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HB437 provides \$5 million for Adult Career Training in Texas

Governor Rick Perry recently signed into law a bill advocated by Skill Quest, Dallas Area Interfaith and the Network of Texas IAF organizations (NTO). It is expected to help fund training for high-demand, high-wage jobs in Texas. The fund-

ing is for workforce intermediaries such as Skill Quest, organizations that work the process from training to employment, working with trainees and employers.

HB437 will move the successful JET Program's Launchpad Fund to a new



college home under the name 'Texas Innovative Adult Career Education Grant Fund'. The legislature also budgeted \$5 million for the Fund to invest in high-skill training over the next two years.

See CAREER, Page 10

COVER STORY

The Marketing Lady enjoys inspiring business owners to take action



Tarsha Polk

See BUSINESS, Page 9

Ann Williams founder of Dallas Black Dance Theatre announces retirement

DALLAS — Ann Williams, Founder and Creative Director of Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) announced her plans to retire at the meeting of DBDT's Board of Directors held on May 23. Williams plans to make 2013-2014, the 37th Sea-



Ann Williams

son of the company, her last at the creative reins.

In addressing the board, Williams said, "I always wanted for DBDT to be an institution in the city of Dallas. My goal was for it to always be here serving the community. I think that we have done that."

Williams began her vision 40 years ago with the creation of the Dallas Black Dance Academy — a training program to teach children and youth in the community fundamentals of dance. Several students

See WILLIAMS, Page 8



50 Cent charged with domestic violence

See VIOLENCE, Page 10

COMMENTARY

Reflecting on comprehensive immigration reform

BY WILLIAM E. SPRIGGS

Americans have now celebrated July 4th, 2013, and America's independence. It was also a time when public ceremonies were held to swear in newly naturalized American citizens. That gives us a chance to reflect on comprehensive immigration reform and think about the economic implications.

First, it is important to look back at U.S. immigration law. In the beginning, the United States did not

have limits on immigration. The earliest law, passed in 1790, was a naturalization law declaring that only free whites of "good moral character" could be naturalized, and that a person born in the United States was a citizen only if his or her father was a U.S. citizen. So, any free white person could apply to be naturalized after two years. There was no quota placed on the number of immigrants. This is important, since many people want to claim their ancestors arrived

See REFORM, Page 3

Dear Paula, it does matter who says n-word

BY LEE R. HAVEN

"You cheap Jew!"
"You're a cheap Jew!"

They were Jewish themselves, the two of them, and they were laughing. I witnessed the exchange at a social justice type summer camp we attended way back in the



Paula Deen

mid-1960s, located in a small college in a small town in Kentucky (a state in dire need of social justice during those times).

As I recall, the boys were best friends. They were from New York and I the lone participant from Savannah.

See PAULA, Page 6



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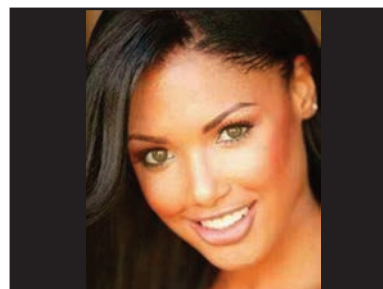
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People In The News...



Dr. Jeremiah Wright



KD Aubert



Francis Ray

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Dr. Jeremiah Wright

From Thursday, July 11 through Sunday, July 14 The National Black United Front (NBUF) will hold its 34th Annual National Convention in Dallas, Texas. The theme of this years convention is: "Africans Must Unite At Home and Abroad; Revisiting The Principles of Pan-Africanism."

The convention will kick off with a free Town Hall Meeting on July 11 at 7 p.m. at St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church located at 5710 E.

RL Thornton Freeway in Dallas. Dr. Jeremiah Wright will deliver the keynote address on the subject of "Spirituality As A Tool for African Liberation". Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, Pastor of Friendship West Baptist Church will convene an esteemed local, national and international panel representing multiple faith traditions and spiritual paths in the African world.

The other special guests and presentors include:

The Honorable Samia Yaba Christina Nkrumah (Ghana, West Africa) - National Chairwoman of the Convention People's Party (CPP), Daughter of Osageyfo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, First President of Ghana. Samia is seen as the equivalent of an African Queen by many across the African continent who are already comparing her to the famous Queen Yaa Asantewaa (pronounced YAY A-san-TE-waa). Queen Yaa in 1840 was appointed queen mother of Ejisu of the Ashanti Empire now part of modern-day Ghana by her



brother Nana Akwasi Afrane Okpese the Ejisuhene "ruler of Ejisu. In 1900 Yaa Asantewaa led an Ashanti rebellion known as the "War of the Golden Stool" against British colonialism.

Ms. Eryka Badu (Dallas, Texas) - Four time Grammy Award winner, international Hip-Hop and R&B star

The Honorable Cynthia McKinney (Atlanta, Georgia) - Former Congresswoman from Atlanta, GA, international human rights activist

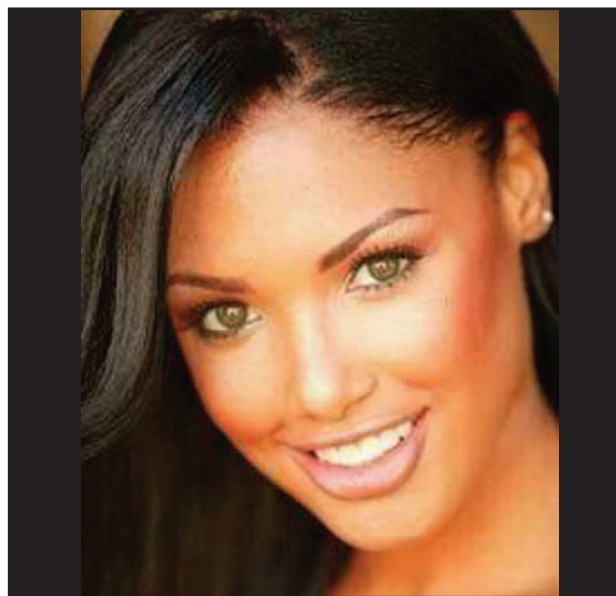
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KD Aubert

Screen Africa announced Tuesday KD Aubert was nominated for Best Actress in a Supporting Role in Diaspora Film for the 2013 Nollywood & African Film Critics Awards (African Oscars) for her role as Stacey in the 2012 film *Turning Point*. Hailed as the highest U.S.A. based awards honoring excellence in African filmmaking by The Nollywood Film Critics USA, The African Oscars recognizes excellence of professionals in the African film industry who have positively impacted the lives of

citizens. The Nollywood Film Critics USA is the official movie review organization for Nollywood and African films and headed by Founder and Senior Film Critic Dr. Victor O. Olatoye.

Nominees like KD Aubert are capturing a new generation of Nollywood Films within the Hollywood landscape, showcasing how *Turning Point* is unique in its casting. While similar scale Nollywood films explore socio-political themes, [this film] is a pure character driven story that is easy to re-



late to (NigeriaShowBiz.com). *Turning Point* has also been nominated for Best Drama, Best Screenplay, and Best Cinematography in the Diaspora Film Categories in the 2013 African Oscars.

The ceremony is scheduled for September 14 at a red-carpet event at the legendary Warner Theatre in Washington D.C. Special Guest Performers include Yemi Sax, Jerri Jheto, Jennifer Eliogu, and Katumbella. For a complete list of VIP guests and Live Performers please visit http://www.africanoscar.com/Performing_artists.aspx

K.D. Aubert appears in several upcoming films to be released, including Queen Latifah's *Percentage*, *Lap Dance* aka Monica (starring James Remar, Lynn Whitfield, Carmen Electra) and comedy film *My Sisters Wedding*. Aubert is known for her international modeling career with campaigns for Fredrick's of Hollywood, Escada, and Fanta (as one of the original Fanta girls). As an actor she has starred in cult films such as *Friday After Next*, and appeared in numerous films and television shows including *Soul Plane*, *The Scorpion King*, and *CSI NY*.

Francis Ray

BY RUTH FERGUSON,
NDG EDITOR
Francis Ray, Dallas'

Ray's Facebook page. As a result, fans around the world have shared their



own *New York Times*, *USA Today* and *Essence* best-selling author, died unexpectedly last week. The family shared the news via posts by her publicist on

love of her books and memories over the last week.

I not only enjoyed reading several of Ray's books, but had the pleasure of meeting her several times.

The first time we really talked, she recognized my face although sadly I did not recognize her. We were attending a charity event at a mansion in Highland Park and she approached me. She struck up a conversation and it was clear that she recognized me, and I was quietly embarrassed that I did not know her. But the moment she mentioned seeing me at Black Images, the beloved bookstore Emma Rogers and company ran for years, we immediately talked for 20 minutes.

