with state law, the District Attorney's Office must agree with all recommended dismissal of charges.

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DCCCD partners with DMA, illustrator for BooksmART Festival

As an educational institution, Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD) believes in and teaches reading and literacy. As a community partner, DCCCD regularly shares a love for learning and literacy with youngsters and their family members. This year, the district joins the Dallas Museum of Art as a program partner for DMA's first BooksmART Festival on Sat., June 11, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. downtown. (The museum is located at 1717 Harwood in Dallas.)

The free, family-oriented event features a celebration of literature and the arts as authors, artists and illustrators share their works and ideas with participants through workshops, story time, music and gallery tours. DCCCD will present Jerry

Pinkey, whose books include *The Lion and the Mouse* (2010), *Aesop's Fables* and *Little Red Riding Hood*. He also has illustrated *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*; *The Talking Eggs*; and *Mirandy and Brother Wind*, to name only a few.

"I think the arts are, hopefully, encouraged today because not only (do they) give that child an opportunity to have another vehicle to express themselves but also that vehicle is a bridge to understanding a bigger world," said Pinkey, whose works have been featured in the *New York Times* and *American Artist Magazine*, as well as on the CBS Sunday Morning Show and *Reading Rainbow*.

Overall, Pinkey has illustrated more than 100 titles and is the recipient of five

Caldecott Honors, a Caldecott Medal, five Coretta Scott King Awards and four Coretta Scott King Honors. His books have been translated into 17 languages and have been published in 14 countries. He also was a United States nominee for the 1997 Hans Christian Anderson Illustration Medal. The Society of Illustrators in New York has presented Pinkey with four gold medals, four silver medals, the Hamilton King Award and, in 2006, its Original Arts Lifetime Achievement Award. Visit Pinkey's website, www.jerrypinkneystudio.com, for more information.

Pinkey served on the National Council of the Arts (part of the National Endowment for the Arts) from 2003 to 2009, and his art can be

found in the permanent collections of the Library of Congress, the New York Public Library and many other museums and private collections.

During Pinkey's 3 p.m. presentation in the Horchow Auditorium, Dr. Wright Laster Jr., DCCCD's chancellor, will introduce the illustrator. Pinkey also will participate in a book signing at noon in the tent on Ross Plaza (where all featured guests will sign that day); story time at 2 p.m. in room C3 of the museum; and an art studio workshop at 4 p.m. titled "The Art of Animal Personification," also in room C3.

For more information, visit: www.dallasmuseumofart.org/Events/ArtsLetterLive/BooksmARTFestival/index.htm

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La Mega 107.5 FM's Edgar "Shoboy" Sotelo to rock the Quinnite nation

Radio personality will bring educational outreach, motivation and fun to Paul Quinn College

Edgar "Shoboy" Sotelo, the popular morning DJ at La Mega 107.5 FM, will bring the Shoboy Outreach/Scholarship Program to Paul Quinn College in an effort to encourage high school students from the Dallas area to pursue a college education. The event, happening from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Friday, June 10, at Paul Quinn College, will pair music and fun with helpful conversation about college preparation. The event is free and open to recent high school graduates and rising high school juniors and seniors. Parents and guardians are welcome as well. Eligible



Edgar "Shoboy" Sotelo

participants will have the opportunity to apply for Fall 2011 admission to PQC and get information about financial aid.

Joining forces with the radio personality from the Spanish-language station is part of Paul Quinn College's goals to improve the academic caliber of its student body and expand the reach of the institution's brand. Teaching students to appreciate cultural diversity plays a significant role in the mission of the 139-year-old college.

"We are thrilled to bring 'Shoboy' to the campus," said Paul Quinn College President Michael J. Sorrell. "We appreciate the opportunity to bring the message of the Quinnite Nation to the fans of La

Mega 107.5."

Sotelo started the grassroots driven outreach program, which he takes to schools and colleges throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth area, to entertain, empower, and educate young Latinos to be solutions in society and creators of their destinies. Since launching the program 10 years ago, Sotelo has spoken to more than 80,000 students, parents and faculty.

And Sotelo doesn't just talk the talk: he has walked it as well. His message to students includes his own story of moving to the United States

when he was 5 years old and growing up to attend college. He earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Polytechnic University in Pomona, Calif., and a master's degree in organizational leadership from Azusa Pacific University.

"The program uses the gift that God has given me to be on the radio to tell my life story and show kids how they have the power of choice to be a

champion and a solution," Sotelo said. "The visions of the outreach program and Paul Quinn College align, and that is to empower our communities to reach their potential through education."

For more information, please send an e-mail to Ashley Harris at aharris@pqc.edu or call 214.379.5561. Visit www.pqc.edu for event updates.

North Carolina 2011 Education Scholarship

The North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus will host the 2011 Education Scholarship Event for high school and college students

on Friday, June 17 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Durham, N.C.

The first 50 students to

email their name and contact information to info@nclbcf.org will receive a free ticket to the prayer breakfast at 8 a.m. Information about col-

lege and financial aid will be provided.

Tickets and registration information are available online at ww.nclbcf.org

City of Dallas to rename part of Cedar Springs Road "Herb Kelleher Way"

Dallas Love Field will rename a portion of Cedar Springs Road in honor of Herb Kelleher, Founder and Chairman Emeritus of Southwest Airlines. "Herb Kelleher Way" will begin at Mockingbird Lane and continue to the Love Field Terminal Building. The sign will be unveiled at a ceremony in the Danny L. Bruce Flag Plaza at 10:30 a.m. Monday, June 13.

Southwest Airlines began service under the name Air Southwest with three Boeing 737's serving three Texas cities. The company was based in Dallas and served Houston and San Antonio, which Kelleher referred to as the triangle. Since then, the business Kelleher started with just three aircraft in three cities today includes 72 cities nationwide and more than 500 aircraft in service at the end of 2010.

Southwest's low frills service, low fares to destinations across the country and exceptional customer service has helped make the airline a national leader in the transportation industry.

