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Discrimination against the unemployed

BY BILL FLETCHER, JR.

(NNPA) It will strike many of you as counter-intuitive, but there has been a rising phenomenon of unemployed workers suffering discrimination when they have sought work because...they have been unemployed. This is not an exaggeration. In fact, the



situation is so serious that the City Council of New York passed an order prohibiting discrimination against the unemployed, an order that was vetoed by the mayor, but was then overridden by the Council.

Since the beginning of the Great Recession, the problem of discrimination against the unemployed has

been gaining attention. It was so odd that few people actually took it seriously. After all, an unemployed person looking for work is what one would expect, right?

What has happened is something that is quite common within our economic system—capitalism.

See **UNEMPLOYED**, Page 11

New report finds households in communities of color remain hardest hit by continuing foreclosure crisis

SEATTLE – The foreclosure crisis continued to destroy wealth on a large scale across the U.S. in 2012, with \$192.6 billion in lost wealth, an average of \$1,679 per household, nationwide. The most devastating impacts were felt in communities of color: in zip codes with ma-

ajorities of people of color, average lost wealth per household was \$2,198, over 1.7 times the average lost wealth of \$1,267 in segregated white zip codes.

These are among the key findings of a landmark study, “Wasted Wealth: The Foreclosure Epidemic, a Generational

Crisis for Communities of Color,” released today by the Alliance for a Just Society, Home Defenders League, and The New Bottom Line. Wasted Wealth analyzes 2012 foreclosure data to calculate lost wealth, examines the ongoing threat of foreclosures-in-waiting, and explores the

economic impacts of principal reduction.

“While the impacts of the housing crisis have been felt broadly across communities and across the country, these data shows that there’s a clear racial dimension to the fore-

See **CRISIS**, Page 16

Local veteran celebrated as Man of the Year at First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park

Dr. Gregory Foster, Senior Pastor; Reverend Anthony Foster, Pastor; Deacons and members of First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park (FBCHP) honored Mr. Eugene Henry Tinner as their “Man of the Year 2013” in their Men’s Day 2013 celebration. He joins an elite list of honored men from FBCHP.



Mr. Tinner is presented the plaque by Minister L. Smith.

Their theme was Mending Broken Brothers and all agreed that Mr. Tinner exemplified their theme. He is known for his firm hand shakes, friendly smile and a winning personality by all who knows him.

Prior to The Sacred Word by their guest speaker, Reverend David E. Wilson, Senior

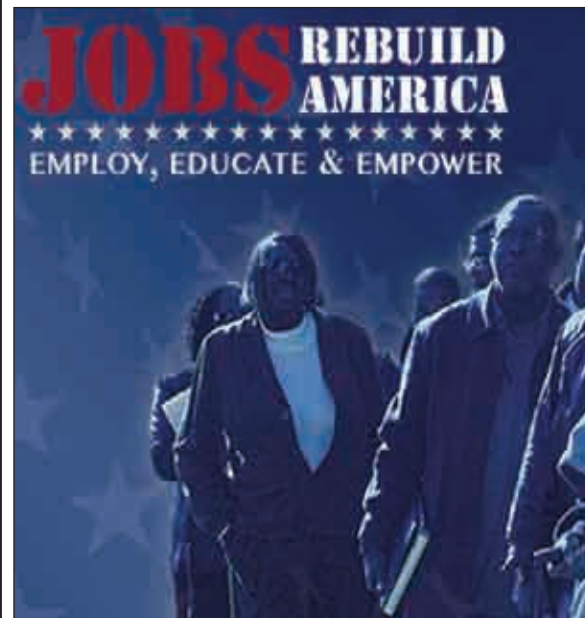
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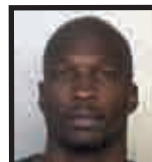
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COVER STORY

The National Urban League Launches Comprehensive "Jobs Rebuild America" Campaign to Combat Unemployment



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Chad Johnson arrested for probation violation

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COMMENTARY

Black Empowerment 'At Last' – or Last?

BY JULIANNE MALVEAUX (NNPA) When Beyonce Knowles sang the Etta James song “At Last” at President Barack Obama’s 2009 inauguration, the song could have had several meanings. At last we have an African American president? At last, the muscle of the Black vote has been flexed? At last, there is some hope for our country to come together with the mantra “Yes, We Can”.

Watching the President and First Lady

Michelle Obama slow dance to the romantic standard reminded us that African American families have not often been positively depicted. This attractive image of an intact Black family had come “At Last”. Thus, the song was symbolic of what many folks, and especially African Americans, believed about the Obama presidency.

Some of us blindly believed that with an African American president op-

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People In The News...



Saideh Browne



Angela de Joseph



Steve Harvey

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Saideh Browne

Widely viewed as a Gen-X Thought Leader, Saideh Browne serves as President of The Impact Group and Founder/Executive Director of the National Women's Cancer Alliance; both organizations are dedicated to creating a profound and lasting change in the lives of others.

Her message of possibilities and a solid quality of life for everyone is reflected through her lectures, work shops, national conferences, books, events,

seminars and fundraisers.

It was during Saideh's personal quest to find the true path to happiness that propelled her onto the platform of empowerment. After a year of private study and reflection, she emerged with a new book and her audience responded positively to her ascended lifestyle, quick wit and keen intellect.

In addition to Saideh's continuous efforts of empowering others, she is an six time published author

who successfully integrates the hits and misses in her own life with that of her growing audience. Through her speaking engagements, she seamlessly shares tips and solutions on living a life of possibilities. Every year since it's inception in 2008, Saideh has been invited to speak at the Honorable Congressman Elijah Cummings' Annual Youth Leadership Conference. Notable celebrities and business leaders participate in the event to share their experiences and pour directly into the lives of young people.



Since 2008 thousands of people from across the globe have heard Saideh's life-changing messages via various blogs and her widely popular podcast that parallels trending hot topics in life, pop culture and business.

On August 22, 2009, her mother lost a courageous two-year battle with ovarian cancer. She began blogging about the warning signs, symptoms, holistic and other treatment options of this quiet killer and Saideh's blog Ovarian-Cancer411.org became a

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Angela de Joseph

(BlackNews.com) - *The Angela de Joseph Show: Talking About What Matters*. was recently launched on LaTalkLive.com. The online series is a new media radio and television talk show featuring current affairs and lifestyle programming with an emphasis on health and wellness.

Hosted by author and health advocate, Angela de Joseph, who is also an award-winning filmmaker, the easy access of digital programming will reach

wide audiences. "The cell phone is the new television," says Angela de Joseph. "We're bringing health information and current events to your desktop, mobile phones, and laptops."

Recent shows include:

A discussion of consumer benefits from the new Affordable Care Act (aka "Obamacare") in an interview with health advocate John Marshall Jones, an actor and national spokesperson for the Cali-



fornia Black Health Network.

A discussion about the sports industry, as well as Jason Collins, the first openly gay athlete currently playing in a major American team sport, in a conversation with successful sports agent, Everett L. Glenn, founder of the National Sports Authority.

An interview with noted photographer, Valerie Goodloe, who produced the documentary "Gang Girl" about her harrowing experience trying to save her daughter from the clutches

of a notorious Los Angeles gang.

An interview with actress and comedienne, Kym Whitley, star of the hit new reality show, "Raising Whitley" about her adventures raising her adopted son on the Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN).

The Angela de Joseph Show will next feature a discussion on "Life after Cancer," which will address Angelina Jolie's recent announcement that she had a double mastectomy. Dr. Maggie DiNome, surgical

See JOSEPH, Page 4

Steve Harvey

ATLANTA – Comedian, best-selling author, top radio host and host of Steve Har-

six-day program through Father's Day weekend. Running June 11 - 16, the Day-



vey and Family Feud Steve Harvey will host an even bigger program this year for his annual national Steve Harvey Mentoring Program for Young Men in Dallas, with a

time Emmy nominee will welcome 100 young men who are without fathers for the 5th annual Steve Harvey National Mentoring Camp in Dallas, and mothers and

chaperones in a concurrent Parent Program, for a variety of transformative mentoring experiences on his country ranch with himself and special guests including frank sessions on the principles of manhood, leadership, sports, health and wellness activities, dream building and more.

A dynamic program created by Harvey to provide guidance to young men 13-18 from single female-headed households who are experiencing some struggles as they're navigating their adolescence, the Steve Harvey Mentoring Program brings to life a future without boundaries – as Harvey and a range of guests share a powerful dose of inspiration, tailor-made educational opportunities and real talk not found in any classroom – to empower young men in a positive, refreshing environment in taking charge of their futures

and open their imaginations beyond what they already know.

Harvey says, "Bringing the young men out here, out of their everyday surroundings is an experience that gives them the opportunity to recharge and renew themselves, taking part in a program focused solely on them. Filled with a diverse number of activities, sessions, and role models from sports to business, education, fitness and more, no dream is too big to help them discover their potential, and help build the successful futures they're meant for."

