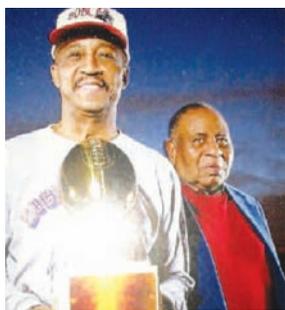




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Hamilton Park High School and Prairie View A&M University share a proud historical legacy of education

BY GWENDA JACKSON,
NDG SPECIAL
CONTRIBUTOR



There are two special events that took place in 1961 and both made history. On August 4, 1961, the first Black President of the United States, Barack Obama was born, and four months later on Dec 16, 1961, Hamilton Park High School captured the title as "Class A Division Texas State Champions."

Richard Bonner is shown in a recent photograph with the game trophy with the late Head Coach and former Principal of Hamilton Park School, Mr. James O. Griffin.

In 1961, desegregation of public schools in Texas had not taken place and many Texas black high school sports programs including state football championships, were under UIL connections managed under the largest black college in

See LEGACY, Page 6

COVER STORY

The Affordable Health Care Act and its impact on Texans



See HEALTH, Page 9

The popularity of Black Science Fiction is rising

BY STAFFORD L. BATTLE



BlackNews.com -- October has been dubbed African American Speculative Fiction Month by a group of online enthusiasts. This was done to acknowledge the writers, artists, entertainers and independent publishers around the

country and elsewhere who are producing science fiction narratives, performances and

art featuring Afrocentric themes. African Americans also use October to celebrate the merger of science and the arts via AFROFuturism.

Speculative fiction encourages people to look beyond their day-to-day existence and consider new possibilities that could benefit and

enrich their lives. AFROFuturism incorporates novels, short stories, comic books, graphic arts, music, dance, video and other artistic forms that embrace science fiction and fantasy -- for entertainment, encouragement and education.

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Jennifer Hudson supports Obamacare with Funny or Die video

See FUNNY, Page 10

COMMENTARY

GOP continue their assault on Obama with shutdown and debt ceiling faceoffs

BY JULIANNE MALVEAUX

(NNPA) At press time, it was unclear whether Congress would finally evade a government shutdown on October 1. I do know, however, that I am sick of the budgetary brinkmanship that plagues our government. Every few months there is some crisis or another that has the House of Representatives and the White House at loggerheads. This time, Republicans in Congress want to defund Obamacare as part of the

budget that must be passed and say they are willing to let government close to meet their goal. Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid says that Republicans are holding a gun to the American people's heads and he isn't lying.

It doesn't stop on October 1. The back-and-forth exists because Congress has not passed a budget the way it normally does since 2009. Now, government operates through a series of

See SHUTDOWN, Page 3

When it comes to health, place matters

BY BRIAN SMEDLEY

(America's Wire Writers Group) The implementation of the Affordable Care Act is an achievement Americans can be proud of. Making sure that all our brothers and sisters, children and grandchildren, have proper health insurance makes us a stronger, more prosperous



Brian Smedley

nation.

Amid this important change, however, we cannot ignore the work that remains to be done, especially in communities of color. Insurance cards are not enough.

To become a society with better health - not just better health coverage - we

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People In The News...

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Coco Jones



Neferteri Shepherd



Dymond Hayes

In September over 31,000 visited NorthDallasGazette.com - news added daily!

Coco Jones

LOS ANGELES – Actor Hal Sparks and actress, singer and dancer Coco Jones are set to join Halloween-expert Martha Stewart as judges of the first-ever nationwide 50-state costume competition at the star-studded *Hub Network's First Annual Halloween Bash* airing Saturday, October 26, 7-9 p.m. CT/ on the Hub Network, a destination for kids and their families. *Saturday Night Live* actor and comedian, Kenan Thompson, is host of the one-of-a-kind

two-hour special.

Hal Sparks is an actor, comedian and musician whose credits include the feature films *Spider-Man 2*, *Slip Away* and *Extract* with actress Mila Kunis. Sparks is currently a lead actor on the popular live-action series *Lab Rats* and has appeared on *Talk Soup* and *Celebrity Duet*.

Jones' video for *Holla* at the DJ has over 2.8 million video views and garnered praise from MTV News, which likened Jones' video performance to a

"young Beyoncé." Jones' most recent hit, "Made Of," was released in March, and she is currently in the studio co-writing and recording all-new original music for her Hollywood Records album debut, expected to release in 2014.

Recently, Jones took home her first Radio Disney Music Award for the *Funniest Celebrity Tak* and also performed her popular song *World Is Dancing*. This summer, Jones toured the U.S. with boy band *Mindless Behavior* and then with Austin Mahone in August and September. Jones appeared as herself in the TV



show, *Good Luck Charlie*. Recent acclaim includes her feature on *Essence.com* in *35 Under 35: Young, Black, and Amazing* which places her among the likes of Jennifer Hudson, Alicia Keys, and Beyoncé.

In preparation for the "Halloween Bash," the Hub Network launched a nationwide costume competition. Fifty semi-finalists representing each state in America will win a trip to Los Angeles to be a part of the two-hour star-studded event. One lucky winner will take home \$25,000 and will have a chance at a walk-on

See JONES, Page 7

Nefeteri Shepherd

(BlackNews.com) – Former Playboy Playmate Nefeteri Shepherd always had an eye for business. Even as a young model, she knew a bad contract when she saw one. But after being a Playboy Playmate, a fashion model and television show host, Shepherd is joining with leading financial technology firm SMART Payment Plan to launch the "Debt Reduction Tour" across the country to help consumers reduce their debt.

"These days everyone is having to deal with the bad economy and a sometimes burdening debt and I want to let people know that there are ways to get help," said Shepherd who will participate in part of the tour as celebrity spokeswoman and by meeting consumers.

"As a mom I understand how difficult it is to manage a household in a tough economy, and how many other moms are struggling to make ends meet. So when I was asked to partic-



ipate in this tour, I knew I wanted to join in and help."

This month, SMART Payment Plan, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, is touring the country in a specially-equipped RV to educate consumers about ways they can reduce their debt and live easier lives. The RV will travel across the U.S. hitting a number of states like Texas, Utah, Colorado, Illinois and many others before concluding in November.

"We're very excited and pleased to have Nefeteri join us in this effort to help

Americans reduce their debt and make their lives a little easier," said David Engleman, CEO of SMART Payment Plan.

SMART Payment Plan's technology simplifies the bill paying process by automatically deducting smaller bill and loan payments from a client's bank account on a schedule that coincides with their pay schedule. By making smaller payments that match paydays, clients are able to pay off debt faster and save money by reducing the amount of interest they are charged.

See SHEPHERD, Page 11

Dymond Hayes

DALLAS - On a Texas America CoEd stage bathed in lighting (Miss Black Texas). The



and dazzling with crystal curtains, Miss Black Texas USA, Dymond Hayes, gained her first national title of Miss Black America CoEd — clearing the way for a new face to win the honor of Miss Black

Miss Black Texas America CoEd pageant attracted hundreds of spectators and was held September 21-22 at The Granville Arts Center in Garland, TX.

Young women from across Texas competed in

various age divisions, across five areas of competition including: interview, fitness, talent, evening gown, and the famous on-stage question and answer. At the end of the night, five young ladies were crowned with state titles:

- Roneshia Ray- Miss Black Texas America CoEd 2014
- Ziara Smith- Black Texas America CoEd Teen 2014
- Micaela Watkins Ms. Black Texas America CoEd 2014
- Jasmine Cooks- Miss Black Texas America CoEd Preteen 2014
- Kadence Polley- Miss Black Texas America CoEd Princess 2014

In addition to a \$10,000 scholarship and prizes, the winners of Miss Black Texas and Miss Black Texas Teen

receive the honor of representing Texas next year at the national Miss Black America CoEd Pageant.

While vying for the crown, select contestants walked away with top honors in individual areas of competition:

- Private Interview Winners**
- Princess - Austin Sa-Naya White
 - Preteen - East Texas Jasmine Cooks
 - Ms. - Northeast Texas Natasha Bostic
 - Teen - Texarkana Bryia Lewis
 - Ms. -Southwest Texas Roneshia Ray
- Evening Gown Winners**
- Princess - Shelby County Kadence Polley
 - Preteen - Center Jaymya Ware
 - Ms. - Fort Worth Micaela Watkins

Teen - Shelby County Tamia Douglas
Ms.-Sam Houston El-

iza Harris
Talent Winners
See HAYES, Page 11

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The Truth about 'Obamacare'

BY GEORGE E. CURRY

(NNPA) Major provisions of the Affordable Care Act went into effect on Tuesday and, like all new programs, there was a certain amount of uncertainty and confusion. But making things worse are the *deliberate* lies that have been told by what some call Obamacare.