The Dallas Airport System operates three City of Dallas facilities: Dallas Love Field, Dallas Executive Airport and the Dallas Downtown Vertiport. For the latest

news and information on Dallas Love Field, visit www.dallas-lovefield.com

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Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey clowns take reading seriously at area public libraries on Monday, June 13

Want to learn what it takes to soar on the flying trapeze or just what goes into those cream pies that the clowns throw? Then join I Ambassadors of Laughter, for some serious fun at the following libraries on Monday, June 13: 10:30 a.m. West Irving Public Library, 4444 W Rochelle Blvd, Irving, TX 75062;

1 p.m. Gladys Harrington Library, 1501 18th

Street, Plano, TX 75074; 3 p.m. W.O. Haggard, Jr. Library, 2501 Coit Rd, Plano, TX 75075

They are no class clowns, but are certain to add amusement to a special 30-minute circus storytime, which will encourage children not only to read, but also to discover, dream and learn! The library event is free and open to the public. For more information on the additional li-



braries the clowns plan to visit, go to www.Reading-withRingling.com.

The Ambassadors of Laughter will be in town to help kick-off "Reading with Ringling Bros.!" The library reading program is easy and fun for kids to participate. The best part is that kids can earn a free circus ticket by simply doing their library reading! Children from ages 2-12 enroll with the librarian,

who will give kids everything to start their library reading. Kids will even receive clown noses and coloring sheets, too! For more information, visit www.ReadingwithRingling.com.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey presents *BARNUM 200* will perform at the American Airlines Center, July 27 – August 7, in Dallas and at Fort Worth Convention Center, August 10-14.

Deion Sanders appearing at anti-bullying rally

Newly inducted NFL Hall-of-Famer **Deion Sanders** and communications leader Verizon Wireless are teaming up for an anti-bullying rally to talk to children about bullying and ways to deal with it.

Sanders will address the five- to 14-year-olds. Youth activist Bruce Carter and experts from Teen CONTACT, an outreach program that educates teenagers about bullying, cyberbullying, depression and suicide will conduct a presentation



Deion Sanders

to spur dialog about bullying. The kids will also draw

pictures of what they believe bullying looks like.

Dallas-based non-profit Bully Suicide Project reports that one in seven students in America is either a bully or a victim. Fifty-six percent of students have personally witnessed some type of bullying at school and 71 percent of students say bullying is a problem on their campuses. By teaming with Deion Sanders Truth group, Verizon Wireless hopes to help children openly discuss the problem

with bullying in their lives and give them tools to combat it.

The event will be held at Duncanville High School, located at 900 West

Camp Wisdom Road in Duncanville.

Explore and learn: Early childhood summer environmental programs



Environmental classes and field trips are offered for early childhood programs throughout the summer. Fun, interactive field trips are scheduled for five weeks this summer and allow children to explore natural resources while learning about air quality, solar power, water quality, litter and animal habitats.

The Early Childhood Summer Environmental Programs are for children ages three through five years-old. Schools register their students online at livegreeninplano.obsres.com. Early registration is strongly encouraged as space is limited.

Two sessions are offered each day of the program. Classes are held from 9 - 10

a.m. OR 1 - 2 p.m. on Tuesdays, June 14, 21, 28, and July 12 and 19; and Thursdays, June 16, 23, 30, and July 14 and 21. Classes are limited to 45 students each. The cost is \$3 per child for Plano schools and \$4 per child for schools located outside of Plano. The registration fee will be waived for the first five schools to register. (with one program per school and up to 45 children)

All programs are interactive, age appropriate and include a hands-on activity. Classes include: Plano Community Garden Habitat Discovery Walk and Worm Dig; Garbage Grouch Puppet Show and Recycle Relay; Freddie the Fish and Feed the Frog; Wartville Wizard and Litter Toss; and, Fun With Sun and How Much Air Pollution?

Presented by the Environmental Education & Community Outreach division, for more information go to livegreeninplano.com or call (972)769-4343 for alternate dates and time availability.

Black consumers spent
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Mr. Toyoda said:

"Everyone at Toyota will continuously maintain a sense of gratitude to customers .."

Toyota's corporate office refuses to "Thank" Black consumers for remaining loyal customers despite "Thanking" mainstream customers.

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Toyota Black consumer facts:

15 out of every 100 Black consumers purchase a Toyota.

Toyota is #1 with Black consumers.

In 2010 Black consumers purchased 96,118 Toyotas.

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@CCBlackChamber.org for location.

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

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

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

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

June 9
The elements, **Earth Wind and Fire**, will perform at the Verizon Theatre in Grand Prairie at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$39.50. www.ticketmaster.com

June 11-June 12
Garland Civic Theatre, 108 North Sixth St. in downtown Garland, will play host to auditions for *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare beginning at 1 p.m. Callbacks begin at 6 p.m. on the 12th. Appointments can be made by calling 972-485-8884. A parent must accompany their minor children.

June 10
Soulsters Brian McKnight and Joe to perform at the Verizon Theatre at Grand Prairie

at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$29.50 to \$85. www.ticketmaster.com

Through June 11
Rover Dramawerks will present *Murder at the Orient Burlesque* by award-winning 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 can be ordered online at www.roverdramawerks.com. Season ticket packages are also available.

June 9
Fancy Nancy Butterfly Tea Party 10 a.m. to noon will include activities, tea, snacks, and more as we celebrate the fun children's book, "Bonjour Butterfly!" We'll end our party with crafts and a special edition of our noon butterfly release. \$15/child; \$10/TDG members. Parents: you can pay regular TDG admission at the door! (Member parents get in free).

June 10-26
The Art Center Theatre, 5220 Village Creek Drive in Plano, will host productions of Mel Brooks' *The Producers* starting Friday at 7:30 p.m. Sunday matinee performances are slated from 3:30 p.m. on June 12, June 19 and June 16. All seats purchased online cost \$12 each. Tickets purchased at the door are \$15 each. Tickets for Wednesday and Thursday performances are \$6 online and \$7.50 at the door. www.artcentretheatre.com

June 11
Home Buying Expo from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Friend-

ship West Baptist Church, 2020 West Wheatland Road, Dallas. Info: 214- 819 6060 or email HLCC@dallas-county.org for more information.