With six days of powerful mentoring experiences, the young men chosen from the essay submissions will join in team building and physical fitness activities with the U.S. Army, sports sessions with golf, baseball, football and basketball games, fishing and

aquatics with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, sessions on the sports industry,

education, image, relation-

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Protect family farmers by responding to the Census of Agriculture

BY RALPH PAIGE, RUDY ARREDONDO, ZACHARY DUCHENEAUX AND BRIAN THOMAS

(American Forum) We represent thousands of African American, Hispanic and Native American farmers in the United States and we recognize the importance of as many of our farmers being counted in the agriculture census. It's with information from the census that the nation learns about the importance of the work we do. This is why we are appealing to everyone who as not yet sent in their census form to please do so. There is still time.

In fact, the Census of Agriculture, taken every five years, is a count of U.S. farms

and ranches and the people who operate them. It looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditure. For America's farmers, it is their voice, their future and their responsibility.

Through the Census, producers can show the nation the value and importance of agriculture, and they can help influence the decisions that will shape the future of American agriculture for years to come.

Because of reporting from farmers in past census reports, Congress has passed farm bills that reflect the needs of our communities and family farmers. This includes Beginning Farmer programs, the popular Hoop House initiative, value-

added production programs and the micro-lending program. Most of these programs were created as a direct result of census statistics.

Today, the 2012 Census of Agriculture is still underway for a few short weeks across our nation and right here in our community. What will the current Census of Agriculture tell us about the changes that have occurred over the past five years? We need everyone to be counted to ensure the information revealed is an accurate representation for all!

The last Census also revealed an increase of women farmers, Hispanic farmers, Asian farmers and African American farmers. And there are substantially more far-

mer's markets and urban markets. More Americans, regardless of background, are seeking locally grown food.

Because of Census data we know there are more niche markets to serve American tastes and interests. For example, we are witnessing more chilies and corn grown for the Latin community; snow peas for Asian meals; goat meat for our African, Caribbean, Central American and Asian communities; and a variety of beans and corn for Native American consumers. These crops, of course, are available for all Americans regardless of their origin.

A diversity of crops is vital for the economy, and our

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EMPOWERMENT, continued from Page 1

portunity had come "At Last." Some believed it so fervently that the least criticism of President Obama, no matter how mild and how lovingly conveyed, could cause you to be run out of the race. An alumnus of Morehouse College, Rev. Kevin Johnson, the selected baccalaureate speaker at his alma mater, wrote an opinion piece that was mildly critical of President Obama. As a result, the former director of the White House Initiative on HBCUs and new Morehouse President John S. Wilson, Jr. changed the format of baccalaureate to a panel, not one speaker, as is customary.

The purpose of baccalaureate is to have one speaker to focus on the spiritual dimensions of graduation. There is no way that Rev. Johnson would deliver a political speech. Still, he was essentially disinvited from the baccalaureate because of his views.

President Obama is the president of the United States of American, not the president of Black America, we are often reminded. Yet, it seems that African Americans have been kicked to the curb in terms of focus and attention. Other groups – the LGBT community, the Latino community – have been mentioned explicitly. However, on African Amer-

ican issues, our president has been silent.

Now, some African American people are crooning "At Last." Charlotte Mayor Anthony Foxx has been nominated to serve as Secretary of Transportation. If confirmed, Mayor Foxx, an outstanding an eminently qualified candidate would join Attorney General Eric Holder as the second African American to serve in a regular cabinet post.

Similarly, the nomination of Congressman Mel Watt to lead the Federal Housing Finance Agency is a step forward. FHFA regulates Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and allows Congressman Watt the opportunity to implement some of the Obama initiatives on homeowner recovery from the Great Recession. The raging right has already come after Congressman Watt. The Daily Caller (a political blog) has reported an unsubstantiated claim by former presidential candidate Ralph Nader that the Congressman disrespected him in a letter. Nader has never produced the letter. Thus, the purpose of the claim is to besmirch FHFA nominee Congressman Mel Watt.

If Watt is confirmed, this represents a step forward for both President Obama and for African

American people, and for the entire nation. The issue is, of course, confirmation. Will the White House Congressman, be able to garner the votes Watt needs to be confirmed?

What does the White House gain or lose if Watt is not confirmed. The "At Last" segment of the African American community will credit the president for making the nomination, even if not confirmed. The more critical segment of the African American community will view the ways the White House embraces this nominee, and question commitment. Ask UN Ambassador Susan Rice knows what it feels like to be dropped, when Senate confirmation seemed unlikely.

While during President Obama's first term, his inattention to the African American community was understandable, though not acceptable. He was busy straddling lines, seeking compromise, and leaving a legacy of health care reform. African Americans were patient in the hope that "as last" African Americans would get recognition in his second term. After all, as a lame duck president, he has much to gain, and little to lose in rewarding his most loyal constituency. At last some of us have our disappointment confirmed. Our

president's inaugural speech mentioned every community except the African American community.

President Obama and his supporters should not be thin-skinned. Philadelphia's Rev. Kevin Johnson should not be "disinvited" from the Morehouse baccalaureate. Nor should a panel dilute his message, when the tradition is to have a sole speaker. Johnson is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Morehouse College, who deserves to be treated with respect. His column pointed out realities – President Clinton appointed seven African Americans to his cabinet, President Bush, four, and President Obama, just one. Congresswoman Marcia Fudge, who leads the Congressional Black Caucus, in a letter to President Obama, wrote, "The people you have chosen to appoint in this new term have hardly been reflective of this country's diversity."

Are the Foxx and Watt appointments a response to criticism? Based on their appointments, should Black folks sing "at last" or "not yet"?

Julianne Malveaux is a Washington, D.C.-based economist and writer. She is President Emerita of Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, N.C.

EarthTalk: Alternatives to toxic cleaning supplies

Dear EarthTalk: I'm concerned about toxic ingredients in my cleaning supplies, especially now that I have young children. Where can I find safer alternatives? — Betsy E., Hartford, CT

It is true that many household cleaners contain potentially toxic substances, so parents especially should make an effort to keep them out of the reach of children or, better yet, replace them with safer alternatives.

"We use a wide array of scents, soaps, detergents, bleaching agents, softeners, scourers, polishes and specialized cleaners for bathrooms, glass, drains and ovens to keep our homes sparkling and sweet-smelling," reports the Organic Consumers Association. "But [many] contribute to indoor air pollution, are poisonous if ingested and can be harmful if inhaled or touched." The group

adds that household cleaning products are responsible for almost 10 percent of all toxic exposures reported to U.S. poison control centers, with more than half of cases involving kids under six years old.

According to the Washington Toxics Coalition, leading offenders include corrosive drain cleaners, oven cleaners and toilet bowl cleaners. Contact with these chemicals can cause severe burns on the eyes and skin and damage the throat and esophagus if ingested. The chlorine and ammonia contained in some can each cause similar problems, and the hazardous gases unleashed when they combine can be lethal. Other ingredients to avoid for many reasons include diethanolamine (DEA), triethanolamine (TEA), 1,4-dioxane, ethoxylated alcohols, butyl cellosolve (aka ethylene glycol mono-butyl ether), and p-nonylphenol.



Household cleaning products are responsible for almost 10 percent of all toxic exposures reported to U.S. poison control centers. Fortunately, there are plenty of safer alternatives available, from brands like Ecover, Seventh Generation, Green Shield and Earth Friendly Products, pictured here.

Meanwhile, the fragrances added to many cleaning products can cause respiratory irritation, headaches and other symptoms in those with chemical sensitivities, allergies or asthma. And since fragrance formulas are considered trade secrets, manufacturers aren't required to disclose constituent ingredients, leaving even educated consumers

in the dark regarding what kind of nasty chemicals they may be spreading around their homes just to, ironically, make their cleaning products smell less chemically.

Fortunately there are plenty of safer alternatives available today, but deciding which ones are truly healthier or just designed to look that way isn't so

easy. That's where the Environmental Working Group (EWG) comes in. The group's "Guide to Healthy Cleaning" rates and reviews over 2,100 household cleaning products on the basis of health and environmental safety. EWG lists top products in each cleaning category—from dishwashing and laundry detergents to kitchen and bath cleaning to floor and furniture care—and also offers a "label decoder" that helps consumers learn how to spot trouble on product labels and ingredient lists. Some of the brands that garner high marks from EWG in more than one category include Ecover, Earth Friendly Products, Seventh Generation and Green Shield. Look for these online as well as at Whole Foods or other markets with big selections of healthy or natural products.

EWG also maintains a Hall of Shame where it lists cleaning products that either "green-

wash" consumers with misleading label information or contain hazardous ingredients (or are banned abroad but still available in the U.S.). EWG makes all of this information free on its website, but a \$5 donation will get you a wallet card packed with tips on how to read home cleaning product labels and shop smarter.

CONTACTS: Organic Consumers Association, www.organicconsumers.org; Washington Toxics Coalition, www.watoxics.org; EWG's Guide to Healthy Cleaning, www.ewg.org/guides/cleaners.

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WellCare Medicare Advantage now available at Walgreens Take Care Clinics

TAMPA — WellCare Health Plans, Inc. recently entered into an agreement with Take Care Health Systems, a subsidiary of Walgreens to offer its Medicare Advantage members access to the more than 370 Take Care Clinics located at select Walgreens stores in 19 states including Texas.

Take Care Clinics are staffed by board-certified

nurse practitioners and physician assistants to treat patients 18 months and older. Services include treatment of common illnesses; assessment, treatment and management of chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension and high cholesterol; a wide range of immunizations; preventive health services; and administrative and camp physicals.

