The Whispers are the featured performers at the Urban Gala

One of Rhythm & Blues (R & B) music’s most beloved and consistently popular vocal groups, The Whispers, will provide the entertainment for the Urban League of Greater Dallas Annual Gala on Saturday, August 27. The event will be held at the Hilton Anatole Hotel, 2201 Stemmons Freeway. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. The Whispers began their legendary and timeless career in 1963. Twin brothers Walter and Wallace Scott joined with friends Nicholas Caldwell, Marcus Hutson, and Gordy Harmon to form a local singing group. They perfected their tight harmonies on the street corners in the Watts section of Los Angeles and in nightclubs in the San Francisco/Oakland Bay Area. They began singing together as “The Eden Trio”.

Visiting Performers

The Whispers

The meeting will take place at Iglesia Santa Maria de Guadalupe, located at 2601 S. MacArthur, where Padre Pedro Portillo serves as pastor. Padre Portillo can be reached at 214 287 8590 for more information about the event.

Commissioner Dr. Garcia hosting community event

On Thursday August 25 at 7 p.m., Dallas County Commissioner District 4, Dr. Elba Garcia will come to Irving to hold a meeting designed to thank supporters and provide an overview of recent matters handled by the Court, the issues and key projects she sees as important priorities. Dr. Garcia will also define the duties of a County Commissioner, spotlighting how she can help the constituents she represents. The meeting will take place at Iglesia Santa Maria de Guadalupe, located at 2601 S. MacArthur, where Padre Pedro Portillo serves as pastor. Padre Portillo can be reached at 214 287 8590 for more information about the event.

National Black Church Initiative Implements Innovative Financial Literacy Initiative

NBCI wants every family to save one year’s salary over the next 7 years

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), a faith-based coalition of 34,000 churches comprised of 15 denominations and 15.7 million African Americans, is proud to announce our critical Financial Literacy Initiative. This Savings for Life Program is an ambitious, bold, and historic move on behalf of the

Black Church. Given the devastating economic times, during which we have witnessed the destruction of black families, communities and economic structures, NBCI realized the time is now to create an actionable, effective program to improve the financial futures of African Americans.

At the core of this program is Rev. DeForest B. Soaries’ book dFree: Breaking Free from Financial Slavery. Drawing on his years of experience as a pastor, public policy maker, and community leader, Dr. Soaries empowers families to manage their money with the wisdom and dignity that was given to them at birth.

Debt 101

By Bob Franklin

Now that the issue of the debt ceiling is at least temporarily resolved, politicians from both political parties are going to claim victory. The purpose of this article is to try to determine how we got into this mess in the first place. The graph below left is very enlightening for anyone who wants to see where the debt of the US went off course.

From 1940 to 1980, the national debt was relatively stable, during both Democratic and Republican presidential administrations. Congress is responsible for establishing the national debt ceiling, and during this same period, control of Congress also passed between Democratic and Republican control. Let’s analyze the graph. From 1940 to 1945, the cost of World War II caused the national debt to rise significantly. But from 1950 to 1972, the debt remained virtu-
Dr. Pennie Murray

A highly-regarded industrial psychologist, best-selling author, and founder of PennieMurray.com, Dr. Pennie Murray is an expert on defining, achieving and retaining success. She’s studied it and she’s lived it! And her passion is empowering and inspiring individuals to move beyond their learned inhibitions, and fruitfully manage “The Emotional Side of Success.” She is dedicated to guiding individuals through a process of identifying and understanding the “whys” that thwart their attempts to attain and sustain lasting success. She comments, “The emotional side of success is the "other side" of success that doesn’t get talked about - but hinders us the most.”

Frequently taking her show on the road, Murray will stop at home long enough to host her intensive interactive 2½-day Clarity Workshop August 26-28, 2011 at NYLO Plano at Legacy Hotel (8201 Preston Road, Plano, TX). Murray restricts the number of participants per session to ten because she dedicates significant time to one-on-one guidance and coaching of professionals, entrepreneurs, and others who wish to ascend to the top in their respective professional fields or life passions, and stay there. The cost to take this journey to self-discovery and life improvement is $355 before August 10, 2011; $395 thereafter.

Murray recognizes that for many individuals who have acquired the logistical and technical skills necessary to be successful in the significant areas of life, there still remains - ever so subtle - a constant tug of "something" holding them back, causing them to sabotage their respective efforts, or remain doubtful about that next move.

Individuals who have a high need for achievement, fear failure, value success, advancement, self-image and a greater quality of life are more prone to experiencing this apprehensiveness and other feelings that frustrate and discourage their efforts towards success. The only way to manage these feelings, or as Murray calls it - "The Emotional Side of Success" - is to identify the real cause behind this self-sabotaging behavior, clarify your vision, and then give yourself permission to succeed in the significant areas of your life.

For over 13 years, Murray trained and consulted with numerous corporate professionals and entrepreneurs on the various logistical and technical skills necessary to be successful. But she often found that many of these very competent and capable individuals were hesitant and doubtful about achieving a deeply desired goal, or they would sabotage their own efforts. Pennie was no stranger to this behavior because she, too, had engaged in her own brand of self-sabotage and doubt. Curious about this phenomenon, she sought out answers, especially as it related to the success of Black Americans. What she found could be summed up in the African proverb, "When you understand the "whys" of life, you can endure any "how." The answers she found also led Dr. Murray to develop the philosophy of giving one’s self permission, and a series of workshops to help individuals learn to recognize what that "something" is in their own lives, and how it keeps them from experiencing their desired success.

Gregory Lee, Jr.

The National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) announced Gregory Lee, Jr. has been elected the 19th president of the organization. Lee, the Senior Assistant Sports Editor at The Boston Globe and the current NABJ Treasurer, won the election with 294 votes, 57% of the vote, defeating opponent Deirdre Childress of The Philadelphia Inquirer who received 168 votes. Charles Robinson of Maryland Public Television received 50 votes.

Born in New Orleans, LA, Lee is the eldest of three children. The 37 year-old is the youngest elected president of the 3,400 member organization. He has also worked for The Times-Picayune and The Washington Post. During his career in NABJ Lee served as President, President-elect, Treasurer, Secretary and Regional Director.

Cristina Garcia

A Hurricane Katrina survivor inspired by her experience in the disaster’s aftermath will use a $10,000 leadership scholarship to pursue a political science master’s degree at UT Dallas.

Cristina Garcia, who will be a student in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, was one of 20 students See GARCIA, Page 6

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Consumer advocates unite in call for dramatic strengthening of bank checking account reform

Bank regulator urged to put teeth into new guidance on overdraft and bank payday loans

By Charlene Crowell

(NNPA) A key banking regulator’s proposed rules on bank payday loans and overdraft loans has triggered strong opposition from consumer advocates. More than a dozen national and local consumer advocates have raised major concerns in a recent letter to the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC).