June 11-12
Garland Civic Theatre, 108 North Sixth St. in downtown Garland, will play host to auditions for *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare beginning at 1 p.m. Callbacks begin at 6 p.m. on the 12th. Appointments can be made by calling 972-485-8884. A parent must accompany their minor children.

June 15
World Vision, a nonprofit organization that serves families in North Texas and the Gulf states, will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the **grand opening of its new warehouse** at 10:30 a.m. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., warehouse tours are scheduled. The event will take place at 3325 Roy Orr Blvd., Suite 300 in Grand Prairie. www.worldvision.org/north-texas

June 17
Writing through Grief at the Dallas Meditation Center located at 727 S. Floyd Rd – Richardson, cost is \$50. Info: 972-432-7871

Bootsy Collins at the Palladium Ballroom

June 18
J'Niche's "Chic in the City" Fashion Show, doors open at 7 p.m. event starts at 8 p.m. at 1500 Convention Center Drive, Arlington. Vendor booths still available, FREE food, parking and door prizes. Advance tickets \$20, and \$25 at the door. Info: www.jniche.net, <http://rsvpvip.com/chic/> or info@jniche.net

The second annual **Soul Food Festival** will take place

at Lynn Creek Park at Joe Pool Lake. Schedule performers include **Cameo, Dru Hill, En Vogue, Sugarfoot, the Ohio Players, Tom Brown and Ronnie Laws**. Gates open at 5 p.m. Shows start at 7. General admission tickets are \$20 and are available at all Williams Chicken locations. Preferred viewing is \$30 and VIP \$55. www.ilovesoulfood.com

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.

The **Hamilton Park Historic Preservation Foundation** will commemorate June-teenth starting at 9 a.m. with a parade. Events will take place at Hamilton Park United Methodist Church and Willie B. Johnson Park on Willowdell Drive in Hamilton Park, the oldest African American neighborhood in North Dallas. Festivities will follow. To be a sponsor or vendor, call 214-614-8359. www.hpju-ne-teenth.com

June 19
R. Kelly, Keyshia Cole and Marsha Ambrosius on the Love Letters Tour at Verizon Theatre at Grand Prairie

June 20-25
Eastfield College will host the Eastfield Metroplex East Piano Festival. Admission to the special concerts is included with registration to the festival; general admission tickets are \$20. Info: 972-860-7136, Pierrette-Mouledous@dccc.edu or www.emepianofest.com

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

June 24
George Lopez at the Verizon Theatre in Grand Prairie

June 25
Blood Drive 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., DayStar Deliverance Ministries, 635 W. Campbell Rd., Ste. 201, Richardson. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (733-2767) to schedule an appointment.

June 29
Jennifer Hudson, Tank and Miguel at the Verizon Theatre in Grand Prairie

June 30
The Color of My Skin coming to Terrell High School

July 2
Chuck Berry at Choctaw

July 10
2:30 Rising Star Recital: Sam Hong, piano. In May of 2011 at the age of 16, Mr. Hong graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance from TCU. **3:00 Feature Performance:** Gary Levinson, Senior Associate Concertmaster of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, and pianist Daredjan Baya Kakouberi perform an all-Beethoven program featuring sonatas from Levinson/Kakouberi's soon-to-be-released CD of the complete Sonatas for Piano and Violin by Beethoven.

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 teri@anyevent.org. Register online at www.anyevent.org.

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Irving's City Council Place 3 run-off election leaving minority voters no room to ignore this important election

By Jackie Hardy
NDG Contributing
Writer

The upcoming runoff elections should be a serious matter to minority voters of Place 3. Place 3 city council candidates David Gutierrez and Dennis Webb will face each other again in a runoff June 18. Gutierrez and Webb hope to replace Allan Meagher who did not seek re-election at the end of his term. In May, Webb received 48 percent of the vote, with Gutierrez coming in second receiving 26 percent of the vote.

Webb, a lieutenant firefighter for Grand Prairie, has lived in Irving for 28 years; and Gutierrez, owner of Can Do Wood Projects and Repair Company, has lived in Irving for 24 years. Webb is the founding pastor of Bear Creek Community Church and has served six years on the Planning and Zoning Commission for the city of Irving and served on the mayor's Human Relations Advisory Committee.



David Gutierrez (Irving City Councilman Place 3)

Webb also acts as president of the of the Bear Creek Development Corporation board of directors. BCDC is a non-profit community housing development corporation whose mission is to build affordable houses in the Bear Creek community.

There is no record of Gutierrez political experience or community service involvement; therefore, it brings concerns to community leaders within Irving on how well he will serve the constituents of Place 3.

What Gutierrez does have on record is two driving while intoxicated offenses that he received in 2005 and 2009. In both cases Gutierrez was found driving over the legal alcohol limit, according to a May 25, 2011, *Dallas Morning News* article. After accepting a plea deal in 2009, Gutierrez was charged with obstructing a highway and was ordered to serve 10 days in a Denton County jail, and, in 2005, he received probation for his arrest in Dallas for driving while intoxicated. In the *DMN* report, the Place 3 city council candidate expressed these arrests have only made him aware of what he has to do to do the right thing and stay on the right path.

Gutierrez police record poses the question with voters on his ability to practice sound judgment, especially during this critical time of economic and budget constraints to the perpetual challenges centered around the much talked about Irving Entertainment Center and Heritage Crossing developments to providing effective solutions facing the minority community of Place 3.

"Education, jobs and fairness as far as the economic structure, and upgrading their overall quality

of life are the issues minorities are concerned with," said William O'Neal, pastor of New Life in Christ Ministries in Irving. "I think what Pastor Webb wants to bring with the economic development and wanting to bring forth positive things by not only challenging



Dennis Webb

local government, but the people of Irving is what makes him the right candidate."

Webb pastors an Irving congregation whose membership is as diverse as the city that houses it. Community leaders feel Webb has demonstrated first-hand knowledge and experience of how to lead and unite individuals who come from diverse cultures, ethnicities, races and educational and socio-economic backgrounds.