To shift through the various charges, I turned to our friends at FactCheck.org for an independent, nonpartisan analysis. Here, in their words, is what they found:

Claim: 8.2 million Americans can't find full-time work partly due to Obamacare.

FactCheck.org says: False.

This assertion from the Republican National Committee echoes other conservative claims that the law is hindering part-timers from finding full-time jobs. But

the RNC's 8.2 million figure was the total number in June of part-time workers in the U.S. seeking full-time work — what the Bureau of Labor Statistics calls 'part-time for economic reasons' — and there's no evidence from BLS numbers that the law has had an impact on such workers. There were more in this "part-time for economic reasons" category in March 2010, when the Affordable Care Act was signed into law (9.1 million). The latest figure, from August, is 7.9 million.

Claim: The law is a job-killer.

FactCheck.org says: Overblown.

It's true nonpartisan economic analyses have estimated a "small" loss of mainly low-wage jobs because of the law. But as one expert told us, there hasn't been much analysis of this impact of the law because, he believes, economists

think the impact will be minimal. Still, Republicans have continued to push the idea that the law will have a significant effect on jobs. This claim made our "Whoppers of 2011" list, and it has continued to be pushed in various forms — with the latest being the claims about part-time work.

Claim: Premiums are going up because of the law. Premiums are going down because of the law.

FactCheck.org says: It depends.

Our short answer — "it depends" — may be unsatisfactory to readers, but whether you'll pay more or less than you would have without the law depends on your circumstances. Are you uninsured and have a preexisting condition? You'll likely pay less than you would have otherwise. Are you uninsured but young and healthy? You'll likely

pay more (without accounting for any subsidies you may receive). Are you insured through your employer? You likely won't see much change either way.

Claim: All of the uninsured will pay less on the exchanges than they could now on the individual market, even without federal subsidies.

FactCheck.org says: False.

President Obama made this claim at an Aug. 9 press conference, saying that beginning Oct. 1, the 15 percent of the population that's uninsured would be able to "sign up for affordable quality health insurance at a significantly cheaper rate than what they can get right now on the individual market." Obama went on to emphasize that that was before including federal subsidies. "And if even with lower premiums they still can't af-

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SHUTDOWN, continued from Page 1

continuing resolutions that make it difficult for federal departments to know how much they have to spend. And if Congress passes an agreement to keep government open, it will only keep it open through November or December 15, depending on which version (House or Senate) of the law passes.

Another upcoming deadline is the October 17 deadline to raise the debt ceiling or further imperil our once-solid credit rating. In each instance, Republicans have another opportunity to crow about their fiscal mindedness and argue about Obamacare. But, as Harry Reid has said, Obamacare is the law of the land. It takes effect October 1, government shutdown or not. The Republican House may despise Obamacare and they may change some provisions of it, but they can't stop it now.

Indeed, Republicans are gearing up for the debt ceiling debate, which is another opportunity for brinkmanship. If they remove the Affordable Care Act from negotiations, it will surely resurface when the debt ceiling is discussed. We can spend the rest of this

year, and part of next, with this budgetary brinkmanship, all driven by the fact that many Republicans simply cannot stand the notion of the Affordable Care Act.



Julianne Malveaux

Actually, it's not just about the Affordable Care Act, it is about President Obama and Republican resistance to anything he proposes. Their attitudes go beyond partisanship to venomous distaste. You'd have to go back to the nineteenth century to find members of Congress so rude as to holler out "you lie" as a President spoke, assertions that that thing would happen "over my dead body" are far more common. It has always amused me when people so quickly offer their dead bodies up

for discussion, as if they so lightly value their living bodies that they'd offer their dead one in the name of public policy. Just recently, Rand Paul said the federal government would bail out Detroit over his dead body, and years ago Dick Armey (R-TX) said the minimum wage would pass over his. Last I heard the minimum wage rose and Armey is still living, though no longer in Congress.

If the government does shut down, "nonessential" employees will not be paid. The bumbling Congress, however, will continue to be compensated for the little they do. Many Congressional representatives don't care because they don't need the money. A large percentage of our "lawmakers" are millionaires. Last time there was a government shutdown, people were paid retroactively. This time, back pay is unlikely. With so many government employees experiencing pay cuts because of furloughs, an additional pay cut is onerous. Congress seems unconcerned with the plight of the average government worker.

The only good news in this mess is that the American people aren't stupid. Most of them blame gridlock on House Republicans. The last time government shut down in 1995-96 (when two shut downs lasted a combined 26 days), the people responded by giving President Bill Clinton a second term nine months later. Clinton defeated rival Bob Dole in part because of Dole's leadership in the government shutdown. With 2014 mid-term elections imminent, Republicans should be worried.

When President Obama spoke at the Congressional Black Caucus dinner in late September, he asked people to gear up their activism for the 2014 elections. If the House of Representatives looked more like the Senate (or if more Republicans had good sense), perhaps we could avoid this constant budgetary brinkmanship that has plagued us for the past four years.

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

Chad Pfeifer a Golf Academy of America alumnus wins 3rd Warrior Open for Wounded Veterans

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. —Ret. Cpl. Chad Pfeifer, an alumnus of Golf Academy of America, won the Warrior Open, organized by the George W. Bush Institute and overseen by President George W. Bush, on Sept. 28 by nine strokes, topping a field of 23 retired servicemen wounded in combat. The victory was Pfeifer's third straight, coming in the



Chad Pfeifer

event's third year. Rounds of 71-75 at Las Colinas Country Club in Irving, Texas gave him a four-over par total of 146 for the event.

Last year, with former President George W. Bush as a witness, Pfeifer made a hole-in-one on Las Colinas' fourth hole en route to a 15-stroke victory.

The 2013 Warrior Open field also included cur-

rent Golf Academy of America student SSG Andrew Montgomery, who finished in 19th place. Pfeifer graduated from Golf Academy of America's Phoenix Campus while Montgomery is currently enrolled at the campus in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

While serving in Iraq in 2007, Pfeifer lost his left leg when a bomb ex-

See GOLF, Page 5

A teen's first drink – friends are the key influencer

A teen's friend may be the biggest risk factor for having that first drink too soon. Researchers funded by the National Institutes of Health point to friends of teens as the most significant risk factor for having that first drink, in front of family history and social behavior.

Dr. Samuel Kuperman at the University of Iowa says drinking at a younger

age is associated with things like illegal activities.

"Children oftentimes do things they wouldn't do if they weren't drunk. So, driving, getting into sexual activity, using other drugs, are all risks that might happen when somebody's drunk versus not drinking."

See DRINK, Page 5

HEALTH, continued from Page 1

must also look at the role "place" plays in the lives of minority communities.

Where we live, work and play is surprisingly predictive of lifespan. Within the city of Boston, for instance, people in some census tracts live 33 years less than those in nearby tracts. In Bernalillo County, N.M., the difference is 22 years.

Researchers are releasing "Community Health Equity Reports" at the Place Matters 2013 National Health Equity Conference on Oct. 2 in Washington, D.C. Data from Baltimore, Birmingham, Ala., Chicago, New Orleans and other cities demonstrates that where you live is a powerful determinant for how long you'll live.

Health equity may sound like a jargon term, but it's really a simple and just concept: all people should have equal opportunities for good health.

Unfortunately, in conversations, people often reduce health issues to questions of access to health care or to behavior; in other words, if people only ate right, exercised, or saw a doctor regularly, health inequities could be eliminated.

Now, to be sure, access to high-quality health care is important, particularly for those who face health risks. And individuals should strive for active lifestyles and healthy diets.

But a large and growing body of research

demonstrates that the spaces and places where people live, work, study and play powerfully shape the opportunities they have to achieve good health.

People of color - who are still subject to persistent social, if not legal, segregation - are disproportionately located in unhealthy spaces. This is a major factor that helps explain the poorer health of many minority groups.

Consider the numbers: One in four African Americans, one in six Hispanics, and one in eight American Indians in metropolitan America lives in a census tract in which 30 percent or more of the population is in poverty.

But only an estimated one in 25 non-Hispanic whites live in one of these tracts.

Neighborhood conditions can overwhelm even the most persistent and determined efforts of individuals to take steps to improve their health. Neighborhoods with high rates of poverty are subject to significant health risks, from the presence of polluting industries to the absence of a grocery offering fresh fruits and vegetables.

These same communities typically have poorer quality housing and transportation options, and are hit hardest by the home-mortgage lending crisis, which crushed wealth opportunities and disproportionately affected communities of color.