Advocates fear that the OCC’s general principles calling for fair short-term loans are undermined by its own specific practices that it would allow banks to use on overdraft loans. Further, the advocates also called for an end to bank payday lending, which they see as a predatory financial product.

In part the advocates wrote, “Payday lending by banks blatantly undermines state laws that impose reasonable interest rates on small dollar loans and federal law prohibiting high-cost payday lending to service members and their families. Banks simply should not be in the business of making payday loans.”

Like those made by payday storefront operations, bank payday loans are small dollar ones, often $500 or less. Account holders using bank payday loans must fully repay the loan with their next direct deposit, just as storefront payday loans are paid with the borrower’s next paycheck. The bank payday product can carry an annual percentage rate (APR) fee of 300 percent and more. The structure of the product virtually compels the account holder to take out back-to-back loans and remain indebted for a significant time – just like a payday storefront loan.

On the issue of overdraft loans, advocates urged the OCC to significantly reform problem practices and direct banks to:

Stop posting transactions in order from highest to lowest to increase fees;
End overdraft fees on debit card transactions;
Limit fees charged to reasonable and proportional amounts – similar to rules now governing penalty fees on credit cards; and
Require that customers opt-in to overdraft rather than automatically enrolling them without their knowledge or consent.

Joining in opposition to OCC were state organizations representing Arkansas, California Kentucky, Minnesota, and New York. National groups included Consumer Action, the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, the Leadership

DEBT, continued from Page 1

ally unchanged. Note that the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, social unrest in the US, Social Security, Medicare and violence in the Middle East did little to change the debt. The first substantial rise occurred during the Carter presidency, with a Congress controlled by the Democrats, so our party gets some of the blame. Note, however, that the debt never exceeded $1 Trillion until Ronald Reagan assumed the Presidency. The steepest rise in national debt occurred during the Reagan-Bush presidency, when it rose by about $1.9 Trillion. This was the result of the Reagan tax cuts, causing tax revenues to take a steep drop, while government spending continued to increase. Again, however, the Reagan years were attended with a Congress controlled by the Democratic party.

The Clinton years saw the first balanced budget in decades, slowing down the rise in the national debt. Congress had shifted to the Republicans, so they had a legitimate claim that fiscal conservatism was responsible. The real problem occurred during the eight years of George W. Bush presidency. At the beginning of that administration, the national debt was about $5.8 Trillion. During his administration, most of which was under Republican control of Congress, the debt rose an astounding $6.1 Trillion. This rise can largely be explained by the fact that Bush presided over the first tax cut in American history passed during a war. Some might argue that the war was responsible for this big debt increase, but the total cost of the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars has just exceeded $1 Trillion. Most of the rest of the increase in the debt was the result of lowered tax revenues coupled with increasing expenditures. The Republicans deserve the entire blame for this doubling of the debt. At the same time, the W administration ended with the worst recession since 1929, so these fiscal policies did not equate to an improved economy. Since the beginning of the Obama Presidency, the debt rose another $2.4 Trillion. More than half of that increase was the result of efforts to restore the flagging economy through economic stimulus packages.

The lesson to be learned is that expenditures of government need to be kept under control. The corollary is that, if certain expenses are necessary for general welfare, tax cuts that reduce revenues below this level are ill-conceived. So now the discussion moves to the issue of a balanced budget amendment. This issue will be looked at more closely next month, but it bears mention that had there been a balanced budget requirement for the US government, we would not have been able to pay the costs of World War II, Korea, Vietnam and other military excursions. The point is this: Neither party can take the sole credit or blame for this economic mess. Both parties contributed to it. Both parties need to fix it. That requires compromise, and that requires an informed electorate to choose their candidates based upon moderate positions. Intransigent and uncompromising positions, by both parties, will lead to continued gridlock. Do not let Republicans claim victory in this debt crisis. They are as much to blame as anyone, and only the average American will bear the brunt of their actions.

Bob Franklin is a member of the North Dallas Texas Democratic Women.
Children's Medical Center Series Grabs Viewers
Real-life drama's opening episode tugs hearts of prime-time audience

Nearly 100,000 viewers tuned in Wednesday night to see the debut episode of a groundbreaking five-part series focusing on Children's Medical Center (www.childrens.com) on WFAA Ch. 8. The series features compelling stories about surgeons, nurses and families across the hospital, with a heavy focus on organ transplants.

The original dramatic series, "Children's Med Dallas," will continue airing on Wednesday nights through August, revealing the tears and triumphs in behind-the-scenes stories of life at the nation's 7th-largest pediatric hospital. The show wraps up with an hour-long grand finale in September.

The series made a strong showing against fresh national network programming, including the popular CBS reality show "Big Brother." And with the coveted target demographic of women ages 25-54 the show was a major success, notch- ing second place among Dallas-Fort Worth viewers and scoring nearly a full rating point ahead of the popular "So You Think You Can Dance" on FOX.

Wednesday's episode focused on the struggles of Presley Reed, then 2 years old, and infant Annabella Spears, both waiting for liver transplants. The show portrayed in harrowing detail the hopes and fears experienced by Reed's parents, Barbie Smith and Cody Reed, and Spears' parents, Shad and Alexa Spears. Cameras documented every step as Dr. Dev Desai, chief of pediatric transplantation, and the hospital team planned the delicate surger-
ies that may save the girls' lives.

The series will be featured on the hospital's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/childrensmedicalcenter), where viewers, pa tients and their families can discuss the show. A brief intro video for the show may be seen here: http://www.youtube.com/user/ChildrensMedical. Plans to run each episode online were modified due to national media interest in the program. Each episode may be viewed by the public online until 5 p.m. CDT the day following its TV broadcast. A password-protected link to view the episodes will be provided to media interested in the series. For more information, contact Laurie Holloway, manager of media relations, at 214-456-5318.

Lyme disease research, legislation allows more aggressive treatments for sufferers

Summertime, when kids and grown-ups abandon the confines of the indoors and head outside to camp, hike, fish and commune with nature — and all of her friends. Flies, mosquitoes and ticks are just a few of the critters that go along with summer outdoors, and we all do our best to avoid the biting and stinging insects, but what happens if you are accosted by a tick? What are the myths behind Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases in Texas?

At the UNT Health Science Center, Phillip Williamson, Ph.D., assistant professor of Forensic and Investigative Genetics and director of the Center for Tick-borne Diseases, is considered one of Texas' top experts in tick-borne diseases and continues to research patterns in reported cases of Lyme disease in the state. Since 2004, Williamson has directed Texas' only lab that analyzes Texas ticks and tracks tick-borne diseases.