"This agreement is consistent with our commitment to expand our members' access to high-quality health care," said John Crowley, WellCare's Vice President of Corporate Network Contracting.

Take Care Clinics also offer Welcome to Medicare Preventive Visits and Medicare Yearly Wellness Visits. The visits are well-

ness services for Medicare beneficiaries that include screenings for a number of common conditions, as well as education and counseling to encourage wellness and prevent disease.

"We are pleased to welcome WellCare Medicare Advantage members to Take Care Clinics. Take Care Clinics provide a

high-quality, cost-effective and convenient option for health care services," said Heather Helle, Divisional Vice President, Consumer Solutions Group at Walgreens. "Open seven days a week, with extended evening and weekend hours, we offer walk-in availability and same-day appointment scheduling, giving members con-

venient access to health care services."

WellCare Medicare Advantage members can visit www.takecarehealth.com or call 1-866-Take-Care (1-866-825-3227) to find the nearest Take Care Clinic location, schedule an appointment, learn about wait times and find a complete list of service costs.

JOSEPH, continued from Page 1

breast specialist and Chief of General Surgery at Saint John's Health Center provides answers on this important affecting many women.

Upcoming shows will address the issues of health insurance, economic disparities in Hollywood, and the criminalization of young men of color.

The Angela de Joseph Show aims to engage a large and eclectic mix of civic leaders, entertainers and wellness professionals in informative segments, panel discussions and interviews. Musical guests, comedy routines and live call-in segments will also round out the programs. Drawing on her background as an entrepreneur and health advocate, Angela brings a lively and fresh perspective to timely and important issues.

The Angela de Joseph Show airs 6 p.m. PST Thursday nights on LaTalk-Live.com, and is simulcast on Ustream.tv, iTunes Radio, Radio Flag App, Tune In

App and Live365.com. Listen on your radio, watch on your computer, tablet or cell phone (iPhone, Android, Blackberry).

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Dallas, DDI and DART host Ride-the-Link event June 1

The City of Dallas, Downtown Dallas, Inc. (DDI) and Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) are marking the completion of CentraLink, the new bicycle infrastructure connector through Downtown Dallas to Oak Cliff, the Katy Trail and the Santa Fe Trail, with an afternoon celebration called 'Ride-the-Link.'

The free event kicks off National Trails Month and takes place Saturday, June 1, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Main Street Garden Park, 1900 Main St. in downtown Dallas. Highlights include special guest speakers, food, live music, entertainment from radio station 102.9 Now and booths providing free bike services.

Hundreds of bicyclists will converge downtown in

time for the dedication by riding in on various trails. Cyclists will include those associated with Friends of the Katy, Santa Fe, Trinity Strand and Oak Cliff trails groups along with other cyclists from around the area. CentraLink connects those trails with a series of signs and pavement markings directing riders through downtown.

The completed project represents the spirit of regionalism and cooperation between DART, Dallas, DDI and numerous bike trail organizations that have led to such recent initiatives as Dallas' Complete Streets Program and bike-friendly amenities at rail stations, transit centers and on board all DART buses and trains.



Curtis Report

by Barry Curtis

The fundamental part of liberalism is big government. Liberals believe that government can solve all of our woes. If we simply pass a law, create a department to handle it and spend lots of money doing so, then and only then can we solve the problem, so liberals think.

If you tell big liberals what ails you, they will study it, tax it and regulate it right out of existence. No matter if anyone else sees the issue as a problem, if it's untaxed and unregulated then in the liberals mind it must be a problem.

Liberals use power, they crave power, that's why many big liberals are even in

This is how big liberalism looks. Surprised?

government is to secure their own power and influence.

Liberals have learned that large intrusive government makes good politics. We need only look at the master of "big" government, Franklin Roosevelt. It was he that created the largest over reach of the US government in history. The "new deal programs" of the thirties showed liberals how a government that feeds, houses and employees a populace can naturally ask for their vote. Franklin Roosevelt was elected more times to the White House than any president in history. We saw an extension of that during the great society programs of the sixties. Free medical care and head start amounted to *trust me politics*. Because I give you free

stuff buy into my political thinking.

When liberals end up with this large uninhibited government it becomes constitutionally corrupt, and cannot be trusted. The nature of big liberalism suggests that your personal needs come first, such as safety and schooling. Never mind that *constitution* and the core beliefs of our founding fathers.

When you subscribe to this low level thinking it's easy to lead you and drag you any direction, it becomes easier for them to suggest that I should give up my personal freedoms for comfort.

President Barack Obama recently asked why do the conservatives dislike their government and don't trust their elected representatives.

That statement doesn't surprise me. The president's statements are purposely twisted to the left.

Our founding fathers instilled in us a freedom minded suspicious nature. We are inherently distrustful of an IRS department that is more concerned about political ideology than fairness. We are naturally suspicious of an FBI that seizes phones records of a free press on a grand scale.

I trust my government Mr. President. *I don't trust "big" government.* The larger the government, the less I trust it. Please remember the old saying that "A government big enough to give you all you want is large enough to take all you have."

That should come as no surprise to anyone.

Keep the Child Care Credit in mind for summer

If you are a working parent or look for work this summer, you may need to pay for the care of your child or children. These expenses may qualify for a tax credit that can reduce your federal income taxes. The Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit is available not only while school's out for summer, but also throughout the year. Here are eight key points the IRS wants you to know about this credit.

1. You must pay for care so you – and your spouse if filing jointly – can work or actively look for work. Your spouse meets this test during any month they are full-time student, or physically or mentally incapable of self-care.

2. You must have earned

income. Earned income includes earnings such as wages and self-employment. If you are married filing jointly, your spouse must also have earned income. There is an exception to this rule for a spouse who is full-time student or who is physically or mentally incapable of self-care.

3. You must pay for the care of one or more qualifying persons. Qualifying children under age 13 who you claim as a dependent meet this test. Your spouse or dependent who lived with you for more than half the year may meet this test if they are physically or mentally incapable of self-care.

4. You may qualify for the credit whether you pay for care at home, at a daycare

facility outside the home or at a day camp. If you pay for care in your home, you may be a household employer. For more information, see Publication 926, Household Employer's Tax Guide.

5. The credit is a percentage of the qualified expenses you pay for the care of a qualifying person. It can be up to 35 percent of your expenses, depending on your income.

6. You may use up to \$3,000 of the unreimbursed expenses you pay in a year for one qualifying person or \$6,000 for two or more qualifying person.

7. Expenses for overnight camps or summer school tutoring do not qualify. You cannot include the cost of care provided by your spouse

or a person you can claim as your dependent. If you get dependent care benefits from your employer, special rules apply.

8. Keep your receipts and records to use when you file your 2013 tax return next year. Make sure to note the name, address and Social Security number or employer identification number of the care provider. You must report this information when you claim the credit on your return.

For more details about the rules to claim this credit, see Publication 503, Child and Dependent Care Expenses. You can get both publications at IRS.gov or have them mailed by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

Rep. Veasey announces small business events throughout district



Congressman Marc Veasey is partnering with the Small Business Administration (SBA) to help constituents in Congressional District 33 learn what spe-

cific programs are available to help promote their small businesses.

Congressman Veasey will host a small business event at the Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce on July 26, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The event will feature Congressman Veasey, the SBA, procurement officers and certified small business leaders.

Leading up to this

See VEASEY, Page 7

Chief Brown demotes Dallas police officer

Following an investigation by the Internal Affairs Division and disciplinary hearings held last week, Dallas Police Chief David O. Brown demoted Major Edwin Ruiz-Diaz to the rank of Lieutenant.

On May 9, 2013, Major Ruiz-Diaz, who had just completed his tour of duty and still in full police uniform, met a friend at a bar



Edwin Ruiz-Diaz

in Grapevine, Texas. It was reported to Grapevine Police that a uniformed of-

ficer was in the bar and consuming alcoholic beverages. Grapevine Police responded and identified that officer as Major Ruiz-Diaz.

The Internal Affairs investigation concluded that Major Ruiz-Diaz possessed and consumed an alcoholic beverage while in uniform. For his actions, Major Ruiz-Diaz

was demoted to the rank of Lieutenant. He has been on the department since May 1989 and was assigned to the Southwest Patrol Division during the time of this incident.

Major Ruiz-Diaz was appointed to the rank of Major and therefore does not have the right to appeal his discipline.

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Local library joins worldwide Big Library Read eBook event

PROSPER -- Patrons of the Prosper Community Library can join a worldwide discussion of a literary work by participating in a first-ever Big Library Read in which libraries around the world offer the same e-book to cardholders, according to Librarian Linda Shaw.

"We're now part of the Northeast Texas Libraries Digital Consortium's Overdrive program, and through them we're excited about opening the world to our patrons in Prosper," she said.

The Big Library Read is a pilot program in which over 7,500 libraries in ten

countries on five continents are offering the e-book "*The Four Corners of the Sky*" by *New York Times* bestselling author Michael Malone to their patrons between now and June 1.

"The program is designed to unite library patrons from all around the world. Anyone with a valid Prosper Community Library card can borrow the book from the Overdrive website and read it. Then, a book discussion will be held on Twitter. It's an incredible opportunity," added Shaw.

Patrons should go to <http://netldc.lib.overdrive.com>

and download the book. It can be read on all major devices, including Kindle and iPad. Multiple user access is allowed during this event, so no one has to wait to get access and start reading.