Many of these neighborhoods also experience high rates of crime and violence, which affect even those who are not directly victimized, as a result of

jobs, and reduce the concentration of health risks. The Healthy Food Financing Initiative creates financial incentives for grocery stores or farmers' markets



stress and an inability to exercise or play outside. Even healthcare providers, hospitals, and clinics are harder to find in these neighborhoods.

It's no wonder lifespans vary so greatly among neighborhoods, even those close to each other.

Some policymakers are working to address these place-based disparities.

Federal programs that stimulate investment in the nation's hardest-hit communities are working to attract businesses, create

to open in "food deserts." And the Obama Administration's "Promise Zones" initiative will streamline a host of federal "place-based" projects and offer technical assistance to jurisdictions that seek to stimulate economic activity and build ladders of opportunity

Investments in vulnerable communities may be among the most cost-effective strategies to close the health gap and improve the overall health of the nation.

Our nation's poorest

need health insurance. But we cannot afford to stop there.

Only by recognizing and then erasing the deep divides that create communities with fewer health opportunities can we create a nation of individuals with the chance to reach their full potentials.

Dr. Brian D. Smedley is vice president and director of the Health Policy Institute of the Joint Center for

Political and Economic Studies in Washington, DC. America's Wire is an independent, nonprofit news service run by the Maynard Institute for Journalism Education. Our stories can be republished free of charge by newspapers, websites and other media sources. For more information, visit www.americas-wire.org or contact Michael K. Frisby at atmike@frisbyassociates.com.

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Hispanic firefighters promote fire safety with race honoring fallen colleagues

DALLAS — The Dallas Hispanic Firefighters Association will kick off the 2013 National Fire Prevention Week in Dallas with the inaugural The Bravest Race 5K run and walk through West Dallas to raise awareness about fire prevention and safety education.

The kickoff for The Bravest Race will be at 8 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 5, at Trinity Groves at 3015 Gulden Lane in Dallas, Texas marking the beginning of National Fire Prevention Week, which runs October 6-12, 2013. The race begins at 8:30 a.m.



National Fire Prevention Week is observed to promote fire safety and education locally and at a national level. This year's race is dedicated to the fallen firefighters of Texas.

The goal for The Bravest Race is to have

1,000 runners and walkers representing fire departments, police departments, military groups and the community participating to raise awareness about fire prevention, to honor Texas' firefighters and to raise money for fire and safety education in the community.

In addition to the race, the event will feature a fire engine pull challenge starting at 10:30 a.m. During The Bravest Race Fire Engine Pull Challenge, teams of eight to 12 firefighters will pull a

45,000--pound fire truck for 100 feet. The team with the fastest pull time will be named the 2013 Bravest Race Fire Engine Pull Champion.

"Fires can be devastating events for families and businesses, but many are preventable if people know about fire--safe behaviors," said Sal Morales, founder of the Dallas Hispanic Firefighters Association and the National Association of Hispanic Firefighters. "We wanted to highlight fire prevention safety and education in our community

by establishing an event that will call attention to the educational opportunities offered locally and nationally during National Fire Prevention Week.

"This year, we also wanted to honor the heroism of firefighters who have fallen in the line of duty in our community, working to save lives and property," said Joe Veracruz, president of the Dallas Hispanic Firefighters Association. "We look forward to seeing the community come out in support of The Bravest

Race and Firefighters and other first responders who serve the citizens of Dallas--Fort Worth everyday."

The Bravest Race will culminate in a health and safety fair that will be open to race participants and spectators. Being in good physical condition is paramount for firefighters as they perform their duties, which is why the Dallas Hispanic Firefighters Association supports programs that highlight the benefits of exercise and healthy eating habits.

TRUTH, continued from Page 3

ford it, we're going to be able to provide them with a tax credit to help them buy it," he added. But even Obama's secretary of health and human services, Kathleen Sebelius, has acknowledged that young persons would likely pay more and older Americans would likely pay less on the insurance exchanges.

Claim: You won't be able to choose your own doctor.

Claim: The government will be between you and your doctor.

FactCheck.org says: False.

These claims are variations on the fear that the

government will be taking over health care — choosing your doctor, telling him or her what treatment to administer, etc. But the law doesn't create a government-run system, as we've said many times. It actually greatly expands business for private insurance, by about 12 million new customers, according to Congressional Budget Office estimates. And individuals will choose their own doctors, just as they do now.

Claim: If you like your plan, you can keep your plan. If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor.

FactCheck.org: Misleading.

Obama has repeatedly made this claim, and the White House continues to use the line on its website. The law doesn't force Americans to pick new plans or new doctors, but the president simply can't make this promise to everyone. There's no guarantee that your employer won't switch plans, just as companies could have done before the law. And if you switch jobs, your new work-based coverage might not have your doctor as an in-network provider, either.

Claim: Congress is exempt from the law.

FactCheck.org says: False.

Congress isn't exempt from the law. In fact, members and their staffs face additional requirements that other Americans don't. Beginning in 2014, they can no longer get insurance through the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, as they and other federal employees have done. Instead, they are required to get insurance through the insurance exchanges.

For the complete report, go to: <http://www.factcheck.org/2013/09/obamacare-myths/>

George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of *Emergence* magazine, is editor-in-chief of the *National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service (NNPA)*. He is a keynote speaker, moderator,

and media coach. Curry can be reached through his Web site, www.georgecurry.com. You can also follow him at www.twitter.com/currygeorge and *George E. Curry Fan Page* on Facebook.

GOLF, continued from Page 4

ploded under the vehicle he was driving home from a patrol. He took up golf as part of his recovery and enrolled in Golf Academy of America. He shot a career-best 65 while winning the 2011 National Amputee Championship.

"Chad's hard work and accomplishments ha-

ve been an inspiration to our students and faculty," said Golf Academy of America president Jim Hart. "We are honored to have two of our students selected for this elite event recognizing veterans who have sacrificed so much for our country."

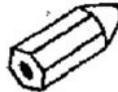
DRINK, continued from Page 4

Drinking before the age of 14 is also associated with a risk for young adult alcohol dependency problems.

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Working women returning to school

With the economic downturn, many individuals are turning to universities to retool their skills and abilities to become more attractive to employers. With roughly 25 million people unemployed, people are looking for new job strategies. According to the U.S. Department of Education, approximately 90 million individuals participate in some form of adult education each year, including training and basic education offered outside of tradi-

tional higher education. Yet, non-traditional students make up the fastest population of those returning to school. In fact, 40% of American college students (almost 6 million people) are 25 years of age or older. This article examines practical and proven strategies to better assist working women who desire to return to school in some capacity.

Economic troubles make career planning more difficult. Since November 2009, America has lost 7.2



million jobs. Millions of Americans are now waiting longer for food stamps, unemployment checks, and

disability payments. Job opportunities are limited. Today's women comprise more than half of the labor

force. According to the U.S. Labor Bureau, mothers with older children (6 to 17 years of age) are more likely to participate in the labor force than mothers with younger children (under 6 years of age). Furthermore, unmarried mothers have higher participation rates than married mothers.

Working mothers need practical, proven methods if they are to make a successful transition to college life. Yet, many working women find various obstacles that

prevent them from reaching their dreams. Noriko Iwanaga Chapman, a Japan native, is a working professional with over 16 years' experience in the automobile industry. As a young, single-parent Baby Boomer, Chapman understands the demands of caring for elderly parents and raising a young family.

Chapman was preparing to enter graduate school when he encountered a severe obstacle. Chapman

See SCHOOL, Page 11

LEGACY, continued from Page 1

Texas known at the time as Prairie View A&M College of Texas.

Richardson Independent School District's only African American school located in Dallas Texas, Hamilton Park, grades 1 thru 12 was completed in 1955 and several of the faculty and staff were graduates of Prairie View A&M College which was later re-named Prairie View A&M University.

A tight knit community of 750 homes where faculty and teachers not only taught at Hamilton Park School, but lived in the community as well. The former students of Hamilton Park understand what it means to be a "Bobcat."

Richard Bonner who played on the 1961 championship team as an inside linebacker for the Hamilton Park Bobcats and whose brother, Dr. Harold S. Bonner served as interim president of Prairie View A&M University, during the 90's, recalls; "I was a sophomore in 1961, the previous year we made it all the way to the State Championship in 1960 and lost, but we came back in '61 and took the title."