"There's a misconception that there is no vulnerability for Lyme disease here in Texas," Williamson said. "The black-legged deer tick, which commonly carries Lyme disease in the Eastern U.S., isn't the most common pest in Texas. Ninety-five percent of the ticks in Texas are the Lone Star tick. We have documented people in Texas who haven't left the state, yet experience symptoms similar to Lyme disease after being bitten by the Lone Star tick. These symptoms are usually categorized as Southern Tick Associated Rash Illness or STARI, for which doxycycline is prescribed."

Last year, research by Williamson, several of the researchers in his lab and collaborators at UNT's Denton campus, was published in Emerging Infectious Diseases, exploring the type, frequency and distribution of tick-borne pathogens and other tick-borne diseases.

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See DISEASE, Page 5

Worldwide Day of Play planned

Last week Nickelodeon announced that its Worldwide Day of Play will be held in Washington, D.C. on September 24th. The Day of Play is an annual event to encourage kids to turn off the television and to be active, especially outdoors. First Lady Michelle Obama will participate in the D.C. event, but families, schools and communities can hold a Day of Play in your own town. Compete in a dance-off, plan a field day, turn a PE class into a games day, organize a bike-a-thon, or even go rock-climbing. A giant field day in the Nation's Capital will bring together the biggest and best in health, sports and nutrition and will serve as a rally to elevate public awareness of and participation in the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award (PALA), a part of Let's Move.
September 11 Tenth Anniversary Commemorative Concert

The Arts District Chorale announced a free ticketed event, 9/11: Remembrance and Reconciliation, to honor those ordinary citizens who sacrificed their safety and lives in response to the events of September 11, 2001. A narrated concert with the message of reconciliation out of the ashes of a national tragedy will take place on Sunday, September 11 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church in Dallas.

This free ticketed community-wide event will include narration from three prominent Dallas faith community representatives: Reverend Dr. Robert Danials, Rector of Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church; Imam Dr. Yusuf Kavakci, Spiritual Leader of the Islamic Association of North Texas and the Dallas Central Mosque; and Rabbi Debra Robbins, Associate Rabbi of Temple Emanu-El. Voluntary donations will benefit the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The program includes works for large chorus, soloists and orchestra by composers Aaron Copland, Samuel Barber, David Conte and Ralph Vaughan Williams. H. Michie Akin, Artistic Director of the Arts District Chorale, will conduct. The performance will last approximately 75 minutes. A reception will take place in the garden of St. Michael immediately following the performance.

The event is open to the public, free ticket pick-up locations and more information at www.artsdistrictchorale.org.

Local nonprofit is offering part time jobs at after school programs in DISD

Big Thought, a non-profit organization, seeks part-time Site Guides to assist with its after-school program in Dallas ISD schools for the fall semester in August 2011. Required training will be the week of August 15. The Site Guides are responsible for assisting the Community Site Manager in providing a safe, caring and enriching environment for groups of children participating in the after-school program. These individuals also assist with supervision and engagement of students in youth development and activities. Positions are part-time (15-18 hours per week) – core schedule between 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Time of work may vary by season and each campus’s after-school program hours of operation. Pay is $9.50 an hour. Minimum qualifications are a high school diploma required. College coursework in recreation, child development or a related field is preferred. Experience working with children is required. Experience with creative arts instruction is a plus. For more information and to apply, go to http://bigthought.org/JoinUs/WorkWithUs/SiteGuide or email campus.jobs@bigthought.org. No phone calls please.

Irving ISD Free/Reduced Meal Policy

Irving Independent School District has announced its policy for providing free and reduced price meals for children served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. The ISD Food Service Office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.

Household size and income criteria will be used to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits. Children from households with income at or below certain levels are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Foster children who are the legal responsibility of a welfare agency or court may also be eligible for benefits regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. Eligibility for the foster child is based on the child’s income.

Application forms are being distributed to all households with a letter informing households of the availability of free and reduced price meals for their children. Applications are also available at the principal’s office in each school. To apply for free and reduced price meals, house-
chosen nationally to receive the Pearson Prize in Higher Education Scholarship. The award recognizes commitment to public service and student leadership.

Each recipient will attend the Pearson Student Leadership Summit Aug. 9-11 in Washington, D.C.

“Along with the birth of my daughter, it was one of the greatest achievements of my life,” she said of the award. “It’s a huge honor. It’s humbling to know that my story impacts so many people.”

Garcia was living in New Orleans in August 2005 when Hurricane Katrina hit the city. She watched in horror as the images of the devastation flashed on her television screen after evacuating to San Antonio, where she and her family stayed with relatives. While in San Antonio, she volunteered at Kelly Air Force Base to help other survivors.

She counseled and helped other survivors find housing, and worked with them to make sure they received their vaccinations and medical care.

She eventually moved to North Texas, where she enrolled in Collin County Community College. In fall 2009, she took an introductory government class that was taught by Dr. Millie D. Black, UT Dallas’ first PhD graduate in political science.

“It was her way of teaching and her passion for the subject that was instrumental in my deciding my career path,” Garcia said of Dr. Black. “She is the reason I became interested in this area of study.”

Garcia graduated magna cum laude from Collin County Community College in May. She will begin the Fast Track master’s program in political science at UT Dallas this fall.

While at Collin County Community College, Garcia founded Volunteer Outreach in Civic Engagement (VOICE), whose mission is to educate, communicate and motivate the students to become involved in civic engagement and volunteerism. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and graduated from the Student Leadership Academy offered at Collin.

She is actively involved with the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), for which she was recently elected to serve as the Texas state deputy director for young adults. She is a member of the Plano Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee and is the Bilingual Outreach Coordinator for the City of Plano’s Love Where You Live Project.

She also manages a plot at the Frisco Community Garden in partnership with the Student Leadership Academy and the Frisco Family Services Food Pantry.

In addition to her academic work and her school and civic involvements, Garcia is the mother of her 3-year-old daughter Aaliyah. In her essay for the Pearson Prize application, she wrote that the daily lessons she has learned raising her daughter help her with the leadership challenges she faces in various organizations.

“The people that have had the most influence on me have led by example, and I too find it most effective to lead by example whether with my daughter, at school, or in the community at large,” she wrote in her essay.

Garcia’s short-term goal is to teach government at the college level after she earns her master’s degree. She said she wants to motivate students in much the same way that Dr. Black motivated her. Her long-term goal is to be a political analyst in Washington.