Her gracious way in handling my embarrassment crystallizes the kind lady Ray was. From there our paths crossed again at book signings and she even attended a Jus Sistahs of Dallas book club meeting and patiently answered all of our questions as we delved into the whys and

wherefores of her rich characters.

Francis Ray published 50 books in her 20 year career, perhaps my favorite was her first mainstream book - *The Turning Point*. It tells the story of two broken people, one escaping an abusive marriage, the other the victim of a carjacking now blind and depressed. Together they work to rebuild their lives. Ray felt so passionately about domestic violence, she launched the *Turning Point* Legal Fund to help women build a new future.

Over the years she wrote numerous popular series including the Falcon Series and The Graysons of New Mexico. What I enjoyed about her romance novels was the way she showcasing African American love in a different way than your usual dime story romance.

They also provided a platform for our love stories before companies like Harle-

quin discovered we loved romance as well.

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Dear Friends:

Over the past two weeks, we have witnessed landmark acts that stand as symbols of

Celebrating our common destiny

why Americans celebrate Independence Day. We've also been reminded why we must remain vigilant in our journey toward liberty and justice for all.

However, we cannot truly achieve freedom for all if we stand steadfast in our own

opinion ... and our own opinion alone. We must always strive toward reaching consensus, toward finding innovative solutions born from careful consideration of the other's point of view and careful compromise of one's own.

As the late Barbara Jordan said at the 1976 Democratic National Convention, "...a spirit of harmony will survive in America ONLY ... if each of us remembers, when self-interest and bitterness seem to prevail, that

See GARCIA, Page 8

REFORM, continued from Page 1

here "legally," implying some legal limit existed that they obeyed.

In 1787, the U.S. Constitution protected the trans-Atlantic slave trade by saying Congress could not pass laws to limit the "importation" of slaves from Africa until after 1807. Then in 1807, Congress passed and President Thomas Jefferson signed into law the end of bringing slaves from Africa into the United States, effective Jan. 1, 1808. So, those African-Americans who are the descendants of American slavery trace their roots in America to before 1808. The 14th Amendment to the Constitution, ratified in July 1868, stated that all persons born in the United States were citizens, clarifying the right to citizenship of African Americans born into slavery. Congress subsequently passed the Naturalization Act of 1870, further clarifying the right of a person of African descent to become a naturalized citizen of the United States.

While the 1870 act clarified the status of African-Americans, it left in place the uncertainty around any other persons of color. Congress addressed this in the negative with the Page Act of 1875, which restricted Chinese men coming to the United States to work to prevent forced labor, and for Chinese women to come to the United States—a set of exclusions that Congress would reinforce in 1882 and again in 1892, increasing restrictions on Chinese immigration. This was expanded with the Immigration Act of 1917 that barred immigration from Asia and the Asian subcontinent. These were not reversed until the 1940s, when Congress lifted the bans and clarified the right of people of Asian descent to be naturalized citizens of the United States.

Not until the 1920s did Congress pass laws limiting immigration from other countries, imposing emergency quotas in 1921 and later cementing in place national quotas in 1924. So, for the bulk of Americans of European descent, all immigration was "legal" in that no limits were placed until 1921, aimed primarily at limiting immigration from Southern European countries like Italy. So, the major waves of European immigration that took place in the 1850s, 1880s and 1910s faced no legislative limits.

Once national quotas were in place, the sense that an immigrant was "illegal" meant they were from a country that exceeded that country's quota. Before 1921, it meant you were a race that America did not like. But the national quota laws meant replicating the national origins of people already in the United States, a great advantage to Europeans while a big disadvantage to people of color. Not until the civil rights movement forced America to re-examine the issue of race did immigration laws change to remove this heavy bias in 1965. Ironically, by giving each nation the same quota, it meant that some countries would face more binding quotas, and for the first time Mexican immigrants would face a quota. Since Mexico has a common border with the United States, this obviously means the quota is more binding on Mexican immigration than other countries.

That is a long history to put the discussion of comprehensive immigration into a bigger context. Each wave of immigration faced a reaction, whether "Know Nothing" Party members of the 1850s, who disliked Catholic immigrants from Ireland, or later xenophobic reactions to Italians that brought on a sense of

panic. And, each wave was felt to hurt the labor market of "native"-born Americans.

The 1990s saw a record massive wave of immigration. But it also saw one of the largest growths of jobs in U.S. economic history. The Black unemployment rate that wallowed in double digits from September 1974 to June 1997 finally returned to single-digit levels and reached a record low of 7.3% in November 2000. In 1995, for the first time, households in the middle quintile of income in the black community overlapped with the middle of the white distribution-making some blacks truly middle income. And, in 2000, the share of black families with children living in poverty fell to a record low. Clearly, massive immigration did not stop that good news.

So, claims about "legal" versus "illegal" immigration and the sense that immigration must hurt the fate of American workers is very complex. What is clear from the 1990s experience is that macroeconomic policies matter; putting in place policies that aim for full employment trump the immigration flow effect on increasing the labor supply to depress wages. The response of the Federal Reserve to let the unemployment rate fall below 4.5% in the late 1990s, the lowest rates since the late 1960s, before it tried to slow the economy was important. Inflation and stagflation during the 1970s had convinced economic policy makers that unemployment rates at that level would cause inflationary pressures that could not be easily stopped.

But, the harm done to low-wage workers and millions of workers in the shadows can be corrected; indeed, it is addressed by the Senate legislation. Not just workers,

but employers, were hiding work-and jobs-from enforcement of labor law and from job seekers who needed information on job openings. Helping to correct an imbalance in labor laws and workers' rights will help to correct an imbalance in the ability of workers to bargain freely about their wages and working conditions and to form unions; and, it will increase the reach of labor law enforcement. All workers will benefit from this sunshine.

But, ultimately, the real issue is a set of policies that aims for full employment and puts the priority on getting more people paid. That must be the first priority of policies. The immigration law passed by the Senate could, over a decade, usher in a new wave of almost 10 million more workers through business-friendly changes that open a new flow of science and engineering workers, college professors, multinational executives, physicians and their families (who will be permanent residents), which is about the size of the 1990s wave of immigration.

That new wave can boost America's economic growth to new heights and so lower our federal deficit as the Congressional Budget Office predicts—or without full employment policies being the first priority, could cause the labor market to continue to make wages sag and pile up unemployed Americans. So, it is up to Congress and the President to get to work now on putting full employment first.

William Spriggs serves as Chief Economist to the AFL-CIO and is a professor in, and former chair of the Department of Economics at Howard University. Bill is also former assistant secretary for the Office of Policy at the United States Department of Labor.

July is National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

BELLEVILLE, IL — In 2008, the U.S. House of Representatives proclaimed July as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month (NMMHAM). Allsup, a nationwide provider of Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and veterans disability appeals representation, is offering free poster downloads to promote the observance, which highlights the need for improved access to mental health services among minorities.

The stigma associated with mental illness is often a barrier to treatment. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), levels of stigma associated with mental health conditions are much higher in multicultural communities.

"Stigma affects everyone," said NAMI board member Clarence Jordan. "But stigma has a greater impact in communities of color." Jordan added that NMMHAM helps start conversations about mental illness within diverse commu-

nities. "There is still a great lack of awareness of what mental illnesses are and what one can do to recover," said Jordan. "It [NMMHAM] takes it to churches, hits the airwaves; there are articles in the paper that people will read."

Mental illness is a leading cause of disability in the U.S., and medical documentation from mental health professionals is essential when applying for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and SSDI. The Social Security Administration administers both programs.

The SSI program is based on financial need established by income and assets requirements. It is designed to help aged, blind, and disabled people who have little or no income.

SSDI is a federally mandated insurance funded by FICA payroll taxes paid by workers and their employers. SSDI provides monthly income to individuals who are under full retirement age (age 65 or older) and who can no longer work because

of a severe disability expected to last for more than 12 months or is terminal.

Social Security relies on medical diagnoses and details about doctor visits, medical facilities used, medications and their side effects, as well as information on the restrictions and limitations resulting from the mental illness. If a person is denied at the initial application level, he or she has 60 days to file a disability appeal. Most first appeals (88 percent) are denied. An individual can appeal a second time, which is also called the hearing level. At both appeal levels, updated medical documentation from a mental health provider and information about treatment is essential.

Individuals can pledge to promote mental health treatment in diverse communities and take care of their personal mental, emotional and behavioral well-being by visiting NAMI's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/minoritymentalhealth>.

NBA Star Shaquille O'Neal gives back

On Tuesday, Shaquille O'Neal announced that he is planning to open a children's hospital in Louisiana. The hospital will admit and care for sick youth free of charge. During an event at which he was being inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame, O'Neal took the



Shaquille O'Neal

opportunity to make the announcement.