"Webb runs a church that is very diverse. There are black, white and Hispanic members and the church is pretty much the same demographics as the city of Irving," said Sanko Prioleau II, a member of Webb's church. Webb believes in diversity. I have never seen him turn anyone away in the number of years I have been around him as a member of his church.

Education is an issue to those within the minority community, and Webb sup-

porters point to the pastor's proven track record with regards to his attempts in building strong community partnerships with local schools such as Thomas Haley Elementary School. Those efforts were recently praised by Irving ISD when the district honored Webb this past February with its highest honor, "Golden Apple Award," for his congregation's commitment to volunteer service to the IISD students.

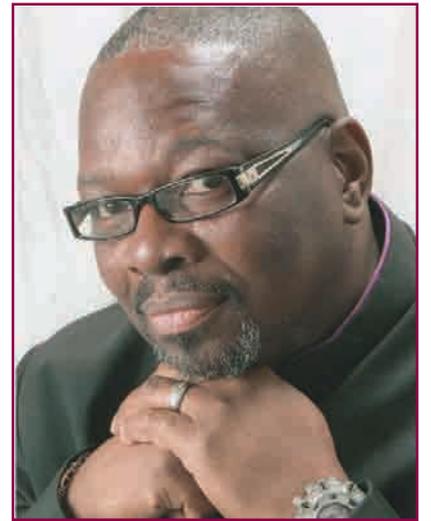
"I look at how Pastor Webb leads his own household and even his church and how they respond to his leadership and that speaks volumes," O'Neal said. Pastor Webb is willing to use the formula that works for his family, for his church and for his community to make it work for the city, and it is those type of people who are right there serving in their community that we need on

the council."

According to 2010 U.S. Census Bureau data, 35,187 residents reside in Place 3 (see the table for breakdown of race and ethnicity breakdowns). O'Neal said it is crucial for minority voters in Place 3 to go to the polls and let their voices be heard in the single-member district election.

"People died for us to have this right and privilege to vote and to make change. Black folks won't cooperate by going out to vote, but will stand longer in the lottery line to get a ticket than to stay in line to vote," said O'Neal, regarding the low voter turnouts among minorities in the recent election.

O'Neal said he hopes his words will serve as a good swift quick in the pants to



Pastor William O'Neal

boost and initiate a response from African Americans, as well as all minorities to get out and vote in this upcoming election and play an active part in positive change for the city.

On Saturday, June 11 starting at 9 a.m. New Life in Christ Ministries, 3706 Cheyenne St. in Irving will play host to a car wash and offering assistance to help residents register to vote. For more information, call 972-570-7674.

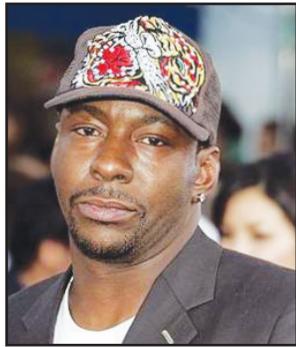
| Race and Ethnicity -2010 Census | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|--------|------------|--------|
| | Citywide | | District 3 | |
| White, NH | 66,559 | 30.8% | 8,749 | 24.9% |
| Black, NH | 25,550 | 11.8% | 8,724 | 24.8% |
| Asian, NH | 30,161 | 13.9% | 3,615 | 10.3% |
| Other, NH | 5,053 | 2.3% | 892 | 2.5% |
| Hispanic, Any Race | 88,967 | 41.1% | 13,207 | 37.5% |
| Total Persons: | 216,290 | 100.0% | 35,187 | 100.0% |

Source: City of Irving Planning Department using unofficial statistics of 2010 Census information

NDG Gossip: Bobby Brown gets wasted in airport, passes out on plane

By Tonya Whitaker
NDG Staff Writer

Singer Bobby Brown has definitely got his priorities straight. On his way back from a family trip to Aruba, Brown decided to have some cocktails at the airport bar before boarding a plane back to Miami. When the time arrived from the reality star to board the plane, he was flat out wasted! Yes he did, right in front of his wife, Alicia Etheridge, and 2-year-old son, Cassius. Way to go dad! Sources told the Daily Mail that Brown – who claimed he has been clean



Bobby Brown

and sober for six years – needed help from several family members to hold him up so he could get on the flight. Then, once they got Brown in his seat, he is passed out. Someone took

photos of Brown, and was out like a light. Based on my assessment of the photo, I don't know who was sleeping harder on the plane, Bobby or Cassius. So much for his sobriety claim.

Second wedding

Monica and her hubby, Shannon Brown, might have tied the knot in January, but now they are planning to celebrate their nuptials with family and friends. The couple is planning a July fare for those who were not privy to attend their secret wedding

earlier this year. According to Young, Black and Fabulous, approximately 300 custom-made invitations were sent out for the second wedding. I pray that Monica is not suckered in to becoming a part of that *Basketball Wives* show. I want to think she has too much class to become a part of such a classless how. Although I don't confess to be Gabrielle Union's BFF, I applaud her from disassociating herself with the *Wives*. I am keeping my fingers and toes crossed that she follows Union.

Justice Department Meets 'The Wire'



Attorney General Eric Holder and HBO's "The Wire" Co-star Wendell Pierce.

Justice Department Meets "The Wire": Attorney General Eric Holder, left, was joined by three stars from HBO's poignant drama "The Wire" in Washington, D.C., at the Justice Department, during a panel discussion to launch a new public awareness campaign, addressing the challenges faced by children and families affected by drug abuse and its tragic toll on children and families.

The three actors – Wendell Pierce, second from left, Sonja Sohn, second from right, and Jim True-Frost, right – starred in the "The Wire", which was set in Bal-

timore and depicted the effects of the drug scene through the eyes of drug dealers and law enforcement.

"Protecting youth from exposure to drug abuse is a key priority for this department, and we are unwavering in our commitment to raising awareness about this vital mission and continuing our efforts to assist the most vulnerable victims of the illicit drug industry," Holder said.

Last year, the Justice Department established the Drug Endangered Children Task Force to help the millions of children living in drug environments.

