

North Dallas Gazette

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DC Federal District Court sets Texas redistricting trial date

Court will hear evidence detailing discrimination in GOP maps

Monday, a three-judge panel of the District of Columbia Federal District Court set January 17, 2012 through January 26, 2012 as the trial dates to formally review the Congressional, State House and State Senate plans enacted by the Texas Republican leader-

ship this summer.

The DC Court will review the plans under Section 5 of the US Voting Rights Act which prevents states like Texas with a long history of racial discrimination from adopting redistricting plans that reduce the ability of His-

panics or African Americans to elect their candidates of choice. Earlier this fall, the DC Court denied a motion filed by Texas Republicans to gain approval of their plan without a trial. In fact, the DC Court signaled their concern about potential violations in the GOP

plan in its denial by saying that the state has used an, "improper standard or methodology to determine which districts afford minority voters the ability to elect their preferred candidates of choice."

The Section 5 trial in DC
See COURT, Page 10

COVER STORY

Racism still alive and well in Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD?



Rachel Lewis in front of the C-FB Administration Building

See RACISM, Page 9

The Tale of Two Candidates

BY ART BLACKWELL

It was the best of times, and the worst of times...

It was the best of times for Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain, and the worst of time for Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich. Cain, the former Godfather

of pizza, was riding at the top of most opinion polls and winning more straw polls than any other Republican candidate. Gingrich, the former King of the Hill, was languishing closer to the bottom of earlier opinion polls, and certainly wasn't winning straw polls.

What happened to Cain,

the "999 Godfather," the Don, and what happened to



Herman Cain

the contract on America ex King of the Hill, Sir Newt? Sex, yeah sex! It always seems to creep into every political campaign. Mr. Cain, who the Republicans seemed to have had an extra philosophical affair with, and Newt Gingrich, whom the same party faith-

See TALE, Page 12



Lamar and Khloe prep for big show in Big D

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

COMMENTARY

Predatory payday lending by banks on the rise

BY CHARLENE CROWELL

with interest rates of 360 percent or higher.

Each year, street corner payday loans strip consumers of \$4.5 billion. Now, at least four large banks joining the ranks of those offering one of the most predatory products sold to unsuspecting consumers. Banks like Wells Fargo, US, Regions and Fifth Third are all offering their checking account customers payday loans that typically require full repayment within 10 days

Due to federal bank regulation, these payday loans, sometimes called 'advance deposit loans', circumvent state rate cap laws in 17 states and the District of Columbia. Further, as banks repay these loans from funds already on deposit in checking accounts, borrowers run the risk of running short of money for other living expenses as well as incurring overdraft fees. Under fee-

See PAYDAY, Page 3

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce 5th Annual Holiday Extravaganza a success

BY DONALD WILLIS
NDG CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Saturday, December 10 the Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce (CCBCC) held its 5th Annual Holiday Extravaganza at the Hilton Garden Inn, located in Allen, Texas. During the an-



Horace Satisfield
CCBCC Board Chair, Valerie Ballard
CCBCC Community PR Director
and Fred Thomas

nual event the CCBCC recognized businesses and com-

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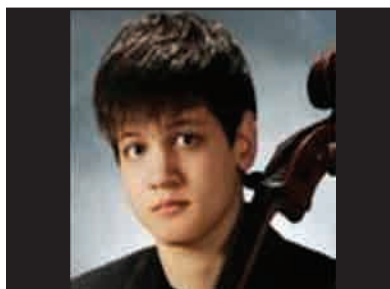
The North Dallas Gazette staff wishes each of you a safe Holiday Season.

Our next issue is December 29.

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People In The News...



Russell Houston



Dr. R. Kay Green



Valder Beebe

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Russell Houston

NPR's *From The Top*, one of the most popular classical music programs on radio, will feature North Texas cellist Russell Houston on December 31, 2011. The show will be broadcast on DFW's local classical station WRR 101.1FM, Saturday at 9:00AM. Russell was flown to Santa Fe NM to tape the live show at the historic Lensic Theatre back in October, performing *Requiebros* by Gaspar Cassadó. This honor includes a special scholarship of \$7500 to attend the New England Conserva-

tory of Music if admitted.

Russell Houston was born in Dallas, Texas in 1994 and began to play the cello at age ten. He has since become an active performer, playing many concerts and recitals. His solo debut was at age 14 with the New Life Symphony Orchestra. Russell has received numerous honors including the grand prizes at the 2011 Juanita Miller Concerto Competition, the 2011 Dallas Symphonic Festival, the 2010 Collin County Young Artist Competition, the 2010 Greater Dallas Youth Orches-

tra Concerto Competition, and the 2010 Lewisville Lake Symphony Young Artist Competition. He has also appeared as a soloist with orchestras including the Lewisville Lake Symphony, the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra, and the Plano Symphony Orchestra. In 2011, Russell performed the Prokofiev Sinfonia Concertante with the Southern Methodist University Meadows Symphony. Russell was also the featured soloist in Fine Arts Chamber Players' 5th Annual Charles Barr Memorial Concert of the Bancroft Family Concerts in May



2011 and in the 2010 Basically Beethoven Festival, Rising Star Youth Recital. He has also performed on the

Classic Café radio program on WRR101.1FM. In the 2012-2013 Season, Russell will also be performing as a soloist with the Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra and the East Texas Symphony Orchestra.

Aside from performing, Russell enjoys giving back to the community. He is a member of Texas Winds, an organization dedicated to bringing music to retired communities, and plays recitals regularly for nursing homes during all his breaks from school. He has performed for renowned musicians such as Paul Katz, Andrew Mark, Donald

McInnes, Daniel Müller-Schott, and Janos Starker. Russell is currently a senior at the Greenhill School, where he is the vice-president of the math team. This year, he was selected as a National Merit Semifinalist. His hobbies include swimming, playing the guitar, watching movies with his friends, and listening to all different kinds of music. Russell studies the cello with Hans Jørgen Jensen of the Northwestern Bienen School of Music. He formerly studied with Ko Iwasaki. Russell plays a cello made in 1904 by Eugenio Weiss in Trieste, Italy.

Dr. R. Kay Green

Beginning in early 2012, Dr. R. Kay Green will begin a "Bridging the Distance-Learning Gap" tour targeting HBCUs and public two-year colleges. Following her mission, "to provide quality marketing and management instruction to distance-learning students both domestic and abroad", Dr. Green developed the "Bridging the Distance-Learning Gap" series, to enhance the quality and delivery of distance-learning courses and training at HBCU's and public two-year colleges.

The "Bridging the Dis-

tance-Learning Gap" tour will focus on the following topics:

- * Distance-Learning 101: How to be successful in the Distance-Learning Environment

- * Distance-Learning 102: Providing Excellence in the Distance Learning Classroom

- * Distance-Learning 103: Personalizing Your Distance Learning Classroom

- * Distance-Learning 104: Analyzing student personalities in the Distance Learning Classroom

- * Distance-Learning

105: Creating Synergy in the Distance Learning Classroom

Having attained her undergraduate from an HBCU, Savannah State University, Dr. Green is committed to helping minority students, faculty, administration, and staff understand the power of distance-learning.

At present, Dr. Green has instructed over 350+ courses in the online format. She has also spearheaded instruction in Marketing and Management with several prestigious universities including West Virginia University, Embry-Riddle University, Northeastern University, Arcadia Univer-

sity, and Florida Institute of Technology.

She has received certifications in 95% of the distance learning platforms available to online students today. At present, she is currently certified in the following platforms: Blackboard 9.0, E-College, Angel, Web-CT, Desire2Learn, Moodle, University Alliance, Horizon Wimba, Course-Net, Pronto Live, Illuminate Live, and Macromedia Breeze.

Globally, Dr. Green has



international instructional experience with the University of Liverpool, focusing on MBA students from over 100 countries; and the Uni-

versity of Mexico's Dual Degree Program with Walden University, focusing on Latino Marketing and Management undergraduates.

She has received honorary distinction in the *Who's Who Among Academics and Professionals* and *Who's Who Among Executives and Professionals*. She is also the recipient of various faculty awards including the coveted Provost Circle Award and the Top Faculty Recognition designation.

For more details, visit her web site at www.drkaygreen.com

Valder Beebe

Valder Beebe has been named News Director of KKVI in Greater Garland as



announced today by Bill Wright, President and General Manager of KKVI. With a decade of excellence in broadcasting, Beebe is recognized as one the industry's

successful businesswomen, hosting her namesake show, The Valder Beebe Show, and her newest brand, THAT CELEBRITY INTERVIEW. She will work directly with KKVI's President and General Manager and will assume her new post January 2, 2012.

As News Director, Beebe will oversee all facets of KKVI news radio broadcasts and streaming television news production, including overseeing news staff work. Valder Beebe will be the voice of KKVI News and Weather. Valder has a media background hosting and producing her own show, and "she is catching on fast to news broadcasting" said Bill Wright.

"I am thrilled to bring the vision for KKVI news to life. They have already assembled an amazing creative team to brand KKVI across broadcasting and streaming Internet television platforms to give consumers a dedicated environment to experience media at its best."

