

North Dallas Gazette



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Students honored at Urban League luncheon



Brianna Hamilton

(NDG Wire) Over 100 Students in the Urban League of Greater Dallas EDGE/100 Fellows, Get Smart, Parent's Edge, The National Urban League funded Project Ready Program, Urban League Academy and the Verizon IT Community Program were honored at the Education

Department's annual Achievement Matters Awards Luncheon on Saturday, June 12, 2010.

"The development of the youth who have been entrusted in our care is the single most important job we can undertake," said Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, Urban League President and

CEO. "But tied to that development is our responsibility to recognize our children for their achievements, both at school and in their community service."

The students taking top honors were Edmund Jarrett, EDGE Male Student of

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COVER STORY

Martha Endum Teke

A 17-Year Old Registered Nurse



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Hamilton Park School Wide Reunion

(NDG Wire) The Hamilton Park School Wide Reunion will be August 20-22, 2010 at the Doubletree Hotel located at Campbell Rd and Central Expy in Richardson, Texas. The guest speakers will be Dr. Andrea Leverett Hilburn and Dr. Joseph R. Williams II.

This historical event

will highlight the historic black community located in far North Dallas and marks 55 years of the Hamilton Park School. Among the many achievements from the Hamilton Park community are, Dr. Robert E. Price Post Office, former Dallas Cowboys, Everson Walls, Miss UNCF Natasha Lawton,

and Miss Black Texas Nicole Barrett.

Attendees will include: former students, teachers, and anyone with a connection to the school or community.

Ticket price is \$50. For more information go to: www.hamiltonparkschool-widereunion.com or call: 214-527-7144



Dr. Andrea Leverett Hilburn.



Abraham 'A.B.' McDonald joins Anthony Hamilton and Friends on Tour

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

COMMENTARY

Using Our [Consumer] Power for Good

BY CHERYL PEARSON-MCNEIL

As an executive at the world's largest consumer research organization, The Nielsen Company, I spend my days surrounded by data and statistics. In addition to the well-known TV ratings, Nielsen also measures what consumers buy and what consumers watch. I continue to be amazed at how ethnicity, race, gender and age all impact consumer buying habits and trends. What

amazes me even more is that most of us have no idea how powerful we as African Americans are as consumers. Do you know your power? And Lord have mercy if you do, are you using it for good?

African Americans bring about \$87 billion dollars in buying power to the table. Not a bad place to start. Let me show you what that power looks like day-to-day:

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Are the schools in North Texas scamming or being honest with their spending?

IVY N. CARTER, M.B.A.

North Texas is known throughout the US for its exemplary school districts and the State of Texas is known for its unwillingness to partake in the stimulus funding President

Obama disbursed to the states in an effort to stimulate the local economies. Unfortunately, school districts which may not need additional funding are not truly required to report what they are spending

their federal monies on.

According to Sandy Maddox, deputy executive director of Region 10, a local state education agency assisting teachers and school districts with state educational require-

ments, "It's terribly complicated for most people, even parents who work in the business world to keep track of paperwork, especially financial documents. It's an area of unknown,

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People In The News...



John A. Lewis



Tamika Newhouse



Anthony E. Prior

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John A. Lewis

John A. Lewis is no stranger to the music he has loved since he was a boy, jazz and with his 7th self recorded CD, Progenation, he is ready to continue expressing his love for jazz with 12 original tracks which encompasses bass, the drums and the piano.

Lewis is a native of Dallas where he attended Mountain View Junior College and Southern Methodist University in the 1970s.

He is a former student of noted jazz educator, Dr.

Thom Mason and local pianist and composer Claude Johnson, Jr.

"Being able to learn from the best, during that time, was an honor and helped me reach the level of success I have garnered today," says Lewis.

Lewis is the leader of the John A. Lewis Trio and Quartet and serves as music director and composer in residence at the Dedra Lynn Wood Community Theater.