'Round About DFW

Through June 11
Rover Dramawerks presents *Murder at the Orient Burlesque* by Carol M. Rice on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays 8 p.m. at the Cox Building Playhouse on G Avenue in downtown Plano.

Through June 12
The Art Center Theatre, 5220 Village Creek Drive in Plano, will host productions of *The Little Mermaid*. Tickets purchased online are \$12 and \$15 if purchased at the door. www.artcentretheatre.com

Through June 13
The African American Repertory Theatre is currently playing host to the play *Woman From The Town* at the Corner Theatre, 211 E. Pleasant Run in DeSoto. Friday and Saturday shows begin at 7:30 p.m.; tickets are \$20. Saturday and Sunday shows start at 2:30 p.m.; tickets are \$15. Call 972-572-0998 or www.aareptreatre.com

June 10
Brian McKnight and guest Joe will stop at the Verizon Theatre in Grand Prairie as

part of the *Just Me Tour*. Doors open at 7 p.m. Show starts at 8. www.verizontheatre.com

June 10-11
The Plano Children's Theater, 1301 Custer Road Suite 706 in Plano, will play host to the *Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Unabridged* at 8 p.m. in the theatre's black theatre. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.

June 18
The 24th annual Texas Black Invitational Rodeo will take place at the State Fair Coliseum in Fair Park at 7 p.m. Tickets are sold at The African American Museum, 3536 Grand Ave. in Dallas. Reserved seats are \$10 and \$25 for box seats. Call 214-565-9026 ext. 304 or stop by the museum.

June 18
The Sankofa Foundation presents *Alpha Legacy 2011: An Evening with Kirk Whalum* at 8 p.m. at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters Inc.'s Naomi Burton Main Stage in the Dallas Convention Center

Theatre Complex, corner of Canton and Akard streets in Dallas. Former Dallas Cowboy Charles Haley will receive the Alpha Legacy Community Service Award. Tickets are available through TBAAL and Ticketmaster.

June 19
R. Kelly, Keyshia Cole and Marsha Ambrosius will perform as part of the Love Letter Tour at 8 p.m. at the Verizon Theatre. Doors open at 7. www.verizontheatre.com

Cheryl Smith's



featuring Mr. Dick Gregory and Rascal

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SARNOR, continued from Page 2

He also supported the Ad Sales efforts by developing integrated programs for clients in the personal finance, small business and lifestyle verticals.

"I am excited to take on this position at AOL," said Sarnor. "I believe my strong

relationships with key agencies and advertisers combined with my vast experience will help me to lead the multicultural team in a positive direction. I'm eager to find new ways to drive revenue in this expanding space."

Black Women Attorneys Spurn Private Law Firms for Corporate Jobs

By Nadra Kareem Nittle (NNPA) When Fania Washington had an opportunity to leave Winston & Strawn LLP, in 2004, to work for MTV Networks, she didn't hesitate.

Washington had tired of handling cases that trickled down from the international law firm's partners, and she sought more formidable challenges. She describes the firm as a "good firm with good people." But, as an African-American and a vice president and employment counsel for MTV, Washington says, "I really feel like a partner in the company."

A recent study by Corporate Counsel Women of Color (CCWC) discovered a growing trend in women of color leaving law firms to work as corporate counsels. Titled "The Perspectives of Women of Color Attorneys in Corporate Legal Departments," the study surveyed more than 1,300 African-American, Hispanic, Asian-American, and Native American female corporate attorneys.

A staggering 76.5 percent of women who participated in the study started their careers in law firms before leaving for

corporations. Among reasons they cited for switching were feeling that their work was not valued, lack of good mentors, desire for more challenging work, and few opportunities for growth. Previous research cited by CCWC had found a 78 percent attrition rate for women of color at law firms.

"Women of color are going to law school . . . only to work for a law firm for a couple of years," says Laurie N. Robinson, CCWC's founder and CEO.

Robinson says data counter a misconception in the legal community that large numbers of minority women leave firms because they cannot handle the work. In reality, she says, it's because women of color aren't connecting with senior managers who can facilitate their desire for more challenging assignments, often leaving them struggling to obtain billable work.

Moreover, the survey found that these women had serious doubts as to whether their plight at law firms would improve, largely because so few women of color were partners who could serve as men-

tors. The majority of partners at law firms are white men, making it easier for white lawyers to bond with superiors.

"If you look at the breakdown of law firms, most of the partners are Caucasian," Robinson says. "The challenge is how do we build a pipeline of people of color? Everybody at the law firms can't work at the corporations."

Dionne Greene-Punnette, U.S. markets counsel for MasterCard Worldwide, worked for law firms from 1996 to 2001 before going in-house. One firm, she says, had few African-Americans among its 700 employees. She considered herself a high-performing attorney who routinely traveled on business, worked 15-hour days and spent nights in her office to deal with a heavy workload. Yet, she says, she questioned how far she could advance because the firm had few minority attorneys in high-ranking positions.

"It's harder to believe it's attainable, if you don't see it," she says.

Like Washington, Greene-Punnette seized the opportu-

nity to go in-house. At MasterCard Worldwide, she has more responsibilities. "I was a litigator when I was at the firm," she says. "I wanted to transition where I could do more advising than troubleshooting, where I was part of the solution as opposed to cleaning up the problem."

Veta T. Richardson, executive director of the Minority Corporate Counsel Association, says that based on previous research and anecdotal examples she has encountered, the CCWC findings are no surprise. A primary reason that women of color likely prefer the corporate setting is because corporations have valued diversity longer, she says, noting that in the 1980s, diversity was a priority as corporations contemplated doing business in a global marketplace with a varied customer base.

Law firms didn't begin to consider diversity issues seriously until the 1990s, Richardson says, adding, "Many law firms have not had by and large a dedicated person thinking about diversity issues until the middle of the last decade."

Washington questions

whether many law firms have a serious commitment to diversity. She says that most firms pay lip service to diversity and that many don't explore how to retain women of color or improve recruiting them.

Washington says law firms don't examine how to retain women of color or how to attract others. She also suggest that law schools could offer a more realistic look at life in law firms and connect students with women of color partners in firms.