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Threadless donates $2,000 to local non-profit

Threadless, the international community-driven design platform, is pleased to announce the winner of its “Threadless Loves Kids!” design challenge, offering its community of 1.5 million artists the opportunity to submit and vote on a new design for its Kids! Tees while benefiting their favorite charity.

The chosen designer, Lindsey Bailey from Plano, TX won $2500 in cash and prizes from Threadless along with $2000 for her charity of choice – Autism Treatment Center in Dallas. Last week Bailey presented the Autism Treatment Center with the $2,000 check from Threadless.

Bailey’s design titled “ABCritters” features animals in order of the alphabet and received 790 votes from the Threadless community (see below). Her design is now available on Tees, Hoodys and Onsies for Kids, Toddlers and Babies at Threadless.com.

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

DFW Financially Empow- ered Women meet monthly for lunch or dinner and a fun, in- formative seminar on various financial topics. Info: 469-942-0009 or meetup.com/378.

Group Business Seminars at 4907 Spring Avenue, Dallas, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; 3rd Fri- day 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 Thurs- day at 1 pm in Plano Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com or 972-898-5882.


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

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


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-night from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. Cost is $10 per person or $15 per couple per class. www.tangocanyen-gueldallas.com

Through August 15 Registration for the Black Academy of Arts and Letters 2nd Annual Golf Tournament to take place on September 22, 2011 at Cowboys Golf Club, 1600 Fairways Drive, Grapevine Texas 76051. Indi- vidual golf spots are $50.00. All proceeds go to the Black Academy of Arts and Letters. Contact Tina Love at 972-679- 2720 or tlove@myeventcen- tral.com or visit myeventcen- tral.com/evn2.asp?id=451.

Dallas Theater Center and Dal- las Black Dance Theatre pres- ent The Ziw, the Tony Award winning Broadway musical that starts with a tornado and doesn’t come down from there. It is a Brown Bag Lunch with Free Parking. Info: 469-942-6698.

North Dallas Back to School Fair at Campbell Green Recre- ation Center, 16600 Park Hill Dr., Dallas, TX with live ani- mals, bounce houses, door prizes and free backpacks and school supplies 9:30am – 2:00pm. Tickets $3. (214) 670- 6314.


Writing through Grief at the Dallas Meditation Center, 727 S. Floyd – Richardson from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., onation: $55 includes free copy of “It’s Only Temporary...” grief journal

August 13-14
Garland Civic Theatre has scheduled auditions for “Pil- low Talk” adapted by Christo- pher Sergel from the movie classic by Stanley Shapiro and Maurice Richlin on beginning at 1:00 p.m. Callbacks begin at 5:00 p.m. on the August 14. Info: www.garlandcivithe-atre.org or 972-485-8884

Amon Carter Museum’s 50th Anniversary Bash in Fort Worth

"It’s Our Time Concert” at 6:00 p.m. at St. James Church located at 316 Watt Street McKinney, TX, Winston F. Douglas, Pastor – Info: Ken- neth McGowen @ 214-504-8188

Amon Carter Museum’s 50th Anniversary Bash in Fort Worth

Senior Center Garage Sale will be held at the Lewisville Senior Activities Center at the Memorial Park Recreation Center, 1950 S. Valley Park- way, from 8 a.m. to noon. To purchase booth space ($15) or for info contact Emily Hunt- ington at 972-919-5072

Foster Kids Charity sponsors

August 19-21
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August 20
AnyEvent Event Planning Services is hosting Event Planning Boot Camp at 701 S. Neddemman Dr. Arling- ton, 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.

August 25
The Dallas Symphony Orches- tra presents Steve Martin and the Steep Canyon Rangers for an evening of bluegrass and jaw-dropping harmonies. Ticket- st start at $60. Go to dal- lassymphony.com/season-ticket-packages/single-tickets-live-at-the-meyerson/productions/ steve-martin.aspx

August 25 - 26

August 26 – 27
The Black Academy of Arts and Letters presents The Jazzy Sounds of Jennifer Croix at the Clarence Music Café Theater located in the Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex. Tickets are $10. Info: 214-743- 2400.

August 27

August 28
Renowned, African American chefs feature their talents to benefit scholarships for local students at the 3rd Annual Na- tional Hookup of Black Women North Texas Chapter Iron Chef Cook-off at the Milestone Culinary Arts Cen- ter, 4531 McKinney Avenue, Dallas, TX 75205. Tickets are $50. Info: Denise Woodson at 214-906-2800 or lyn- wood5@att.net.
Bishop Neaul Haynes 80th birthday celebration

By Toi Pearson
NDG Contributor

Monday, August 8 a birthday celebration was held in honor of Bishop James Neaul Haynes’ 80th birthday at the Fairmont Hotel. Pastor Andrew Jackson greeted and escorted guests to a small lounge area where Bishop Haynes greeted attendees.

He wore a big smile and exuded inviting warmth that could bid a complete stranger to sit down with him. Family and friends flooded the room adorned with their best “black tie affair” threads, and glad hearts to honor a man they all love so dearly.

Regarding the celebration being held in his honor, Bishop Haynes stated, “It is a heartwarming thought and feeling that your contemporaries think enough of you to celebrate you.” He recalled that, “the last time I had a celebration for my birthday it was for my 50th.” As we sat together, I noticed Bishop Haynes greeted everyone by name. There was not a stranger in the building.

This man, described by his colleagues as a “gentleman and eloquent leader,” was born August 8, 1931 in Denton, Texas. His parents, Bishop F.L. Haynes and Ola Mae Haynes had 6 children altogether, Bishop Haynes is the youngest. He holds degrees from the University of Denver, North Texas University (University of North Texas), and Dallas Theological Seminary where he received a Masters in Biblical Studies. Ministry runs in his blood, his father was a bishop and his grandfather was a pastor. He preached his first sermon at the age of 16.

In 1951 Bishop Haynes received his pastoral license just before becoming the pastor of Open Door Church of God in Christ at the young age of 20. Though the task of leading a church at such a young age intimidated him, he was comforted by his father’s words of wisdom, “if you are going to make God’s work your work, you go to work when He says go.” Bishop Haynes has served as the pastor at six churches since 1952, and is currently serving as the pastor of Saintsville Sanctuary Church of God in Christ located in Dallas. He has held numerous prestigious positions in the Church of God in Christ (COGIC) including but not limited to: Member of the Texas Northeast Jurisdictional Trustee Board (1967). District Superintendent of the Dallas West District (1967), Assistant Jurisdictional Secretary (1969), Prelate of Texas Northeast Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction (1978), Member of the National Trustee Board (1972), Member of the General Board of the COGIC (1984-Present).