He has appeared at the Dallas Museum of Art: Jazz in the Atrium and he



continues to perform at the Sullivan's Steakhouse

every Thursday through Saturday.

piano at an early age and compares his musical style

He has delighted the audiences at various local concerts and jazz club performances.

Though a local artist his music can be heard around the country. His mellow notes will set the mood and tone for any event.

Lewis learned to play the

which infuses straightedge swing, Latin and avant-garde music styling to Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter.

His current CD is scheduled to be released this month and will feature all original works. Lewis owns his own recording label Valarteri Records. He is hosting a CD release party at the Balcony Club in Lakewood, a community of Dallas on July 26, 2010 at 9 p.m. For more information on his upcoming CD or for booking information visit his website, www.johnalewisjazz.com.

Tamika Newhouse



Tamika Newhouse is the Best Selling author of

The Ultimate No No, a book that ignites the senses

and makes one think about what should and should not be in a relationship. She also holds the credit of being the creator and President of African Americans on the Move Book Club, which is an online book club catering to avid readers across the nation.

While boasting to the success of her bestselling novel she was again bestowed another honor in March 2009 when she was announced as the Women of the Year by ALIVE Magazine, an online publication,

and nominated as Best Radio Personality by the Black Book Clubs Rock Awards. She can be heard on the syndicated AAMBC Radio, where she interviews new and seasoned authors. The show showcases many of the author's talents and their current projects. Newhouse has received several awards and recognitions including the African American Literary Awards in which she won the Self Published Author of the Year in less than a year after the release of her

first novel.

As if being an author, book club found, radio personality and multiple award winner is not enough, Newhouse is currently the CEO of Delphine Publications. She envisions the company being a major publishing house for minorities who have something to say. Newhouse also created the national tour group called Literary Sistah's, a touring club which caters to African-American female authors who book tour all over the nation.

Newhouse currently resides in San Antonio with her husband, son, and daughter. She released her second book The Ultimate Moment No Regrets in September 2009 and is currently working on her third novel Cookie: A Fort Worth Story. She plans to release her fourth novel Will Love Ever Know Me in the spring of 2011. Newhouse is always looking for new talent and can be reached via her website at www.delphinepublications.com.

Anthony E. Prior

Anthony E. Prior is notably one of the fastest runners in the NFL to date. His speed time of 4.21 seconds at the 40 yard line places him with greats such as Dion Sanders and garnered him success with teams such as the New York Jets, Oakland Raiders and the Minnesota Vikings. His professional football career spans 11 years across the NFL and CFL (Canadian Football League) where he earned the respect and admiration of coaches, players and fans.

After his award winning football career, Prior developed a mission to inspire future professional to understand the undertones and pitfalls of organized sports and has composed and self published six books and is currently working on his

seventh, which is to be released later this year. His books are required reading at seven universities throughout the US because of their poignant storyline and personal experiences shared by Prior.

Prior has also remained true to his passion of run-

ning and started the Ocean Speed Camp in Riverside, CA in 2006. He works with young professional athletes and high school students seeking to increase their speed in athletics. Prior, a Texas native, also holds training camps in the Dallas area at local schools and colleges. He mentors and inspires young athletes to grow their mental under-

standing of sports and their abilities. He is a motivational speaker and philosopher and has delivered a great oratory, "Chasing the Dream", which has inspired the thousands who have heard it.

Ocean Speed Camp is the premier speed training camp for young and developing athletes. For more information on Anthony E.



Prior books, motivational speaking and mentoring visit www.anthonyprior.com. For more infor-

mation regarding a group or private session for speed development visit www.oceanspeedcamp.com.