He also wants to make it

abundantly clear that this was not just a sudden decision made with no real game plan. Shaq says he has been in talks with Our Lady of the Lake Hospital in Baton Rouge in hopes of making this venture a reality.

To read more visit: <http://www.yourblackworld.net/>

HIP HOP for HIV awareness event is Thursday at Dallas City Hall

Dallas Councilmember Dwaine R. Caraway, District 4, community leaders and 97.9 The Beat radio personalities will kick off the sixth annual Hip Hop for HIV awareness campaign with a testing event at Dallas City Hall on Thursday July 11 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Confidential free HIV testing begins July 10 and will continue through Aug. 25 at designated sites throughout Dallas/Fort Worth. Everyone tested will receive onsite counseling, plus a free ticket to attend a Hip Hop concert Aug. 25 at the Fort Worth Convention Center.

Persons interested in free confidential "testing for tickets" to learn their status and receive referrals on social and medical services for HIV/AIDS are invited to visit Dallas City Hall on July

11. Persons must be at least 13 years old to be tested.

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FDA's team tomato fights contamination

A fresh tomato is more than just a tasty addition to a sandwich or salad.

To scientists at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the tomato is an enigma and the focus of a group of researchers nicknamed "Team Tomato."

From 1973 to 2010, there were 15 multistate outbreaks of illnesses attributed to Salmonella contamination of raw tomatoes, with 12 of these outbreaks taking place since 2000. They resulted in al-

most 2,000 confirmed illnesses and three deaths, with states in the eastern U.S. hardest hit.

"The conditions in which tomatoes thrive are

See FDA, Page 5



Research microbiologist Rebecca Bell (above) observes tomatoes suspended in a plastic bag of a liquid containing nutrients that make it an ideal environment for growing bacteria.

The mystery of the tomato has to do with its vulnerability to contamination by Salmonella, a bacterium that is a common cause of foodborne illness.

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Irving celebrating the Harlem Renaissance

Relive the historic 1920s and 1930s at Harlem Renaissance Stories and Music on July 13 at 2:30 p.m. During this special performance, swing to the sounds of Count Basie, Duke Ellington and the poetry of Langston Hughes. Chillin' at the Pavillion programs are performed

monthly at the Jackie Townsell Bear Creek Heritage Center Museums at 3925 Jackson Street.

The Jackie Townsell Bear Creek Heritage Center Museums are open to tour on the second Saturday of each month from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, please call (972) 721-2501.



Curtis Report
by Barry Curtis

To drill or not to drill that is the question. Shall a nation jeopardize its economic standing in favor of policies based on an unproven science? When a nation fails to engage in a vigorous drilling energy policy does it automatically relegate its people to a second-class economy?

If a government were to take the position of energy appeasement, does it by de-facto strangle the lifeblood and the financial engine of the people? Energy appeasement is the capitulation of a government policy in favor of a policy that severely restricts drilling and places unreasonable burdens on wells that are drilled by private companies. After all how would we eat? Power our cell phones and farm the land? It's simple. We do all this and more by the continued use and exploration of oil and gas.

Powered by oil, America was rapidly transformed from the status of a developing nation to become the world's sole superpower in less than a century. America was built on black gold. From the 1800's when drake drilled the nation's first commercial oil well until the late twentieth century this nation's economic and military dominance is directly related to its ability to produce and regulate America's energy needs.

We would be hard pressed to imagine a world where we could have built

The GOD given right to drill

this nation's massive industrial capacity that enabled Henry Ford to make the average American road worthy. How would we have created the world's best interstate highway system and the ability to fuel the cars riding on it?

We must not forget the lessons of the past. It was Japan that invaded China and eventually the Philippines solely for its oil and other raw materials. Japan lacked the natural resources to continue its industrial development so she had to spread her "divine" wind across the Pacific. Of course we know this nation would have lost World War II without the ability to fuel our massive campaigns in north Africa, the Pacific, and of course, Europe. It was clearly the nation's willingness and ability to drill baby drill that won the wars and created in the 1950's the largest peacetime economic expansion in world history. *We must also take note that Russia and China continue to push their influence relentlessly in mineral rich places such as Africa and south East Asia.*

We clearly see the link between America's economic and national security interest to its domestic oil and gas exploration and production.

According to *Oil and Gas Journal (OGJ)*, operators will drill 42,156 wells in the US during 2013; down from an *OGJ* estimated 43,669 wells in 2012.

We must draw a clear distinction between private and public drilling rights and

policies. Just two days after President Barack Obama's re-election, the Interior Department announced a plan to shut down 1.6 million acres of federal land to oil shale development. The land had originally been slated for drilling under President George W. Bush. The point is that recent modest gas and oil-drilling gains in the US came only on private lands in spite of government regulations.

The Obama administration has embarked upon an ill-fated and incoherent energy policy. The Obama policy is driven by political cronyism and political paybacks to extreme environmentalist groups and organizations just to appease their liberal voters.

The last decade has shown a decline in the US in the importation of foreign oil. According to *Wall Street Journal*, "Crude oil imports fell 14.9 percent in March from a year earlier, to 7.46 million barrels a day, as rising domestic output continued to cut the need for foreign oil according to government data.

Imports rose 2.6 percent from February, when they hit a 17-year low of 7.27 million barrels a day, according to the Energy Information Administration.

Crude oil imports from Mexico fell 36 percent from a year earlier to the lowest

level since December 1990, at 608,000 barrels a day. Mexico, had been the second-biggest oil supplier to the U.S. as recently as January, dropped to fourth place, behind Canada, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela...

The U.S. imported 1.284 million barrels a day of crude oil from Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter. That was the most since November, but down 6.4 percent from a year earlier."

Domestic energy production is up. But that is only on private lands. The US government has all but stopped new permits to drill on federal lands. This is a clear indication that the Obama administration fails to take seriously the need for energy independence. The Obama administration seems more concerned about throwing federal dollars to its liberal cronies on untested and failing alternative fuels.

I firmly object to any attempt by the left and tree huggers to characterize the use of fossil fuels as evil, wrong or damaging. There is plenty of it and it is just and right to cultivate it. Yes, technology continues to make such exploration and use of these fuels safe and economical. However, it is not technology giving us mastery over nature, it is GOD.

FDA, continued from Page 4

also the conditions in which Salmonella thrive," says Eric Brown, Ph.D., director of FDA's Division of Microbiology. "But the tomato always presented an extra challenge because it is so short-lived. By the time it looked like contaminated tomatoes could be causing illnesses, the harvest would be gone."

So FDA's focus has changed over the last decade to reducing contamination early in tomato production. Says Brown, "The question was clear: What can we do to intervene and prevent this contamination from happening in the first place?"

So what does FDA do with all this information?

The agency's tomato research is shared on an ongoing basis with industry and agricultural extension systems at the state level. Steve Rideout, Ph.D., director of Virginia Tech's AREC, says that he and his staff exchange research findings with FDA and share that information with growers.

"There are still a lot of unknowns when it comes to contamination of tomatoes," says Michael Mahovic, Ph.D., a consumer safety officer on FDA's Produce Safety Staff. "But our research helps open a window."

Findings by FDA researchers were among the building blocks of the Proposed Produce Safety Rule mandated by the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), Mahovic says. The proposed rule would establish science-based standards for the production and harvesting of fruits and vegetables. FSMA gave FDA a mandate to imple-

ment a system that emphasizes prevention of risks to public health.

The tomato industry has worked closely with FDA in setting its own safety standards, says David Gombas, Ph.D., senior vice president of the United Fresh Produce Association. Industry-wide safety guidelines were adopted in 2008. And in 2009, the industry issued food safety and auditing standards, commonly called the Tomato Metrics, for growers, greenhouse operators, and packers.

Mahovic says FDA used these industry standards as the basis for its own draft guidance documents in 2009 that recommended ways in which microbial food safety hazards could be reduced throughout the tomato supply chain.

Gombas says the tomato industry continues to have a close working relationship with FDA, with frequent meetings and conversations about the latest research. The industry provides FDA access to farms and crops. "We're all working together on this," he says.

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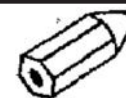
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2013 Coca-Cola Scholarship Program to give more than \$3 million dollars away

(BlackNews.com) -- The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation supports over 1,400 college students each year, with annual scholarships of \$3.45 million, through two nationally rec-

ognized programs. With the 25th class in 2013, the Foundation will have provided over 5,250 Coca-Cola Scholars with more than \$51 million in scholarships. The Coca-Cola Scholars

Program Scholarship is an achievement-based scholarship awarded to 250 high school seniors each year. Fifty of these are four-year \$20,000 scholarships; 200 are four-year \$10,000

scholarships. Students are recognized for their capacity to lead and serve, and their commitment to making a significant impact on their schools and communities.

To qualify, students must be current high school (or home-schooled) seniors attending school in the United States (or select DoD schools); U.S. Citizens; U.S. Nationals; U.S.