Instructions on the group Twitter discussion will be shared with readers at the hashtag #BigLibrary-Read.

More information on the Big Library Read is available at <http://www.overdrive.com/big-library-read/>. Downloadable eBooks and audiobooks are available at <http://netldc.lib.overdrive.com>.

Top minority internships for 2013-14

(BlackNews.com) Internships are a gateway for students that lead to careers. There are thousands of internship opportunities each year across the country, and some of these programs are specifically for minorities and African Americans. Here are just five of such programs:

Microsoft Internship Program For Women and Minorities For current college undergraduate minority students pursuing a degree in computer science or software engineering. Students may apply in their freshman or sophomore year of college. www.findinternships.com/2013/04/Explore-Microsoft-Internship-Program.html

White House Initiatives Year-round Internship Program For African Americans Enjoy an exciting experience for undergraduate and graduate students who are interested

in improving education outcomes for African Americans. This is an unpaid internship working for the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C. www.findinternships.com/2013/04/white-house-initiative-year-round-internship-program.html

National Urban League Summer Internship Program This program is for students interested in a career in the non-profit industry. The program provides an 8-week paid internship for college students in either New York City or Washington, D.C. www.findinternships.com/2013/04/national-urban-league-summer-internship.html

UNCF/NAACP Gateway to Leadership Internship Program A 10-week paid summer internship for undergraduate students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). www.findinternships.com/2013/03/uncf-naacp-gate-way-to-leadership-internship-program.html

This program offers finance majors an opportunity to work with major financial organizations during the internship. www.findinternships.com/2013/04/uncf-naacp-gate-way-to-leadership-internship-program.html

NASCAR Diversity Internship Program A 10-week, full-time, paid summer work opportunity for deserving students with an interest in the NASCAR industry, who are of Alaskan Native, American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander, African American, Hispanic, or of other racial minority descent. Students must have an interest in the NASCAR industry. www.findinternships.com/2013/03/nascar-diversity-internship-program.html

To search and apply for more internship opportunities, visit www.FindInternships.com.

National LifeChanger is accepting nominations

National Life Group has announced the nomination process for the 2013-2014 National LifeChanger of the Year program is now open.

LifeChanger of the Year is an annual program that recognizes and rewards K-12 school district educators and employees from around the country who are making a difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership.

Anyone may nominate a K-12 education professional or school employee for the LifeChanger of the Year award. Students are welcome to submit nominations but must have support from an administrator, teacher or parent.

Nominees must be full-time school employees. Award winners will be selected based on the following criteria:

- A proven ability to make a beneficial difference in the development of the school and/or district's atmosphere

- A leader in his or her activities at the school and/or district level

- A proven record of excellent performance at the professional level

- A commitment to producing a nurturing atmosphere

The National LifeChanger of the Year selection committee, which includes teachers and school employees, will review all nominations and choose a total of ten winners for the 2013-14 school year.

Awards include:

National LifeChanger of the Year - \$10,000

\$5,000 cash award

\$5,000 donation to school

First Runner-Up - \$7,000

\$3,500 cash award

\$3,500 donation to school

Second Runner-Up - \$5,000

\$2,500 cash award

\$2,500 donation to school

LifeChangers - \$3,000 (seven awards to be given)

\$1,500 cash award

\$1,500 donation to school

Last year, Charles Clark, a custodian at Trinity High School in Euless, Texas was selected as the National LifeChanger of the Year award winner out of more than 400 nominees from 33 states.

To submit a nomination, visit lifechangeroftheyear.com.

HARVEY, continued from Page 2

ships, manhood and more with Harvey, the Gates Millennium Scholars Program, renowned educators Dr. Steve Perry and Dr. Marvin Thompson, Deion Sanders, and other special guests.

Mothers and chaperones will also take part in an uplifting Parent Program over the six days, which will include a welcome expo, informative cooking demonstrations, health screenings and workouts, inspiring and

empowering sessions with Steve and Marjorie Harvey, Serita Jakes, Tammy Fran-

klin, Tracey Edmonds, Judge Glenda Hatchett and more.

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Family of Scholars Finds an Academic Home at UT Dallas

2 Sisters Earn Graduate Degrees as Mother and Sibling Pursue Their Own Studies

Rubia da Rocha Valente graduated this year with a PhD in public policy and political economy, but she wasn't the only person in her family receiving a degree from UT Dallas.

Rubia's youngest sister, Sarah, finished her master's degree in the humanities this semester, majoring in literary studies and concentrating in translation and Holocaust studies.

"This is very exciting for our family. We have really found a home at UT Dallas — it's a place we have shared together," said Rubia.

Joining Rubia and Sarah in their studies is their sister, Junia, who is currently pursuing her PhD



The Valente family (from left): Sarah, who just completed her master's degree in literary studies; father, Jorge; mother, Maria, who is an undergraduate student in sociology; Junia, who is pursuing a PhD in software engineering; Rubia, who earned a PhD in public policy and political economy; and Rubia's husband, Frederico Araujo, who is also a PhD student at UT Dallas.

in software engineering, and the girls' mother, Maria, is an undergraduate student in sociology.

"We're all here," said Rubia, laughing.

It's been a long journey for the Valente family to arrive at this point. The entire family moved from São Paulo, Brazil, to Texas in 2000. None of them spoke any English.

"I was in the sixth grade," said Sarah. "On our first day, we were given an oral English competency exam, and our chaperone, who spoke English and Portuguese, later told us that the teacher had asked us to raise our hands but we sat motionless in our chairs."

Sarah, like her sisters, overcame the language barrier and rose to the top of her class. She was named valedictorian at Jack E. Singley Academy in Irving.

"I always say I'm the smarter one," joked Sarah. "But in truth, as the youngest kid, my sisters' example and academic success created a well-structured path for me to follow."

Rubia and Sarah both focused their studies around

their home country. Rubia's dissertation concentrated on the effects of racial discrimination on high school performance and college admission in Brazil.

"I focus my research on Brazil and Latin America, where there's a dearth of research, it seems, especially on Brazil, in a lot of areas. There's a lot to explore," said Rubia.

Rubia is staying at UT Dallas for another year as a post-doctoral researcher under her dissertation advisor, Dr. Brian J. L. Berry.

Sarah has been awarded the Belofsky Graduate Fellowship from the Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies. The fellowship provides financial assistance to students

wishing to pursue a doctoral degree in the School of Arts and Humanities in the areas of Holocaust studies, modern Jewish culture, or comparative perspectives on the American and European Jewish experience.

"I plan on researching about and translating the memoirs of Holocaust survivors who fled to Brazil. It's a field that hasn't really been explored yet," she said. "The Ackerman Center has opened up this avenue for me to combine my interests in literature, translation and history."

In addition to their academic pursuits, all three sisters play in the UT Dallas orchestra. Rubia plays the violin, Sarah plays the cello, and Junia plays the viola.

Rowlett church hosting 2nd Annual Juneteenth celebration

ROWLETT — Church in the City (CITC), located at 6005 Dalrock Rd. in Rowlett will observe Juneteenth on Friday, June 14 at 7 p.m. with a night of music and drama entitled, "Take Me to the King". The celebration continues June 15. Doors will open at 9:30 a.m. so attendees can view a set of Ancient Hebrew Scrolls. It is the only complete set available for public viewing in DFW. The theme for Saturday is "God's Word: The Only Path to True Freedom."

Beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday there will be a worship service featuring a distinguished panel will entertain questions on issues dealing with race. Members of the



Annie Dickson scheduled to speak

panel include: Pastor Michael Hankins (Pastor of Church in the City), Clifton Taulbert (author of the book *When We Were Colored*), Dr. Constance Lacy (faculty in the Human

Services Management and Leadership Bachelor's Degree program" at UNT at Dallas), Gail Lester (Co-Author of the book, *Tale of Two Gails*, Ayanna Nkeng Smith (graduate of St. Edwards University in Austin) and moderator, Lexie Okeke (Founder & Chief Change Agent of BE The Delta, a consulting firm specializing in volunteer acquisition and management).

Music will be provided by the CITC choir and band and special guest Nila Miller. Lunch will be catered at 12:30 p.m. by Chef Dale Granger and Jack Bartmess, assisted by team lead Laura Rios. Lunch tickets (\$10 adults and \$5 for children 5-12) will be sold at the church.

2013 Wounded Warrior Half Marathon and 10K Run to Benefit Fisher House, Wounded Warrior Project

DALLAS — Close to 4,000 runners are expected for the much-anticipated fourth annual Wounded Warrior Half Marathon and 10K on June 9 in Las Colinas. The event, presented by Dallas Athletes Racing, will honor the nation's men and women of the military. The Marines, military tanks and equipment will be on-site, and the grand finale will feature an after-party with food, drink and live music provided by Texas-

born country music recording artist Dave Roberts, a Captain Cobra Pilot with the Marines who served in Afghanistan.

Donations will go toward Fisher House, which provides a "home away from home" for military families to be close to a loved one during hospitalization for an illness, disease or injury; and Wounded Warrior Project, which serves military service members who incurred

service-connected wounds, injuries, or illnesses on or after September 11, 2001 and their families. Last year's event raised \$50,000, and Dallas Athletes Racing hopes to exceed that amount in 2013. Follow this link to the Wounded Warrior Half fundraising page for more information.