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Phone: 972-516-2992

Fax: 972-509-9058

**Publisher's Office:**

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

opportunity@northdallasgazette.com

Editorial Department:

editor@northdallasgazette.com

Online:

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Website:

Website: www.NorthDallasGazette.com

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Published By

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U.S. House passes Wall Street reform

Senate action expected mid-July

BY CHARLENE CROWELL

The recent passing of the longest-serving U.S. Senator in our nation's history delayed a final vote on the future of financial reform crafted by a joint Capitol Hill conference committee. Memorial services on July 1 honored the late Sen. Robert Byrd of West Virginia and his service of more than 50 years and spanned 11 presidential administrations.

However on the House side, the business of financial reform moved one step closer to becoming reality. On June 30, the U.S. House of Representatives successfully passed the historic reform package on a 237-192 vote.

Commenting on the key vote, Nancy Zirkin, executive vice president of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, is-

sued a formal statement.

"Years of deregulation have resulted in a financial system that privatized the gains and socialized the losses" said Ms. Zirkin.

"The Dodd-Frank bill will help end Wall Street's reckless practices, and includes a number of common-sense provisions that civil rights, consumer, and labor advocates have sought for years – like requiring lenders to make sure that borrowers can repay their mortgages and creating a consumer regulator to do the job that Wall Street regulators didn't do."

Although Ms. Zirkin and many progressive allies were encouraged by the vote, other public comments signaled that even more work will need to be done before the Senate takes up the measure following the summer holiday

recess. For some in decision-making positions, the proposed financial reform is a serious threat to free market enterprise and a deterrent to economic recovery, leaving those who championed the effort bewildered.

In an effort to forge bipartisan support for the measure, the conference committee reconvened before the House vote on late Tuesday, June 27 to revisit one item at the request of Massachusetts Senator Scott Brown.

Brown had publicly threatened to withdraw his personal support of the bill due to the late conference addition of a \$19 billion bank fee that was added to cover costs of the reform. In two hours time, the fee was dropped and replaced by leftover funds already appropriated to the Troubled Asset Relief Program

(TARP).

In other words, instead of requiring banks to cover the cost of financial reform that their ill-advised practices created, taxpayers will be stuck with the bill. But there's even more.

After winning his way, Sen. Brown issued a statement advising, "I appreciate the conference committee revisiting the Wall Street reform bill and removing the \$19 billion bank tax," he said in a statement. "Over the July recess, I will continue to review this important bill."

Reacting to the emerging partisan comments, President Obama said during a Wednesday appearance in Racine, Wisconsin, "You would think this would be a bipartisan issue. This is the same financial

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POWER, continued from Page 1

What We Buy

African American households spend about \$32.45 every time we go grocery shopping. This is less than average, but we shop more often than other groups--approximately 167 shopping trips a year vs. 156. That's 167 opportunities to choose with care where you shop. On average, Blacks tend to spend more in Dollar, Convenience and Military Stores than we do in traditional supermarkets. How committed are your favorite stores to people of color? Do they give back to the community? If not, changing stores is an easy way to exert some power.

And how about the products you buy once you get to the store? We spend more of our income on food consumed at home; and research shows cooking from scratch is really important to us. (Well--I can cook from scratch...just not often, something that's clearly not lost on my fam-

ily: this past Sunday I cooked both a big breakfast and a big dinner, and suddenly they wanted to "raise a shrine in my honor for the sacrifice I'd made." Families can be so cruel.) And since Blacks also use fewer coupons than any other demographic group, this means we're probably more brand loyal and not afraid to spend more money on the items we love. Are the manufacturers who make these products as loyal to you? Are you buying items from companies that use people of color in their ads? Pay attention to those ads the next time you're watching TV. And speaking of TV...

What We Watch

African Americans tend to have more TVs in our homes and we watch a lot more TV than the general population. Per week, our households watch almost 80 hours of TV a week compared to the general population, which averages about 58 hours. Are you sending up flares to the net-

works and cable companies that don't have people who look like you in their program lineup? Although data has shown that black audiences prefer comedies, we also favor football, American Idol and Dancing With the Stars. Perhaps that's because these shows typically do include people who look like us.