Bonner remembers traveling to Sweeny, Texas with his teammates and defeating the Wildcats of Carver High School to win the state championship. The game trophy, known too many in Hamilton Park as the "Golden Football" is in scripted with the words; Prairie View A&M, Class A, State Champions, 1961. Bonner is shown in a recent photograph with the game trophy along side of the late Head Coach and for-

mer Principal of Hamilton Park School, Mr. James O. Griffin.

For many, the history of Hamilton Park dates back to civil rights and education of African Americans across the country. The neighborhood streets of Hamilton Park are named after famous African American actors, and places and serves as a reminder of those that paved the way for many blacks for a better quality of life and education. Such names as Ebony, Bellafonte Drive, Campanella Drive, and Bunche are all part of black history. The neighborhood post office named after the HP community leader and Prairie View graduate, the late Dr. Robert E. Price.

Hamilton Park's historic connection to black colleges is evident when entering the main entrance of the neighborhood and one of the first streets visible is Oberlin Drive. In 1844, Oberlin College graduated its first black student, George B. Vashon, who became one of the founding professors at Howard University and the first black lawyer admitted to the Bar in the state of New York.

Former Dallas Cowboy and a 1981 graduate of Grambling State University, Everson (Cubby) Walls, and Gwen Barrett Jackson, a 1981 graduate of Prairie View A&M University, both are former students of Hamilton Park School.

Mrs. Jackson grew up on Dandridge Drive, named after actress Dorothy Dandridge, but Jackson nor Walls never got the chance to at-

tend high school at Hamilton Park, and both remember how desegregation and busing forced the closure of their neighborhood high school to what is known now as Hamilton Park Pacesetters Magnet, grades K thru 6.

"In the beginning I felt cheated," explained Jackson, I remember in grade school during football season, each homecoming the high school band, floats, convertible cars, homecoming queens, all participated in the homecoming parade, marching through the streets of Hamilton Park with the entire neighborhood cheering and watching. Once I got to Prairie View, it was then I realized, I don't think I was cheated at all, the experience was only delayed, it felt as though I picked up where I left off, only at a much higher level."

Jackson is the third youngest of seven children, whose eldest brother was a member of the HP Bobcat Football team from 1960-61. A member of the Hamilton Park School Wide Reunion Committee, Jackson served as the first Scholarship Chair of the School Wide Reunion.

The first scholarship of Hamilton Park was awarded to a student to attend Prairie View A&M University. As the years followed a scholarship was awarded for a student to attend Grambling State University and other universities were soon added.

For more information or questions regarding this article, contact: Gwen Jackson at gwenda7710@yahoo.com

For information on how to support Prairie View A&M Foundation and the new

sports complex, please contact www.helpvbuild.org.

For information on how to support Grambling State

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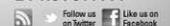
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Chef Tre Wilcox next featured chef at Wine Poste dinner

DALLAS – The Wine Poste have announced the next chef in its continuing series of Chef's Dinners. Joining the Wine Poste on Friday, Oct. 11 will be the talented Chef Tre Wilcox. The evening will begin with a Champagne reception at 7 p.m., followed by an elaborate five-course feast with wine pairings at the Wine Poste's communal table.

Chef Tre has worked in some of the best kitchens in Dallas, including Abacus and Marquee Grill. While the Chef de Cuisine of Abacus, the restaurant earned a five-star review from The Dallas Morning News, and Tre was also nominated twice for the "Rising Star Chef" award by the James Beard Foundation and named Best Chef by *The Dallas Morning News*. Fans of Bravo's *Top Chef* will recognize Tre from his appearance on Season 3 and *Top Chef All-Stars*. Tre's talent has been featured in *Gourmet Magazine*, *Food & Wine Magazine*



Chef Tre Wilcox

and *Modern Luxury Magazine*.

The chef's personality and cooking style fit perfectly with the Wine Poste. Based in the Dallas Design District, the Wine Poste is a new twist on retail and online wine sales, and the 4,500 square foot space strikes a balance between comfort and elegance. In addition to providing a well-curated selection of wine for sale, the Wine Poste fea-

tures ample space for wine tastings, dinner parties and other events.

The chef's dinner with Tre Wilcox will take place Oct. 11 and will cost \$125 per person, which includes five courses and wine pairings. Reservations are required.

The Wine Poste is located at 2001 Irving Blvd, Suite 145. For more information, please call 214-272-3221 or visit <http://www.wineposte.com>.

Tony Rorie of Rowlett named director of international task force

Rowlett resident Tony Rorie, President and Founder of The Men and Ladies of Honor, has been appointed head of an international initiative to mentor and train young men and women in ministry leadership. The Project Timothy Global Task Force, launched by Christian Men's Network, will be responsible for outreach in 108 nations.

CMN President Paul Louis Cole, also Founding Pastor of C3 Church in Dallas, Texas, appointed Rorie to lead the project following several years in successful partnership with The Men and Ladies of Honor. CMN has been instrumental in assisting to launch the program in sev-



Tony Rorie (Left), pictured with Ambassador Albert Nasasagare, PhD, Republic of Burundi's Deputy Chief of State Protocol (right) at a recent meeting to discuss the possibility of introducing The Men of Honor program in Burundi where more than 60% of the war-torn country's population is less than 17 years old.

eral international locations, such as Belize and Kenya. For more information about Christian Men's

Network, visit Cmnworld.com and www.themenof-honor.org.

Breaking Bad stars appearing at Dallas Comic Con Fan Days this weekend

DFW fans of the just completed *Breaking Bad* series will have an opportunity to meet two of the co-stars this weekend at Dallas Comic Con Fan Days.

Giancarlo Esposito (*Breaking Bad*, *Revolution*) and Charles Baker (*Breaking Bad*, *Splinter*) are scheduled to appear along with more than 50 actors and artists. The line-up of stars are scheduled to sign autographs, meet fans and answer questions during special panels.

Other events include adult and children costume contests, special effects make-up workshops, Q&A panels, a CosPlay Red Carpet, photo opportunities, and dozens of vendors and exhibitors.

Other guest actors include Ron Perlman (*Hellboy*, *Sons of Anarchy*, *Beauty and the Beast*), John Barrowman (*Arrow*, *Torchwood*, *Doctor Who*), Robert Patrick (*True Blood*, *The X-Files*, *Terminator II*), Katee Sackhoff (*Longmire*, *Riddick*), Steven Yeun (*The Walking Dead*), Jason David Frank (*Mighty Morphin Power Rangers*),



Giancarlo Esposito

Tom Felton ("*Draco Malfoy*" in the *Harry Potter* movies) and Lou Ferrigno (*The Incredible Hulk*).

Show hours are 2 to 8 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. The box office opens one hour prior to show time on Friday and Sunday, and two hours prior to show time on Saturday.

Tickets are \$25 Friday, \$40 Saturday and \$30 Sunday. Children ages 5 to 12 are \$5, and ages 4 and under are free. Parking is \$5, with shuttles provided for extended lots.

Dallas Comic Con: Fans Days is scheduled for Oct. 4-6 at the Irving Convention

Center, located at 500 W. Las Colinas Blvd. For more info visit www.fandays.com.

JONES, continued from Page 2

role on the Hub Network's Daytime Emmy Award-winning series, *R.L. Stine's The Haunting Hour: The Series*. Viewers can visit hubworld.com/halloween to learn more and to view all of the Halloween costume submissions.

The special will also include chart-topping musical performances, celebrity presenters and lots of entertaining tricks and treats for kids and their families. The "Halloween Bash" will take place at Barker Hanger in Santa

Monica, Calif. Bob Bain serves as executive producer and Paul Flattery is producer for Bob Bain Productions. Additional presenters and chart-topping musical acts will also be announced shortly.

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For information contact:
Peggy: 214.535.1905
Bennie: 214.577.9114

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Poetwithavision@Yahoo.com

This is another Poetwithavision community event.

OfficeMax makes day better for two Dallas ISD Teachers

DALLAS—Fifth-grade science teacher Jessica Enriquez from Cesar Chavez Learning Center and Kimberlee Bassa, a kindergarten teacher at Ronald McNair, had their day brightened by

annual initiative seeks to erase teacher-funded classrooms by providing much needed supplies early in the school year.

Teachers selected for the surprise are nominated by

cial because she goes above and beyond with her students and her parents,” said Allena Anderson, principal, Ronald McNair Elementary. “She is often seen in her classroom teaching and dancing with her

Cesar Chavez Learning Center. “Ms. Enriquez also spends a good amount of her personal funds on instructional items to ensure her students have everything needed to conduct science experiments. Just recently, she purchased perishable items for all four of

her fifth-grade classes so they would have the materials needed for the natural sciences experiment.