For more information and registration, visit www.WoundedWarriorHalf.com or call 214-502-9837.

VEASEY,

continued from Page 5

event, Congressman Veasey is working with the SBA to inform constituents about how to become certified to qualify for set-aside and sole source contracts with federal buyers. The SBA offers year-round workshops across the country. In June and July, the following workshops are scheduled:

June 3 and July 1 — 10 a.m. — noon at the Bill J. Priest Institute, 1402 Corinth St., Dallas

June 5 and July 3 — 10 a.m. — noon at the SBA DFW District Office, 4300 Amon Carter Blvd., Ste 114, Fort Worth

Harry LaRosiliere sworn in as Plano Mayor



Mayor Harry LaRosiliere

Monday night after Plano City Council canvassed the election votes, Harry LaRosiliere was sworn in as the new Mayor.

Ben Harris and Lissa Smith were also sworn in to a second term on the City Council after running unopposed for reelection.

Mayor LaRosiliere expressed his appreciation, "Plano, I am honored by your trust and consider it a privilege to serve as your Mayor. Phil, thank you for your leadership, guidance and mentorship. I will never attempt to fill your shoes, but I will follow your path!"

He is very excited to create a personal dialogue with residents through social media. Follow him on Twitter at @planomayor and like him on Facebook at Plano Mayor's Office.



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CHISD honors 2013 Teachers of the year

CEDAR HILL - The Cedar Hill Independent School District honored its Teachers of the Year during an Educator Awards Banquet on May 9. The Teacher of the Year selection committee awarded Debra Seeley with the Datamax Elementary Teacher of the Year award and named Barbara Boakye as the Wells Fargo Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Seeley is a K-2 Special Education teacher at Lake Ridge Elementary School. "She is a phenomenal educator," said Tangelia Mason, who nominated Seeley. "The children in her classroom have grown so much, and she brings out the best in all, allowing them to reach their full potential."

Seeley said she discovered her love for teaching special education students as a substitute teacher in CHISD in 2001. "I was asked to work in the Pre-school Program for Children with Disabilities (PPCD) classroom and found my calling," Seeley said. "My duties included assisting the PPCD students in their regular education class and specials' classes. This was a wonderful opportunity for me to observe many teaching styles and the different learning styles of students. It is our job to look

beyond the disability to find ways to let their abilities shine."

Boakye is a ninth-grade biology teacher at Collegiate High School. "She is

must be tailored to strengthen weak points and fortify strong areas."

Both teachers were given a \$250 award from their respective sponsors.



Photo Credit: Sabreana Smith

Left to right, Jonathan Smith and Valerie Banks from Wells Fargo of Cedar Hill, Barbara Boakye and Casey Stone, Executive Director of Secondary Education

known for her ability to create a supportive classroom community while still providing a rigorous course," said Jamila Thomas, who nominated her. Thomas added: "Ms. Boakye is passionate about teaching and improving the quality of classroom instruction."

"I believe that every child, no matter the underlying issues, can learn. We can encourage and push children to heights they themselves did not think possible to reach," said Ms. Boakye. "After educating children for eight years, I have found that lessons

Datamax and Wells Fargo also sponsored the awards dinner.

"Our annual Educator Awards Banquet is an important opportunity for us to honor some of the men and women who lend their passion and skills to educating our children," said CHISD Chief Financial Officer Carrie Alexander. "Our partnership with Datamax and Wells Fargo afforded us the opportunity to recognize and present awards to some of our best and brightest educators. We are very thankful for their generous support of the district."

Single moms receive tips on budgeting



On last Saturday Intouch Credit Union taught single moms the financial ropes.

North Dallas Suburban Foundation hosting fashion show on June 23

DALLAS - The North Dallas Suburban Foundation for Life Development and Community Involvement, Inc. will host its Annual Fashion Extravaganza on June 23, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Brookhaven Country Club, 3333 Golfing Green Drive in Dallas.

"The mission of the Foundation is to support the development of strong 'neighborhoods' through collaborative planning, community action and policy advocacy," said Margaret Turner Carrigan, chairperson of the North Dallas Suburban Foundation. "The Fashion Extravaganza is a festive event where business and pleasure come together to raise funds necessary to support activities that will address current and future needs. We hope that the community will support the Foundation's activities so that the Foundation can continue to support the community."

The cost of tickets is \$35 per person. Proceeds



generated by the event will support the organization's scholarship fund as well as area community organizations that include the Family Place, Minnie's Pantry, New Beginnings and Senior Source. The Foundation awards scholarships to graduating high school seniors, provides funds to support youth programs and collaborates with other organizations on fund raising activities.

The Extravaganza will provide attendees the opportunity to enjoy fashions modeled by males and females showcasing designs

for fitness with a flair, city chic, summer fun, and nouveau couture. Fashions will be modeled from Jones New York, Men's Warehouse and introducing local designer Cassidy Brown. Additional supporters and sponsors of the event include the Law Office of Margaret Turner Carrigan.

An added benefit of the Extravaganza is to provide local merchants a venue to promote their businesses and provide attendees the opportunity to fulfill their various shopping needs and desires.

Carter BloodCare partnering with the Texas Rangers and local churches in June

DALLAS - Carter BloodCare is offering blood donors the chance to unwind and watch a Texas Rangers baseball game. In June, those who give blood with Carter BloodCare will receive a special, online-only, ticket offer for fifty percent off select seating sections from the Texas Rangers. Donors will also be entered to win suite tickets. For details, visit www.BackYardRewards.org.

Saving money on baseball tickets is great, but saving three lives with just one pint of blood is priceless. Summer is the most challenging season to maintain the community blood supply. Donors are fewer in number and the need for blood by

local hospitals is higher than usual. Give blood so that people in our community can receive blood for heart surgeries, cancer care and any medical need.

Central Lutheran Church is hosting a blood drive on Sunday, June 2, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 100 Eastern Road in the parking lot. For more information or to schedule an appointment time, contact Susan Wrobbel at (214) 327-2222.

University Park United Methodist Church is also hosting a blood drive on Sunday, June 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 4024 Caruth Blvd. in the activities room. For more information or to schedule an appointment

time, contact Andrew Hamilton at (214) 991-6453.

Potential blood donors can volunteer beginning at age 16 with a parent's consent, and 17-year-olds can give independently. There is no upper age limit for giving. All donors must weigh at least 110 pounds, be in good general health and present a photo ID each time they give. It's also a good idea to eat a nutritious meal and drink plenty of water before giving blood. For more information about donor eligibility and to make an appointment, call Carter BloodCare at 1-800-366-2834 or visit carterbloodcare.org. To book your blood drive today, email bookablooddrive@carterbloodcare.org.

BROWNE, continued from Page 2

hit. With the support of her online community, she founded the National Women's Cancer Alliance Inc. a public charity that provides direct assistance to caregivers and women diagnosed with a reproductive cancer; particularly breast and ovarian.

Saideh is extremely proud of her college degree, her June 2010 feature in *Family Circle* magazine as well as all of her honors and achievements and serves on the Board of Directors of Horizons Health Center of New Jersey, is the Development Commit-

tee Chair for the Family Success Center of Hudson County as well as an alumni committee member of Little Red/Elisabeth Irwin in New York City; her true happiness is found as a wife and mom to her two sons.

The National Urban League Launches Comprehensive "Jobs Rebuild America" Campaign to Combat Unemployment

(New York, NY) – Today, the National Urban League, the nation's largest historic civil rights and urban advocacy organization, will launch its historic "Jobs Rebuild America: Educate, Employ, Empower" initiative in Cleveland, OH. Jobs Rebuild

and Project Ready STEM Act, along with the respective sponsors of each bill – Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, Rep. Chaka Fattah and Rep. Marcia Fudge – to spotlight the urgency of job creation and the need to invest in the education and skills enhance-

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JOBS REBUILD AMERICA PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Urban Youth Empowerment Program

A job-training program that targets out-of-school and adjudicated youths between ages 14 and 17, and/or adjudicated youth between 18-24 years old, to prepare them for entry into world of work through provision of a comprehensive set of services including case management, education and job training, mentoring, internships and subsidized employment.

Mature Workers Program

Provides job training, counseling, job placement and supportive services to workers who are 55 and older. Participants are placed in subsidized community service positions at nonprofit and public facilities, designed to provide skills that enable participants to obtain unsubsidized employment.

tion and business plan development geared to strengthen the business skills of minority entrepreneurs, assist businesses secure financing and contracts that advance their annual revenue and identify new markets with high-growth potential. Centers are located in Atlanta, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Houston, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New Orleans and Philadelphia.

Project Ready: Post-Secondary Success Program

Provides 8th-12th grade students with academic, social and cultural supports and opportunities designed to develop "readiness": having the information and perspective necessary for success without needing remediation in college or career.

Urban Empowerment Fund (UEF)

Created to fill a widening credit gap, UEF is a new



America, a solutions-based, comprehensive approach to the nation's employment and education crisis, brings together federal government, business, and nonprofit resources to create economic opportunity in 50 communities across the country through the Urban League affiliate network.

The community investment component is a \$100 million, five-year multi-platform effort designed to reach job-seekers, vulnerable youth and entrepreneurs. The initiative uses a comprehensive community development model that includes program offerings such as job-training for youth (18-24) and mature workers (55+), college preparation, a jobs network, entrepreneurship support, small business financing and resources, and tax credits, among others.