We do like to be entertained! We listen to 25 hours of radio each week, go to the movies about seven times a year, and have a higher than average mobile web usage. I am just going to assume that ya'll are spending some of that time on stations that hire Black DJs, seeing movies that feature black actors and actresses and signing up for those multiple-year phone contracts with carriers who employ a diverse staff? C'mon now, can I get an Amen?

The Growth Numbers

With all of the negative information and stats that are fed to us in the media, I

want you to pay close attention to these numbers:

In the fall of 2008, there were 2.5 million black college students. That is twice as many as 15 years earlier. Six percent of us have a graduate or professional degree, compared with only 4.9% in 2000. Nearly 18% of us have a bachelor's degree or higher. In 2000, that number was 14.5%. And 81% of black adults have a high school diploma. That's up almost 10% since 2000. There are approximately 40 million African Americans in the United States. As one civil rights leader so aptly explained – this is larger than many countries!

What does all of this information mean? It means that marketers and advertisers can't afford to take us for granted. And you can't afford to be an uneducated consumer. Because when you are informed and educated you are pure power baby! Now go forth and use your power for good.

It May Not Always Be Stress

BY IVY N. CARTER, MBA

"I'm so stressed out with these bills, my family, my significant other, my everything." You may have uttered these words more times than you care to admit. You may have even wished for a relief of all the chaos in your life but because of who you are to so many people you keep it to yourself. Oftentimes African American women are the glue to everything, everyone and in every aspect of their personal, professional and social lives. The more roles you take on (the superwoman syndrome) the more likely you become subjected to mental exhaustion and even mental illness such as severe depression, bipolar disorder, and anxiety disorders. Yes, mental illness occurs in Black women and unfortunately, the word mental illness is taboo in the Black community and many women of color who suffer from moderate to severe mental illness go untreated.

According to Mental Health America (formerly known as National Mental Health Association) a mental illness is a disease that causes mild to severe disturbances in thought and/or behavior, resulting in an inability to cope with life's ordinary demands and routines. There are more than 200 classified forms of mental illness with symptoms which may include changes in mood, personality, personal habits and/or social withdrawal. Mental health problems may be related to excessive stress due to a particular situation or series of events. Mental illnesses may be caused by a reaction to environmental stresses, genetic factors, biochemical imbalances, or a combination of these (Mental Health America, 2009).

Environmental stressors or unaddressed issues can and do often cause you to experience a lapse in your mental capacity which limits

your ability to function normally. Depending on the causes of stress, such as a family member, child, spouse or employer, you may decide to continue to allow the stressor to impact your mental and physical health. These stressors often determine whether or not you seek treatment or continue to use stress as an excuse.

Just the thought of being labeled with an illness White women are known to experience keep Black women from seeking the treatment they need despite the warning signs. These emotional, behavioral and cognitive warning signs as listed by the Mayo Clinic may include:

- Feeling sad or down
- Confused thinking
- Excessive fears or worries
- Withdrawal from friends and activities
- Problems sleeping
- Delusions or hallucinations
- Inability to cope with

daily problems or stress

- Alcohol or substance abuse
- Significant changes in eating habits
- Sex drive changes
- Excessive anger, hostility or violence

Even if you keep telling yourself that you are not mentally ill, that you have it all together and that you can handle it your body will let you know that you may be experiencing signs of mental illness. These physical symptoms of mental illness may include:

- Numerous unexplained physical problems
- Fatigue
- Back pain
- Chest pain
- Digestive problems
- Dry mouth
- Headache
- Sweating
- Weight gain or loss
- Rapid heart rate
- Dizziness

Far too often African American women turn to

their families, friends, churches and other confidants to assist them with undiagnosed and unprofessional advice. We are quick to take advice from our grandmother, mother, aunt who may have or are experiencing signs of mental illness. All who give the common African American answer to everything, 'just pray about it'. Yes, prayer is a powerful tool which enables us to reach beyond our natural understanding but prayer alone does nothing for untreated mental illnesses. In order for you to understand any of the above listed symptoms you must be willing to seek professional help.