Since 2007, A Day Made Better and other OfficeMax Goodworks programs have contributed more than \$25 million in grants and supplies

to support more than 31,000 teachers and their classrooms. Additionally, through the annual event, OfficeMax has helped its nonprofit partner AdoptAClassroom.org secure funding for more than 100,000 classrooms nationwide.



Kimberlee Bassa, teacher, Ronald McNair Elementary School, is surrounded by students during the OfficeMax surprise.

OfficeMax during the A Day Made Better initiative.

The teachers were among 1,000 educators nationwide who were surprised with \$1,000 in school supplies presented by OfficeMax and AdoptAClassroom.org. The

their principals for demonstrating passion, dedication and innovation in the classroom.

Both teachers were praised by their principals and school staff as exceptional teachers. “Ms. Bassa is spe-

students as one of her instructional strategies. Her students love being in her class.”

“As a fifth-grade science teacher, Jessica Enriquez exhibits an abundance of dedication,” said Kimberly Runnels, community liaison,

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Stepping out in style with Naturalizer's new designs this fall

BY RUTH FERGUSON,
NDG EDITOR

The weather has finally changed and that means it is time to change the shoes we wear. I have always associated well made comfortable, but practical shoes with the Naturalizer brand, but when I got a peek at their fall lookbook, it was clear this is not your grandma kind of comfortable shoes (no offense to grandmothers!)

When we received a pair of the Napina (\$99) in the rich rusty tan leather during the summer, we were ready for fall to start immediately. The 3-½ heels are lovely in a timeless classic design that will easily go from work to evening. Ladies, this means there no need to “suffer” for beauty. The detailed stitching across the round toe makes the Mary Janes standout.

Our intern ChaRhonda wore the shoes recently and enthusiastically gave the Napina thumbs up. “Love the shoes. It



is such a great color that goes well with the earth tones we all wear throughout the season,” she said.

When asked how the shoes feel ChaRhonda indicated, “They are seriously very comfortable. I am always looking for shoes like this which are stylish yet comfortable.”

Personally I am eyeing the two-tone flats called Lecture in what they describe as King Teal and Black leather (\$89). They are a part of Naturalizer's Urbanizer series, aimed at the young urban professional. OK so I am not young (doesn't young at heart count) and I live in the suburbs, but these shoes look like a great choice for the

days I am headed straight from the office to an evening event.

Now, if you love boots the Jersey is Naturalizer's (\$199) spin on the classic riding boot, available in black or a golden tan they call Banana Bread Leather. The buckles add a spark of color and the elastic stretch on the back at the top gives you a little extra room – if you need it.

The Naturalizer.com website is fun and useful, providing a view from every possible angle for each of their designs. I also really like the SizeWise feature which asks a few quick questions and then shows you recommended styles. Visitors can sign up to receive great coupons throughout the year, making Naturalizer designs an even better bargain.

If you prefer to try on your shoes there are four stores in the DFW area, three are actually outlets (Allen, Grapevine and Grand Prairie). Naturalizer more than lives up to their promise to bring comfort and style together.

The Affordable Health Care Act and its impact on Texans

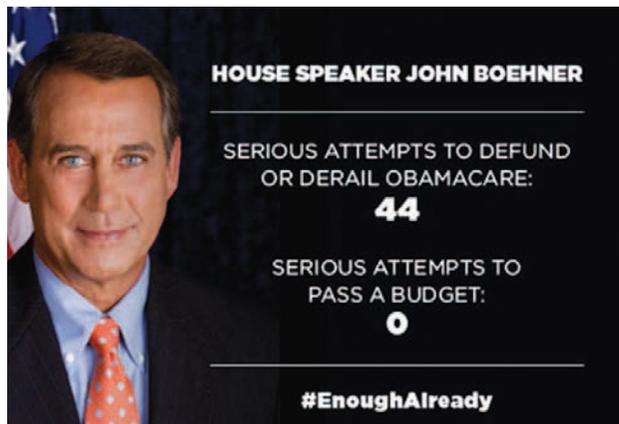
BY FAITH CAMP,
NDG CONTRIBUTING
WRITER

Imagine being diagnosed with a disease such as cancer and having to ask your doctor how much time you have left to live because you cannot afford the treatments. Imagine having to choose between feeding your children and paying for your medical bills.

These are not just scenarios, but this has been the reality of many Americans for decades.

Since the beginning of his first term, President Barack Obama has been working on changing this on behalf of millions of American families. The Affordable Health Care Act (AHCA or the Act) was created to make health care not just a privilege but a right nationwide. The Act officially went into effect on Oct. 1 with an open enrollment period spanning until March 2014.

The purpose of the Act is to make healthcare accessible and feasible for more Americans by decreasing the amount of cases where insurance companies charge astronomical fees for minimal services. It will also pro-



Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson praised the Act and said, "Insurance companies will be forced to end some of their most egregious policies: their implementation of large, unjustified premium increases caps on the amount of coverage a person can receive; and their practice of dropping people from coverage when they get sick."

One phase of the Act implemented earlier allows young adults to stay on their parents' health insurance until they are 26 years old. Reverend Lar-esa Tyson, a member of Texas Organizing Project, said this is very beneficial to young adults and their families.

"These young adults, many of whom are balancing studies and jobs, will have added peace of

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services report on the AHCA, individuals will also have more healthcare options. Texans alone will have 54 different plans accessible to them. These plans are categorized into four different categories and listed under the Health Insurance Marketplace.

The report also stated, "healthcare plans and premiums nationwide will be around 16 percent lower than original stated, "the majority (around 6 out of 10) of the individuals who are uninsured today will be able to find coverage for \$100 or less per month in the Marketplace taking into account premium tax credits and Medicaid coverage."

The plans under the Marketplace are categorized as:

- Platinum
- Gold
- Silver
- Bronze.

People who plan to visit the doctor frequently may want to select the Gold or Platinum plan. Both plans require a higher premium but offer lower costs for doctor visits or medical services.

On the other hand, the Silver and Bronze plans offer lower premiums, however, if an individual on one of these plans requires emergency care or hospitalization, they will

have to pay a higher medical bill.

While the four plans differ, they all cover the following services:

- Ambulatory patient services, Emergency services, hospitalization and surgery
- Maternity and newborn care, Mental health and substance use disorder services, behavioral health treatment, counseling and psychotherapy
- Prescription drugs, rehabilitative services including devices to help people with injuries and disabilities, laboratory services and chronic disease management

In addition to the Marketplace plans, individuals under the age of 30 or with a limited income can purchase a catastrophic health plan. This plan is described as providing a safety net for individuals who cannot afford marketplace plans but want the peace of mind of knowing they will be covered in the event of an emergency issue.

For example, studies show on average a broken leg for an uninsured person is \$7,500. An individual who cannot afford the premiums for a regular health plan has the option of selecting the catastrophic plan in the event they ever experience sudden illness or need emergency treatment for an ailment such as a broken leg. Although premiums for catastrophic plans may be lower than regular health plans, the deductibles and out-of-pocket costs for medical attention will be much higher.

Reverend Tyson speaking on behalf of the Texas Organizing Project and referring to the plans said the organization, "fully supports the implementation of the Afford-

able Care Act and believes that the law will improve the overall health of our Texas communities."

She elaborated, "Texas families deserve access to affordable health care but sadly, nearly 1 out of 4 Texans – 6.3 million people – has no health insurance, the highest rate of uninsured in the nation."

The Health and Human Services report listed an example of how one of the Marketplace plans would affect Texans:

"For a family of four in Texas with an income of \$50,000 per year, the lowest bronze plan would only cost \$57 per month."



#ENOUGHALREADY



In addition to providing more health care options and making the Marketplace plans more affordable for Americans, AHCA will extend coverage and increase transparency in existing programs, particularly, Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP-P). AHCA extends funding for CHIP from 2015 until 2019 and allows more transparency with state and federal Medicaid waivers.

Under the AHCA, Medicaid providers which have been terminated in other programs will be banned from participating and the Act will pre-

vent inappropriate payment of claims under Medicaid if charges are against the providers have been investigated and proven to be fraudulent.

In order for the Act to make healthcare more affordable and accessible to the American people, statistics show we will need approximately 2.7 million young healthy adults to sign up for the plan. Approximately 7 million people are expected to sign up for the plan by 2014.

Congressman Marc Veasey advocated for the AHCA sharing, "As Health Insurance Marketplaces come online next

week, it is vital that we continue to educate American consumers, dispel partisan myths, get the uninsured enrolled in the federal marketplace in Texas, and keep them properly informed on the benefits of the health care law."

He added, "My goal is to continue to fight for all uninsured citizens in my district, in our state, and across the country to make sure affordable health insurance is within reach for everyone."