A seasoned technology media host, Beebe has hosted the Valder Beebe Show on radio for seven years. In 2009 her brand expanded to include satellite video interviews of today's biggest celebrities. Recent interviews include Tyler Perry, Margaret Cho, Rapper T-Pain, Tito Jackson, The Jackson Brothers, Chef Emeril Lagasse, Chef Wolfgang Puck and Chef Art Smith, along with Oscar, Emmy and Grammy winners. This has garnered the show multiple awards.

Beebe's brand continues to expand and cross all media

platforms. Beebe Omnimedia Co., LLC, also broadcast on her Internet TV Network BBNetwork on ValderBeebeShow.com, her brand's hub, showcasing THAT CELEBRITY INTERVIEW and Beebe's Smart Living in The Powers Pages News (a virtual TV guide for the show). In 2012 her brand expands to OPNTVNetwork (opntvnetwork.com). OPN TV NETWORKTM will get a boost from hundreds of satellite videos that are produced by BeeBe Omnimedia, the production company of the Valder Beebe Show. The videos feature today's hot topic celebrities, TV's cooking celebrities, Best-selling authors and tomorrow's "It" personalities. The Valder Beebe Show is in its seventh season and continues to expand its broadcast on FM Radio, Internet Radio, Internet TV, Satellite Broadcasts, Newspaper and Magazine

print brands. In 2011 over 33 million listeners, viewers,

site visitors and readers connect. **See BEEBE, Page 15**

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P. O. Box 763866 • Dallas, Texas 75376-3866

Phone: 972-516-4191

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Publisher's Office:

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

opportunity@northdallasgazette.com

Editorial Department:

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

www.twitter.com/NDGEditor

www.facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette

Website:

www.NorthDallasGazette.com

STAFF

Chairman Emeritus

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Editor

Ruth Ferguson

Published By

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Staff Writer

Tonya Whitaker

Production

Sharon Jones-Scaife

Contributing Writer

Jackie Hardy

Special Projects Manager

Edward Dewayne

Jacqueline Murphy

"Preacher Boy" Gibson, Jr.

Hope Oriabure-King

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PAYDAY, continued from Page 1

based overdraft systems, transactions made when available funds are insufficient will result in an average fee of \$35 per transaction.

For banks, the ability to take funds automatically to repay loans means is a winning proposition. But for consumers, every loan renewal means another fee and a longer stretch of high-cost debt. And some banks have practices that lead to account closure when low or modest balances result in frequent overdrafts.

Fortunately, there are African-American leaders who are standing up and speaking out on the ills of payday and bank payday loans.

According to Julian Bond, former NAACP

Chairman, "A drive through minority neighborhoods clearly indicates that people of color regardless of income are a target for legalized extortion. Payday lending is an economic drain that threatens the livelihoods of hardworking families and strips wealth from entire communities."

Rev. Dr. Frederick Haynes, senior pastor of Friendship West Baptist Church in Dallas has also spoken against payday lending. "Storefront payday lenders are more common than fast food restaurants – especially in my church's neighborhood" said Pastor Haynes. "There are 20 payday loan stores within a five-mile radius on my church. As a pastor and community activist, I have

personally seen how quick cash payday loans wind up placing borrowers in financial debt shackles."

Speaking directly to the ills of bank payday loans, Dr. Haynes added, "This practice of lending is especially troubling when one considers that banks, according to the Federal Reserve, are able to receive loans with interest rates of less than one percent."

Dr. Haynes' observation is one worth expanding. Courtesy of the federal government, banks get loan rates near zero percent interest. These banks then loan funds to payday lenders at competitive market rates. Then these lenders offer consumers interest rates of 360 percent or more. When banks enter the payday loan

market, they eliminate the middle lender and reap all the profits for the institution with the same triple-digit rates charged consumers.

Legal? Not by some state consumer protections; but unfortunately, we need strong federal action to stop this abusive and level the lending field for all consumers.

There's nothing wrong with a business making an honest profit. But there's something seriously wrong with price-gouging interest rates for customers needing a small-dollar loan.

Charlene Crowell is a communications manager with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at: Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

Local civil rights legend Kathlyn Joy Gilliam passes

Following a 13-month battle with cancer, the former Dallas School board president Kathlyn Gilliam died Sunday, December 11 at the age of 81. Ms. Gilliam was the first African American to serve on the Dallas Independent School District. She served for 23 years, including two years as the first African American president 1980-82.



Gilliam shown with Principal Gayle Ferguson Smith from NDG's February 2010 story *Dallas ISD unveils plans for Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Collegiate Academy*

In his tribute to Ms. Gilliam, Richard Evans said, "She was unquestionably Dallas' greatest, most courageous Civil Rights leader and Champion for African American

youth and children of our time!!!! A modern "Warrior Queen", who fought – and won – many epic battles that literally changed not only Dallas, but the entire nation in the areas of education, justice and political empowerment for Blacks...an irreplaceable and priceless treasure whose indomitable strength, wisdom, determination, fortitude and fearless tenacity shaped a better and brighter future for generations of African Americans. Rest, Mrs. Gilliam."

The arrangements include a viewing on Thursday 11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Lott's Funeral Home at 2422 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd., in Dallas. The viewing will be held from 3 – 9 p.m. at the Hall of State in Fair Park in South Dallas. The funeral is scheduled for 11 a.m. at Christian Chapel CME Temple of Faith located at 14120 Noel Road in Dallas.

The Citizens for Irving Entertainment Center Seek Support

While the citizens of Irving voted for the Irving Entertainment Center years ago, the city has yet to appropriate the necessary funds for the project.

The complex, planned for development next to Irving Convention Center, is not only expected to bring commerce, restaurants and family-friendly entertainment. It is projected to create 2,000 – 2,500 jobs. This is why advocates of the project are going before officials to form a special purpose political action committee in order to save it.

The Citizens for Irving Entertainment Center will be holding a 60-day petition drive and need the signatures of 6,000 Irving residents to present to the Irving City Council.

Irving residents are urged to contact Anthony Bonds at 214-830-6719 or at aebond09@yahoo.com for literature and information about how to participate in the petition drive.



For Loved Ones in Care Facilities, the Best 'Social Network' is Face-to-Face Interaction

In a world of constant online and wireless social networking, the holiday season reminds us there's no substitute for tech-free interactions such as hugs, kisses and face-to-face conversation. This is especially true for older family members in nursing facilities or assisted living communities.

It's not just that many from the pre-Facebook generation like their "status updates" delivered live and in person. Holiday times also remind people in nursing facilities that their living arrangements have changed, sometimes in ways that make traditional family get-togethers impossible.

That's why the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) urges Texans to visit their loved ones over the holidays — and take special steps to make the experience more rewarding. Here are some of their ideas.

- Don't show up unannounced. Your family member may want time to clean their room, get dressed up and make sure they have no other commitments. You'll also need to check the facility's visiting hours. Be sure to ask about any variations that may apply to your family member. Specialized care units often have different visiting hours and regulations. For example, although most facilities welcome kids of all ages, some do have age restrictions.

If your schedule doesn't allow you to visit during regular hours, the nursing facility's social worker or administrator may be able to approve an exception.

- Call ahead to see if your loved one needs any personal items, clothing or other necessities.

- Find out when the facility serves meals. This will allow you to either schedule around meal time or, if you prefer, to join your loved one at lunch or dinner. Better yet, consider including the person in holiday meals at your home or a restaurant.



- Bringing a pet when you visit can be a great spirit-lifter. Just be sure to check any pet-related rules the facility may have. And if the family member has a roommate, make sure they're not allergic and are OK with having a dog, cat or other animal in the room.

When you're there, be sensitive to what your loved one is in the mood to do. Some will prefer activity-packed days; others may just want to talk, watch TV, look over some recent photos or participate in an activity at the center. It's not uncommon for older people to feel mildly depressed during holidays. Your greatest contribution may be to gently divert their attention from what they've lost and remind them of all that remains rich and strong in their lives.

If a quiet visit seems best, you may enjoy taking a walk, helping your loved one write cards or letters

(particularly if their handwriting ability has declined) or dropping in for visits with other residents.

Another activity that many older people enjoy is recording their memories on audio or video tape. In years ahead, these will provide cherished moments for your whole family.

If you find holiday visits with your family members rewarding, DADS has opportunities to enrich other facility residents' lives. One of the best is the Silver Lining Program, which offers a range of flexible volunteering styles for individuals, families, groups and corporate partnerships. Whatever you can offer — from one-time visits to a chance to build a relationship over time — can be arranged through Silver Lining.

To find out more, go to the Silver Lining web page at <http://www.dads.state.tx.us/silverlining> or call DADS at 800-889-8595.

Are customers always right?

BY BETSY KRUGER

In business, the squeaky wheel almost always winds up getting the grease. Customers tend to be rewarded for complaining, but that strategy leaves money on the table, according to marketing consultant Betsy Kruger.