Permanent Residents; Temporary Residents (in a legalization program); Refugees; Asylees; Cuban-Haitian Entrants; or Humanitarian Parolees; Antic-

See DOLLARS, Page 7

PAULA, continued from Page 1

When they were done, I don't recall feeling that I had the right, from that moment on, to tag either of them with the same epithet with which they'd smeared each other, not even in the joking way they had.

"Uh, hey, cheap Jew, is it time for dinner yet, you think?"

What they did was what black psychiatrists like William Grier, Price Cobbs and Nathan Hare have called an "in-house" thing. As far as it concerned me, or anyone else who was not Jewish, or who was not MOT (Member of the Tribe), it was a fam thing, or something groups did among themselves.

Like many of you, I've also heard other tribes such as Italians and Puerto Ricans, not to mention homosexuals and women call each other the very derogatory names the larger society has smeared them with.

And no, I've not felt license or (perhaps more telling, the desire) to do the same.

Dr. Laura Schlessinger—she whose syndicated radio talk show came to a halt because of her frequent use of the n-word with an African American caller—said she couldn't understand why people with different "pigmentation" from blacks couldn't use the n-word the way blacks themselves do.

A lot of whites profess confusion about this seemingly contradictory behavior. Take our good friend Paula Deen, she in the center of a \$1.2 million lawsuit alleging racial discrimination in her Savannah restaurants. The Food Network and most sponsors have since dropped her. Paula was sobbing when apologizing recently on the "Today" show for admittedly using the n-word in what she said was an earlier life. But she still slipped in there, skillfully, I'd add, how upset she'd get when she heard her black employees calling each other the n-word.

White comedian Gary Owens has a routine in which he decides his chances of bonding with his black male friends would improve if he called them what he had so often heard them call themselves. Simulating his black friends' subsequent reaction, Owens, with accompanying sound effect, raps his mike against his head and falls to the floor just as he's saying "n." White political scientist and author Tim Wise said he actually found fellow Southerner Jeff Foxworthy's "redneck" jokes funny but would be offended if Jerry Seinfeld performed an identical act.

Why is it that so many whites don't get this?

I suspect they're lying and do know the dif. They don't have to know. The American narrative-govern-

ing race these days is that racism is no longer a problem for blacks, not a real one—this despite evidence from researchers such as Tim Wise and the National Urban League showing that it is. These folks also point out that, hey, we have a black president now. Yes, these are the same folks who did everything in their power to make sure we didn't, but why quibble? The racism-is-dead meme—or worse, blacks are just as racist if not more racist than whites—has gathered steam since the Reagan years, after the turmoil of the sixties and seventies brought into uncomfortable view images of America's treatment toward blacks.

It's the Great Wall of a lie preventing sight of the obvious truth behind it. The ma-

jority culture simply wanted the issue over and declared it so. It beat putting any serious effort into eradicating the problem. Blacks, as is the practice of many a survivor, read the writing on the metaphorical barrier.

Many quit "complaining," some even running to organizations like Fox "News" to declare their new

racial vision. Far too many blacks, period, parrot whites in averring that black use of the n-word is just as bad as white use of it.

For the record, I hate the word. I agree with Al Sharpton; I also don't see record company honchos green lighting other ethnic groups to record epithets used by others to smear their own

peeps, the way they grant such license to black rappers. I believe it's a worthy goal to have everyone stop using the n-word altogether—at least publicly. Until then, though, it will remain what it is, off limits to outsiders, no matter how much those on the inside cringingly toss it about.

Lee R. Haven is a writer in Stone Mountain, Georgia

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Keepin' It Real! Youth Summit 2013

GARLAND - The 10th Annual Keepin' It Real! Youth Summit for middle and high school students is scheduled for Aug. 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The free summit offers a day of workshops on health, wellness, finances, and other topics today's teenagers face. The day's events will include workshops and breakout sessions, a College and Community Fair, food and entertainment.

"Hundreds of middle and high school students from across the metroplex partici-

pated in last year's event and already this year, many have confirmed plans to attend. That's because the Youth Summit provides a unique opportunity for students to discuss issues and interact with professionals who serve as role models, inspiring students to greater achievements," said Sharon Jones-Scaife, Executive Director, Teens Reaching Teens, Inc.

The summit is for youth, ages 12 through 18, with a goal of providing teenagers the information and tools they need to offset issues or

enhance areas of productivity. The summit will also seek to help the youth establish a strong foundation for a successful school year and a future of achievement. Finally, teens will have an opportunity to build self-confidence and meet new friends.

Although the key focus is on learning, entertainment by local artists will feature steppers, singers and musicians. There will be free food, door prizes, and giveaways.

Also for the tenth year, Backpacking for Education



Youth participate during conference in the Youth Village.

(BFE) returns. BFE is a program that supplies attending youth with backpacks filled with school supplies for a productive school year.

The summit kicks off on Aug. 10 at 9 a.m. at North Lake College located at 5001 N. MacArthur Blvd. in Irving. Advance registration is required online at www.keepinitrealg.com or www.teengraffiti.com. For more information on sponsorship opportunities, vending or entertainment, visit the listed websites or call 972-496-9457.

Dallas celebrating Nelson Mandela Day on July 18

In 2009 the United Nations General Assembly unanimously designated July 18 (Nelson Mandela's birthday) as *Nelson Mandela International Day*. Its purpose is as an annual call to action to people everywhere to contribute to the global movement for good by affecting change within their communities.

Nelson Mandela International Day is recognized and supported by the U.S. Department of State. The Honorable Ebrahim Rasool, South African Ambassador to the U.S., has appointed the Honorable Helen Giddings, Honorary Consul



Nelson Mandela

of South Africa (and Texas State Representative) as the official representative of South Africa

regarding Nelson Mandela International Day activities and events in Texas.

On July 18, volunteers across North Texas are being asked to provide 67 minutes of public service in honor of the 67 years Nelson Mandela devoted his life to the service of humanity – as a human rights lawyer, a prisoner of conscience, an international peacemaker and the first democratically elected president of a free South Africa. These serv-

ice hours may be provided to an organization of choice. It is hoped that the organizations selected will be consistent with President Mandela's areas of focus. The attached link is a 1:40 video by United Nations Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon.

This day of service will be culminated with a celebration of Mandela's life and accomplishments at the Hall of State/Fair Park, from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday July 18 and is open to everyone.

DOLLARS,

continued from Page 6

icipating completion of high school diploma at the time of application; Planning to pursue a degree at an accredited U.S. post-secondary institution; and carrying a minimum 3.00 GPA at the end of their junior year of high school

For more details and/or to apply, visit: www.scholarshipsonline.org/2012/04/coca-cola-scholars-program.html

To search hundreds of other 2013 scholarships, visit: www.ScholarshipsOnline.org

Federal Court rules Apple violated antitrust laws

AUSTIN - A federal court found Apple Inc. unlawfully conspired with major U.S. publishers to raise the prices of electronic books. In a ruling issued by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, Apple's role in an E-books price-fixing scheme was found to violate antitrust laws.

The court's order was issued after a three-week civil antitrust trial before Judge Denise Cote, which began June 3 and ended June 20. The trial did not address the issue of monetary damages, which will be the subject of a future proceeding.



The court found that Apple played a central role in facilitating and executing the conspiracy to raise E-book prices and that Apple's orchestration of the conspiracy was necessary to its success.

The five publishers Hachette Book Group Inc.;

HarperCollins Publishers LLC; Simon & Schuster Inc.; Holtzbrinck Publishers LLC d/b/a Macmillan; and Penguin Group (USA), Inc. previously settled the states claims against them prior to trial, resulting in customers nationwide receiving \$166 million in compensation.

The litigation which included a group of 33 states led by the Texas Attorney General's Office and the U.S. Department of Justice and settlements stem from a two-year investigation conducted by the Texas Attorney General's Office, the Connecticut Attorney General's Office and the U.S. Department of Justice.

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Retiring soon? Don't forget tax implications

BY JASON ALDERMAN

If your retirement is not far off, you've probably already started to estimate what your living expenses will be after the regular paychecks stop. Most would-be retirees remember to include routine expenses like housing (rent or mortgage), medical bills and prescriptions, insurance premiums, transportation – even food and entertainment.

But don't forget to factor in taxes, which can have a substantial impact on your cost of living, depending on where you live and what your sources of retirement income will be.

Here are a few tax-related issues to consider



when budgeting for retirement:

Social Security. Most people can begin collecting Social Security benefits as early as age 62, albeit at significantly reduced amounts than waiting until

their full retirement age (65 for those born before 1938 and gradually increasing to 67 for those born in 1960 or later).