Richardson says firms should provide financial incentives to supervisors who make diversity a priority and should include diversity responsiveness as part of performance reviews. She suggests that firms ask: "Did the person do a good job mentoring someone of a diverse background?"

The CCWC study also says law firms could retain more women of color by providing them greater access to managing partners and executive teams, opportunities to interact with highly valued clients and quality assignments to help them build expertise on subject matter and meet bill-

able-hour requirements. By working with the Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals, Robinson says she hopes to encourage law firms to review the study.

The study also says law schools can help to reduce the high attrition rate by offering seminars on overcoming barriers for women of color at law firms. The study recommends creating networking opportunities in which students can interact with attorneys of diverse backgrounds.

"What I think is really interesting is that the women didn't spend a lot of time speaking of their race and gender as barriers," Robinson says. "They really focused on all of the things they do to overcome these barriers in the workplace—building up their level of expertise and working hard to be successful."

(America's Wire is an independent, non-profit news service run by the Maynard Institute for Journalism Education. America's Wire is made possible by a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. For more information, visit www.americaswire.org.)

Mayor Herbert Gears gets results on the issues that matter to us.

Irving's crime rates have dropped to record lows - including a 40% drop in violent crime.

(Source: Irving City Council Work Session Report by Irving Police Chief - 1/12/11)

Herbert Gears: Pulling double duty on immigration, crime

Irving has developed an innovative solution
Monday, July 9, 2007 - The Dallas Morning News Editorial

What if communities could find an effective, legal way to remove illegal immigrants and reduce crime at the same time?

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(Source: Moody/S&P 2011 Rating: AAA)

Irving Receives State Award for Management, Leadership



The City of Irving made history this year by becoming the first municipality to receive

the highly esteemed Texas Award for Performance Excellence (TAPE). As the state version of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award—which celebrates high-performing organizations on the national level—TAPE recognizes role model organizations that demonstrate exceptional performance in areas of management, leadership, customer service, workforce focus, process management, results and strategic planning.

I'll continue to fight for you.

Irving leads the nation in deporting criminal illegal aliens.

(Source: New York Times 4/4/09)



Under Mayor Herbert Gears, Irving has one of the area's lowest tax rates and no unfunded debt.

(Source: City of Irving Benchmark Survey 2011)

More than 1,000 protest Irving's rise in deportations. They want freeze on city policy; mayor defends police actions

Tuesday, September 27, 2007
By BRANDON FORMBY / The Dallas Morning News

Angered over a record number of recent deportations in Irving, more than 1,000 protesters waved U.S. flags and chanted "We are America" as they rallied Wednesday night at City Hall.

Demonstrators called for Irving officials to put a moratorium on turning over suspected illegal immigrants to federal officials until immigration laws are reformed nationally. They also urged people to call Mayor Herbert Gears and ask him to stop deporting people from the city's jail.

VOTING DATES & LOCATIONS

IRVING MAYOR RUNOFF ELECTION: SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2011

REMAINING EARLY VOTING DATES & TIMES

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

Today, June 10 (Friday)8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
June 11, 2011 (Saturday)8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
June 12, 2011 (Sunday).....1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
June 13 - 14, 2011 (Mon-Tues).....7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

City Hall • 825 W Irving Blvd
Irving Arts Center • 3333 N MacArthur Blvd
Valley Ranch Library • 401 Cimarron Trail



Pol. Ad. Paid by Re-Elect Mayor Herbert Gears Campaign, 3716 Santiago Court, Irving, TX 75062, Treasurer, Christina Gears

IRVING, continued from Page 5

early voting. His phone number is 214-830-6719. Please provide 24-hour notice before you intend to go to the polls.

Irving early voting polls are at the following locations in Irving:

Valley Ranch Public Li-

brary, 401 Cimarron Trail Irving Art Center, 3333 N. McArthur Blvd.

City Hall, 825 W. Irving Blvd, Irving

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Vote Early ! Dennis Webb Place 3



"....., whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant." Matthew 20:25 "

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Early voting for the election will begin May 2 and run through May 10.
Early Voting Hours
May 2-7 - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
May 8 - 1 to 6 p.m.
May 9-10 - 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Early Voting Locations
City Hall, 825 W. Irving Blvd.
Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd.
Valley Ranch Library, 401 Cimarron Trail

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Richardson job fair

The Richardson Job Fair is next week, Wednesday, June 15. The job fair will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Richardson Civic Center.

The Richardson Chamber of Commerce is partnering with Richland College and Workforce Solutions to provide a venue where you

can meet and interview hundreds of qualified applicants in one day, at one location. Last year, the job fair attracted more than 1,100 job seekers. Many were interviewed and hired on the spot. The Neighborsgo/Dallas Morning News' Chris Coats will also be on hand to visit with job seekers

about their experiences.

A few of participating organizations this year include: Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Texas, CMI Group (call center/customer service), Geico Insurance, Hilton Worldwide, Lennox International (50 jobs), Nationwide Insurance, Texas Dept. of Public Safety and

Volt Workforce Solutions.

For job seekers, Richland College will conduct a resume evaluation service. Applicants will revise and print their resumes before meeting with you about possible employment opportunities. For more information about the job fair call 972-792-2800.

THREAT, continued from Page 3

tors, emergency medical technicians, nurses or librarians, public employees perform jobs that towns and cities of every size and description depend on. Their work strengthens neighborhoods and supports basic American values like looking out for one another, preparing our children for the future and ensuring that there is a safety net for the most vulnerable members of our country.

But if you believe the radical governors and legislators in Wisconsin, Ohio, Florida and other states, many of these jobs are unnecessary, and the workers who provide them are "coddled" because they have the right to a voice on the job. Since January 2009, state and local governments have laid off 429,000 workers, and these layoffs have already had dire effects on families across the country. And yet instead of joining with us to find solutions and protect the rights of workers, these governors are inflicting more pain. Their only interest is in attacking our jobs, crippling our unions and dismantling public services. At a time when we should be pulling together, their tactics and rhetoric are ripping us apart.