"No one likes hearing a complaint, so when a customer complains, a business quickly and resoundingly rectifies the complaint," said Kruger, author of *Top Market Strategy: Applying the 80/20 Rule* (www.BetsyKruger.com). "The problem with this strategy is that disgruntled customers bring in less profit than loyal customers. Your business should focus on gratifying your most profitable customers."

Contrary to popular opinion, the customer is not always right, Kruger says. "It's wrong to reward complainers," she says. "You should reward loyal customers since they reward your business with higher profit. You should value their business since loyal customers value

your business."

Kruger says the 80/20 rule governs all results, including profits from customers.

"When you sort customers by their profitability, this universal law predicts that the top 20 percent of your customers will generate 80 percent of your profit. Conversely, the bottom 80 percent of your customers will generate only 20 percent of your profit — and virtually all of your complaints. This means you should target the top 20 percent with a top market strategy."

Your business can profit from the 80/20 rule by enacting these steps:

- **Distinguish your top customers** — Identify ways the top 20 percent of your customers differ from other customers and what characteristics they have in common. Realize that your top customers are highly profitable.

- **Target your top customers** — Gratify your top customers with a top market strategy. Discontinue marketing to the bottom 80 percent of your customers by automating all interactions with that group.


- **Promote to top prospects** — Focus resources on converting similar prospects into top customers. When you replace your less profitable customers with these new customers, you can expect your total profit from customers to quadruple.

"You may feel it's rude to consider some customers as less valuable than others, but research proves it's true," Kruger says. "The top 20 percent of your customers magnifies your profit, whereas the bottom 20 percent of your customers magnifies your complaints."

"I feel it's rude to reward complainers since loyal customers deserve to be rewarded. When you prioritize your customers with the 80/20 rule, you are prioritizing your profit."

Betsy Kruger heads Strategic Power, a marketing consultancy committed to empowering world prosperity, one business at a time. Business Expert Press released her book, *Top Market Strategy: Applying the 80/20 Rule*, in August 2011.

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Stage 1 Water Restrictions began on Dec. 12 for Dallas

Dallas City Manager Mary Suhm has ordered the initiation of Stage 1 of the city's Drought Contingency Plan. Mandatory outdoor watering restrictions went into effect on Monday, December 12, 2011 with the goal of reducing overall consumption by five percent.

"Even with the much needed recent rains, our water supply reservoirs (Lake Fork, Grapevine, Lewisville, Ray Hubbard, Ray Roberts and Tawakoni) are approximately 25 percent depleted and other factors make it prudent that we activate Stage 1 before the lakes are depleted further," said City Manager Mary Suhm.

The City of Carrollton entered Stage 2 mandatory water-use restrictions on Monday, December 12.

Meteorologists and climatologists predict the drought will continue at least through next summer. Other factors affecting Dallas' ability to provide water to customers include ongoing

construction at the city's East Side water treatment plant which will temporarily reduce treatment capacity in 2012, and the likelihood of emergency raw water sales to other regional water providers who have been more severely affected by the drought. Even with intense conservation efforts, evaporation and water consumption will continue to deplete Dallas reservoirs.

The primary impact of Stage 1 on Dallas water customers is that outside watering is allowed only twice per week. Residents and businesses with addresses ending in an even number may water only on Sundays and Thursdays. Addresses ending in an odd number may water only on Saturdays and Wednesdays. The restrictions apply to automatic sprinklers, hose end sprinklers, drip irrigation, soaker hoses and hand watering. Watering is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on allowed watering days.

"Dallas has done a good

job of planning for future water needs," Suhm said. "We're also fortunate that our lakes have not been as hard hit by the drought conditions. Our customers also deserve credit since their conservation efforts have helped save 146 billion gallons of water in the last ten years."

First violations of the restrictions will result in a warning; subsequent violations could mean fines of \$250 to \$2,000. For more information on Stage 1 restrictions visit www.SaveDallasWater.com.

Cities and water providers are required by the State of Texas to file a Drought Contingency Plan with the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality and the Texas Water Development Board to ensure that the effects of periodic droughts are mitigated as much as possible. The current Dallas plan was updated and approved by the Dallas City Council in June 2010.



**Sports
Talk with
Spider**

The football game between Southlake Carroll and Dallas Skyline was one of those Texas high school classics that have you standing on your feet for three hours. Eighty yard drives, athletic punt returns, smash mouth hitting; great halftime shows is what we live for in Texas from the last week in August to the third week of December.

The game was tainted with a controversial call made by the official after Southlake Carroll kicked an on-side kick that did not travel the necessary 10

UIL must adopt instant replay to compete in the 21st century

yards after being recovered. Southlake recovered the ball and went on the win the game by the score of 28-24 to advance to the state championship game at Cowboy Stadium.

Skyline fans were angry and irate after feeling they had been cheated and denied the opportunity to play for the Class 5A Division I championship game. Fans were cursing and taunting one another like two boxers in the ring which is uncalled for because it's about school spirit, competition and respect. The schools now have a new tool: social media to escalate and ex-

tend these types of mistakes from a hard fought game. Fans now can voice their disappointment via Twitter, Facebook and YouTube.

The Universe Interscholastic league (UIL) is the governing body for high school sports in Texas and must recognize that instant replay is the only way to go. The NFL has used the tool for years and colleges as well. Both the pros and college teams have found instant replay useful.

Instant replay should be utilized during the last five minutes of the half and the last five minutes of only the

See REPLAY, Page 11

Donors pledge \$35,000 plus \$7,500 challenge gift for Irving Interfaith Clinic



Irving Interfaith Clinic Executive Director Maggie Rabiteau explains at a Dec. 2 fundraising breakfast how patient visits are expected to more than double to 5,100 in 2012 thanks to additional caregivers and an expanded new location.

Immediately after the breakfast, the Robert Short Family pledged additional support in the form of a challenge or matching grant of \$7,500. This grant honors of founding clinic Board Chairman Felix Garza. Every dollar contributed by the community will be matched up to \$7,500. Donors can make gifts to be matched securely online at www.irvinginterfaithclinic.org or by calling Maggie Rabiteau, clinic executive director, at 972-579-4392.

"We recently used up all the dollars we had previously

See DONORS, Page 13

Dallas Cowboy legend Drew Pearson presents donation to Plano Community Chair

Drew Pearson, Dallas Cowboy Star, of "hail Mary fame" recently inducted in the Dallas Cowboy's Ring of Honor recently made a donation to The Plano Community Charity of an award made to him by Albertson's Food Stores. Pearson indicated that Albertson's wanted to make a donation on his behalf to a charitable organization upon his selection to the Ring of Honor. He shared the organization was selected through his awareness of the efforts and commitment of Dr. Hightower and The Plano Community Charity. This donation was his way to honor that service to Plano and the residents of Collin County.

Pearson made the presentation in the amount of \$10,000 to Dr. Myrtle Hightower, President and Mr. Don Willeford, Executive Director of The Plano Community Charity. The presentation was made during the organizations 4th

Annual Community Awards and 3rd Annual Decorated Christmas Tree Fund Raiser.

Six decorated 6 and 7ft Christmas Trees, sport memorabilia, and an exquisite 8 piece tea set, were all auctioned off in a live auction setting by Philip Pierceall, auctioneer. The event was held at the ReSale Store and Plano Community Charity office located at 2436 Avenue K, Plano, Texas.

Funds generated from the Annual Christmas Event provide some of the operating capital for The Plano Community Charity. The Plano Community Charity serves as a unique and valuable entity for the citizens of Plano as well as the surrounding area. The mission of the charity is to help families with dignity and compassion in a crisis situation. In this respect they try to help keep a crisis from becoming a disaster which requires resolution in the areas of, financial

assistance, counseling, homelessness, and domestic violence, which the charity helps to resolve in giving victims clothing, furniture, and food. Food was given to 500 plus families during the past year, which included more than 1,200 children.

Notable personnel in attendance included Mayor Phil Dyer, City Council Members, Lissa Smith, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem, Place 4, Jim Dunlap, Place 8, Jim Duggan, Place 5, Pat Gallagher, Place 7, Ben

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Parrish McDonald's Restaurants provides meal to high school band

BY DONALD WILLIS
NDG CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

Economic times are hard with unemployment, layoffs and families struggling to keep food on the table. With the holiday season in full bloom the financial outlook is bleak for individuals and businesses looking for hope and prosperity during this time of the year. Teams are advancing from week to week in the UIL high school playoffs

but the boosters clubs often do not have the necessary funds to provide food and refreshments to the football team, bands members and other auxiliaries.

Skyline High School, located in southeast Dallas, has an enrollment of 4,700 hundreds students. Many of the students live in a single parent home, or one or more of their parents are unemployed. Parents, alumni and businesses in the community have been very responsive with donations and fi-

nancial assistance and volunteering long hours throughout the season.