If you have medical coverage through your employer then you should contact your provider for a list of mental illness professionals in your area. If you do not have medical insurance but are employed your employer may have an Employee Assistance Program, (EAP)

which will refer you to a mental health professional for free or a small nominal fee. If you are unemployed visit your nearest hospital or clinic in your area for treatment. You do not have to suffer because you do not have the financial means for treatment because there are options for you to get better.

Stress is a normal part of life but if your stress is persistent then you may be suffering from a form of mental illness. Stop hiding from the real issue because having a mental illness does not equal crazy, it just means you need help. Talk with a healthcare professional immediately, especially if you are experiencing thoughts of suicide or harming someone else.

For more information on mental illness symptoms visit www.mayoclinic.com. If you want to know more about mental illness and the importance of mental health visit www.nmha.org.

Can Aspirin Prolong a Healthy Life?

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center to Test the Benefits of Aspirin

(NDG Wire) In an effort to extend the length of a disability-free life for older adults, researchers from University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center are partnering with colleagues from across the US and Australia in the largest international trial ever sponsored by the US National Institute on Aging (NIA).

The Aspirin in Reducing Events in the Elderly (ASPREE) study aims to assess whether aspirin can not only prolong life, but a life free of physical disability and/or dementia for healthy older people.

According to Dr. Shawna Nesbitt, an ASPREE investigator from UT Southwestern, "This is a large study of elderly people including 19,000 participants and 6,500 from the United States. The study will help to clarify whether a commonly used medicine such as aspirin is truly ben-

eficial in elderly people to improve quality of life and protection from decline. We know this answer for younger people, but no clear answers exist for elderly persons."

While it is known that aspirin prevents heart attacks and strokes in people with established heart disease-- benefits which clearly outweigh any risks associated with aspirin, such as bleeding-- the role of aspirin in people without a history of cardiovascular disease is less certain.

"In the US, Australia and elsewhere, people are living longer so identifying treatments to prolong life free of physical disability and memory problems is increasingly important," explains ASPREE investigator Dr. Anne Murray, epidemiologist and geriatrician, and Associate Professor of Medicine and Geriatrics at the University of Minnesota.

"Aspirin is a potentially useful drug as it is cheap and widely available."

To date, very little information is available about the overall effects of aspirin in older adults, because most trials focus on middle-aged people. The ASPREE study, for the first time, will determine whether the potential benefits of low dose aspirin outweigh the risks specifically for people age 70 and over.

"Because of its proven effectiveness in preventing second events, many doctors have also prescribed aspirin to prevent heart attacks and strokes in otherwise healthy people," explains Professor John McNeil, Head of the Monash School of Public Health and Preventative Medicine in Australia, and also a principal investigator for ASPREE.

"However, in the last couple of years, serious doubts have been raised

about the evidence supporting this practice, and as a result, editorials in major medical journals have called for this question to be settled."

The ASPREE study will enroll 6,500 healthy individuals age 70 and over in the US and another 12,500 in Australia. 600 of those participants will come from Dallas. All eligible participants will be randomly assigned to take either low dose aspirin or placebo daily for about 5 years.

Patients will receive initial measurements on specific health markers, as well as functional and cognitive ability, and changes in these will be monitored throughout the study.

"We believe that the results from the ASPREE study may have a major impact on the practice of medicine for the elderly," says Dr. Nesbitt.

ASPREE is being con-

ducted in clinics and universities located in select cities in Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North

Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Texas. More information can be found at www.ASPREE.org.