Because so many black families have built careers in state and local government, what these corporate-backed politicians are also doing is undercutting the economic security of black families. Ask if this is their intention, and of course they will deny that it is. But even the best of intentions (and their intentions are far

from the "best") can have unintended consequences. And there is no denying that the path they've chosen will have dire consequences for many black families.

That's one of the many reasons African Americans, whether public employees or not, whether union members or not, are standing with the workers who are fighting back. If 21 percent of black workers are public-sector employees, that means that one out of every five black workers is employed by a state or local

government. Our financial well-being and the economic security of the neighborhoods we live in are at stake. It is up to all of us to fight for our future.

Lee Saunders is secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.



Store Management Opportunities

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

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

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June 15, 7:30 p.m.
Join us for Bible Study as we worship and study the word of God.

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

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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

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.

Dr. 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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK "First Church"

June 12, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Explosion Concert with Kierra "KiKi" Sheard, National Guest Recording Artist KirOndria Woods, Dallas' Featured Youth Guest Soloist AE Sharp Mime Ministry. Call the church for details.

June 13 & 14, 7 p.m.
Join us for a Youth and Young Adult Revival as we worship and praise God.

June 15-17, 6:30 pm - 9 p.m.
We will have our Vacation Bible School for children 2 years through adults. Call the church for details.

June 18, 9 a.m.
We are having a day of Workshops with topics as Am I a Bully or a Friend? Facebook, Twitter and the Web; Social Etiquette; Anger Management and others. Also there will be a Youth Rap Session.

June 19, 10:30 a.m.
You're invited to our Father's Day Tribute as we honor all fathers and worship and praise God.

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

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June 24-26
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1113 Avenue I
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972-423-4090

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June 14-17, 6 p.m.
Join us in our Marriage Prep Class to be certain your marriage is Christ-centered. Call the church for details.

June 20-23, 5:30 pm
You're invited to our Vacation Bible School as we learn more about God, we fellowship and have fun.

June 25, 11 a.m. & June 26, 7:45 a.m.
Come and celebrate with us as we worship, praise God and thank Him at our 147 Church Anniversary Celebration. Call the church for details or visit our website.

Pastor Robert Townsend
11611 Webb Chapel Road
Dallas, TX 75229
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

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

June 13, 7 p.m.
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 details.

June 13, 7 p.m.
Our Youth Adult Ministry will have an Interactive Bible Study in our Family Life Center. The message: Choices in Your Transformation: Being a Young Adult in Times like These, with speaker Sis. Renee Roby.

June 18, 10 a.m.
Get your cars and trucks ready for our Vacation Bible School parade, starting at the church and ending at the Willie B. Johnson Recreation Center.

June 20-24
Join us for VBS and get ready for a fun, Spirit-filled experience and fellowship time for children and adults. Our theme is "Jesus to the Rescue."
Dr. Robert Price, Sr., Senior Pastor
9550 Shepherd Road
Dallas, TX 75243
214-341-6459
www.nmzb.org

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

On Going Help
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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.

June 13-17, 6:30 pm
Call and register for our VBS for children from nursery through 12 grades. The cost is \$5 per family.
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

June 11, 12 p.m.
All Senior Saints are invited to our Double Nickel (55 and above) Luncheon @ the Newsome Center on Amcott Street in McKinney. Activities include lunch, bingo and door prizes. Come and bring a friend. If you are homebound, we will deliver to you. Please call 972-542-6178 no later than the Friday, June 11th this month) before the luncheon and leave a message with your name, address, phone number and how many meals you need.

June 13-17, 6 p.m.
Join us for VBS for the entire family. Our theme is "On the Battlefield."
Dr. Charles Wattlely, Senior Pastor
1308 Wilcox Street
McKinney TX 75069
972-542-6178
www.saintmarkbc.com

SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

June 13
Get ready for an exciting adventure at our VBS. Our theme is "Jesus Truth Seekers: Mission Possible!" Under-

stand the truth of God's Word through parables and how it can be applied in real-life stories.

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

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You're invited to worship with us on Sunday Mornings at 9:30 a.m. for Sunday School and 11 a.m. for Morning Worship as we praise and worship God.
Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor
9314 Elam Road
Dallas, TX 75217
214-391-3430
newlightchurchdallas.com

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972-679-9138
or 214-394-6164

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Carrollton, TX 75006
214-514-9147

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Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service - First Sundays - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday Night Live (Prayer, Praise and Proclamation) - 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Shaun Rabb & Co-Pastor Marian Rabb



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(972) 359-9956 - www.theship3c.org



Sunday Morning Worship
Story Elementary
1550 Edelweiss Drive
Allen, TX 75002
9:30 AM

Wednesday Night Live Service
200 Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
7:00 PM



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300 Chisholm Place Plano, TX 75075 872-633-5511



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





Sister Tarpley

Work on your weaknesses until they become your strong points. Bear in mind that a great effort is usually the result of a great attitude. Learn to accept your winning battles with humility and your losing battles with grace. Ignore those who discourage you, they don't know "your story." Mark Twain once said, "Keep away from People who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that. . . ." Remember that talent is God-given; learn to be humble and thankful. Fame in life is man-given; and conceit is self-given, therefore be very careful; and seek to understand the difference.

Do what has to be done, when it has to be done and as well as it can be done. Always give your best; a successful life is built one day at a time. Tough decisions that you make will test your courage, improve your strengths, and reveal your weaknesses. The importance of a lesson learned is not what you get from it, but what you become because of it.

Don't allow yourself to get like concrete—all mixed up and permanently set. In

real life, people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. Henry Ford once said, "Even a mistake may turn out to be the one thing necessary to a worthwhile achievement." Some life changing inventions are often the result of an error.

You may not be able to change the world you see around you, but you can change the way you see the world. You will be measured by your reactions to life's inequities. Never accept the negative until you have thoroughly explored the positive. People that never do any more than they get paid for will never get paid for any more than they do. My maternal grandfather, Mr. James Baker once said, "You can't pay a man enough money to do a good job, the good job that he will do comes from within."