Roland Parrish Sr., the President, CEO, and owner of Parrish McDonald's Restaurants is the kind of person where giving back is in his DNA and has often stepped-up to the plate in the North Texas area. He owns 25 McDonalds restaurants in DFW and remains a pillar in the community with donations, feeding the

See MEALS, Page 15

PR Legend Ofield Dukes passes

NNPA Chairman Cloves Campbell issued the following statement on the passing of PR legend Ofield Dukes:

"The National Newspaper Publishers Association mourns the passing of public relations pioneer Ofield Dukes. "On behalf of all of our member publications, I want to express our sympathy to the family of Ofield

Dukes. His contributions to the Black Community are the immeasurable. He was a true pioneer in public relations, being one of the first African Americans to really utilize the practice of networking. As a member of the NNPA Foundation Board of Directors, his input was greatly appreciated. He will be greatly missed."



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-The Dallas Morning News

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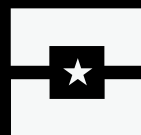
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Ongoing

Every two weeks on Monday the Plano City Council holds its **City Council Meeting** at the Plano Municipal Center, Council Chambers, 1520 K Avenue, Plano, from 7pm – 9:30pm. FREE and open to the public. Info: planotx.org.

Harwood 609, 609 Harwood Street, Dallas, has **Salsa Night** every Thursday night starting at 9:30pm. Info: harwood609jazz.com or 214-740-0609.

Be Fit Frisco presents weekly **Fitness in the Square** sessions Thursday evenings 6:30pm – 7:30pm at Simpson Plaza in front of City Hall, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd, Frisco. FREE. Info: frisco-texas.gov.

The Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood Street, Dallas, hosts **Jazz in the Atrium** every Thursday 6pm – 8pm. Performance included with general admission \$10 and under. Info: dallasmuseumofart.org or 214-922-1200.

Harwood 609, 609 Harwood Street, Dallas, hosts an **All You Can Eat Sunday Brunch with Smooth Jazz Sounds of Majik Touch** every Sunday at 11am. Info: harwood609jazz.com or 214-740-0609.

Want to become a better public speaker? **Toastmasters International** has helped people for decades in a mutually supportive, positive, and fun environment. See what it is like for FREE!!! Mtgs are every Monday at 5:45 p.m. Info: 214-566-4086 or <http://texins.freetoasthost.org/>

Through Dec. 18

The Bishop Arts Theatre Center, 215 South Tyler St. in Dallas, will host **Black Na-**

tivity: A Reason to Celebrate nightly at 7:30 p.m. www.tecotheater.org

Through December 22

Dallas Children's Theater and the Kathy Burks Theater of Puppetry Arts team **up to presents The Nutcracker** at the Rosewood Center, 5938 Skillman Street, Dallas. Showtimes and ticket prices vary. Info: kathyburkspuppets.com, dct.org or 214-740-0051.

Dallas Children's Theater presents **Madeline's Christmas** at 5938 Skillman, Dallas. Showtimes and ticket prices vary. Info: 214-978-0110 or dct.org.

Through Dec. 24

A Christmas Carol by the Dallas Theatre Center comes to the Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. in Dallas, for several shows. Tickets as low as \$15. Visit tickets.attpac.org

Through January 1, 2012

Come see The Trains at NorthPark presented by the Bank of Dallas. Showtimes vary. Tickets \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. Info: Northparkcenter.com

Through January 7, 2012

Young Architects of Spain / Jovenes Arquitectos de España at the Latino Cultural Center shows the extraordinary quality of work by a new generation of young Spanish architects.

Through January 8, 2012

"John Marin: Modernism at Midcentury" at Amon Carter Museum in Fort Worth

Through January 28, 2012

The Lady: An exhibition inspired by the myth of the Lady of White Rock. The

seventeen local artists featured in this show found the story and its mystifying protagonist extremely appealing and created paintings, photographs, and mixed media small-scale works of art for display in this exhibition at the Bath House Cultural Center

December 15

An Evening of Spoken Word Open Mic at the S Dallas Cultural Center at 3400 South Fitzhugh, Dallas starting at 7 p.m. it is FREE. INFO: 214-939-2787

The Dallas Classic men's basketball featuring SMU and Jackson State University at Ellis Davis Field House in Dallas at 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at 7:30 p.m. <http://www.ticketmaster.com/promo/YIYDQV?brand=smu>

Dec. 15 to Dec. 18

Comedian Loni Love will appear at the Addison Improv, 4980 Beltline Road #250. Tickets start at \$17.

December 16

Seventh annual **Joy to the World Jazz Concert** will take place from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Charles W. Eisemann Center for Performing Arts in the Bank of America Theater, 2351 Performance Drive in Richardson. Level 1 tickets are \$25 and Level 2 tickets are \$18. Groups of 10 or more earn 15 percent discount. Call 972-744-4657. Purchase tickets online at www.eisemanncenter.com or by calling 972-744-4650.

Dec. 16 and Dec. 17

The 6th annual **Navidad Latino Americana Latin American Christmas Concerts** will take place Saturday at Manske Public Li-

brary, 13613 Webb Chapel Road, Farmers Branch, and Sunday at Unity Church of Dallas, 6525 Forest Lane, and All Saints Catholic Church of Fort Worth, 214 Northwest 20th St. Concerts are free. president@dfwinternational.org

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters presents Watusi on Friday and Saturday at 9 p.m. at the Clarence Muse Café Theatre in the Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex, at the corner of Canton and Akard streets in Dallas. Admission \$10. www.tbaal.org

Dec. 17 and Dec. 18

St. John Christian Theatre Ministry and N.I.A. Kids Center for the Performing Arts will present **Forever, My King** at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and 4 p.m. on Sunday. Both performances will take place at St. John Missionary Baptist Church, 2600 Marsalis Ave., in Dallas. Tickets are \$2 and be purchased at www.niakids1.eventbrite.com. www.niakids.org

December 17

The S.M. Wright Foundation presents **Christmas in the Park** at the Automobile Building at Fair Park in Dallas from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is free.

Devin The Dude & The Coffee Brothaz will come to the Granada Theatre, 3524 Greenville Ave. in Dallas, at 8 p.m. <http://tickets.granadatheater.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=1032>

Everything in Excellence: The Exclusive B.Y.O.B. DVD/ALBUM Release Party Featuring The Billie Gang, David Empy, Mic Riley, Spaceboi Fresh, and DJ Fresh: Live in the Mix starts at 9:30 p.m. at The Of-

fice Grill, 18020 North Dallas Parkway, Dallas, Ladies: \$5 Gentlemen \$10. VIP Tables \$30. RSVP by 8:00pm December 17, 2011. RSVP Required.

December 17

Africa 2 U Store Grand Opening at 1103 S. Josey Ln Ste # 407 in Carrollton. Info: noutoua_xenia@hotmail.com or 816-616-9920

Black Nativity: A Reason to Celebrate at Bishop Arts Theatre Center at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 Info: education@tecotheater.org or 214-948-0716

December 18

Latin America Christmas is the only DFW metroplex Christmas event that encompass Latin America's diverse cultures and holiday traditions. Its musical ensembles from many nations of the Americas present the inspiring traditional Christmas rhythms of villancicos, aguinaldos and posadas. Location: Unity Church of Dallas, 6525 Forest Lane (between Preston and Hillcrest) in Dallas, TX 75230 Presented by: DFW International Community Alliance at 2 p.m. The event is INFO: president@dfwinternational.org or 972-661-2764

Mass for Africa St. Joseph Catholic Community will host a Mass at 3 p.m. all are invited to pray for those who are still suffering from war, disease, and famine. St. Joseph Catholic Community African Choir will provide music for this special liturgy. Father PHILIP BOATENG will be our Celebrant. Refreshments will be served in the Community Center following Mass. Info: St. Joseph Catholic Community at St Joseph Catholic Community, 1927 SW Green Oaks Blvd Ar-

lington, TX 76017, 817-472-5181 or 817-779-0407.

Two-Wins Foundation and Buttons Jazz Café present a **Soulful Christmas** charity dinner from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Buttons, 207 E. Pleasant Run Road, Suite 141 in DeSoto. General admission is \$25 and includes dinner and beverage. VIP tables are \$125, four general admissions. Proceeds will go toward the purchase of gifts for children in southwest Dallas and Behind Every Door

December 20

Senior Sing-Along Choir 11 a.m. at Carrollton Josey Ranch Lake Library; for ages 6+.

December 26

Kwanzaa Craft 2 – 4 p.m. at both Carrollton libraries for simple crafts celebrating Kwanzaa; for ages 6+.

December 30

New Year's Eve Party at Josey Ranch Lake Library - Art, puzzles, games, songs, stories and LOTS OF NOISE celebrating the end of 2011; for ages 6+.

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Racism still alive and well in Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD?

BY SHIRLEY DEMUS
TARPLEY

After months of community discussions and rumors within the Black community in Carrollton, Texas about the only Black administrator serving as Assistant Director of

Career & Technology and Counselors would be over Student Services.

After researching the how's and why's of the situation, Lewis requested from the Open Meetings Act, qualifications of each position and qualifications and certifications of

to value diversity. Yes, I said professes. However, C-FB does not do much to support this claim. A prime example of a recent C-FB decision that is very questionable was when the Executive Director of Student Services left two months ago. Instead of promoting a

job and she has been an administrator in C-FB for over 15 years and an administrator that has an earned doctorate degree.