Although many states don't tax Social Security benefits, the federal gov-

ernment does. Depending on your "combined income" (adjusted gross income plus nontaxable interest earned plus half of your Social Security benefits), you could end up owing federal income tax on a portion of your bene-

fit. It's complicated, but basically:

•Single people whose combined income is less than \$25,000 aren't taxed on their Social Security benefit. For combined income between \$25,000 and \$34,000, up to 50 percent

of your benefit may be taxed. Over \$34,000, up to 85 percent may be taxable.

•For married couples filing jointly: benefits aren't taxable for combined income below \$32,000; benefits for income between

See **RETIRING**, Page 11

GARCIA, continued from Page 3

we share a common destiny."

Our Declaration of Independence only came to pass when individuals from vastly different geographies and ideologies came together and, through civil discourse, outlined what they could agree was the best common destiny for all Americans.

Those who shaped our Constitution fought bitterly over its wording. But they eventually put partisanship aside to produce a document that's become a model for emerging democracies ever since.

Without that commitment to a common destiny, we Americans might never have found a way to emancipate the slaves, grant women the right to vote, put an astronaut on the moon, and elect a minority to the presidency of our great land.

Yes, individual freedom is the bedrock of what makes people all over the world aspire to become Americans. But the core of our strength as a nation lies in the phrase found on our Great Seal – E Pluribus Unum ... Out of Many, One.

When you are celebrating among many this Independence Day, enjoying hot dogs, laughter and fireworks, I hope you will join me in a moment of gratitude. Let us all be grateful that we live in a country that lets us be individuals yet challenges us to keep working toward that one common destiny that we, our children, and our children's children can't help but take pride in.

God bless America.

Elba Garcia

WILLIAMS, continued from Page 1

graduating from the program convinced Williams to create a dance company so that they would not have to leave the program or the bond that they had established with her. Williams eventually yielded to their request and created Dallas Black Dance Theatre in 1976.

In 36 years, Dallas Black Dance Theatre has impacted the city, state and the nation. It has served over 3 million arts patrons and over 2 million arts students have attended DBDT performances worldwide. Dallas Black

Dance Theatre has performed in 30 states, 14 countries and 5 continents; the Company has toured Peru, South Africa, Austria, Uganda, Japan, Great Britain, Italy, Canada and many other countries elevating its international reputation. DBDT has been designated as an "American Masterpiece Touring Artist" by the National Endowment for the Arts.

In 1999, DBDT purchased the historic Moorland YMCA (a Texas Historical site) on Flora Street which now serves as its

permanent home for studio and office space. In 2009, DBDT helped open the AT&T Performing Arts Center as a resident company of the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre.

A national search will begin to name a replacement for Williams. A committee has been designated to review candidates for the prestigious position.

"It is time to pass the reins," said Williams. "It was never my intent to die in this position," she added with a smile.

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The Marketing Lady enjoys inspiring business owners to take action

BY: SHENICE SANDERS,
NDG INTERN

We have all heard the question a hundred times at networking events, “what do you do?” Sometimes the answer can change your destiny.

When someone asked the familiar question to Tarsha Polk, she replied marketing, and they responded, “Oh yea I know you, you are ‘the marketing lady.’” Polk realized then people only remember her brand and not her name, from that point on she adopted the creative moniker The Marketing Lady for her business.

For over ten years Polk’s marketing savvy has assisted small business owners looking to market their products or services. In addition to public speaking, Polk has served as a coach and personal brand strategist.

“I help come up with marketing strategies, branding ideas for social media, and email, etc. I help my client choose their target audience and their focus group,” shared Polk. “When you are just getting into owning your own product, it is best to focus on one target audience even though you want to appeal to everyone in reality your greater chance of succeeding is by appealing to a certain group of people.”

What makes a good businesswoman? Is it her knowledge and understanding of a business, or is it her drive and determination to make her business successful by any means possible. Polk has all those characteristics and more.

Polk’s career started when she “fired her boss,”

or as others might say, when she quit her day job in corporate America. She took the plunge, because she did not want anyone in control of her destiny or life. So, Polk stepped out on faith and took a different approach when it came to her career. First, she started networking and then was encouraged to start her own marketing business. Now with this thought in mind, Polk continued to network but this time she was promoting her business, not looking for her next job.

Polk travels all around the country and speaks to small business owners and corporate leaders. She presents programs on personal branding, marketing strategy, entrepreneurship and goal setting. Polk gives her audience many ideas to use as they begin to effectively build a platform and marketing strategy for their business. She also provides strategic tips on successfully growing their business successfully while remaining “current” in the marketplace.

“What I enjoy about public speaking is inspiring people to take action. Encouraging people to take action on their product and know that with the right plan you can succeed. I love helping people accomplish their goals and telling people about my story, so they can see and hear for themselves that it is possible and it can happen to you. I enjoy seeing the impact of what my message can do for a single audience,” stated Polk.

“Being in this business for ten years you learn so much that you feel you



Tarsha Polk

have to share with others to inform them on tricks of the trade,” Polk said.

While Polk enjoys being in control of her own destiny, she is the first to acknowledge being an entrepreneur is not a cakewalk. You have to work hard for everything. If you only work 80 percent, then you only bring home 80

percent. Therefore Polk lives by this statement, “your net worth is rooted in your network.” She feels blessed to have built a broad network, which al-

lows her to speak to different markets. Social media is key tool for broadening Polk’s network. In the beginning Polk acquired clients by networking, but over time and with the growth of her business and reputation, clients were obtained through references, public speaking, social media and

include the City of Dallas and Dallas Housing Authority. One of her premier clients was the National League for Super Bowl 45 in Dallas.

Once the client signs a contract, Polk then schedules a one on one to discuss the client’s key objectives so she can map out their marketing game plan. One of the biggest misconceptions she has noticed is that a lot of her clients want to appeal to everyone.

“Everyone wants their product or even themselves for that matter to appeal to everyone and it just doesn’t work like that. Yes will majority of people be interested in your product and buy it, of course they will, but if you spend a little bit more time and concentrate on who you would appeal to than you will have return buyers and customer instead of one time buyers. The key to a business in understanding your audience,” stated Polk.

Polk works with service based professionals, independent professionals, financial advisors and trainers and coaches like herself. Polk’s business is a minority owned business on the local and state level. She prefers to be a minority owned because one of the advantages is, government agencies must set aside a percentage that they receive from purchases to minority or women owned business and must attempted to market their needs to those groups. She is a part of two certification programs, The North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency and the Minority Supplier Development Council.

Polk is not concerned with women owned business losing ground as certificated programs move from women owned businesses to small business.

“The government can see how fast minority owned businesses are growing, and in most cases growing faster than men, I am not concerned nor worried,” stated Polk.

Polk’s future is so bright; she just recently celebrated owning her own business for ten successful years. She is now looking forward to expanding her business, “I have made quite a name for myself here in Dallas and I am ready to branch out and expand into more of a national presence,” stated Polk. She looks forward seeing what God has in store for her.

The advice Polk would give to any one starting out in entrepreneurship is “really developed a support system, talk to as many people that has been in this industry to see what it is really like and what it takes to be successful, find a mentor, coach or trainer to help guide you.”

Polk is very passionate about what she does, and loves helping people reach their goal. “Some people have a goal but don’t know where to start, that’s where I come in to give them that push that drive and advice to help them succeed,” stated Polk.

As the great Estee Lauder would say “I didn’t get there by wishing for it or hoping for it but working for it.”

To get more information on The Marketing Lady visit Polk’s website at: TheMarketingLady.com.

"I love helping people accomplish their goals and telling people about my story, so they can see and hear for themselves that it is possible and it can happen to you. I enjoy seeing the impact of what my message can do for a single audience,"
Polk shared.

Her roster of clients in-

Paris Jackson denied admission to rehab facility

BY COURTNEY JACOBS
SPECIAL TO THE NNPA
FROM THE AFRO-
AMERICAN NEWSPAPER

A Utah substance abuse treatment center has reportedly refused to accept Paris Jackson, the 15-year-old daughter of pop music icon Michael Jackson, for treatment of behavior disorders, according to news reports.

According to the website TMZ, a rehabilitation center in Utah that has not been identified, rejected the request of the Jackson girl's mother for admission, citing the prospects of disruptive attention from media, especially paparazzi, on the treatment facility.

Jackson has been hospitalized since June 5 after



Paris Jackson

what California first responders described as an apparent suicide attempt. She was treated for what appeared to be self-inflicted cuts on her wrists and for ingestion of a possible hazardous amount of pain-killers at UCLA Medical Center, the same place where her father was

pronounced dead four years ago.

Jackson's mother Debbie Rowe, in a Twitter post, said, "My daughter has asked that I extend a huge thank you for all of your thoughts and prayers and support. She is strong like her father."