Secret to Happiness: 1) Trust God in the face of adversity. 2) Forget the unpleasant things that come into your life. 3) Apologize if you have offended someone; believe that a sincere apology is the superglue of life. 4) Admit an error and do your best to learn from them. 5) Try your best to Avoid mistakes. 6) Listen to advice;

and ask God to help you make the right decision. 7) Keep your temper. 8) Shoulder the blame. 9) Make the best of things. 10) Maintain high standards. 11) Think first and act accordingly. 12) Put the needs of your family and others before your own. 13) Forgive and forgive more. 14) Pray without ceasing for family, friends, church members, leaders of your church and leaders our country.

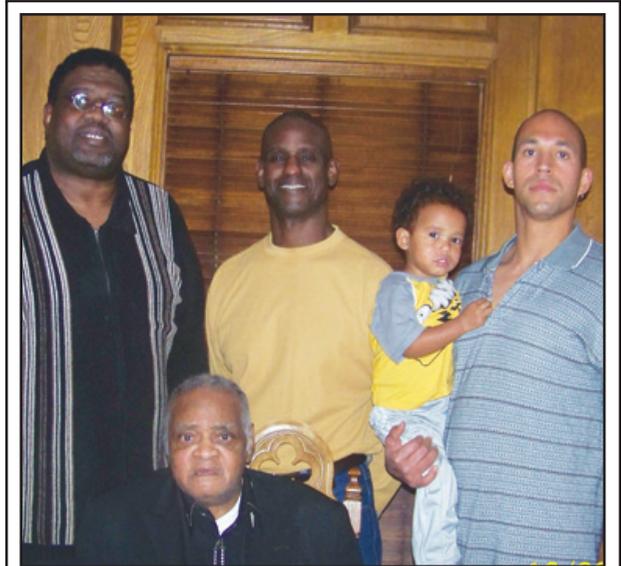
The Tongue Can Be Your Worst Enemy: Your words, your dreams, and your thoughts have power to create conditions in your life. What you speak about, you can bring about. If you keep saying you can't stand your job, you might lose your job or you will remain unemployed. If you keep saying you can't stand your body, your body can become sick. If you keep saying you can't stand your car, your car could be stolen or just stop operating.

If you keep saying you are broke, guess what? You'll always be broke. If you keep saying you can't trust a man or trust a woman, you'll al-

ways find someone in your life that will hurt and betray you.

If you keep saying you can't find someone to love or believe in you, you will attract more experiences to confirm your beliefs. If you keep talking about a divorce or break up in a relationship, then you might end up with it. Turn your thoughts and conversations around to be more positive and power-packed with faith, hope, love and action. Don't be afraid to believe that you can have what you want and deserve.

Watch your thoughts, they become words. Watch your words, they become actions. Watch your actions, they become habits. Watch your habits, they become character. Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny. The minute you settle for less than you deserve, you get even less than you settle for. "In my search for me I discovered truth. In my search for love I discovered God. And in God, I have found everything."



An uncle, James Demus and three of his nephews (L to R: Greg Demus, Jarrell Tarpley and Burt Fielding) with Burt's son, Jorge Ruiz.



Ramon Hodridge, Minister

Avenue F Church of Christ

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NAACP, continued from Page 1

"Despite their high wireless adoption rate," the coalition members told the FCC chairman, "African American wireless Internet users frequently contend with standard and inconsistent access that plagues many urban and rural areas."

The AT&T/T-Mobile merger can bring significant improvements, according to the coalition, because "if the T-Mobile purchase is approved, AT&T has made commitments to substantially increase broadband access to underserved areas and invest billions in infrastructure upgrades."

The AT&T investment will provide upgrades to service, the coalition's letter said, and "will lead to shovel-ready opportunities that will put the

unemployed back to work."

The coalition also pointed out that AT&T has a demonstrated commitment to diversity in its hiring and in its selection of suppliers. "Minority-owned firms make up 20 percent of the company's suppliers," the coalition said, "and nearly 40 percent of AT&T's employees are people of color."

Joining NAACP and NNPA in the letter were:

- Melanie Campbell, President and CEO of the National Coalition on Black Civic
- Albert E. Dotson Jr., chairman of 100 Black Men of America.
- Dr. Avis Jones-DeWeever, executive director of the National Council of Negro

Women.

- Gary Flowers, CEO of the Black Leadership Forum.
- Susan Taylor, of the National Cares Mentoring Movement
- Representative Barbara Ballard, president of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators.
- Senator Sharon Weston Broome, president of the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women.
- Vanessa Williams, executive director of the National Conference of Black Mayors.
- Commissioner Arlanda Williams, president of the National Association of Black County Officials.
- Dr. Valerie White, chairwoman of the Black Col-

lege Communication Association.

- Tommy Dortch, chairman of the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame.
 - Ricardo Byrd, president of the National Association of Neighborhoods. Participation
- AT&T is one of the oldest of American communications companies, and T-Mobile USA is a subsidiary of Deutsche Telekom, a German telecommunications giant. In March, AT&T offered to acquire T-Mobile USA for \$39 billion in cash and stocks.

If approved by the Federal Communications Commission, the deal will create the largest provider of wireless service in the nation, with a combined 130 million subscribers.

"This transaction represents a major commitment to strengthen and expand critical infrastructure for our nation's future," said Randall Stephenson, AT&T's chief executive, in a statement announcing the proposed acquisition.

At the time of the announcement in March, analyst

Charles Golvin from Forrester Research told CNN that with AT&T's acquisition of T-Mobile "high-speed mobile broadband service will improve in quality and coverage, including — in the long run — those in rural communities outside the reach of terrestrial broadband today."

Garland Transfer Station Closure

The City of Garland Transfer Station, located at 1434 Commerce St., closed for the acceptance of solid waste due to structural repairs as of June 6, 2011. The facility is scheduled to re-open on

August 1, 2011.

During the closure of this facility, Garland residents can dispose of solid waste at no cost at the C.M. Hinton Jr. Regional Landfill, located at 3175 Elm Grove Rd.,

Rowlett, TX 75089, by presenting to the gate attendant a driver's license or current utility bill as proof of residency. C.M. Hinton Landfill operating hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and

Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information about the facility closure or items accepted for disposal, visit the website at www.garlandenvironmentalwaste.com or call 972-205-3500.

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