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TXU Energy's Summer Moratorium on Disconnects Begins Today

Customers must contact TXU Energy to sign up for special, more flexible payment plans

(NDG Wire) TXU Energy's summer moratorium on disconnects for customers in need goes into effect today. A flexible payment plan is available for residential customers designated as low-income, ill or disabled, or who are at least 62 years of age. This is the fourth consecutive year the company has offered protections to eligible customers.

Customers must contact TXU Energy at (800) 242-9113 on or after July 1st to notify the company of their needs and to sign up for special, more flexible payment plans. These measures will be in effect July 1 through September 30, 2010. TXU Energy also waives deposit requirements for residential customers who are at least 62 years of age and for all customers with a good record of timely payment.

"At TXU Energy we understand that some customers need assistance with their electricity bills, which is why we offer our voluntary summer moratorium and continue to offer several other programs to assist our customers in need," said Jim Burke, chief executive officer, TXU Energy. "It's important for customers to call us and sign up for the summer moratorium and to communicate their special needs so we can assist them."

TXU Energy's customer protection measures include:
Summer Moratorium on Disconnects

Certain customers who

are designated as low-income, ill or disabled, or who are at least 62 years of age can avoid disconnection of service due to non-payment by contacting TXU Energy at (800) 242-9113 and enrolling in one of the Summer Moratorium plans described below.

The 2010 Summer Moratorium Plans

- Enhancements for customers qualifying under existing PUC rules

TXU Energy will allow customers designated as low-income, ill or disabled, or who are at least 62 years of age and who qualify for a deferred payment plan under the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) customer protection rules to continue to receive electric service by paying 25 percent of their total outstanding balance of electric charges, with the remaining balance to be paid in equal installments over the next five billing cycles (typically, balances must be paid in three billing cycles).

- Special payment program for certain customer groups

A flexible payment plan is also available to customers who are designated as low-income, ill or disabled, or who are at least 62 years of age, even if they do not qualify for a payment plan under the PUC customer protection rules. Customers who enroll will continue to receive electric service by paying 50 percent of the total outstanding balance of electric charges,

with the remaining balance to be paid in equal installments over the next five billing cycles.

- An additional payment program for other customer groups

Customers designated as either (1) both low-income and who are at least 62 years of age, or (2) ill or disabled can avoid disconnection of service due to non-payment through a special TXU Energy program, even if they do not qualify for a payment plan under the PUC customer protection rules.

Qualifying customers who contact TXU Energy before the due date of their current bill and agree to this program can continue to receive electric service by paying 50 percent of their electric bill that becomes due in each of the months of July, August and September. Beginning with the first electric bill due after September 30, 2010, customers subscribing to this plan will be required to pay the deferred balance in equal installments over the next five bills in addition to their actual charges for that month.

- Average Monthly Billing is also an option for these customer groups

Customers who call will have the option to sign up for TXU Energy's Average Monthly Billing (AMB) program instead of establishing a payment plan. For many customers, summer consists of several months of high usage bills which can be difficult to pay. AMB spreads electricity costs over 12

months, making a customer's monthly electric bill more predictable. During the higher usage bills of summer, the amount in excess of a customer's annual average monthly bill amount is placed on their account, but it is generally not due until their usage drops below the average and the deferred amount is gradually repaid.

Waiver of Deposits

TXU Energy waives deposits for residential customers who are at least 62 years of age and for any residential customer with an electric bill payment history of no more than one late payment during the prior 12-month period. TXU Energy provides additional deposit waivers as well, including all PUC required waivers.

\$250 Million Commitment to Customer Assistance and Energy Efficiency Initiatives

These customer protections are in addition to a comprehensive set of commitments totaling \$250 million through 2012, including:

- \$125 Million Commitment to Low-Income Customer Discount Program

TXU Energy is investing \$125 million through 2012 in a special year-round low-income discount program. TXU Energy is the only retail electric company in Texas that voluntarily provides an approximate 10 percent discount for participating low-income customers. This discount is in addition to the one provided by the State of Texas' System Benefit Fund

– the state directed program for low-income assistance on energy bills. As of April 2010, almost 135,000 TXU Energy customers have been enrolled to receive the discount. The program is available to TXU Energy low-income customers in all the competitive areas across Texas.