For more information on the AHCA, please visit Medicaid.gov or healthcare.gov.

"For a family of four in Texas with an income of \$50,000 per year, the lowest bronze plan would only cost \$57 per month."

hibit health insurance companies from denying or dropping coverage for individuals who have pre-existing health conditions.

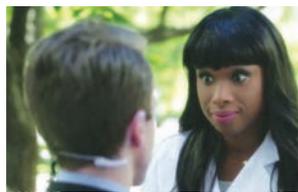
mind knowing that they can stay on their parents' health plan until the age of 26. This added security will definitely be a relief to many parents as well."

NDG Gossip: Jennifer Hudson supports ObamaCare with *Funny or Die* video

By SHENICE SANDERS,
NDG INTERN

Much has been said about The ObamaCare Health Plan and much confusion has been spread across the country.

To help with citizens questions and to get a better



understanding of the ObamaCare Plan Jennifer Hudson and a few other celebri-

ties join the *Funny or Die* campaign to support the law. The video is the latest in *Funny or Die's* efforts to make light on the controversial law.

In a white trench coat and hilarious dialogue, Jennifer Hudson does her best Olivia Pope impression.

In the video, Hudson plays the role of *Scandal's* Olivia Pope played by Kerry Washington, but most of the "scandals" she comes across are easily solved by the Affordable Care Act also called The ObamaCare Health Plan.

Some of the "scandals" include a woman not being able to get a annual mammogram because her job health insurance does not cover it. Another "scandal" involves Hudson lending a hand to a Senator to help him enroll his pregnant mistress into ObamaCare.

The viral video is part of a *Funny or Die* campaign to raise awareness about President Barack Obama's health-care reform law, which is causing much controversy in Washington this week.

View the *Funny or Die* video at NorthDallasGazette.com.

FICTION, continued from Page 1

The unofficial hub of African American speculative fiction is Atlanta, Georgia. During October for the last three years, the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History has offered readings, panel discussions, music and art demonstrating the Afrocentric involvement in science fiction and fantasy. Digital communities such as "The Afrofuturist Affair", "The Black Science Fiction Society" and "The Black Author Showcase" have sponsored online and offline activities to promote Black sci-fi and fantasy not only during October but throughout the year.

Black writers, artists, and filmmakers are gaining popularity as well as earning a few extra dollars. Book sales are low compared to urban romance and celebrity authors. But profitability is improving as more readers are exposed to Black sci-fi and fantasy. New titles are being published traditionally and independently. Conventions and special events are drawing larger, multicultural audiences who are anxious to meet new writers and artists as well as pay homage to established Black Science Fiction icons such as Samuel Delany, Steven Barnes, Walter Mosley, and LaVar Burton.

According to public opinion and casual surveys at con-

ferences and online, African Americans have moved beyond the desire to simply drink from a forbidden water fountain or live in a prestigious neighborhood outside of crowded urban centers; that was the past. People of African descent now can envision living on gravity-free space stations, traveling to distant planets or stars, building fantastic devices and molding new societies. Science and its literary kin, Speculative Fiction, is the catalyst for a dynamic and prosperous future.

Black people are not strangers to speculative fiction. In the early 1900s, writers such Pauline Hopkins, Sutton Griggs, Martin Delany and Ge-

orge Schuyler were publishing stories about people of color who were discovering lost civilizations, building ray guns and flying machines, conquering Europe and charting a revolutionary Black destiny. Their tales gave hope to communities that were suffering devastating racial inequalities purposely enforced to stunt progress and create a 2nd class citizenship. In 2013, African Americans face new road backs such as lack of satisfying employment and health disparities. AFRO-Futurists use art and science to encourage others to make dreams become reality.

Anyone can participate. Science fiction is not just a geeky, white male American

concept. Women and men are writing, drawing and filmmaking. Africa has a new crop of science fiction writers. There are Islamic authors producing stories of the fantastic. Asian, Native American, and Latino graphic and literary artists are contributing. In fact, speculative fiction has probably been expressed in all human cultures.

Black Speculative Fiction Month for October 2013 has humble beginnings similar to the gestation of February's Black History Month that began in the 1920s by Carter G. Woodson. But the Sci-fi movement is taking off "like a rocket. The payload includes "Sword and Soul", "Steam

Funk", "Afro Sci-Fi", "Weird Black Westerns" and other subgenres. Welcome aboard.

For more about the African American involvement in Speculative Fiction go to www.africanamericansciencefiction.com

Stafford Battle is a writer and blogger living in a quiet suburb just outside of Washington, DC. He is also an Instructional Designer creating online educational modules for Medical Students. He is currently working on his latest book, "The Architects of AFROFuturism". He can be reached at sbattle@sbattle.com or 202-607-3771 or via his web site at www.staffordbattle.com

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NTTA highlights fall diversity program

PLANO – Representatives from 11 companies were the first graduates of the Cooperative Inclusion Plan's civil contracting training program Sept. 24 at the Westin Hotel in Irving.

The Cooperative Inclusion Plan, created by the North Texas Tollway Authority, the Texas Department of Transportation, key highway players in the North Texas region and the regional contractor associations, seeks to grow disadvantaged, minority, woman-owned, and small

businesses as well as historically underutilized businesses participating in heavy highway contracting.

The training class is designed to increase the heavy highway capabilities of CIP participants so they can compete for larger contracting opportunities. Taught by contractors active in the heavy highway industry, the class also brought participants and prime contractors together to build relationships.

Graduating Companies:

- Bradley Douglas Con-



struction

- Civil Works
- Tx TinMan Enterprises
- Todo Construction

- ACU Construction
- EJ Smith Construction Co.
- LeVis Consulting Group

- QMF Steel, Inc.
- KLP Commercial
- Pegasus Texas Construction
- Onycha Industries Corp.

Pegasus Texas Construction

The CIP brings D/M/W/SBE and HUB firms together with key industry decision makers; connects current and potential highway contractors to qualified subcontractors; expands the pool of firms ready, willing, and able to perform highway construction work; strengthens the

skill sets and business acumen of interested firms and expands the participation of firms bidding on NTTA and TxDOT procurements.

For D/M/W/SBE and HUB firms seeking to expand, the CIP also helps develop greater understanding of how to meet key requirements for highway industry more.

The next CIP training class takes place October 18 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Bill J. Priest Campus, 1402 Corinth Street, Dallas, TX 75215.

SCHOOL, continued from Page 6

notes, "In 2009, when being diagnosed with cancer, I was devastated by the life-threatening disease and unknown future. A year later, I have survived and gained my health back for a second chance of my life." Overcoming the health challenge, she was able to start graduate school at Lincoln Memorial University while balancing work and family life.

Her first book, *Second Chance*, fully utilizes Chapman's "can do" attitude to assist others in her community. Likewise, the right strategies can help encourage a working mother who is straddling the fence when considering returning to school. Below are some proven strategies for working mothers:

- Check out the latest college scholarship books at your library, such as Peterson's Scholarship.

- Remove or limit negative people from influencing your personal decisions related to your goals.

- Research non-traditional programs, such as weekend formats and online degree programs that provide maximum flexibility. Check out John Bear's books, such as *Bears Guide to Earning Degrees by Distance Learning*.
- Build a positive support group that can assist you with the demanding lifestyle of returning to school with children.

- Get a good grasp on how you will finance your education by talking with financial aid officers, apply-

ing for grants and scholarships, or borrowing the money from non-traditional sources, such as local community groups in your area.

- Join a group that shares your values and beliefs in order to build your network.

- Seek to find a mentor who has returned to school from the workforce.

- Write positive affirmations regularly to create a positive environment.

- Allow your children to share in the excitement of you returning to school.

- Be persistent and patient.

During this economic crisis, today's working women need to retool their skills. With such a weak job growth outlook, many working adults are looking to sharpen their skills in order

to be more competitive. Women comprise a large share of the labor force and an increasing proportion of those who are returning universities and colleges. Yet, the hectic lifestyles of most working mothers stop them from pursuing this career strategy. Going back to school can provide the

mechanism to assist them in improving the quality of their lives. Therefore, taking the right steps in this transition is critical for working mothers so they can be successful.

Dr. Daryl Green has done extensive research on cultural issues impacting today and future leaders.

His last book, *Job Strategies for the 21st Century: How to Assist Today's College Students during Economic Turbulence*, has been rated number one on Amazon.com. For more information, you can contact him at www.darylgreen.org or www.nuleadership.com.

SHEPHERD, continued from Page 2

SMART Payment Plan works to pay down automobile loans, home loans, student loans, credit cards, boat and RV loans as well as other types of debt.