In 1997, Bishop Neaul Haynes was chosen by over 200 pastors to serve as the Bishop of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, one of his proudest accomplishments. A part of his responsibilities as Bishop include presiding over more than 400 pastors and 45 districts under his jurisdiction. Holding this title has allowed him to travel the world and appoint other Bishops both locally and internationally. He remarked with a nostalgic smile, “I don’t where it is that I have not been.” Bishop Haynes is not only an accomplished member of the COGIC, but he is an accomplished family man. He married his wife, Vivian King Haynes when he was 26 years old. They raised two daughters together, Vrai Haynes-Morris and Pia Haynes-Williams. Bishop Haynes lot about a man whose adult children still love to be around him.” At the tender age of 80, Bishop Haynes has accomplished many things and from my observations, he has the energy to accomplish many more. He is the only member of his family to reach the age of 80 and everyone who attended the celebration rejoiced at his long life, and accomplishments throughout the night.

Family and friends stood and recalled treasured memories and words of wisdom shared between them and the Bishop. An assortment of slideshows chronicled his journey through 80 years of life lessons, achievements, and memories. He spent the greater part of the night receiving compliments and words of gratitude for his service to the COGIC, and investment in the lives of young men. Bishop Haynes was serenaded, applauded, praised, and celebrated all night long. He expressed his appreciation with a hearty smile that remained on his face all evening.

I agree with Superintendent R.C. Williams who stated that, “[Bishop Haynes] has served in so many capacities and positions, he deserves to be celebrated.” Bishop James Neaul Haynes has a beautiful family. It says a lot about a man whose adult children still love to be around him.” At the tender age of 80, Bishop Haynes has accomplished many things and from my observations, he has the energy to accomplish many more. He is the only member of his family to reach the age of 80 and everyone who attended the celebration rejoiced at his long life, and accomplishments throughout the night.

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**NDG Gossip: Is nip slip becoming common place?**

Less than a week after Nicki Minaj experienced a wardrobe malfunction exposing her nipple on Good Morning America, we can now place Kelly Rowland on the list. Read the full story and more about Kanye West going off at www.northdallasmagazine.com.

**WHISPERS, continued from Page 1**

Later, they were renamed "The Whispers" by Lou Bell of Dore Records. The group recorded nine singles for the Dore label between 1964 and 1967. They recorded their first Top 10 R&B hit, "Seems Like I Gotta Do Wrong," in 1970 when the group switched to Janus Records. By 1971 Gordy Harmon decided to leave the group and was replaced by Leaveil Degree.

The Whispers produced a string of hits over the next two decades and emerged as the leading romantic singers of their generation. Their first platinum album "The Whispers", released in 1980, highlighted "A Song For Donny," and their biggest hit "And The Beat Goes On." The classic "Lady," written by group member Nicholas Caldwell, is still a favorite at concerts. Another favorite that continues to be a crowd pleaser is "Just Gets Better with Time", which went platinum in 1987. It featured the R&B number 1 and US Top 10 pop entry "Rock Steady", which was a collaboration with Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds.

Marcus stopped performing with the group in 1989 due to ill health, and following his death two years later, the Whispers vowed never to replace him. The group, which still consists of Walter Scott, Wallace Scott, Nicholas Caldwell, and Leaveil Degree, currently perform around the world to thousands of loyal fans.

The Whispers four decades of accomplishments were acknowledged when Charlie Thomas of the famed Drifters inducted them into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame.

**LEE, continued from Page 2**

for four years as the national secretary and has also served an unprecedented four terms as chair of the Sports Journalism Task Force.

The election results were announced at a 7:00 p.m. press conference yesterday following the closing of the polls at the Philadelphia Convention Center, site of the 2011 NABJ Annual Convention and Career Fair. 515 votes were cast by eligible NABJ members in this year's election, conducted online between June 3 and 5 p.m. yesterday.

"It is both a privilege and an honor to have been elected to lead the organization for the next two years. Board members elected in uncontested races include Treasurer-elect Keith Reed, Secretary-elect Lisa Cox, Region III Director-elect Dedrick Russell, Region IV Director-elect AJ Ross, Region VI Director-elect Michelle Fitzhugh-Craig and Associate Representative-elect Dawn Angeliq Roberts.

Winning elections in uncontested races were newly elected Vice President of Print Errin Haines of The Associated Press defeating freelance reporter Denise Clay 280-209, and newly elected Parliamentarian Cindy George of The Houston Chronicle, who defeated Ken Knight of The Tampa Tribune by 10 votes, 244-234, with 37 abstentions.

The race for student representative resulted in a tie between Wesley Lowery of Ohio University, and Marissa Evans of Marquette University, each receiving 69 votes. The student candidates will have a week-long run-off election August 15-22.

**Why use social media when you don’t have a social concern**

These athletes are active on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube marketing their names 24/7. Even the ones who are not marketable are getting their names out. Can you imagine if YouTube had existed more than 40 years ago when Muhammad Ali was standing toe-to-toe with the United States government to express how his Muslim beliefs prevented him from condoning the Vietnam conflict or Tommy Smith and John Carlos on Twitter protesting at the 1968 Olympics about the plight of Blacks and endorsing Civil Rights.

These events would have reached millions instantly via the Internet and cable television. But at the time of these historic events there were only your local newspaper and the nightly news with Walter Cronkite to spread the word.

See SPORTS, Page 15

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**Fact:**

1.2 million registered dogs in DFW produce an estimated 900,000 pounds of waste daily. Pet waste can pollute the storm drainage system, including area creeks, lakes, and the Trinity River, potentially harming plants and aquatic wildlife.

**Tips:**

+ Pick up after your pet during walks.
+ Choose at least one day a week to collect pet waste in your yard.
+ Dispose the waste by flushing it down a toilet or double bagging it as trash.

Visit us at www.wheredoesitgo.com

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**900k lbs.**
SBA ILPP to Assist Underserved Texas Businesses

Non-profit selected one of twenty organizations in the nation for new business lending program

Texas Community Builders was notified last week by the U.S. Small Business Administration of its designation as a participating organization in the newly created Intermediary Lender Pilot Program (ILPP). Authorized under the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010, the ILPP will provide direct loans up to $1 million to 20 community organizations or intermediaries in fiscal year 2011.

Texas Community Builders, an affiliate of the statewide non-profit lending organization Business and Community Lenders (BCL) of Texas, will receive federal funds at below-market rates to lend to businesses in distressed regions of Texas. Nineteen other non-profit lenders were selected across the U.S. for the program.

"Texas Community Builders will engage the BCL of Texas lending team to expedite our statewide lending services. Both affiliate companies share the mission of community and business development. We stand ready to make business loans up to $200,000 to growing businesses, which in turn will create new jobs for the Texas economy," said Rosa Rios Valdez, CEO Texas Community Builders.