This is clearly a case of racial discrimination, which by the way is against the law. This is unacceptable, unfair and unjust treatment of a highly qualified individual. It is also clear that this is a case of favoritism of a White employee, who is not qualified to hold the position. This is by no means an attack on the White employee, this is an attack on racial discrimination; but she is in a position that should rightly have gone to the current Assistant Director of Student Services.

This wrong and injustice should be corrected with all haste and diligence. This is very upsetting to the Black community and it should be upsetting to the C-FB community as well. In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "A right delayed is a right denied." This is the worse case of poor judgment and management of C-FB Personnel I have heard of to date, and it is solely based on race.

C-FB needs to live up to its claim of valuing diversity by making personnel decisions that reflect Blacks and other minorities in High Central Office Leadership positions.

"Discrimination is a disease," this was said by Roger Staubach. C-FB is sick with the disease and we need a cure. Diversity in Central Office is critical. We need Central Office Administrators who understand what discrimination feels like and if you have never been a minority then you really don't get it! We need Central Office administrators in Student Services who understand what inequality feels like, who understand the subtleties of unfair treatment and who are willing to help make the system work for all people!

Racial discrimination still exists. It is alive and real in C-FB, and we should not take this lightly nor for granted. Ending

racial discrimination and favoritism in C-FB employee selection can be accomplished only by taking a stand; tonight I take the stand and challenge each of you to take that stand with me.

For as long as the posture of C-FB's diversity is diminished by acts of racial discrimination against people just because they are Black, or any other minority for that matter, C-FB still has a long way to go. We are still waiting for the day when in C-FB—people will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character, for if that day had arrived in C-FB let me point out to you, the Black woman who was and still is serving as Assistant Director of Student Services would be the Executive Director of Student Services today.

And lastly, when you can look at the highest levels of Central Office administration and not see people of color then you still have major racial issues in C-FB, especially when 81% of students educated in this district are minorities. The C-FB community and administrators respect the Assistant Director of Student Services and believe that she should have been the person



Ms. Rachel Lewis

wrong, but I am here to tell you that it was wrong, and I will continue saying it until you make it right. The time is always right to do the right thing! This is the time! So do the right thing!

As of the December 1, 2011 Board Meeting, Lewis had not heard a word from the Superintendent. On December 6th, she along with Sister Tarpley, Religious Editor of North Dallas Gazette, scheduled meetings with the board president, six members of the board; and the superintendent along with two of his administrative team members. They started the meetings at 8:30 that morning and ended the meeting at 8:30 that evening.

Lewis and Sister Tarpley



Lewis in front of the C-FB Administration Building

Student Services at the Community Learning Complex (CLC), 1820 Pearl Street in Carrollton; the question raised was if she would become the new Executive Director of Student Services or if the position would be given to a White employee.

The former Executive Director of Student Services had resigned his position to move out of state with his family in order to take on a new job. Lewis confronted the Superintendent and was told that the rumors were false regarding replacing the open Executive Director of Student Services position. He said that the administrative staff was reorganizing and no decision would be made in the near future about the open position of Executive Director of Student Services.

Lewis was not completely satisfied with the superintendent's answer but she decided to take a "wait and see attitude" about the matter. However, a few months later, the rumors were proven to be true. The Superintendent announced that the Executive Director of

all parties involved, Lewis armed with all facts and information, had heard and seen enough of the false statements and mistruths from the Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD Superintendent, she decided to take a stand and speak in the Public Forum at the November 3, 2011 Board Meeting. She also challenged the Superintendent, School Board president and school board members to take a stand with her. Lewis also requested that the Superintendent defend his method for his decision in not naming the Assistant Director of Student Services as the Interim Executive Director of Student Services, which is the normal practice in the business world, especially in these tough economic times. Following is a copy of her 3.5 minute speech that she made at the November 3rd School Board Meeting.

Board President, members and Superintendent, I stand before you tonight because my heart is deeply sadden. . .

Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD (C-FB) professes

Black woman, C-FB chose to elect a White woman to take over the division. I guess this is because you got away with this behavior last year when you put the same White woman over all the counselors within the district and promoted her to Executive Director of Career & Technology Education



and Counselors when she has never been a school counselor. The current Executive Director of Career & Technology Education and Counselors has zero administrative experience and she does not have administrative certification. Yet, she is over the division that advises and works with administrators on a daily basis. The current Assistant Director of Student Services was already doing the

In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "a right delayed is a right denied." This is the worse case of poor judgment and management of C-FB Personnel I have heard of to date, and it is solely based on race. C-FB needs to live up to its claim of valuing diversity by making personnel decisions that reflect Blacks and other minorities in high central office leadership positions.

chosen to replace the Executive Director of Student Services, which by the way is the normal practice in the business world.

Never forget that everything Hitler did in Germany was legal. You may not see anything wrong with the way you have handled this matter; just as Hitler did not see anything wrong with what he did in Germany and you may even feel you have done nothing

were not satisfied with the responses they were given regarding the matter; therefore, they have decided to go to Austin, Texas to file a Racial Discrimination Lawsuit with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) which over-see all Independent School Districts (ISD) in the State of Texas. They will report the results of that meeting to the community when they return to Carrollton.

NDG Gossip: Lamar and Khloe prep for big show in Big D

BY TONYA WHITAKER
NDG STAFF WRITER

Kardashians in Dallas

Any attempt to stop bringing awareness to the Kardashians



Lamar Odom & Khloe Kardashian

ans seems to have eluded me as of late. As soon as I found out the Lamar Odom trade from the Lakers to the Mavericks was final, all I could say

was, DAMN! I don't want to see Khloe Kardashian and her crew of talentless family members in the stands of American Airlines Center. Then, part of me wants to believe that the trade will help the Mavericks win another NBA title. If that is the end result, then welcome Mr. Odom and your "lovely" wife to Big D. Khloe was originally upset about the trade, but who cares that she is upset? Nobody. According to gossip mills, she quickly recuperated from her move, and is ready to take Khloe and Lamar on the road. I am sure you are like me – you cannot wait to watch (rolling eyes). I bet she is on Cloud 9 since Mavs coach Rick Carlisle told the media

Dec. 12 that Khloe is his favorite Kardashian.

And you think you got problems?

What is NDG Gossip without mention of rich black folk and their money woes to make us blessed not to be in their situations? First, Chris Tucker – who owes the IRS \$11 MILLION in back taxes – recently



Chris Tucker

had to sell TWO of his Florida houses before the bank foreclosed on them. For one house, which he purchased for \$6 million, he only got \$2 because he worked out a deal with the bank. The sale puts a small dent in the monies he owes the IRS. MC Hammer also made the Uncle Sam most wanted list this week. The U Can't Touch This singer and his wife are being sued by the IRS for \$775,000, and Hammer cannot touch any of his future concert earnings until the debt is settled. This is the remaining amount of \$13 MILLION Hammer owed the IRS when he filed for bankruptcy in 1996. Have these people ever heard of the alphabets CPA?

Rose-Mary Rumbley brings Brooklyn to Garland Senior Social Hour

Storyteller Rose-Mary Rumbley will present *A Christmas Tree Grows in Brooklyn* at Senior Social Hour on Saturday, December 17, at 2 p.m., at the Central Library, 625 Austin Street, in Downtown Garland.

Rumbley, a former speech and theatre teacher, minister, and author, is a native of Dallas and has performed with Dallas Summer Musicals and Casa Mañana. She now tours the speaking circuit and enjoys researching every topic she presents. This occasion's presentation will combine story-

telling with book review elements and consists of stories featuring Brooklyn attractions such as the Brooklyn Bridge, Coney Island, and the Dodgers. Each story will also include a dash of holiday spirit.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Senior Social Hour programs are free and open to anyone 55 years of age and older. No registration is required and seats fill up quickly. Doors open 30 minutes prior to performance. Please call 972-205-2502 for more information.

COURT, continued from Page 1

will begin just a week after the US Supreme Court hears arguments concerning the interim redistricting plans ordered by a San Antonio Federal Court late last month. The San Antonio Court ordered the interim maps because the State enacted plans had not yet received Section 5 preclearance. With the preclearance trial date now set, the violations in the State's plan can be specifically identified.

There is considerable evidence showing that not only do the State's plans violate the Voting Rights Act but that the Republican controlled Legislature adopted the plans with a discriminatory purpose. Extensive testimony has already been provided in both DC and in San Antonio detailing the efforts of Legislators to prevent representatives of large minority communities from participating meaningfully in the redistricting process.

The failure of Texas Republicans to draw maps that fairly reflect the minority voting strength in Texas is dramatically illustrated in their congressional plan. Under the current congressional map, minority voters are allowed to elect their candidate of choice in 11 of 32 districts. Under the State's adopted plan, even though Hispanics and African Americans make up nearly 90 percent of the state's population growth over the past decade, minority voters could elect their candidate of choice in only 10 of 36 districts.