- \$25 Million Commitment to TXU Energy AidSM Program

Working with social service agencies statewide, TXU Energy administers and helps fund the TXU Energy AidSM program, which benefits any customer who has an emergency need for bill payment assistance. TXU Energy is providing \$25 million through 2012 for TXU Energy AidSM, in addition to any funds received from customers and employees for this important program. TXU Energy's program is the largest bill payment assistance program among electricity companies in the nation.

- \$100 Million Commitment to Energy Efficiency and Conservation Invest-

ments

Additionally, TXU Energy plans to spend \$100 million through 2012 to help customers reduce the amount of electricity they use through energy efficiency and conservation initiatives.

A portion of this commitment has been dedicated to the company's Low-Income Energy Assistance Program, which targets single- and multi-family homes by providing access to technologies that help customers use less electricity so they reduce their overall bills and save money.

TXU Energy has recently launched a website at txu.com/billhelp that contains more information about the summer moratorium. The website is designed to give consumers the ability to identify common causes of high electricity costs and provides a number of easy-to-use tools to help consumers learn about and manage their energy consumption. It also provides information and resources for customers on how to get help with their electricity bill.

Gov. Perry Announces Formation of Gulf Project

(NDG Wire) Gov. Rick Perry has announced the formation of the Gulf Project, a coalition of energy and environmental scientists, policy experts, academic researchers, private sector research scientists and state officials who will work to ensure Texas never endures the environmental and economic disaster currently occurring in the Gulf of Mexico as a result of the

Deepwater Horizon rig explosion.

"To keep our status as the energy capital of the nation and preserve our environment, jobs and economy, Texas must become the world leader in developing the next generation in offshore oil exploration safety and response," Gov. Perry said. "The Gulf Project is an unprecedented collaboration of the state's top scientists,

engineers and researchers, focused on protecting our residents, environment and economy, and solving the unique challenges presented by the next generation of domestic energy exploration and production."


The University of Texas, Texas A&M University, the University of Houston, Rice University, Texas Tech University, Southern Methodist University, the Research

Partnership to Secure Energy for America (RPSEA), Texas General Land Office and Texas Railroad Commission are participating in the effort, and other experts and institutions of higher education may join later.

A key challenge for the industry is the current inability to test full drilling systems to determine their

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TSTC leads associate degree conferral in Texas

(WACO) — When it comes to conferring the most associate degrees, Texas State Technical College leads the way for any college in Texas in not one but three categories, according to *Community College Week* magazine's annual report, "Top 100 Associate Degree Producers," 2010 edition.

The annual report lists associate degrees and certificates conferred during the 2008-09 academic year for two- and four-year public, private and proprietary schools; data is collected from the National Center for Education Statistics through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Set (IPEDS) completion

survey. Analysis is limited to schools accredited by either a regional or specialized accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

TSTC earned the top spot in Texas for graduating the most students in the categories of Precision Production, Engineering Technologies/Technicians and

Computer & Information Sciences & Support Services.

The college also ranked No. 2 in Texas in the category of Agriculture, Agriculture Operations & Related Sciences.

Since the report's inception, TSTC has ranked top in the state numerous times and has stayed consistently

on the top 50 list in nearly every category for which it is eligible.

The magazine has a circulation of 18,000 and is distributed to college employees and students, as well as to professional associations, business and industry executives, military personnel, federal state and local government officials

and more.

The rankings are one way Community College Week recognizes the efforts of hundreds of thousands of faculty, staff and administrators who dedicate themselves to educating students.

To read the full report, visit www.ccweek.com/ and click on Top 100.

SPENDING, continued from Page 1

understanding who sets the rules when purchasing with federal money; and I think schools are grappling with that."