DFW International Airport launches groundbreaking mobile integration for travelers using "Foursquare" and "Facebook Places"

Smartphone users access concessions deals and special offers based on precise terminal locations

DFW International Airport has launched a new program integrating the popular "Foursquare" and "Facebook Places" location-based mobile applications with the airport’s concessions offerings. Customers who check in via social networking at any of DFW’s five passenger terminals will have access to special concessions deals and discounts offered within a few yards of their location.

At launch, DFW passengers can redeem offers at 85 different concessions locations, such as Starbucks, Auntie Anne’s Pretzels, Brookstone, Hudson News, Reata Grill and more.

"This program allows DFW concessionaires to place information directly into the hands of passengers, just when they are looking for it," said Jeff Fegan, CEO for DFW Airport. "It will give our customers a great snapshot of what is nearby, so they can make more educated decisions about their purchases."

The program is one of the first of its kind in the airport industry to take advantage of the sweeping popularity of smartphones and mobile apps by incorporating concessionaires on an airport-wide basis. A recent DFW survey shows that 84% of airport passengers use smartphones, and 36% of those smartphone users are utilizing location-based social networking apps to check-in at certain locations.

"Customers who use smartphones and mobile apps are actively looking for information about their immediate environment, and this is a powerful way to easily share those specifics," said Sharon McCloskey, vice president of Marketing for DFW Airport. "This program really raises the bar for delivering excellent customer service, in a trendsetting and innovative way."

In support of the social networking effort, DFW also launched a new advertising campaign in the terminals promoting mobile check-ins at DFW shops, restaurants and service providers. The ad campaign can be seen throughout the DFW Airport terminals with the use of static ads including banners and wall clings, flight information display monitors, lighted dionaras, window clings and more. Additionally, the new campaign raises the bar for delivering excellent customer service, in a trendsetting and innovative way."

Racial, continued from Page 3

Conference on Civil and Human Rights; and the National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association.

More than a year ago, the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) warned of the dangers of payday loans and OCC-related actions that allowed nationally chartered banks to:

* Evade state law and offer high-interest payday loans directly to consumers;
* Market payday loans to account holders as a way to pay off other debts. These customers often had to good standing after overdraft charges are assessed, thus encouraging repayment of one high-cost debt with another; and
* Unfairly increase overdrafts charges.

The failure of a federal regulator to investigate bank payday loans and abusive overdraft programs could lead to other troubling developments. In designing regulations for lending institutions, all federal offices ought to be mindful of fair lending and bans against discriminatory practices.

In reaction to the new proposed OCC actions, CRL recently said, "The OCC should use far stronger guidelines, directing banks to eliminate payday products that systematically drain income from borrowers through extended cycles of high-cost debt. The agency’s weak proposed guidelines reinforce the need for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau."

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

CHURCH, continued from Page 1

leader, Rev. Soaries shares vital keys to debt-free living in this groundbreaking, life-changing new approach.

"The idea that we would be voluntary slaves is offensive to all of our sensibilities," says Soaries, "But when we continue to spend what we don't have, charge what we don't need, and borrow more than we can repay, then we must call the problem what it is: slavery."

Rev. Anthony Evans, President of NBCI says, "We are blessed to utilize the wise words of Rev. Soaries to educate African Americans on the importance of saving. It is essential that our congregations conduct a thorough, intensive analysis of their budgets to examine ways to reduce their spending by at least 50% over the course of the next year. Additionally, it is essential that African American students are, on average, only about 80% as financially literate as their white student counterparts. Based on this data and what we’ve observed from our years of community service our mission is clear - the African American community, who currently suffers at a disparate rate during this historic recession, requires immediate, intensive financial literacy education. With this in mind, we have created an important program to begin the dialogue within our congregations on the importance of financial stability. The objective is to highlight the importance of careful family budgeting and financial planning, saving, and retirement - to reverse the negative impact that financial illiteracy has wrought within the African American community."

Picture Yourself...

How you see yourself determines your future. At Richland and Eastfield Colleges, you'll gain the confidence and skills needed to put your dreams into focus.

Register now for Fall 2011!

Richland College
972-238-6194
www.richland.edu

Eastfield College
972-860-7167
www.eastfield.edu

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holds must fill out the application and return it to the school. Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and verification of data. Applications may be verified at any time during the school year. An adult household member must sign the application.

For school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced price benefits, households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) benefits only have to list their child’s name and SNAP or TANF case number. SNAP is the new program formally known as the Food Stamp Program.

Households that do not provide SNAP or TANF documentation must list the names of all household members, the amount and source of income received by each household member, and the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult who signs the application does not have a Social Security number, the household member must indicate that the person does not have a Social Security number. The application must be signed by an adult household member.

Applications can be filled out at the ISD School Meal Application Center at 800 N. O’Connor Road from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:30 to 3 p.m. Friday. Due to construction and renovation, the application center is temporarily housed in a portable building also located at the above address, and will remain open at the above listed dates and times. Visitors are advised to park at 810 N. O’Connor and use the entrance at the southeast corner of the portable building.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced price policy, the ISD Food Service Office will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the reviewing official on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to Debbie Cabrera, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, 2621 W. Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75062 or 972-600-5405.

McCarthy requests bids for the Design Build CHP Plant at VA Medical Center in Dallas, TX be submitted before 12:00 pm Tuesday, August 23, 2011. Project is known as Co-Generation Energy System. New 5,400 sf concrete & precast structure for electric utilities & a 2,500 sf steel & precast structure for housing a turbine. Bid documents are available for review at McCarthy’s Private iSqm planroom or from www.fbo.gov Insurance per bid documents. A payment and performance bond may be required. McCarthy is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages all SDB/VOSB/SDVOSB/ WOSB/HUBZONE firms to submit bids to McCarthy Bldg Co 12001 N. Central Expy, #400 Dallas, Texas 75243 Phone (972) 991-5300 Fax (972) 991-9249 Email: bidtex@mccarthy.com www.mccarthy.com

Are you looking for a job or a career?

The Garland Fire Department is looking for men and women interested in a career as a firefighter/paramedic. You must be between the ages of 18 and 35 with a high school diploma or GED. Starting salary is $45,900. Applications accepted online only at www.garlandfire.com

APPLICATION DEADLINE
September 9, 2011 5:00 pm.