NDG Gossip: 50 Cent charged with domestic violence

BY NDG INTERN,
SHENICE SANDERS

The 37-year-old artist known as 50 Cent, whose real name is Curtis Jackson, was charged with one count of domestic violence and four counts of vandalism from an altercation with ex-girlfriend Daphne Joy on June 23.

Daphne Joy, who was born in the Philippines, has a baby by the rapper and is now focusing on safety for the child and herself, said Jim Yeager, a spokesman for the Los Angeles law firm of Meyer, Olson, Lowy & Meyers, which is representing her.

The rapper is accused of breaking into Daphne's home in Toluca Lake, California and kicking her. He reportedly also caused over \$7,000 of damage to her property. It is alleged the rapper broke chandeliers, furniture, a TV and a lamp.



50 Cent & Daphne Joy

City attorney Mike Feuer said: "Regardless of perceived celebrity or notoriety, domestic violence is a serious crime and alleged perpetrators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law by this office."

"We will continue to look out for the safety of all

victims of domestic violence and seek justice for the alleged crimes."

50 Cent is scheduled to appear in court on July 22 and if convicted could be sentenced to five years in jail and almost \$46,000 in fines.

RAY, continued from Page 2

Francis Ray was a wife, a mother and nurse. But she found time to partner with Emma Rodgers to create the Romance Slam Jam in 1995, bringing together African American readers and authors. The event launched at Black Images but now travels around the nation. Next year they will pay tribute to Francis Ray at

the Romance Jam 2014 in New Orleans May 7-11. Registration details are available at <http://www.romanceslamjam.org/>.

The family shared details on the upcoming funeral via Facebook and they include:

Viewing is Friday July 12 from 4-7 p.m. at Concord Church located at 6808

Pastor Bailey Dr in Dallas. There will also be a viewing before the funeral between 9:30-11:00 am

The service is Saturday July 13 at 11 a.m. also at Concord.

For those wanting to send cards to the family, please send to: Francis Ray; P. O. Box 764651; Dallas, TX 75376

CAREER, continued from Page 1

"This legislation represents one of the best investments Texas can make in its people," said Priscilla Kimery Executive Director of Skill Quest in Dallas. "The Network of Texas IAF Organizations and its allies are developing the workforce that our 21st century economy demands and that its business community deserves."

The 'Texas Innovative Adult Career Education Grant Fund' continues the Launchpad Fund (NTO initiated the process to establish the fund in 2009) which provides state grants to innovative workforce intermediaries that partner with community

colleges, public technical institutes and businesses. The workforce intermediaries develop the capacity of under-educated and under-employed adults through certified training. With the support of wrap-around services, graduates obtain a certificate or associate degree and move out of poverty and into family-wage jobs with benefits and a career path.

NTO, and its legislative allies, won passage of the bill with overwhelming bipartisan support in the Texas House and Senate. Texas Senators Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, Kel Seliger, and Leticia Van de Putte, plus Representatives John Davis,

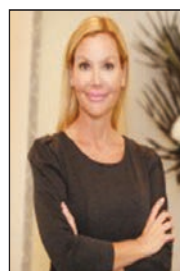
Sylvester Turner and Mike Villarreal all played critical roles.

Community colleges cite the Texas IAF workforce intermediaries as valuable partners in improving rates of retention and graduation among non-traditional students.

The Network of Texas IAF Organizations (NTO) consists of twelve IAF organizations that have advocated for changes that strengthen Texas for over 30 years. Among other things, NTO was responsible for the creation of six workforce intermediaries that trained 11,000 workers for hard-to-fill positions.

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Is your financial ship leaking?

As you may remember from your history books, Benjamin Franklin was an amazing figure of 18th century. The brilliant scientist/inventor, prolific author, and renowned statesman is credited with helping define our American values of thrift, hard work, education, and community spirit. I think it's appropriate that he shows up on our hundred dollar bills because his adages about money are as pertinent today as they were three centuries ago.

Some of Franklin's sayings are familiar to all of us – so familiar that we tend to not really pay attention to

their wisdom. Other Franklin quotes aren't as well known. But I think much of his wisdom bears repeating – and applying – today.

"Beware of little expenses. A small leak will sink a ship." When trying to right their financial ship, many people consider only their large expenditures. They look into refinancing the house or cutting memberships at the club. But what can be equally important is identifying those small leaks. These are usually areas of spending that are almost unconscious: the latte on the way to work



each day, the extra \$15 per month on cable channels you don't watch, the additional money spent on "name brand" groceries.

The first step to plugging these leaks is to identify them. Note each small spending habit and add up its annual cost. Next, ask yourself, "Do these small expenditures really make a

difference to me? Do they really add to the quality of my life? Or are they just habits that could be eliminated or changed?"

"If you know how to spend less than you get, you have the philosopher's stone." In ancient alchemy, the philosopher's stone was said to be the elixir of life able to give you immortality and even turn lead into gold! In Franklin's mind, being able to spend less than you earn was equally valuable. In our credit-driven world, many people have lost sight of how to do this, and how satisfying it feels when we do.

The first step toward living within your means if you aren't doing so is to get very clear about exactly what your net income is and what your current expenses are, including the inevitable unexpected expenses such as auto and home repairs. With this information, you can begin to design a solid spending plan that makes sense based on current realities. Look at your income and expense line by line. Where can you make adjustments? There are many software programs for doing this, but even listing your expenses and income on a legal pad works.

"A penny saved is a penny earned." Over the past decades, we've seen a lot of emphasis on so-called investing. I say "so-called" because many common investment vehicles, such as real estate and the stock market, are really risky gambles our recent recession has made painfully clear!

In today's world, it may not seem very sexy, but to build true financial security, consistent saving is critical. Personally, I like the time-tested "10/10/10 Savings Formula." It may seem like a stretch at first, but work

See SHIP, Page 16

RETIRING, continued from Page 8

\$32,000 and \$44,000 are up to 50 percent taxable; over \$44,000 – up to 85 percent taxable.

•To learn more about taxation of Social Security benefits, read IRS Publication 915 at www.irs.gov.

Some people discover after beginning to collect a reduced Social Security benefit that they can't make ends meet and must go back to work, which can backfire: If your annual wages exceed \$15,120, you will lose \$1 of Social Security benefits for every \$2 you earn over that amount (investment income doesn't count.)

Rest assured, however: These benefit reductions are not completely lost: Your Social Security benefit will be increased upon reaching full retirement age to account for benefits withheld due to earlier earnings.

IRA and 401(k) withdrawals. After age 59 ½, you can start withdrawing balances from your IRA without paying the 10 percent early withdrawal penalty – although exceptions are made in cases including disability, qualified first-time homebuyer distributions and certain medical expenses. However, you will pay federal (and state, if applicable) income tax on IRA withdrawals – except for Roth IRAs held at least five years, whose contributions have already been taxed.

With 401(k) plans, you can withdraw funds after age 55 without the 10 percent

penalty if you are no longer employed by the company sponsoring the plan.

Other taxes. Some people move to another state after retirement thinking they'll lower their tax burden. For example, seven states do not tax personal income; however, another two tax only dividend and interest income. And five states charge no sales tax. But because other taxes and cost-of-living expenses vary significantly by community, you should only consider such moves after doing thorough research.

The Retirement Living Information Center (www.retirementliving.com) features breakdowns of the various kinds of taxes seniors are likely to pay, state by state, including those on income, sales, fuel, property and inheritances.

Bottom line: Be sure to

consult a financial advisor long before retirement to make sure you fully understand all the many tax and income implications.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney



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Hobby Lobby is a leader in the Arts & Crafts industry with 530 stores and growing located in 46 states. Candidates must have previous retail store management experience in one of the following:

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www.hobbylobby.com
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<p>Weeknights Cheryl's World provides informative talk, commentary and interesting guests tune in week-nights at 6 p.m., Sundays 8 a.m. & Saturdays at Noon on Blog Talk Radio or call 646-200-0459 to listen.</p> <p>Daily Personal Views: Texas Black Folk Artists at African American Museum, 3536 Grand Ave.; 214-565-9026</p> <p>Every Monday FREE CITIZENSHIP CLASSES at Irving Central Public Library - Each participant will be assisted to fil out the naturalization application. Free assistance from immigration attorneys. You do not need to know English to participate. Each Monday from 6 to 8 p.m. at 801 W. Irving Blvd</p> <p>Every Tuesday Dallas Comedy House</p>	<p>Open Mic at 2645 Commerce St; 214-741-4448</p> <p>Saturdays in July Addison Summer Series from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Beckert Park</p> <p>Saturdays in August Addison Summer Series from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Beckert Park</p> <p>Through July 13 City of Angels at Theatre Three, http://www.theatre3dallas.com/</p> <p>Through July 30 Writing Mechanics July at Discover Church in Irving</p> <p>July 12 First-no Second-Friday Book Synopsis at Park City Club in Dallas</p> <p>2013 S.T.A.N.D National Women's Conference at The Fairmont Dallas in Dallas</p> <p>Themusefeed.com- Fall Preview at South Side on</p>	<p>Lamer in Dallas</p> <p>July 13 Short Film Festival at Dupree Theatre starting at 7:00 p.m. www.irvingartscenter.com</p> <p>Pediatric Palooza at Park Lane Event Center in Dallas</p> <p>Alamo Drafthouse Free Outdoor Summer Series: Dazed and Confused starting at 6:30 p.m. at Alamo Draft-house Cinema</p> <p>July 12-14 Taste of Dallas at Fair Park</p> <p>Rep Ya City- TheTV Show Dallas at Double-Tree Hilton Hotel Dallas</p> <p>July 14 Annie Get Your Gun at First Methodist Church</p> <p>VBS- Christmas in July at Harmony Tabernacle on 200 Rea Ave, Lancaster, TX, 75146</p>	<p>NTen North Texas/Dallas gathering at Blue Mesa Grill in Dallas</p> <p>SheWear HairCare Annual Convention at Laquint Inns & Suites in Cedar Hill</p> <p>July 23 The DEC Open House at the Dallas Entrepreneur Center</p> <p>Dallas DEMA Meeting at the New Life Hard-wood Floors Event Center and Showroom</p> <p>July 24 GE Employment Workshop at Richland College in Dallas</p> <p>July 25 July Winnie & Kat Opportunity Event at Coffee House Café in Dallas</p> <p>Selling to the City of Dallas at Bill J. Priest Campus Ecc in Dallas</p> <p>July 27 Dallas Comic Book</p>	<p>Convention W/ Batman artist at Doubletree Dallas Market Center</p> <p>Verbal Intimacy: "The Experience" at Life in Deep Ellum in Dallas</p> <p>July 28 Strikes for Strays Bowling and Silent Auction Event at Plano Super Bowl, Plano from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (972) 835-6006</p> <p>July 26- 29 Positive space The Workshop presented by Dallas Repertoire Ballet at Academy of Dance Arts starting at 9:00 a.m. Breehafen. com/positive-space</p> <p>August 5 Get Your Life On Track Workshops at Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Dallas Ft. Worth Airport North starting at 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>August 6 First Tuesday DFW Au-</p>	<p>gust starting at 5:30 p.m. at Back 9 Sports Grill</p> <p>August 8 Highland Park Film Festival and the Dallas Film Society Presents the Man who shot Liberty Valance at Texas Theatre in Dallas</p> <p>August 9 The Declare Conference 2013 at Dallas Marriott Las Colinas starting at 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Modere August Pre-launch Summit at Marriott Dallas starting at 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>August 10 Life Coaching Certification In Dallas at Hilton Garden Inn Dallas starting at 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>October 26 Teacher Seller Conference (Dallas) at Hilton Garden Inn DFW Airport South starting at 9:00 a.m.</p>
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RFP NO.: 302-710-CS-RFP
be submitted before
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July 17, 2013.

Project consists of a new
750 vehicle, 320,700 sqft
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will be cast-in place concrete
with post-tensioning.

Bid documents are
available for review
at McCarthy's Private
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A payment and
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WRIGHT, continued from Page 2

Dr. Ray Winbush (Baltimore, Maryland) - Professor Morgan State University, nationally acclaimed author and scholar

Local and regional representatives from over 50 African and Caribbean organizations will participate in this historic gathering which represents for the first time in American history Immigrant Africans and African Americans will meet and discuss issues of importance to both groups. Also joining the participants will be scholarly grassroots organizers and NBUF activist from across the country who work in the areas of social justice, spirituality and political/economic issues.

On Friday and Saturday the site of the Convention will move to The Black Academy of Arts and Letters (TBAAL) Dallas Convention Center Theater Complex 650 S. Griffith St., Dallas, Texas 75202. Two days of workshops addressing important issues facing Africans around the world will be presented.

On Saturday night, July 13 The Honorable Samia Nkrumah will deliver the

keynote address at the NBUF National Banquet.

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The North Central Texas Council of Governments is requesting consultant services for the Blacklands Corridor Feasibility Study. This multi-modal feasibility study will evaluate the need for a new transportation facility along or near the Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District (NETEX) right-of-way from IH 30 in Hunt County to the President George Bush Turnpike in Dallas County. The study will also identify phases for potential project implementation and provide an analysis of the Texas Turnpike Corporation's proposal for a toll road in the Blacklands Corridor between US 69 in Greenville and SH 78 in Lavon. This corridor has been identified for near-term continued development and evaluation in the Mobility 2035 - 2013 Update, and the results of this feasibility study will be incorporated into the development of the next Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Proposals must be received no later than 5:00 pm, on Friday, July 19, 2013, to Chad McKeown, Principal Transportation Planner, 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, June 28, 2013.

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Mondays – Fridays

Call 972-423-8833 for AFFECT, Inc. or email: AFFECT-TxInc@aol.com for counseling services, resources and assistance for job readiness and training programs for individuals.

July 14, 8 a.m.

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

Brother Ramon Hodridge,
Minister of Education
1026 Avenue F
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8833

www.avefchurchofchrist.org

**BIBLE WAY
COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH**

July 13, 9 a.m.

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

July 17, 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
Irving, TX 75062
972-257-3766
www.biblewayirving.org

**CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH
IN RICHARDSON**

July 14, 8:45 or 11 a.m.

Join us in our Worship Services as we honor and praise God for His blessings to us.

Dr. Terrence Autry,
Senior Pastor
George Bush Fwy at
Jupiter Road on the
Garland/Richardson Border
972-991-0200
www.followpeace.org

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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@the-ship3c.org

**July 14, 8 a.m.
And 9:30 a.m.**

You're invited to our 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.

July 17, 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.)

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

**SHILOH MBC
IN PLANO**

**July 14
8 a.m. and 11 a.m.**

Join us for our Father's Day 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.

July 17, 7 p.m.

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

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**

July 14, 7:30 a.m.
Join us this Father's Day as we worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name.

July 15, 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
7701 S Westmoreland Road
Dallas, TX 75237
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www.ibocjoy.org

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

Early Prayer, 5 a.m.

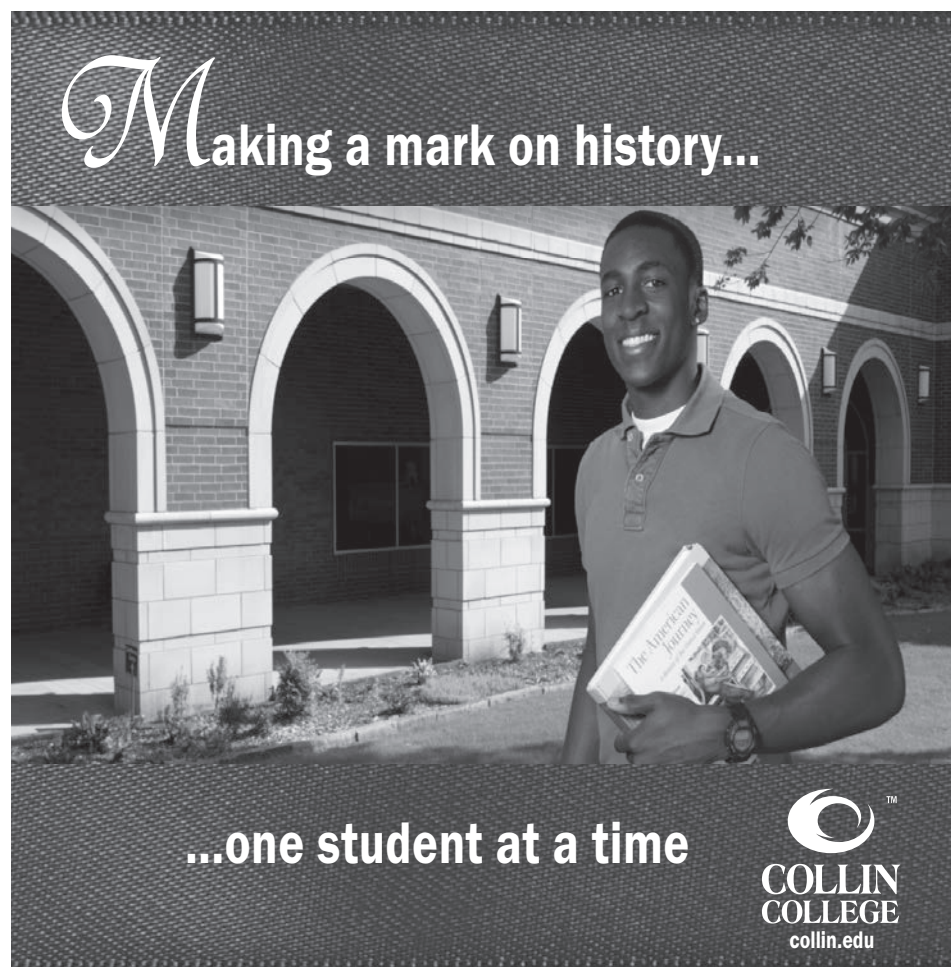
Join us in prayer early in the morning at 5 a.m. on Monday – Thursday at 1-661-673-8600, Code # 142219 and please put your phone on mute. God will meet you and prayer does change people, things and situations.