The grassroots advocacy component of Jobs Rebuild America focuses on federal legislative action to ensure a responsible fiscal plan and support for efforts that spur job creation in urban America. The National Urban League recently championed the reintroduction and passage of the Urban Jobs Act

ment of disadvantaged young people.

"As America faces the lowest labor force participation rate in almost 35 years, creating jobs and economically viable communities must be a collaborative, tripartite effort between the government, corporate and nonprofit sectors," said Marc H. Morial, President and CEO of the National Urban League. "Our Jobs Rebuild America initiative is a leading example that public-private-nonprofit partnerships can drive job creation and the program innovation required to revitalize struggling communities. It's time to shift from the debate about the problem of unemployment to comprehensively doing what is required to solve it, and our affiliates across the country are primed to do just that."

As a designated Jobs Rebuild America market, the Urban League of Greater Cleveland is receiving a total of \$950,000 in community investment competitive grants for three signature National Urban League programs – the Urban Youth Empowerment Program (UYEP), the Entrepreneurship Center program, and Project Ready:

ment and Project Ready STEM Act, along with the respective sponsors of each bill – Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, Rep. Chaka Fattah and Rep. Marcia Fudge – to spotlight the urgency of job creation and the need to invest in the education and skills enhance-

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representative of what we are doing with our partners and affiliates across the nation to provide economic and education opportunities in communities of greatest need."

For additional information on Jobs Rebuild America, program components and employment opportunities, as well as participant testimonials, visit www.jobsrebuildamerica.org.

Follow the National Urban League on Facebook and Twitter (@NatUrbanLeague).

Urban League Entrepreneurship Centers

Located at 10 Urban League affiliates around the country, the Centers provide comprehensive financial literacy training, management counseling, mentorship as well as technical assistance to start-up businesses that result in higher survival rates. All 10 Centers support job creation and preservation and long-term financial growth strategies through educational workshops and trainings, one-on-one consulta-

Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) and small business loan fund that will provide financing and technical assistance to help small business owners create sustainable companies and vibrant communities nationwide across the markets it serves.

Urban League Stonehenge New Markets Tax Credit Partnership

A federal community development program designed to stimulate the flow of in-

See JOBS, Page 13

NDG Gossip: Chad Johnson arrested for probation violation

BY: SHENICE SANDERS,
NDG INTERN

Former NFL receiver Chad Johnson was arrested for violating probation. A warrant was issued for his arrest last week while he was out of town, but on Monday, Johnson turned himself in to authorities. The arrest stems from 2012 charges against Johnson for domestic violence involving his former wife, Evelyn Lozada.

Johnson and Lozada displayed their love for each other on the reality show *Basketball Wives*, where Lozada was a regular at the time. Their love drew so much attention VH1, offered them a show which was to premiere on Sept 3, 2012. However, soon after Johnson's arrest in August 2012 the network canceled the show stating, "Due to the unfortunate events over the weekend and the seriousness of the allegations, VH1 is pulling



Chad Johnson

the series *Ev and Ocho* from its schedule and has no current plans of airing it."

Due to Johnson's behavior that is not the only thing that was canceled out of his life. Lozada filed for divorce after have just saying I do on July 4. Then just one day after the arrest Johnson was cut from the NFL's Miami Dolphins in August of last year.

Since his arrest Johnson has been serving one-year probation and was suppose to take domestic violence education classes. However

See JOHNSON, Page 11

Essence and MSNBC join forces for coverage 4th of July weekend

NEW YORK – *Essence*, the number one media brand dedicated to African-American women, and MSNBC, the premier cable destination for in-depth analysis, insightful political commentary and informed perspectives, are teaming up at the 2013 *Essence* Festival during Fourth of July weekend for unprecedented live coverage of headliners and newsmakers. MSNBC will broadcast live from the *Essence* Festival daily from Friday, July 5, to Sunday, July 7. In addition to covering the Festival, MSNBC will host a unique fan experience that will allow festival guests to join in efforts to strengthen and empower our communities.

The announcement was made today by Michelle Ebanks, President, *Essence* Communications Inc. and Phil Griffin, President, MSNBC.

"MSNBC's live programming during the *Essence* Empowerment Experience, from the heart of the ESSENCE Festival, underscores their commitment to broaden the

national reach and impact of conversations with thought-leaders, politicians, authors, celebrities and artists who will address the critical issues facing our communities—especially those of people of color and women," said Ebanks.

"MSNBC is committed to community and conversation—everything the *Essence* Festival represents," said Griffin. "We're proud to partner with *Essence* to highlight the ideas and issues of value to our audiences."

The *Essence* Empowerment Experience Stage, the core of the annual *Essence* Festival, will feature icons, newsmakers, national leaders, activists, artists, entrepreneurs, celebrities, journalists, educators, and experts to showcase the many dimensions of the African-American community including a central focus on information to improve women's day-to-day lives.

The *Essence* Festival is the ultimate entertainment, inspiration and cultural destination, hosting over 400,000 atten-



Beyoncé

dees annually. What began in 1995 as a one-time event to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of *Essence* magazine has now grown into one of the country's "Top 10 Leading Brand Events", as designated by Advertising Age. The *Essence* Festival is the nation's largest annual gathering of African-American music and culture.

The *Essence* Festival expanded to four days in 2012. This year's performers include Beyoncé, Maxwell, Jill Scott, Brandy, LL Cool J, Trey Songz, New Edition, Janelle Monáe and Jodi Watley to name a few. The Festival will

kick off with a Family Reunion Day on Thursday, July 4, and culminates on Sunday, July 7 with an all-star gospel tribute to Tramaine Hawkins and Donnie McClurkin during the day at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center and Beyoncé closing that evening at the Louisiana Superdome.

For more information about the 2013 *Essence* Festival, visit www.essencefestival.com, join the Festival community: follow us on Twitter @essencefest #EssenceFest and become a fan of 2013 *Essence* Festival on Facebook.

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VETERAN, continued from Page 1

Pastor of Greater Cornerstone Baptist Church in Hamilton Park, Mr. Tinner was surprised as he was named "Man of the Year 2013."

His plaque read, "Presented to Eugene Henry Tinner, Man of the Year 2013 for his commitment, devotion and his willingness to serve where ever he is needed, May 19, 2013."

In the audience were his wife of 65 years, Phemia, their children and grandchildren along with their god-daughter Sheila Tarpley Lott; niece JoAnn Solomon, other family members and friends to share in Mr. Tinner's joy and excitement.

Moreover, Mr. Tinner celebrated two events in his life on Sunday, his daughter, Rebecca was born on May 19th.

Mr. Tinner was seen asking family and friends, "Did you know this before today?"

He furthered said, "I was just happy to see my children and grandchildren join me in church." "I never expected this great honor."

When his wife Phemia was told of the honor and to keep it a surprise, she told the Deacon, "All he is going to do is cry," and he did! The tears flowed freely.

He is a veteran of the United States Army and celebrated Armed Forces Day on Saturday, May 18th, which was first celebrated on May 20, 1950; it is celebrated the third Sunday in May in the United States.

Mr. Tinner added his plaque to the shelf of his other prized possession from FB-CHP, his statue on December 7, 2003, as a member of their, "Legacy of Leadership in Appreciation" for his "Tireless Christian Commitment and Leadership."

UNEMPLOYED, continued from Page 1

When there is an economic downturn, the labor market gets flooded with people who are looking for work. In that situation, employers often have the upper hand and start to cherry-pick from that available pool of workers.

Instead of treating someone who has been out of work for a long time but has been seeking work as a committed and diligent worker, many employers treat them with suspicion, acting as if there was something wrong with the worker that kept them out of work. Instead of appreciating that there have been and are millions of workers who have been displaced, either due to temporary downturns or, as has been the case with many Black workers, as a result of structural changes in the economy, too many employers are prepared to write off

the long-term unemployed as nonredeemable.

Most employers will not acknowledge that they are biased against the long-term unemployed when they deny someone a job. Instead, the job-seeker may not get an interview or may be politely dismissed. If you add onto that other factors, such as age, race, and gender, a long-term unemployed person can find themselves moved into the category of the permanently unemployed, with little chance of getting work.

Younger workers face the challenge of discrimination for being unemployed, but it plays itself out differently. A

younger worker who has been the victim of long-term unemployment is frequently viewed as not serious and not willing to make sacrifices.

I had a discussion with a wealthy businessman some time ago who was bemoaning what he saw as too many younger workers taking advantage of unemployment insurance in order to avoid starting at the bottom and working their way up. This sort of prejudice appears to be very common among many employers.

New York City took the right step in banning discrimination against the unemployed.

Hopefully, other jurisdictions will do likewise. But at the end of the day, government intervention in another way will be essential. We not only need laws prohibiting discrimination against the unemployed; we need jobs for the unemployed.

Government should be committed to both steps.

Bill Fletcher, Jr. is a Senior Scholar with the Institute for Policy Studies, the immediate past president of TransAfrica Forum, and the author of They're Bankrupting Us" – And Twenty Other Myths about Unions. Follow him at www.billfletcherjr.com.