A July 2000 Playboy Playmate, fashion model, television host and actress, Shepherd has become a marketing and communications expert over the years before starting her own firm, Pro PR Marketing two years ago.

"I've always been a people person and idea person when it came to business. I always knew I would own a marketing company some-

day and when the time came, that's exactly what I did," said the New Orleans native.

Today, Shepherd has used her modeling and hosting experience as a tool for success in business.

"I was always inquisitive and asking questions when I was modeling. I learned a lot about advertising, marketing and how the media works," she said.

Shepherd is known for her work with Playboy and Playboy TV as well as television work on UPN's "Big City," Starz Network's "The B Side," HGTV's "Design

In A Day" and others. Shepherd is also a member of the popular Playboy Playmate Dancers, made up of herself and fellow Playmates who don stylish costumes as they sing and dance. While she still models and serves as host on various television programs, Shepherd remains committed to her business.

"Working with companies like SMART is especially rewarding because they want to make a difference in people's lives and make things easier," she said.

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

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

October 5- January 1
Color! American Photography Transformed at

Amon Carter Museum, www.cartermuseum.org/

Through October 27
Fright Fest at Six Flag Over Texas, <http://www.sixflags.com/overTexas/>

Through October 20
The Lion King presented by Dallas Summer Musicals at Music Hall at Fair Park, <http://www.dallassummermusicals.org/>

October 3-26
Daddy's Dyin Who Got the Will? at Granville Arts Center, 972-205-2790

Through January 5
Mexico: Inside Out at Modern Art Museum. <http://hemodern.org/>

October 4
Soundings: New Music at the Nasher: Cuatro Corridos at Nasher Sculpture Center, <http://www.nashersculpturecenter.org/Events-Cal-endar/Soundings--New-Music-at-the-Nasher/Performances>

Movies in the Park at The Colony Five Star Complex, 972-625-1106

October 4-6
Dallas Comic Con Fan Days at Irving Convention Center, scifiexpo.com/dcc/fandays.html

12th Annual Southlake Oktoberfest at Southlake Town Square, <http://www.oktoberfestsouthlake.com/>

October 5
Free Classic Cartoons & Our Gang Episodes at Plaza Theatre, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Main Street Fall Festival at Main Street - Downtown Denison, 903-465-1551

Gallery Night in Grapevine at historic Grapevine, <http://www.vetro-artglass.com>

Southwest Airlines State Fair Classic: Grambling State vs Prairie View A&M at State Fair of Texas, 4:30 p.m.

October 6
Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas at Mesquite Arts Center, 4:30 p.m.

Jim Hodges: sometimes

beauty at Dallas Museum of Art, 214-922-1200, <http://www.dallasmuseumofart.org>

October 6
Southlake Oktoberfest by Southlake's Chamber of Commerce at Southlake Town Square, 1256 Main St. in Southlake at 5 p.m. FREE 817-481-8200

October 7
A Gathering 2013: The Dallas Arts Community Responds to AIDS at Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora Street in Dallas at 7 p.m. for \$12, 214-880-0202

October 8
Target First Saturdays / Free Admission at Nasher Sculpture Center, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Kid Cudi - The Cud Life Tour at American Airlines Center, 7:30 p.m.

The 5th Annual Great Culinary Escape benefiting CONTACT 6-9 p.m. at Buttons in Addison. Tickets start at \$50 and sponsorships start at \$250. Both can be purchased by

visiting www.contactcrisis-line.org or by calling 972-233-0866 ext. 320

October 12
Spectra Jazz Presents: A Night With Guitarist Michael Walker at the Garland Center is located at 1931 East Centerville Road in Garland from 8 p.m. to midnight. Tickets cost \$15 if purchased online at www.mwfans.eventbrite.com or \$20 at the door. 1-800-227-3440.

DFW Int'l / Wells Fargo Homebuyers Workshop Through this free bilingual workshop they will introduce the basic steps in the purchase of a home. Central Park Church of God, 1901 East Centerville Road in Garland, Presented by: DFW International Community Alliance at 2 p.m. it is FREE INFO: president@dfwinternational.org or 972-661-2764

African film: Mercy Mercy: Portrait of a True Adoption at Alamo Drafthouse Cinema-Richardson Theater 3, 100 S Central Expy in Richard-

son, Presented by: Dallas VideoFest26 at 4:15 p.m. info@videofest.org

October 13
Gustavo Alvarez at Plaza Theatre, 6 p.m.

October 17-27
Black At The Assassination by Camika Spencer & Kyndal Robertson is a TeCo Theatrical Productions at the Bishop Arts Theatre Center www.tecotheater.org

October 18
Garland Symphony Orchestra at Granville Arts Center, 8 p.m. 972-926-0611

October 18-19
Sheryl Underwood at The Improv in Addison

October 19
Samsarga, A Union Of Indian Dance at Granville Arts Center, 6:30 p.m. 214-684-8693

Irving and Carrollton Branch NAACP's Annual Freedom Fund Luncheon at Sheraton DFW Airport Hotel-Grand Ballroom

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WorkInTexas.com gives Texas job seekers access to thousands of jobs

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) launched the mobile-friendly version of its online job-matching resource, WorkInTexas.com. Designed in partnership with Texas.gov, the Texas Department of Information Resources and Workforce Solutions for North Central Texas, the mobile website automatically detects mobile phones and some tablets and is designed to better serve job seekers in Texas by offering the most frequently used features of the full WorkInTexas.com



website. The mobile version of the website offers quick, convenient access from mobile devices simply by typing www.WorkInTexas.com in the address bar.

“TWC is committed to increasing access to the free services we offer,” said TWC Chairman An-

dres Alcantar. “We are pleased to work with our local board partners, and in particular Workforce Solutions for North Central Texas, to offer the

See WORK, Page 14



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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.

October 6, 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.

October 9, 10:30 a.m.
You're invited to our Wednesday Morning Bible Study and/or our 7 p.m. Evening Bible Study to learn more about God and His word for your life.

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

BIBLE WAY COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

October 6, 8 a.m.

You're invited to our Morning Worship as we praise God for all of His blessings.

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

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN RICHARDSON

October 6, 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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October 2013

For those in need visit Helen's House Tuesdays and Fridays (exceptions are bad weather and holidays) to receive, to give, to comfort and to fellowship.

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

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH IN ALLEN "The Ship"

Monday – Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

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

For Community help the Assistance Center serves Collin County by responding to people in crisis for emergency shelter, clothing, food, and access to medicine and medical services for county residents. Call the church or Allen's City Hall for details.

October 6, 8 a.m. And 9:30 a.m.
Join us for Worship Services as we praise God for the victories in our lives. Come and grow with us.

October 9, 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.)

October 11 & 12
Marriage couples, join us for our marriage retreat. Theme: Under Renovation. Call the church for details.

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

October 6, 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Join us for Worship Service as we praise and honor God. After both services ministers and deacons are available to meet with you for prayer or questions.

September 30- November 4, 7-8 p.m.
You're invited to our Health & Fitness Ministry Camp 101. Classes will meet weekly on Mondays & Wednesdays, call the church for details.

Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.
Senior Pastor
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Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695
www.smbcplano.org

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October 4, 7:30 p.m.
Join us at our Men's Fellowship each Friday as we praise and worship God.

October 6, 7:30 a.m.
Join us this as we worship, honor and magnify God's Holy name.

October 7, 7 p.m.
Come to Monday School as we study the Word of God. We will worship Him and praise His Holy name.
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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.

October 6
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.

Dr. Gregory E. Voss,
Senior Pastor
2765 Trinity Mills Road
Building 300
Carrollton, TX 75006
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WORK, continued from Page 13

WorkInTexas.com mobile version, which answers the need for a mobile alternative for on-the-move job seekers."

WorkInTexas.com's mobile version allows job seekers to:

- Search for jobs through multiple channels
- Run job match queries
- Apply for jobs
- Maintain lists of pending job applications
- View and manage correspondence and alerts from WorkInTexas.com
- Stay informed of events at local Workforce Solutions offices

"Job seekers now have access to one of the largest job databases in Texas and important job search resources right at their fingertips," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. "WorkInTexas.com's mobile-friendly site is secure

and simple to use, and I encourage job seekers to take advantage of this enhanced technology."

Launched in 2004, WorkInTexas.com is free and hosts approximately 135,000 active job listings and more than 500,000 registered users. WorkInTexas.com also reached a major milestone this year when the number of jobs filled through its services surpassed 2 million.

"With mobile internet use on the rise, TWC recognizes the importance of giving job seekers and employers on-the-go access to WorkInTexas.com," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Hope Andrade. "This improvement strengthens this great resource and is yet another step forward in meeting the workforce needs of our Texas employers."