State Attorney General Greg Abbott has expanded his legal efforts beyond simply advocating for the state's controversial plans and has set his sites on the Voting Rights Act itself. Abbott, on behalf of Gov-

ernor Perry and other Texas Republican leaders is expected to argue to dramatically weaken, if not eliminate outright, the protections for minority voters spelled out in the Voting Rights Act.

Lone Star Project Director Matt Angle issued comments include, "The DC trial will again expose the overt efforts by Texas Republican leaders to adopt plans that protect their

power by destroying the voting rights of Hispanic and African American Texans.

Greg Abbott will spare no expense and will cross any ethical or moral line to protect the

political power of Republicans. His willingness to destroy the voting rights of Texas citizens for partisan gain is a shameful reflection of the entire Texas Republican leadership."

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NDG's Non-profit holiday giving guide

BY RUTH FERGUSON

Each year during the holidays there is the continual reminder of parents to their children to focus on the true

DALLAS CHILDREN'S THEATER

meaning of Christmas. This year the *North Dallas Gazette* would like to suggest adults keep in mind the needs of those in the community, which is not limited to the holiday season. All year non-profits throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth community provide highly needed arts, assistance or education through their agencies and organizations.

This year as you plan your year-end tax deductible contributions, here are three suggestions for your consideration.

Dallas Children's Theater

Dallas Children's Theater's (DCT) impact goes beyond entertainment. At DCT, children foster creativity, develop self-confidence, and

Your Family Arts Center

find the support they need to succeed in all aspects of life. DCT helps people like our friend, Jessica, who battled severe dyslexia and was unable to read. At DCT, Jessica learned to read by *living* the words. More importantly, she learned to believe in herself, which gave her the power to do anything. Now, she has a master's degree from Columbia University.

Jessica shared, "The children of Dallas deserve a great place created just for them, a place designed to give every child the confidence they need

to allow their voice to be heard, not just in the back row, but in every arena of their lives."

This holiday season, you can give the gift of empowerment to a child like Jessica. Every gift makes a difference!

•**\$50** funds a session of *Curtains Up on Reading!*, which sends a DCT artist to a classroom to work with students and bring curriculum to life.

•**\$100** allows **10 students** to see a performance at Dallas Children's Theater, bringing literature to life before their eyes!

•**\$1,000** provides **scholarships for 5 children** to attend classes at DCT Academy.

To donate and to read real stories from children that have been impacted by their time at DCT, visit www.dct.org/give or call Christina Cavalier at 214.978.0110.

Irving Interfaith Clinic

Irving Interfaith Clinic serves the Irving community as the only charity medical and dental clinic. In operation since 2006, each year the clinic has seen a dramatic increase in patient numbers. They expect to host 5,100 patient visits in 2012. Critical upcoming needs are for dental supplies to be used in January of 2012. Please make donations online at www.irvinginterfaithclinic.org or www.irvinghealthcare.org.

For more information follow Maggie Rabiteau, Executive Director at 972-822-9421.

Power to End Stroke

Power to End Stroke is an

exciting national campaign that raises awareness about stroke – while embracing and celebrating the culture, creativity, and energy of African Americans. The Campaign mobilizes opinion leaders to become Ambassadors and inspire African Americans to reduce stroke in their community.

African Americans have higher rates of stroke than any other racial or ethnic group in the United States. But with proper education and action, African Americans can reduce their risk of stroke, disability and death. Each year, the American Heart Association in Dallas hosts a Gospel Tour to celebrate the power and en-

ergy within the African American community with a focus on raising local awareness in the fight against stroke. This year's Gospel Concert will be held in the spring and will feature Grammy Award winning artist Kirk Franklin.

For more information about Power to End Stroke, the Gospel Concert, or to get involved – please visit www.powertoendstroke.org or call 214.748.7212.

Send an email to editor@northdallasgazette.com or post on our Facebook page ([Facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette](https://www.facebook.com/NorthDallasGazette)) info about other non-profits seeking donations or contributions before the end of the year.

Wells Fargo donating \$50,000 to build Urban League Training Center

Wells Fargo demonstrated its commitment to the Urban League of Greater Dallas by stepping to the forefront and leading the way to a new Training Center in the Southern Sector. Wells Fargo has strengthened its partnership with the Urban League by donating \$50,000 toward the construction of a 50,000 square foot Trades/Technical Skills Training Center at the Urban League Headquarters in Dallas' Oak Cliff.

"Wells Fargo as a company has made a firm commitment to supporting education in all our communities," said Community Banking President Scott Wallace. "A significant component of our educational system is quality, accessible training in the trade

and technical fields. We are proud to provide this support to the Urban League for putting its energy and leadership toward meeting this critical need in Dallas."

For decades the need has existed for skilled individuals with expertise in the technical, vocational and trade arena. Cities like Dallas and industries have seen a decline in the number of licensed and/or certified tradesmen but the demand remains high.

"Because of Wells Fargo's active participation in our community they see the need for a Center for the Trades/Technical Skills Training Center and we are extremely grateful for their very generous donation," said Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks. "They have maintained offices in our Head-

quarters for many years and hold seats on our Urban League Board of Trustees and our CSBG Managing Board which shows their commitment to the expansion of the Southern Sector. They also recognize that this area has one of the larger potential workforces in need of skills training."

The new facility will impact communities throughout Dallas County by creating skilled certified workers from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. It will offer training and certifications in mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems; CADD drafting, A+, Net+ and other computer certifications; masonry, carpentry, roofing, welding, green jobs training and other areas as demanded.

REPLAY, continued from Page 11

4th and 5th round of the high school playoffs and state championship game.

The games are usually played at neutral sites in the later rounds. The stadiums are equipped with the latest technologies needed to make instant replay successful in the state of Texas.

A few of the local high school stadiums are equipped with the big jumbotron where the instant replay is constantly replayed.

This is a must that principals, athletic directors, coaches, media pundits and others should work together to convince the UIL that it

is time to come into the 21st century.

You can listen to Donald 'Spider' Willis each Sunday from 7:00pm to 9:00pm on the Fishbowl Radio Network.com. For topics or opinions you can call 469 335 6668 or email dwillisdw@yahoo.com



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TALE, continued from Page 1

fuls divorced a long time ago (I'm not sure on what grounds) were at opposite ends of the political polls.

Then there was temporary front-runner Gov. Rick Perry who suggested that maybe Texas should secede from the United States, and that Social Security was some kind of Ponzi Scheme. To make matters worse, during a presidential debate he couldn't remember...what he couldn't remember.

Meanwhile, the "999 Godfather" was taking the Republican race by storm with his straight, but simplistic talk, all mixed with an aura of southern charm. The right wing of the Republican Party, inclusive of the Tea Party, had a Black man that they loved...and it wasn't President Barack Obama. The group could now show America that members of the Republican Party were not racists, and that they found another Black man who was conservative and shared their views, just like their beloved Clarence Thomas. Cer-

tainly, the Republican faithfuls were having a bi-racial love affair. However, unlike his fellow candidates who rose and fell in the twinkling of an eye, Citizen Cain remained at the top of the polls, even though the party's hierarchy started to challenge his "999 Tax Plan." Additionally, the critics attacked his lack of experience, especially at it related to foreign affairs. Candidate Cain, however, remained at, or near the top...so something had to be done; it was time to get serious and drop the S-Bomb. Yes, sex, but not just any sex; it was sex with white women. Whoa! Herman was in big trouble now, but low and behold, even though he was hit with a powerful George Foreman straight right-hand punch, Cain wasn't knocked down... he staggered, but still remained on his feet. But allegation after allegation, amid lawsuit settlements, and the punches started to take their toll.

What's funny is that Herman Cain once ran for

the United States Senate and these stories never surfaced. Anyway, still on his feet, many conservatives, including Ann Coulter, believed that the attacks on Cain were a Left Wing conspiracy. Mr. Cain was bloodied, but was still hanging in there, still raising money, and still denying all the allegations of harassment. However, the final round for the tough talking Cain came when an Atlanta Business woman, Ginger White, stepped forward to say that she and Cain had carried on a 13-year affair. Subsequently, Herman's wife, Gloria, called her husband home and basically said, "Herman, enough is enough!" Just like that, the campaign for Herman Cain was over. No mas! The knockout blow: an extra marital affair allegation by an admitted friend who said Cain helped her. Really! With friends like that, who



Newt Gingrich

needs enemies! An extra marital affair...sounds familiar, doesn't it?