A CAREER FOR LIFE

GARLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT
ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

www.NorthDallasGazette.com
Garland Chamber hosting job fair

Several Garland manufacturers indicated in recent weeks that they have multiple job openings that need to be filled as soon as possible. In a continued effort to serve the needs of member businesses, the Garland Chamber of Commerce and DCMA put together a job fair open to the entire community. The fair will be held in the Gallery of the Garland campus of Richland College from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on August 11. Businesses like Plastipak Packaging, Lonestar Plastics and the Garland Fire Department and Police Department have already registered to fill various positions.

Airlink Constructors which consists of McCarthy/Robinson/Phillips May/Atkins requests bids for the DART Irving-3 Design/Build Project in Irving, TX be submitted by 4:00 pm Thursday, 9/15/2011. There will be a prebid meeting & D/M/WBE Subcontracting Outreach Event held from 2-4 pm Wednesday, August 17, 2011 at TEXO Conference Center located at 11111 N. Stemmons Fwy, Dallas, Texas 75229. Project includes approx. 5.2 miles of light rail guideway extending from the Beltline Station to the DFW Station near Terminal A. 10 % Bid documents are available for review at McCarthy’s Private iSqFt planroom. McCarthy is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages all D/M/WBE firms to submit bids to McCarthy Bldg Co 12001 N. Central Expy, #400; Dallas, Texas 75243 Phone (972) 991-5500; Fax (972) 991-9249 Email: civilbidtex@mccarthy.com www.mccarthy.com

MOBILE, continued from Page 11

paign video will be broad- cast on all Airport television monitors in public spaces. DFW Airport will also send “brand ambassadors” into the terminals for the next several weeks to promote awareness of the mobile app integration program. The brand ambassadors will provide passengers with handouts, giveaways and most importantly, live smartphone demonstrations of how to take advantage of the deals.

The program works on any smartphone platform supported by Foursquare and Facebook, including Apple iOS, Blackberry, Android, and Palm.

Job seekers can attend the fair at no charge and will register upon arrival. The chamber encourages job seekers to dress in business professional attire and come prepared with multiple copies of their resumes in order to interact with as many company participants as possible.

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Hobby Lobby is a leader in the Arts & Crafts industry with 351 stores located in 28 states. Candidates must have previous retail store management experience in one of the following: Supermarket chain, Craft chain, Mass merchant, Drug chain, Building supply chain Must be willing to relocate.

Benefits include: • All Stores Closed on Sunday! • Competitive Salaries • Paid Vacations • 401K Plan • Medical/Dental • Life Insurance • Merchandise Discount • Flex Spending Plan Qualifed Candidates who are self motivated and top performers must apply online.

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**August 14**

You’re invited to our Back-2-School Drive for K-12 grades. There will be FREE school supplies and clothes (while they last), a health fair; and for children, 1D/1 finger-printing by the Plano Police Department. Call Bobby Perry at 972-423-8833 for details.

**August 21, 3 p.m.**

Join us for our Annual Elders and Deacons Appreciation Day. Our Elders are Bowditch, Hodridge, and Kelly; and our Deacons are Batts and Spencer. 

**Brother Ramon Hodridge, Minister**

1026 Avenue F
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8835
www.avfcchurchofchrist.org

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Monday – Friday
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

TheShip3c.org

FREE school supplies and clothes for those in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567 or they may be submitted via email to: prayerline@the-ship3c.org

**MT. PISGAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

“The Rock”

August 14, 7:45 a.m.

You’re invited to our early morning worship service as we praise and worship God.

**August 17, 8:30 p.m.**

Join us for “Spiritual First Friday’s Open Mic Night” at First Baptist Church of Allen’s Youth Building, 303 E. Main Street in Allen. There will be food, poets, singers, rappers and more. Open to all ages. For information email OpenMic@the-ship3c.org

**NEW LIFE IN JESUS CHURCH MINISTRIES**

August 12, 7 p.m.

You’re invited to join us this Friday as we worship and praise God. 

**NEW LIFE CHURCH**

**HOPESWELL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

August 26, 3:30 p.m.

You’re invited to our Pre-Aniversary Service for “A Man Chosen by God for a Spiritual Vision” from Jeremiah 3:15.

**August 3-Sept 2, 7 p.m.**

Join us in a nightly revival as we worship and praise God for His many blessings.

September 3, 3:30 p.m.

You’re welcomed to “The Big Cerebration” as we honor our pastor and wife for 10 years of faithful service to God and mankind at our church. Our pastor is “A Man Chosen by God for a Spiritual Vision” from Jeremiah 3:15.

**NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF DALLAS**

August 11-13

Ladies, come to our Women’s Conference 2011 at the Renaissance Dallas Hotel. God is going to do a mighty work. Call the church for fees and other details.

**August 13, 9 a.m.**

Come to our Youth Summit at ChurchWay, Dallas, 75230. Counselors will discuss scholarships, advanced placement credits and the STAAR Exam. Participation from parents and students is encouraged. School supplies will be distributed and there will be food and fun.

**August 21, 10:30 a.m.**

Join us for Fellowship Ministry (Hospitality, Nurses and Ushers) Annual Day

**SHILOH MBC IN PLANO**

August 13, 12 p.m.-2 p.m.

Join us for Operation Project Lorenzo hosted by our Heart-2-Heart Ministry. This Back-2-School Jean Drive honors Lorenzo Allen from the community. Volunteers are needed to referee youth games, photography, crafts, face painting, serving food, modeling, ushers and for hosting children.

**August 17, 7 p.m.**

Join us for our Midweek Service as we worship and praise God.

**Victory Bible Church International (VBCI Dallas)**

August 14, 9 a.m.

You are invited to a Life Transforming Service that will change your life as we praise and worship God.

**1100 Business Parkway, Suite 1007**

Richardson, TX 75081
972-679-4138 or 214-394-4164

**WHITE ROCK CHAPEL INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH**

August 21, 3-30 p.m.

Join us for a Family and Friends Day at a Texas State Historical Church as we worship and praise God.

**Rev. Billy Forward, Sr.**

**Senior Pastor**

5553 Celestial Drive
Addison, TX 75001
972-980-8116

**THE WAY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF DALLAS**

Early Prayer

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

**Dr. Gregory Voss, Senior Pastor**

2765 Trinity Mills Road
Building 300
Carrollton, TX 75006
214-514-9147

**THE NEW LIGHT CHURCH**

August 14

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.

**Shawn Rab, Senior Pastor**

9314 Elam Road
Dallas, TX 75217
214-291-3430
newlightchurchdallas.com
“Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted.” James 1:9 (KJV)

As individuals we don’t like pain, proof of this is looking in our medicine cabinets; we generally have pain relievers of various kinds, rub on creams, pain patches, aspirin, etc. We wouldn’t think about surgery without anesthesia. We are so strongly opposed to pain that we think that God’s desire is that we will experience pain-free lives. Keep in mind that God doesn’t take pleasure in our pain. However, there are times that God will allow painful circumstances, as our government’s budget crisis; in order to shape us and make us more like Christ. These are times of despair that turn out to be a needed light into our soul.