JOHNSON, continued from Page 10

according to TMZ.com the warrant was issued for Johnson's arrest earlier this month after he failed to report to his probation officer twice and did not provide proof of registering in the required domestic violence classes.

The 35 year-old appeared in a Broward County courtroom on Monday, for his alleged probation violation. Johnson tried to explain to the judge it was all a misunderstanding, but the judge seem to think otherwise and find Johnson guilty of violating probation and Johnson was ar-

rested with bond set for \$1,000.

Another hearing is set for June 3.

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is requesting written proposals from consultant firms to conduct the North Central Texas Regional Transit Travel Survey in 2014. This survey would cover bus, light rail, and commuter rail lines operated by Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA), and the Fort Worth Transportation Authority (The T). The purpose of the survey is to provide updated information regarding the transit users' travel patterns and trip-making behavior to assist the transit agencies in their planning process and for use in NCTCOG's Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Travel Model (DFX).

Proposals must be received no later than 5:00 pm, on Friday, June 21, 2013 to Kathy Yu, Senior Transportation System Modeler, North Central Texas Council of Governments, 616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas 76011. Copies of the Request for Proposals (RFP) will be available at www.nctcog.org/rfp by the close of business on Friday, May 17, 2013.

NCTCOG encourages participation by disadvantaged business enterprises and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or disability.




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Daily

Personal Views: Texas Black Folk Artists at African American Museum, 3536 Grand Ave.; 214-565-9026

Every Tuesday Dallas Comedy House Open Mic at 2645 Commerce St; 214-741-4448

Through May 26

Fly by nights at Kalita Humphreys Theater 3636 turtle creek Blvd. Dallas, TX Info:2145228499

Through May 25

Exhibit Witness the Art of Jerry Pinkney at African American Museum in Dallas, Info: [http:// www.aam-dallas.org](http://www.aam-dallas.org)

Through October 6

Summer Adventures in Fair Park, Info: www.fair-parkfun.com

The Body Beautiful in Ancient Greece Masterpiece From The British Museum at Dallas Museum of Art, Info:214-922-1200 or dma.org.

Through May 26

Wizard of Oz at Art Centre Theatre in Plano, Info: www.artcentretheatre.com

May 23

Wells Fargo is hosting a **Home Preservation Workshop** in Dallas at the Hyatt Regency Dallas.

May 25

Dallas International Festival from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at Dallas Arts District Info: 972-661-2764

8th Annual Writer's Breakthrough Workshop

at Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. RSVP to poetry@gracelajoy.com or 816-318-1388.

Dallas International Festival from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at Dallas Arts District Info:972-661-2764

Fireworks over Lake Grapevine, starting at 9:30 p.m.

May 26

Memorial Day Service: Honor Irving veterans at a Memorial Day Service hosted by the Veterans Memorial Park Committee at 2:30 p.m. at the Irving Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd. A reception will be held at the Veterans Memorial Park, 644 Rock Island Road, following the program.

May 27

Lone Star Winstar Million Dollar Day at Lone Star Park in Grand Prairie, gates open at 11:30 a.m. race starts at 1:30 p.m.

Memorial Day Car Show at Lynn Smith Chevrolet in Burleson from noon to 4 p.m. cost: free

DSO Memorial Day Concert and Fireworks at Flagpole Hill at Meyerson Sym-

phony Center starting at 8 p.m. cost: free

May 28

Amon Carter Museum, free admission for military personnel and their families. Info: 817 989-5065

May 30

Buckner International Community Health Fair from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Wynnewood Community Transformation Center located at 2006 Didsbury Circle in Dallas

May 31

Little Egypt presents: Stars of Spring at Radisson Hotel, 1241 W Mockingbird Lane at 12:30 - 6 p.m.; 972-840-8450

May 31 - June 2

Wicked Divas DSO Pops Series brings the best of Broadway to the Meyerson with diva showstoppers highlighted by selections from the Tony Award-winning musical Wicked. Featuring Elphaba and Glinda from the Broadway production. 214-692-0203 or DallasSymphony.com.

June 1 - 2

GingerBread Trail Tour of Homes from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info: downtown-waxahachie.com/events

June 3 through Aug. 16 Summer Art Adventure Camps at Irving Arts Center, Info: www.irvingarts-center.com

June 4 through 16 Sister Act presented by Dallas Summer Musicals at Music Hall at Fair Park, Info: www.dallassummer-musicals.org

June 6

The State of Dallas County at Hilton Anatole from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. tickets are \$45 214-217-8484

June 7

Wine Star World Casino 400 at Texas Motor Speedway, Info: www.texasmotorspeedway.com

June 11

Lexus Broadway Series and AT&T Performing Arts Center at Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora Street; under \$110; 214-880-0202

June 14

Achievers United Contemporary Talent Show at 7 p.m., at the Embassy Suites in Frisco

June 20

Summer Cinema Clubhouse at The Colony Recreation Center, Info: www.visitthecolonytx.com

June 21

Till Midnight at the Nasher at Nasher Sculpture Center, Info: www.nas-her-sculpturecenter.org/midnight

June 22

Countries, Cultures and Kids at Perot Museum of Nature and Science at 11 a.m.-noon; FREE; 214-428-5555

June 29

Texas Dream Cruise at FC Dallas Stadium, Info: www.texasdreamcruise.com

October 25

World Affairs Council H. Neil Mallon Award Dinner at Hilton Anatole, 2201 N Stemmons Freeway at 6:30 p.m.; 214-965-8403

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JOBS, continued from Page 9

vestment capital in underserved communities. Tax payers that make qualified equity investments in designated Community Development Entities (CDEs) receive a 39 percent

NMTC tax credit that is claimed over a seven-year credit allowance period. Substantially all of the qualified equity investment must in turn be used by the CDE to provide investments in low-income communities.

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses

A national network of partners investing \$500 million, funded by Goldman Sachs, to unlock the economic growth and job-creation potential of 10,000 small businesses across the United States through greater access to business education, mentors and networks, and financial capital. The National

Urban League is an anchor partner.

Urban League Jobs Network and Career and Networking Fairs

The National Urban League's Jobs Network is a community of support and connections to employers seeking diverse, qualified candidates. The Jobs Network hosts online Virtual Career Fairs and promotes local job fairs in conjunction with affiliates, as well as a three-day Career and Networking Fair that takes place during NUL's Annual Conference. www.urbanleaguejobsnetwork.com

Urban League Small Business Matters Summit

A one-day summit held in conjunction with the Annual Conference, it features dynamic speakers and interactive workshops. The Small Business Matters Summit of-

fers the opportunity to network with industry leaders and successful entrepreneurs while accessing resources meant to spearhead your business growth and plans. The Pitch Contest offers new businesses an opportunity to win \$10,000 in financing.

Urban Empowerment College Bound Program

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The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is requesting written proposals from consultant firm(s) to prepare an update to the Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture for the North Central Texas Region including an update to the project-level ITS architecture compliance process and the development of an ITS Strategic Deployment Plan that will identify and prioritize ITS projects for future implementation. The North Texas Regional ITS Architecture is the Regional ITS Architecture for the North Central Texas Region. The Regional ITS Architecture establishes a blueprint for transportation integration and needs to be updated periodically to reflect technological advances in ITS. In addition, the Regional ITS Architecture needs to maintain consistency with the National ITS Architecture. The purpose of this project is to update the Architecture and to develop a Maintenance Plan for the Architecture, as well as a Strategic Deployment Plan for future ITS infrastructure deployment and software integration projects.

Proposals must be received no later than 5:00 pm, on Friday, June 14, 2013, to Marian Thompson, P.E. Transportation System Operations Supervisor, North Central Texas Council of Governments, 616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas 76011. Copies of the Request for Proposals (RFP) will be available at www.nctcog.org/rfp by the close of business on Friday, May 17, 2013

NCTCOG encourages participation by disadvantaged business enterprises and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or disability.



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May 26, 8 a.m.

Join us in Early Morning Worship Service; stay for Bible Classes at 9:30 a.m. and for Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.

Brother Ramon Hodridge,
Minister of Education
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972-423-8833
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**BIBLE WAY COMMUNITY
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May 26, 9 a.m.

All men are invited to come to our Men's Ministry Fellowship to learn more about God.

May 29, 7 p.m.

You're invited to our Wednesday's Bible Study to learn more about God's Word; and bring your children to our Children's Program; three things are incorporated when they come, children learn and they play and have fun.

Dr. Timothy Wilbert, Sr.
Senior Pastor
4215 N. Greenview Drive
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www.biblewayirving.org

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May 26, 8:45 or 11 a.m.

Join us in our Morning Service as we honor and praise God for His blessings to us.

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TheShip3C's Prayer Lines for those that are in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567 or they may be submitted via email to: prayerline@theship3c.org

**May 26, 8 a.m.
And 9:30 a.m.**

You're invited to our Sunday Worship Services as we praise God for the victories in our lives. Come and grow with us. You're also invited to a new series of teaching, "Guaranteed Victory". God will "Equip, Elevate, and Empower" you; call the church for details.

May 29, 7 p.m.

Join us for Wednesday Night Live in the Joycie Turner Fellowship Hall on Belmont Drive, with old school prayer and testimony. Also, come to our Corporate Prayer and our Kidz Zone (an environment to equip children to grow and to show God's love.)