July 14, 9:30 a.m.

Join us for Sunday School with Elder/Superintendent

Greg Mason; Sis. Vicki Mason, adult class teacher and Evangelist Elizabeth McAfee, children class teacher and Director of our children's choir. Then stay for Morning Service at 11 a.m. as we worship, honor and praise God for His goodness.

Dr. Gregory E. Voss,
Senior Pastor
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- Sunday Morning Prayer 9:30 am
- Sunday Service 10:00 am
- Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm

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Pastor Dr. W.L. Stafford, Sr.

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8:00 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship
Story Elementary
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Allen, TX 75002
9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Night Live
200 W. Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
7:00 p.m.

Nathan Stafford

Lady Tasha Stafford



**Sister
Tarpley**

Send email to: salesmanager@northdallasgazette.com to sign up for Sister Tarpley's weekly electronic newsletter.

"Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the Lord as he did - with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength, in accordance with all the Law of Moses." **2 Kings 23:25**

What type of person does God raise up when a nation becomes synonymous with idol worship and sin as our nation is today?

God's judgment always follows the sin of a nation. With the condition of people in today's society; it seems as if nothing is sacred and nothing is wrong, people are doing whatever seems right in their own eyes.

If there were ever a time we needed God to raise up Godly leaders in our cities, states and nations, it is now; leaders who fear God. Politicians, CEO's, managers, pastors, etc. who have the bravery to bring our

cities, states and nations back to God's righteousness.

As Christians we need to humble ourselves and pray that God brings forth Godly leaders into our cities and nations.

At that time in history, God raised up Josiah, a leader that had the courage to destroy the evil and bring the nation back to God. "The nation of Israel had been led away from God by Manasseh who reigned in Jerusalem fifty-five years.

Manasseh did evil in the eyes of the Lord, following the detestable practices of the nations the Lord had driven out before the Israelites." **2 Kings 21:1-2**

Manasseh's son Amon reigned for twenty-two years after him and was also wicked. But, Amon's son was named Josiah and became king at eight years old after his father was assassinated.

"Josiah did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and walked in all the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left." **2 Kings 23:8**

Josiah was a courageous leader. "Nevertheless, the Lord did not turn away from the heat



David Lott has been selected as a model for Muff Toys for 2013; his parents are Bill and Sheila Tarpley Lott, the first grandson of Sister Tarpley. Congratulations David, we're proud of you!

of His fierce anger, which burned against Judah because of all that Manasseh had done to provoke Him to anger.

So the Lord said, 'I will remove Judah also from my presence as I removed Israel, and I will reject Jerusalem, the city I chose, and this temple, about which I said, 'There shall My name be.'" **2 Kings 22:13**

God responded to the Godly reforms that Josiah brought to his nation. "Because your heart was

responsive and you humbled yourself before the Lord. . . Therefore I will gather you to your fathers, and you will be buried in peace. Your eyes will not see all the disaster I am going to bring on this place.'" **2 Kings 22:19-20**

Our cities, states and nations must pay for their sins against God. They must answer for their ungodly ways. God said that all souls are His but the soul that sin shall die.

But God in His infinite mercy has given us a way out. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will

forgive their sin, and will heal their land." **2 Chronicles 7:14**

As Christians, let's do what it takes to bring our cities states and nations back to God's righteousness so that our land can be healed.



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The Prayer Proposal

BY BEN HAITH

Prayer has become trivialized in the USA, because of the faith-based ministries on television. Their central interest is getting money from the people? This turns off our young people.

The Prayer Proposal recommends these faith-based organizations teach all people what prayer really is: a prayer education.

Prayer is for everyone regardless of faith. Prayer comes from an internal and external source. It is not manmade. This is why people pray when they have trouble in their lives. Prayer is a natural way of communicating with those forces.

These faith-based organizations should teach our youth to pray for success, but not to hurt anyone in their pursuit of success and happiness.

These faith-based organization should teach everyone prayer is not necessarily connected to any specific faith or religion, anyone can pray, even the people who don't believe in prayer.

Prayer is a people thing, not a religion thing.

People who don't pray, sometimes don't pray because of the faith-based organizations on television in the USA who project drama and craziness?

Some people pray and don't realize they are praying (read definition above).

Also, prayer is for everybody regardless of race, gender, status, age, etc. That is why prayer is so powerful in everyone's life.

For more information, email lifeisfullofsurprises@inbox.com or visit www.june-teenthflag.com.

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NDG Bookshelf



BY TERRI
SCHLICHENMEYER

Have you heard about....?

Those are four words that are music to your ears. You hear them, and you lean in close because you know you're about to hear something too juicy to ignore, something too cool to avoid, something you absolutely must know.

Gossip is fun and you love hearing it – until you're on the receiving end. And in the new book *Rumor*

Central by Re-shonda Tate Billingsley, one tattle-tale finds her tail in a bunch of trouble.

Nobody in South Florida under the age of 21 missed an episode of *Miami Divas*.

Starring Maya Morgan, the show also featured her friends and classmates as they partied, shopped, and dished on must-haves for everyone who was anyone. They had the best of everything; they were style-makers. Every week, the ratings were off the chain – so it was a surprise to Maya that the show got cancelled.

But the producers had another little surprise for her: they wanted Maya to star in a new TV program

Rumor Central misses the mark



that would be filled with gossip.

They wanted Maya – but not her friends.

This, of course, made Bali, Shay, and Sheridan jealous. Weren't they all for one, and one for all? Maya

didn't think so. Why couldn't they understand that this was the opportunity her fabulous self deserved? It was what she'd been waiting for, for ages.

Yes, her friends were jealous – green with envy, in fact, because Maya was meeting and hanging with all kinds of stars and making all kinds of money. They were jealous enough to try and ruin what Maya was doing. One of them even stole Maya's boyfriend, so imagine how happy they were when the new show, *Rumor Central*, flopped.

To boost ratings and save the show, Maya had to come up with some real gossip. It had to be sensa-

tional – something that would make Miami stand up and notice. Fortunately, Maya's former-friends had been pretty loose with their lips and she knew a lot of secrets. So, while a totally nerdy classmate did her schoolwork for her, Maya Morgan went on-camera and spilled Miami's hottest gossip.

But someone wanted her to keep her mouth shut. Someone wanted to nix the news. And for Maya Morgan, payback would be a...

Okay, I hated Maya Morgan. She's nasty, self-centered, spoiled, obnoxious, and not very nice. I've never wanted a come-uppance for a character more than I wanted it for her.

Hated. Her.

Yep, Maya's a total brat who only *kind-of-almost* learns a lesson in this book (the first in a new series) – and that "almost" wasn't near enough to endear her to me one bit. Author Reshonda Tate Billingsley has made Maya just too selfishly incorrigible, and it's hard to feel anything for the girl but a lingering distaste.

I can handle a dastardly character – most good fiction has at least one – but the villain in this book is insufferably awful. Try this book if you must. Give it a whirl if you have to – but to me, "Rumor Central" is nothing to whisper about.

SHIP, continued from Page 11

towards setting aside 10% of your income for short term needs, 10% for mid-term needs and potential emergencies, and 10% for long-term retirement planning. This will put you in control of your money and finances.

"He that can have patience will have what he will." We live in an instant gratification, microwave, fast food, "have it all and have it now" culture. Most of us aren't good at taking the long-term perspective that our forefathers had. But we also have seen that the promises of fast returns by many conventional in-

vestments are about as substantial as those obviously suspicious get rich quick schemes!

Just like building your career or getting an education, building a strong financial foundation takes time. But we are all able to get to the financial security we desire if we take the long view and adjust our habits to plant seeds for the future.

"Tomorrow every fault is corrected. But tomorrow never comes." How often do we put off a change we know we should make? We'll start exercising when the weather gets better or

find time for our mate when the kids are grown. In terms of money matters, it may have seemed reasonable to put off making any changes until the economy gets better, you get that promotion, or you no longer have college expenses. But as Benjamin Franklin wisely noted, tomorrow never comes. The time to start securing your financial future is today.

Whatever your financial circumstances, you can take steps today – even if it's just small ones – to move toward your financial goals. And as soon as you take positive action, you

will reap the reward of more peace of mind.

I'll end with one last quote from the man who graces our hundred dollar bills: "The Constitution only gives people the right to pursue happiness. You have to catch it yourself."

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