Meanwhile, Gingrich, because of strong debate performances and obviously being intellectually superior to his fellow candidates, began to rise in the polls. Mr. Gingrich currently is leading comfortably in all national polls, and it seems like it may be his race to lose because only Mitt Romney is left to contest the nomination. The Republican nomination...what are we missing that seems so eerily familiar? Oh, yes, the extramarital affair. The former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich has an inter-

esting past, and I do mean interesting. However, the thing that is probably the most interesting, as it relates to this campaign, is that the very thing that brought down Herman Cain seems to have had little or no effect on Newt. Case-in-point: In December, 1988, President William Jefferson Clinton was impeached by the House of Representatives for perjury and obstruction of justice, all for lying to a Federal Grand Jury about - here it goes again...an extra marital affair. President Clinton was acquitted by the U.S. Senate because it failed to reach the required two-thirds majority necessary for removal. The most interesting fact, however, was that the person leading the charge for impeachment was - you guessed it: Speaker Newt Gingrich. That would have been all right if it wasn't totally a partisan political act. More importantly, Gingrich was involved in his own extra

marital affair while he was leading the impeachment charge against President Clinton. Being a political leader and messing up is costly. However, being a political leader and messing up while being hypocritical is priceless.

Oh America, Herman was so close...maybe too close for many Republicans and Tea Party elites. Think about it: two Black men possibly running for President of the United States as their respective party's nominees. One, a Republican and conservative; the other, a Democrat and liberal. What a thought America, we were close to an historic and epic battle between two Black men who both love their country. It would have shown the world that America is the standard for what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. envisioned in his dream for a color-blind society. However, sex and race got in the way - again. So now, it is the best of times for Newt Gingrich, and the worst of times for Herman Cain.

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DONORS, continued from Page 5

raised for prescription assistance, so this challenge grant will help our patients tremendously. Some of our folks have to choose between buying food or their medicines. We want to eliminate that dilemma whenever possible and provide their prescriptions to them. These patients have a much better chance of staying well and out of local emergency rooms for preventable health issues if they simply take their medicines," Rabiteau explained.

Baylor Medical Center at Irving President Cindy Schamp welcomed guests to the Dec. 2 breakfast. She spoke about the hospital's excitement about having Irving Interfaith Clinic move recently Baylor Irving's campus.

The clinic's new space has 13 patient exam rooms, more than quadrupling the number in its previous location. In addition, Baylor Health Care System's physician division, Health Texas, now provides the services of an advance practice nurse (APN) during weekday business hours; the APN's care services 40 hours each week are in addition to the evening and weekend clinics that are staffed by 19 volunteer physicians and seven dentists from the area. The additional space and staffing will result in patient visits at Irving Interfaith Clinic increasing from 2,400 in 2011 to a projected 5,100 in 2012.

"Sometimes people are offered health insurance at work, but their financial situations are so dire that they opt out of that medical coverage. However, these folks are then not eligible for care at the county's public hospital or clinics that are run by Parkland. We can offer Irving residents in this situation both hope and help because of the local doctors, dentists and nurses who donate their time and talent to our clinic," Rabiteau added.

"Our social worker helps them too. We're always trying to help our patients qualify for other available coverage so that eventually they don't need our clinic anymore. When they 'graduate' to other care programs, it opens a spot for us to serve someone new."

Clinic patient Kenneth Dominy, who lost his job after developing a debilitating car-

diac illness, expressed thanks to the clinic's staff for helping him secure free medications through programs sponsored by pharmaceutical companies. "I am here today because of the clinic and how the staff there treated and assisted me," Dominy said. Dominy now volunteers at the clinic.

Teresa Israel, a donor and wife of the clinic's medical director Robert Israel, urged those attending the breakfast to consider an annual gift to help the clinic. She noted that the facility, like many churches, must develop budgets based on the gifts that donors indicate they will give. The clinic's budget comprises \$251,000 for 2012, including \$230,000 for eight staff members who support the volunteer doctors and dentists and the advanced practice nurse. The clinic's budget also includes \$21,000 for medical and dental supplies.

The clinic will host the Faithful Friends breakfast annually to raise the funds needed to serve Irving residents who do not have medical insurance and whose

household income is 200 percent or less of the federal poverty level. The clinic is a "medical home" for patients and seeks to keep patients well so that they do not need to frequently access local emergency rooms for basic, non-urgent health care. "The average cost to treat an ear in-

fection in an ER is \$170 versus \$55 at a medical home clinic like Irving Interfaith. We're a much smarter care option all around," Rabiteau noted.

More information about Irving Interfaith Clinic is available at www.irvinginterfaithclinic.org.



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trj1909@tx.rr.com



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

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

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES
CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Fort Worth

Contract 0363-01-137 for HMA OVERLAY in TARRANT
County will be opened on January 05, 2012 at 1:00 pm at the
State Office. Contract 0902-48-506 for REPLACE BRIDGE AND
APPROACHES in TARRANT County will be opened on January
04, 2012 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with
bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified
Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices
listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification
information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be
eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be
requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the
above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at
www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense
of the contractor. NPO: 38742

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

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

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the
rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders
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Mondays – Fridays
Call 972-423-8833 for AF-FECT, Inc. or email: AFFEC-TxInc@aol.com for counseling services, resources and assistance for job readiness and training programs for individuals. For couples we offer services for marital relationships and for ex-offenders we offer programs for getting back into the work force.

December 18

Join us for Early Worship at 8 a.m.; Bible Classes at 9:45 a.m.; Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m. and afternoon Worship at 3 p.m.

December 22, 12 Noon

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

**BIBLE WAY
COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH**

December 21, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Bible Class as we study the Word of God and give Him honor and praise.

December 25

Join us in celebrating Jesus' birthday for Sunday School at 9:35 a.m.; and Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. as we worship and praise God. The Word of God transforms lives.

**Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Sr.
Senior Pastor**
4215 N. Greenview Drive
Irving, TX 75062
972-257-3766
www.bwcbc.com

**DAYSTAR
DELIVERANCE
MINISTRIES**

December 2011

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

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

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

**EIRENE CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**

December 21, 7:30 p.m.

Join us for Bible Class as we

study the Word of God; and give Him honor and praise.

December 25, 11 a.m.

You're invited to our Christmas Morning Worship as we honor and praise God for His gift of Jesus Christ.

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

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

**Monday – Friday
9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

TheShip3C's 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

December 21, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Wednesday Night Live in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall on Belmont Drive. Also, come to our Corporate Prayer and our Kidz Zone (an environment to equip children to grow and to show God's love.)

December 25, 9:30 a.m.

Join us as we celebrate Jesus' birthday in our Sunday Morning Worship at Story Elementary School, 1550 Edelweiss Drive, Allen, TX; and as we praise God for His blessings.

**Dr. W. L. Stafford, Sr.,
Ed.D.**

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

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

December 21

Come to our Noonday Bible Study to learn more about the Word of God; and at 7 p.m. for our Wednesday Night Bible Study.

**December 25, 7:45 p.m.
And 11 a.m.**

You're invited to help us celebrate Jesus' birthday for Sunday Worship as we give God excellence praise without excuse.

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

**NEW MOUNT ZION
BAPTIST CHURCH**

December 31, 9 p.m.

Join us for Watch Night Services at First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park, 300 Phillips Street, Richardson, TX 75081.

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

**NORTH DALLAS
COMMUNITY
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
CHURCH**

December 16, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Single Parent Support Group. Call Pastor Cooper at 972-437-3493, Ext 104 or email him at rcooper@ndcbf.org for details.

December 17, 12 Noon

For those in need, come to our Grief Recovery Support Group. Call Tera McFarland at 972-437-3493, Ext 111 or email her at tmcfarland@ndcbf.org for details.

**December 25, 7:30 a.m.;
9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.**

You're invited to help us celebrate Jesus' birthday for Sunday Worship Services as we give God praise for His gift of Jesus.

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

ROCKBRIDGE CHURCH

December 21, 7 p.m.

Join us for Bible Study and Awana as we worship and praise God.

December 25, 10 a.m.

You're invited to help us celebrate Jesus' birthday for Sunday Service as we honor and

praise Him for His blessings; and come early for Sunday School at 8:30 a.m.

**Timothy Jones,
Lead Pastor**
21 Prestige Circle
Allen, TX 75002
214-383-9993
www.rockbridgechurch.com

**ROCK OF FAITH
INTERNATIONAL
CHURCH**

Early Morning Prayer

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Pastor Tommy Tucker
311 East Church
Lewisville, TX 75057
214-566-2211

**SAINT MARK MBC
IN MCKINNEY**

December 25, 9:30 a.m.

You're invited to help us celebrate Jesus' birthday in our Education Ministries; and stay for our Worship Celebration at 10:45 a.m.

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

**SHILOH MBC
IN PLANO**

December 16

Register now for our HR Ministry's 2nd Annual Golf Tournament at Twin Creeks Golf Club. Proceeds will be used for scholarships. Call the church for details.

December 21, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Midweek Service as we worship and praise God.

December 25, 8 a.m.

And 11 a.m.

You're invited to help us celebrate Jesus' birthday in our Morning Worship times and stay for our Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

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

**THE INSPIRING BODY
OF CHRIST CHURCH**

December 19, 7 p.m.

Join us for Monday School as we study the Word of God and worship and praise His name.

December 25, 7:30 a.m.

You're invited to help us celebrate Jesus' birthday as we worship, honor and praise His Holy name.