The following poem was said to be written by an anonymous Confederate soldier that fought in the American Civil War. They express the soul of a man who learned to view his times of adversity from a different perspective. This should also be the view of Christians in times of their trials.

The soldier said, “I asked God for strength that I might achieve; I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey. I asked God for health, that I might do greater things; I was given infirmity, that I might do better things. I asked for riches, that I might be happy; I was given poverty, that I might be wise. I asked for power, that I might praise men; I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.

I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life, I was given life, that I might enjoy all things. I got nothing that I asked for but everything I had hoped for. Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were heard. I am among men, most richly blessed.”

Christians can overcome the fear of adversity and move into their destiny by trusting God totally. “I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be predestined, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.” Philippians 3:14 & 15 (KJV)

It’s not easy to move forward in the face of adversity or a trial. Dr. David Livingston, a famous missionary from Scotland who was known for his pioneering medical missions in Africa once said, “I’ll go anywhere as long as it is forward.” The only thing that I would change in his statement for Christians is to say that they will go anywhere God leads them.

It has been said that “Courage is not the absence of fear, but the judgment that something else is more important than fear.” When moving forward in the Christian life, whether changing how we live, or even changing how we act, obedience to God should always be the driving factor over fear. If a Christian is facing some adversity, whether some scoffers in their life who make light of his or her beliefs, or some kind of worry that he or she can’t seem to break free of; or it may be possible that God is calling them to do something big for Him. The response to anything should not be based on fears but faith in God. Service to God is the most important thing in life.

Every Christian should know that God can and will heal the brokenhearted and He will bind up their wounds. If God can count the stars and call them by name; and the Bible also tells us that the vary hairs on our heads are numbered by Him. Just think, how much more important we are, and our trials are to Him. God is mighty in power; He is infinite. He alone can lift up the humble and cast the wicked down to the ground.

God can cover the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, which we are desperate in need of in the Dallas-Fort Worth area at this time.

God can be trusted to lead us even though we can’t see the pathway in front of us. He is all-knowing, all-loving and all-powerful. The Bible says, “And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.” Romans 14:23 (KJV)

Now, more than ever, is the time to trust God and have absolute faith in Him. Believe what the old spiritual song says, “What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear, what a privilege to carry, everything to him in prayer.”

Maybe it’s time for professional athletes and owners to use social media to make a difference regarding social issues instead of socializing. For instance, Cowboys wide receiver Dez Bryant has 94,000 followers on Twitter. That is the perfect avenue to spread his thoughts on social issues. How about the Cowboys’ fearless leader, Tony Romo? He has approximately 6,000 followers.

For example, an estimated 29,000 children have died from famine in Somalia, Africa, where rebels are the governing body. Although international help is on the rise, the developed nations are focused on their own debt reduction and perhaps not as generous as in years past. However, we do not have to cross the ocean to see suffering children. Sadly, we can find it in our own neighborhoods in the shadow of our high rises and McMansions around the Metroplex. When I was wondering if any of the “big four,” meaning the NFL, NBA, MLB and NHL, and its players associations have a platform or an agenda for the people of Somalia or any other social issue that happening in the world today.

Some of these athletes have wonderful foundations but most of them are set up by financial advisors as tax shelters or by agents and public relations agencies to create a positive image for the athlete. Yes, we hear how athletes are low-key when it comes to their so-called foundations and charities, but there comes a time when an athlete must stand for something with a purpose instead of personal greed. At least we would hope such a time would come.

You can listen to Donald “Spider” Willis on Sport Talk with Spider each Sunday from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. CST on fishtowelradionetwork.com. For suggestion and topics call 469-355-6668 or email dwillis12w@yahoo.com

From Adversity to Destiny

Ms. Linda Hayes, Founder of Southern Communities Investment Club (SCIC). She is not looking to government in this budget crisis; she is planning to unite the communities to create jobs and opportunities in the Southern Sector of Dallas.

SPORTS, continued from Page 10

word.

Yet the actions of Ali, Smith and Carlos made impact even though broadcast media was still in its blinding youthful stage. These men sacrificed their reputations, careers, families and the American dream.

Are the players of today afraid of taking a stand on social issues because of their image or endorsements? Instead, some athletes use social media for ridiculous means. Reggie Bush used Twitter several months ago to complain about the New Orleans Saints’ choice to draft Alabama running back Mark Ingram. Who will benefit from his complaint? Obviously he didn’t. By the way, Bush has 1.9 million followers on Twitter.

Martin Luther King Jr. said, “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

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From Adversity to Destiny

Ms. Linda Hayes, Founder of Southern Communities Investment Club (SCIC). She is not looking to government in this budget crisis; she is planning to unite the communities to create jobs and opportunities in the Southern Sector of Dallas.
You’re shopping at the mall with your children when one of them suddenly disappears. A quick search of the nearby area is unsuccessful. What do you do?

Now there’s a free new tool from the FBI that can help. The just launched Child ID app—the first mobile application created by the FBI—provides a convenient place to electronically store photos and vital information about your children so that it’s literally right at hand if you need it. You can show the pictures and provide physical identifiers such as height and weight to security or police officers on the spot. Using a special tab on the app, you can also quickly and easily e-mail the information to authorities with a few clicks.

The FBI’s Child ID App
Putting Safety In Your Hands

A child goes missing every 40 seconds in America. Many never return home.

The FBI’s new Child ID App can help.

Simply download the free FBI mobile application from the App Store on iTunes, add the latest photos of your child, enter key information about him or her, and update it regularly.

In the unlikely event that your child goes missing, you can quickly e-mail the photos and information to authorities. The app also includes safety advice and checklists for parents. And please be assured, no information about you or your child will be collected or stored by the FBI or iTunes.

Put your child’s safety in your own hands. Download the FBI’s Child ID App today.

The app also includes tips on keeping children safe as well as specific guidance on what to do in those first few crucial hours after a child goes missing.

Right now, the Child ID app is only available for use on iPhones and can only be downloaded for free from the App Store on iTunes, but we plan to expand this tool to other types of mobile devices in the near future. New features will be added in the upcoming months—including the ability to upload other photos stored on your smart phone—in the coming weeks and months.

An important note: the FBI (and iTunes for that matter) is not collecting or storing any photos or information that you enter in the app. All data resides solely on your mobile device unless you need to send it to authorities. Please read your mobile provider’s terms of service for information about the security of applications stored on your device.