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Join us for our FREE 8th Annual Writer's Break-through Workshop, sponsored by Grace LaJoy in partnership with The TurnAround Agenda at the church for aspiring authors. For information call 1-816-318-1388.

Dr. Tony Evans,
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1801 West Camp
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SHILOH MBC IN PLANO

May 26

8 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Join us in our Sunday Morning Worship Service as we praise and honor God. Our theme this year is "SMBC: A Church Focused on Excellence while Teaching the Word, Preaching the Gospel, Reaching the World." Also, after both services ministers and deacons are available to meet with you for prayer or questions.

May 29, 7 p.m.
You're invited to our Midweek Service as we worship and praise God.

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
920 E. 14th Street

Plano, TX 75074
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www.smbcplano.org

**THE INSPIRING BODY
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May 26, 7:30 a.m.

Join us Sunday as we worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name.

May 27, 7 p.m.

Come to Monday School as we study the Word of God. We will worship Him and praise His Holy name.

Pastor Rickie Rush
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"For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?" **Esther 4:14-15.**

The Bible tells the story of Esther, a Jewish orphan living in the land of Persia after her people were taken into captivity from Jerusalem. Raised by her cousin Mordecai, she lived during the time of King Xerxes who reigned over Persia that stretched from India to Ethiopia.

A proclamation was sent out to bring all the virgins to the king's palace from the surrounding regions to replace Queen Vashti who found dis-

favor with the king and was deposed. Esther was one of the young women taken and was ultimately selected to be the next queen.

Mordecai had a high ranking position in the government that allowed him to learn of a plot by Haman, an official of the king, to kill all of the Jews.

Now, the only way this order would not be carried out was if Esther asked for an audience with the king to request that the plot be abandoned on her behalf.

However, to request an audience before the king was a serious matter. If he refused to give her audience, the penalty was immediate death. It was at this time she made her famous statement, "If I die, I die."

Esther realized this could be the reason God created her - to save her people from destruction.

However, out of concern for Esther, Mordecai ex-

plained the situation to her, "For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish."

Mordecai was giving her a choice. Either she will be used by God or someone else will be used to save their people.

Everyday you and I are given a choice. Are we willing to be the person God uses to impact the future destiny of a people? Many of us are silent Christians simply letting the status quo reign while we sit quietly by watching.

Who knows that you were created for such a time as this to be a catalyst to stand in the gap for some situation in your workplace or community or nation?

Be faithful to your calling.

Remember, "I can do ALL things through CHRIST who strengthens me."

For Such a Time as This



Sister Tarpley celebrating Mother's Day 2013 with her only daughter, Sheila Tarpley Lott and her only granddaughter, Tyanna Donnise Lott

Thank God for your strength and protection. Thank Him for your Savior, Jesus Christ.

Whenever that old devil comes at you with temptations, remind him that you can do all things

through Christ who strengthens you and has saved you.

Because of that, you can rebuke Satan by standing on the Scripture and leaning on Jesus for your help. He was the perfect

example of this as He countered Satan's temptations with Scripture. Open your eyes, ears and heart to God's Word and His prompting. Thank God always in the name of Jesus for His help.

FARMERS, continued from Page 3

farmers must continue to grow those crops that our people want to eat on a daily basis. But for farmers to be protected, they must be counted in the Agriculture Census.

We realize that many farmers are concerned about revealing private information about their operations and income. However, regulations prevent the National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) from revealing information about individual farmers to any other government agency or private entities. To do so would result in a fine or jail time.

Census of Agriculture data is critically important to protecting the future of our farming community in America. All producers need to complete their agriculture census forms. We urge you to take action today - there's still time.

Farmers may return their forms by mail or online by visiting the secure website, www.agcensus.usda.gov. The deadline to respond to the Census of Agriculture is May 31, 2013. Federal law requires all agricultural producers to participate in the Census and requires NASS to

keep all individual information confidential. For more information about the Census, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov or call 1-888-4AG-STAT (1-888-424-7828).

By responding to the Census, producers can help themselves, their communities and all of U.S. agriculture.

Ralph Paige is executive director of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land

Assistance Fund. Arredondo is president of the National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association. Zachary Ducheneaux is an Indian rancher and Tribal Technical Assistance Network Program Director for the Intertribal Agriculture Council and Brian Thomas is a rancher at Duck Valley Indian Reservation, Nevada/Idaho.

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NDG Bookshelf



BY TERRI
SCHLICHENMEYER

For awhile there, you thought you were gonna die.

Your head hurt. Your body ached, and your stomach was acting like a fresh-caught fish – but that didn't matter much. Bills still needed paying and business needed attending. There was family to care for, work to do.

Yes, you should've stayed horizontal but you came back from the dead – and so did

Walter Mosley brings Easy Rawlins back in *Little Green*

Easy Rawlins. In the new novel *Little Green* by Walter Mosley, Easy's recent demise never gave him but a moments' rest.

His vision was blurred. His thoughts, more so.

Ezekiel "Easy" Rawlins was having strange dreams of death, but that was no surprise: some two months before, after losing the woman he loved, he got drunk and lost control of his car, landing in brush as the vehicle went into the California ocean.

He wasn't dead – but he should've been and that was the only thing that made sense. He hurt all over and his head was muddled, but immediately after Easy came out of



his semi-coma, his friend Mouse asked for a favor.

Nineteen-year-old Evander Noon was missing, and his mother wanted him home. Mouse wanted the boy home,

too, but he wouldn't give Easy a reason. He wouldn't say why he called Evander "Little Green," either.

Evander Noon wasn't hard to find; in fact, Easy had to rescue him from a group of drug dealers who beat the boy while asking where the money was. Once free, Evander couldn't recall much – he'd been on acid-tripping for five days – but when his mind got loose, he remembered plenty about that money: there was lots of it, stuffed in a blood-soaked bag.

But how did a wet-behind-the-ears teenager end up with over \$200,000 of bloody cash without knowing where it came from? And how did

Easy's friend, Jackson Blue, end up in a similarly odd (but expensive) bit of trouble? Driving a borrowed red Barracuda, hopped up on Mama Jo's Gator Blood, feeling like a young bull, Easy Rawlins would find out... or die trying.

That noise you hear? That's a sigh of relief from legions of concerned fans afraid they'd never read a new Easy Rawlins mystery again. Fortunately, author Walter Mosley dashed their needless worries against the California surf.

Set in 1967, "Little Green" is classic Easy, with underworld violence, sophisticated crime, and men who

efficiently take care of business – all with a noir feel, like a Black Sam Spade. This is the kind of book where men wear fedoras and speak quiet philosophy, where women don't yet realize their own strength, where Civil Rights are still brand-new, and black folks are rarely friends with white ones. Yep, I loved it.

Because it's been six years since the last Easy Rawlins novel, I recommend that fans brush up some on his story; you'll get up to speed quick enough. If you're new to the series, grab the last couple novels and you'll be fine. Either way, no matter how you seize it, *Little Green* is a book to die for.

CRISIS, continued from Page 1

closure crisis: households in communities of color are the hardest hit," said report co-author Jill Reese, Associate Director of the Alliance for a Just Society.

The full report, including national numbers, data for all 50 states, and special breakouts for 19 cities, is available here: <http://bit.ly/wastedwealthreport>

"It's as if my life, security for my family, a roof over our heads, is a game to the banks," says homeowner Grace Alexander of Newark, NJ. "There are four generations of us living under that roof and our impending homelessness is not a game to us."

Homeowners like Grace Alexander have worked with

Home Defenders League and New Bottom Line coalitions nationwide, to push Congress and the Administration to move on principal reduction.

In addition to wealth already lost in communities like Harris', the report found there were 13.2 million underwater mortgages still on the books in 2012 and another \$221 billion in wealth at stake if a share of these mortgages go into foreclosure.

"The solution to the continuing foreclosure crisis is clear: we need principal reduction, and we need it now," says Tracy Van Slyke, Director of the New Bottom Line. "President Obama's nomination of Rep. Mel Watt as the new di-

rector of the Federal Housing Finance Agency is a step in the right direction. It's time for Congress to confirm this nomination immediately in order to support homeowners now, strengthen communities and get our economy back on track."

Key findings from the report include:

- The foreclosure crisis continued to destroy wealth on a large scale in 2012: \$192.6 billion in wealth was lost due to foreclosures across the U.S. in 2012, an average of \$1,679 in lost wealth per household.

- Foreclosures had a disproportionate impact on communities with above average populations of people of color:

In zip codes with proportions of people of color above the national average of 16%, average lost wealth per household was \$2,008.

- The most devastating impacts of the ongoing foreclosure crisis were in majority people of color communities: Zip codes with majority people of color populations saw an average of \$2,198 in lost wealth per household, over 1.7 times the average lost wealth in segregated white zip codes.

- More than 13 million homes are still underwater and at risk of foreclosure and more lost wealth: For reporting zip codes, there are at least 13.2 million underwater mortgages. If action is not taken to prevent

a share of these mortgages from going into foreclosure, Americans stand to lose nearly \$221 billion in additional wealth.

- A strategy of principal reduction would save money for homeowners, boost the economy, and create jobs: A princi-

pal reduction program could produce average annual savings of \$7,710 per underwater homeowner, boost the U.S. economy to the tune of \$101.7 billion, and create 1.5 million jobs.

Read the full report: wastedwealthreport.com/download

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