Pastor Rickie Rush
7701 S. Westmoreland Road
Dallas, TX 75237
972-372-4262
www.ibocjoy.org

**THE NEW LIGHT
CHURCH**

December 18

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

**VICTORY BIBLE
CHURCH
INTERNATIONAL,**

(VBCI DALLAS)

December 18

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**

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

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. God is moving in powerful ways in early Morning Prayer.

December 18, 4 p.m.

You're invited to "The Detroit, Michigan" Fellowship and Anointing Service in Carrollton, TX with the dynamic five, Dr. Gregory Voss, Senior Pastor, Word of Life COGIC; Missionary Sharon Lamb; Evangelist Sherrell Franklin; and the Western Michigan Minister, Tony Mac, all from Detroit, MI; and Prophetess Barbara Calloway from McKinney, TX. The Word of Life Ensemble will be featured as well as other Spirit-filled guests. Come early for a good seat and expect the Holy Spirit to be in the midst of the saints of God in this special service.

December 20, 7:30 p.m.

You're invited to our Pastoral Care Night as Pastor Voss bring the Word of God; and we worship and praise Him.

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

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

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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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NIGHT

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Sunday Morning Worship
10:00 am
Wednesday Nights
7:15 pm

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Hear Pastor Sam on: "Truth Made Simple"
KGGR 1040 AM, Monday - Friday @ 5:25 pm - 5:30 pm





**Sister
Tarpley**

Things to Ponder this Christmas Season: The story is told of a Candy Maker in Indiana who wanted to make a candy that would be a witness for Christ, so he made a Christmas Candy Cane. He incorporated several symbols for the birth, ministry, and death of Jesus Christ.

He began with a stick of pure white, hard candy. The White to symbolize the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus and the hard part of the candy to symbolize the Solid Rock, the foundation of the Church and firmness of the promises of God.

The Candy Maker made the candy in the form of a "J" to represent the precious name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Savior. It could also represent the staff of the "Good Shepherd" with which He reaches down into the ditches of the World to

lift out the fallen lambs whom, like all Sheep have gone astray.

Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the Candy Maker stained it with red stripes.

He used three small stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received by which we are healed. The large red stripe was for the blood shed by Christ on the cross so that we could have the promise of eternal life.

Unfortunately, the candy became known as a Candy Cane; a meaningless decoration seen at Christmas time.

But the meaning is still there for those who "have eyes to see and ears to hear." I pray that this symbol will again be used to witness to the Wonder of Jesus and His ultimate and dominant force in the universe today.

Why Jesus is Better Than Santa: Santa lives at the North Pole; Jesus is everywhere. Santa rides in

a sleigh; Jesus rides on the wind and walks on water. Santa comes but once a year; Jesus is an ever present help. Santa fills your stockings with goodies; Jesus supplies all your needs. Santa comes down your chimney uninvited; Jesus stands at your door and knocks, and then enters your heart when invited.

You have to wait in line to see Santa; Jesus is as close as the mention of HIS name. Santa lets you sit on his lap; Jesus lets you rest in His arms. Santa doesn't know your name; all he can say is "Hi little boy (girl), what's your name?" Jesus knew your name before you were born. Not only does He know your name; He knows your address too. He knows your history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on your head.

Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly; Jesus has a heart full of love. All Santa can offer is "Ho! Ho!

Ho! . . . " Jesus offers health, help and hope. Santa says, "You better not cry . . . " Jesus says, "Cast all your cares on me for I care for you." Santa's little helpers make toys; Jesus makes new lives, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions. Santa may make you chuckle, but . . . ; Jesus gives you joy that is your strength.

While Santa puts gifts under your tree . . . Jesus became our gift and died on a tree. It's obvious there is really no comparison. We need to remember what Christmas is all about. We

need to put Christ back in Christmas. Jesus is still the reason for the season!

This Christmas Sea-



Reverend Wayne Allen, Pastor Emeritus of First Baptist Church of Carrollton, Texas and Dr. Gregory E. Voss, Senior Pastor, Word of Life COGIC at a recent banquet.

son: Feast on God's Word: " . . . Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of

the mouth of God." **Matthew 4:4. --His Love Never Ends!**

MEALS, continued from Page 6

homeless and hiring those looking for a career. He recently donated to the University of Purdue \$2 million dollars for its \$4.2 million Management and Economics Library renovation project which will be completed in the fall of 2013.

The McDonalds store #23468 is located at 2243 Buckner Blvd, recently provided 165 meals to the Skyline High School Raider Band and staff as they took on Southlake Carroll at SMU. Store manager Thomas Davis and his staff



Store manager Darryl Booker, Assistant Manager Joyce Gardner, Swing Managers Morena Rodriguez, Swing Manager Marla Rivera, Swing Manager Dez Ridge, and Skyline Band Booster Patrick Rush

did a wonderful job preparing the meals in a timely manner and wished the team good luck. The students,

staff and parents were appreciative of Parrish's support.

BEEBE, continued from Page 2

nected with the Valder Beebe Show.

"As a media producer, our brand, The Valder Beebe Show adores being a part of the next big thing," states Beebe. Now, OPNTVNET-WORK.com is paving the way for Social Media TV, which is the next generation of television." OPN TV NETWORK is a mix of syndicated programming and homemade video shorts known as "ITvChannels".

OPN estimates as many as 500 user-generated shorts can run on air per day.

Valder, a graduate of Coleman Business College, majoring in Office Automation has been featured in Essence Magazine, Epitome Magazine, Equanimity Magazine, Hip Hop National, Y.C.L.A. and Gospel Connection and continues to write a monthly THAT CELEBRITY INTERVIEW column for Hip Hop Nation

magazine. Beebe also serves as the Editorial Director of the Power Pages News' BeeBe's Smart Living Green published by Hattie Kelly.

Valder Beebe, a New Orleans native, has been married to the "man of her dreams," James Beebe, since Valentine's Day 1985. Valder Beebe, author: 2010 CD God's Message of Hope, and 2011, Abundance CD package published by MyWakeUpCall®



ANNUAL, continued from Page 1

munity leaders who have made a significant contribution in Collin County.

The CCBCC board chair since 2006 is Horace Satisfield shared, "We haven't been that aggressive this year, but we have a diverse team of individuals who are going to help business and entrepreneurs elevate to new heights."

Collin County is one of the fastest growing counties in the United States and the African-American population has jump from 4.7% to 6.9% since 2007.

The mistress of ceremonies was Terri Thomas, also is the CCBCC Vice-Chair and member of the board. The theme was

"Strategy & Goal setting in 2012."

The Trailblazer Award in business was presented to Hattie Kelly a civil rights activist and entrepreneur who broke down racial walls in Farmersville, Texas which resulted in the closing of two restaurants. The 2011 Community/Civic Award were presented to Eleanor Evans who was born and raised in Plano and a descendent of two FREE slaves who settled in Plano in the late 1800s. She attended North Texas State University in 1956, with her desegregation efforts spotlighted by the university in 2006.



Fred & Tamara Thomas, Horace Satisfield CCBCC Board Chair, Eleanor Evans CCBCC 2011 Trailblazer Community Civic Award Recipient and Andrea Brooks

The keynote speaker for the evening was Martin Burrell, President and founder of The Burrell Group. Other positions held by Burrell includes Vice-President of Minority of Business for Dallas Area Rapid Transit

(DART) and Vice President of Minority Affairs for the American Airline Center (AAC). At the AAC Burrell ensured minority contractors were utilized in the design, development and construction of the facility. Vendors in attendance at this event were Natural Divine Beauty Supply which caters to those with natural hair, KP Celebrity Travel whose slogan is "Your One Stop Travel Agency." The Good Measure Baked Goods, a company that

specializes in desserts platters of fresh homemade cookies displayed their delicious delights. Picklelicious Pickles offers fruit flavored pickles. Spain's Smokehouse Catering is the husband and wife team of Everett and Monique Spain. Also present was

author Sandra K. Wilkerson, whose book focuses on healing after her daughter's suicide.

To become a member of the CCBCC you can reach Jackie Gillard at jgillard@famer-sagent.com or visit the website www.cblackchamber.org.

PEARSON, continued from Page 5



Drew Pearson, Dr. Myrtle Hightower, Don Willeford, accepting a check from Albertson's for Plano Community Charity.

Harris, Place 2, Pat Miner, Place 1, and Chief of Police, Greg Rushin. Marilyn Hinton, Place 6, Plano ISD member; Dr. Cary Isarel, Collin Community College

and members from the Plano Fire Department were also in attendance. Other supporters and well-wishers totaled approximately 70 persons in attendance.

Pearson also confirmed he will serve as Chairman of the 4th Annual Plano Community Charity Golf Tournament to be held in 2012.

The Invocation for the

event was delivered by Reverend Clarence Ford, Senior Pastor, Hill Chapel CME Church, Plano and additional comments were made by Rev Dr. Clara Reed, District Metro Superintendent, United Methodist Church, and Pastor Sam Fenceroy, Mt. Olive Church in Plano. Music was provided by Doc Gibbs and Richmond Punch on violin.

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