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9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Night Live
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7:00 p.m.

Nathan Stafford
Lady Tasha Stafford



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

In times like these, (just read the newspaper or listening to the news on the radio and/or television) there are many Christians, believers or just plain people, which are losing the battles in their lives. They are losing because they are fighting the wrong enemy!

People for years have been deceived into believing that just because a person said or did something to hurt them, that person is the one they need to fight or to be angry with. But they are wrong.

The Bible says, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6:12 (KJV) And since people are definitely flesh and blood, *they're never the source of our problem.*

Some will say, "But Brother/Sister, you just don't know what So-and-So did to me!" Believe me, it doesn't matter. If you waste your time fighting So-and-So when your real enemy (Satan and his demons) will get away scot-free. They are your life long enemies. They are behind every personal affront you encounter.

People who hurt and persecute you are only Satan's tools. When he wants to discourage you, to strike out at you, mentally and physically attack you, he uses people to get the job done.

Please keep in mind that persecution is not the manifestation of another person's hate for you. It's a manifestation of Satan's fear of you, because as a Christian, he knows that you have the Word of God in you.

When you take God's Word and start swinging it around—using it as the Sword of the Spirit, because that what the Word of God is, the Sword of the Spirit, Satan get scared.

Remember that Jesus always used the Word to send

Fight the right foe



Sister Tarpley with the Director of St. Marks Sanctuary Choir, winner of both the Regional \$10,000 Winner of Verizon How Sweet the Sound Award and the Regional \$5,000 Winner People's Choice Award.

Satan packing, and when he returned (you can be sure that Satan and/or his demons will come back,) Jesus used the Word every time he returned.

Satan will look for some person that he can send in there to dishearten you and to stop you from using God's Word. **The Word of God is the only thing that can stop Satan and his demons.**

The next time that someone hurts you, don't let your-

self get sidetracked into fighting them. **Pray**, and then bind the spirit behind them. Put flash and blood battles behind you and war with the weapons of the Spirit.

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) . . . II Corinthians 10:3-4 (KJV)

Zero in on Satan with authority and the Word of God and bring your real enemy down! "Fight the Right Foe"

Prayers Can't be Answered Unless They are Prayed—Life without purpose is barren indeed – There can't be a harvest unless you plant a seed. There can't be attainment unless there is a goal; and man is but a robot unless there's a soul.

If we don't send ships out, no ships will come in, and unless there's a contest, nobody can win. For games can't be won unless they are played; and **prayers can't be answered unless they are prayed.**

So whatever is wrong with your life today, you'll find a solution if you kneel down and pray. Not just for pleasure, enjoyment and health; not just for honors and prestige and wealth. But pray for a purpose to make life

worth living, and pray for the joy of unselfish giving. For great is your gladness and rich your reward, when you make your life's purpose the choice of the Lord. —Helen Steiner Rice

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Sister Tarpley Thinks You Should Share your Milestone Events

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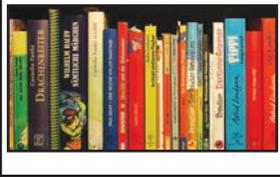
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NDG Bookshelf



BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

You went to work today, and nothing happened.

Oh, there were the usual things: papers to sign, calls to make, clients to soothe. Your job didn't entail someone losing their home. Nobody relinquished their children. Retirement accounts kept intact, belongings weren't divvied up, and checkbooks weren't decimated. Nobody lost their life at your job today.

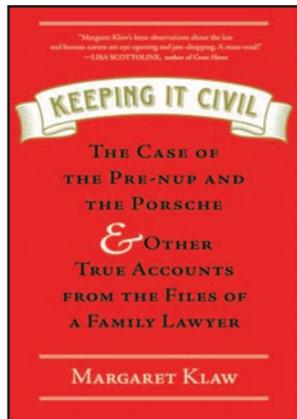
Keeping It Civil by Margaret Klaw is a compelling look at law

But Margaret Klaw sees those things – and more. She's a family lawyer, and in her new book *Keeping It Civil*, she writes about her most memorable court cases.

At the beginning of her college years, Margaret Klaw wanted a career as a professional musician.

That didn't work out very well, though. It wasn't long before she realized that violin practice didn't necessarily make perfect – and besides, the language, ideas, and the preciseness of law intrigued her more than did clefs and notes.

There was never any question about the kind of law she wanted to practice. Klaw was fierce about the rights of



women in court and in family matters because she saw how divorce ruined lives and custody battles ripped families apart.

"Lawyers either love or hate family law," she says.

She's in the former camp – has been, for more than twenty years - but the job, admittedly, has its ups and downs.

Klaw says that the courtroom is basically a "theater," complete with costumes and special rituals performed at every trial. Though most people wouldn't think it possible, lawyers are usually friends with opposing counsel – they have, after all, probably worked together before. There's a lot of strategizing, prediction, psychology, and surprises involved when one is a lawyer, and that's fascinating.

On the flip side, lawyers need to "find the right balance" between identifying with clients and internalizing their prob-

lems. Lawyers need discretion and the ability to walk a fine line between what's allowed and what they think is best.

They know that law is "a public acknowledgement that not all playing fields are level," and they try to fix that inequality. They need listening skills, "a degree of dispassion," and the understanding that "there's no guarantee of happily ever after."

And they need to know that the "unimaginable can and does happen."

What doesn't happen very often is that I read a book straight through, but that's what I did with "Keeping It Civil." I just couldn't stop myself.

That's because author and Pennsylvania "Super Lawyer"

Margaret Klaw shares her cases with excitement, energy, and compassion here. Among other tales, we're treated to an account of a real-life case involving a he-said, she-said situation and two small children, as well as bits of other conflicts, judgments, legal wrangling, and personal anecdotes. That makes this an easy book to jump into, one that will hold your interest throughout, and one that's over, sadly, altogether too soon.

Though this book appears to be more consumer-based, I think anyone who is involved in keeping or practicing law will also get a kick out of it. If that's you, then grab it because reading "Keeping It Civil" is what needs to happen.

HAYES, continued from Page 2

Princess - Austin Sa-Naya White

Preteen - Pearland Camryn Johnson

Ms. - Dallas County Rashida Hobbs

Teen - Garland Ziara Smith

Ms. - East Texas Te-Cosa Walker

Miss Congeniality Winners

Princess - Houston Kelsey Bruno

Preteen - Pearland Camryn Johnson

Ms. - Northeast Texas Natasha Bostic

Teen - Dallas County Dominique Easley

Ms. - East Texas Te-Cosa Walker

Fitness Winners

Princess - Houston Kelsey Bruno

Preteen - Denton Jessica Larry

Ms. - Fort Worth Michaela Watkins

Teen - Garland Ziara Smith

Miss - Texas Southern Jasmine Moore-Kyle

In advance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month and to support Dymond Hayes' platform; "Make the Impact of a Lifetime through Breast Cancer Awareness and Early Detection", this year's pageant partnered with Sisters Network, Inc., a community-based organ-

ization made up of African American breast cancer survivors with a goal to increase local and national attention on the devastating impact that breast cancer has in the African-American community.

As a community service project, contestants collected more than 300 head scarves for the brave women the organization serves. The scarves were presented on-stage to Carla Burnett, representative from Sisters Network, Inc. Contestant Miss Texas Southern University Jasmine Moore-Kyle was award-

ed the community service award for collecting 177 of the scarves.

"This evening was about much more than glitz and glamour," said pageant director Candace Cooper. "We're here to cultivate the next generation of community servants and young ladies of excellence— which will continue long after the stage lights dim."

For more than a decade, the Miss Black America CoEd and Miss Black Texas America CoEd Pageants, produced by Black All-American Pageant Systems, Inc., has promoted community

service, self-esteem and encouraged young women everywhere to create an alternate standard of beauty, celebrate her unique features and love the skin she's in. Miss Black Texas America CoEd /Miss Black Amer-

ica CoEd serves the following age divisions: Princess 5-9, Preteen 10-13, Teen 14-17, Miss 18-27, Ms. 21-40.

For more information visit www.missblackamericacoed.org.

Bible Way Community Baptist Church
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 Sunday Worship 11:00 A.M.
 Wed Bible Study 7:00 P.M.
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Dr. Timothy J. Wilbert, Sr.
Senior Pastor

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 Sunday Bible Class 9:45 am
 Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 am
 Evening Worship 3:00 pm
 Wednesday Bible Class 7:00 pm
 Radio Program @ 7:30 am on
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Youth Church: Every 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sunday at 10:45 a.m.
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