"Money usually distributed by the state requires more paperwork now that it goes through the federal government. Another bucket of funds needs a different monitoring system, and the increased possibility of audits turns stimulus reporting into a laborious and time-zapping process," said Richard Matkin, Plano ISD's associate superintendent for business services. "That means more accountability but less overall clarity."

"It all got very convoluted," he said. "It became cumbersome just for the finance people to explain to the general public what the stimulus money was and how we were using it."

According to some school district officials the federal expenditure reports add to the confusion of keeping track of the necessary receipts and payments made to vendors and contractors. These reports may include payments to companies outside the district's

normal supply chain but require no further detail which makes using some services look suspicious.

The need is simple for the school districts to remain compliant rather than look unscrupulous and that is more accounting techniques need to be developed, trained and adhered to; the establishment of a fiduciary requirement of all districts which receives federal stimulus monies; and a proper chain of command for questionable activities.

According to the Texas Education Agency, Plano ISD has spent more than \$25,000 — for Humanware software and at the University of North Texas. The Carrollton-Farmers Branch school district lists energy companies as its major vendors. Frisco ISD shows the biggest eye-opener — Caldwell Country Chevrolet. These vague details show a frivolous spending pattern of credible and reputable districts but looking further into the details Plano spent \$36,000 on special education equipment to use with visually impaired students — the Humanware. The district paid UNT for 28 teachers to

take a master's program class. Carrollton-Farmers Branch used the federal money to pay electric bills and Frisco ISD spent \$181,000 on six Suburbans for a special education program.

Sandra Abrevaya, a spokeswoman for the Department of Education, said in response to the allegations against the schools districts, "Bottom line, [this was a] great first attempt at setting up a federal reporting system," she said. "It works quite well for some programs, but doesn't allow as much detail at the [district] level as we would have built in if we were designing it just for ED."

Where districts spent stimulus funds

Select stimulus-funded purchases of \$25,000 or more by local school districts:

Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD: Atmos Energy
Dallas ISD: Town of Addison, Waste Management of Texas
Frisco ISD: Caldwell Country Chevrolet
McKinney ISD: Jeannie Koons/Educational Designs
Plano ISD: Humanware
Plano ISD: University of North Texas
Richardson ISD: Advanced Hearing Center

SOURCE: Texas Education Agency

Free Community Health Fair at Vines High School

(NDG Wire) A free community health fair will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 28, at Vines High School, 1401 Highedge Drive (just east of Independence on 15th Street). Additional parking will be available next to Vines at

the Plano ISD Administration Building, 2700 W. 15th Street. The fair will include:

The fair will provide the following health services:

- Sports Physicals for all ages/sports
- Immunizations (bring

See FAIR, Page 14

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Wii Games: Summer 2010 at Six Flags Over Texas

(NDG Wire) Nintendo is taking some of America's biggest video games out of the living room and into Six Flags Over Texas in Arlington, TX. Starting July 16, Arlington residents will have a remarkable opportunity to get up and get playing in the first-ever nationwide Wii Games: Summer 2010 competition.

Nintendo fans of all ages

and backgrounds in Arlington can step into the Wii Games spotlight by coming together with family and friends at Six Flags Over Texas to compete for top scores and enjoy Nintendo's groundbreaking motion-control games in this extraordinary live competition. Attendees will vie for a chance to win a trip to the Wii Games national championship and

compete in Los Angeles this September. Highlighting its long-standing partnership with Nintendo, Six Flags will host tournaments on five consecutive weekends at eight theme parks. Additional events will be held at 16 shopping malls around the country.

The Wii Games: Summer 2010 competition will focus on the following activities:

ities:

- Basketball and bowling in Wii Sports Resort
- Hula Hoop challenge from Wii Fit Plus
- New Super Mario Bros. Wii
- Mario Kart Wii

Individuals can participate weekends beginning Friday, July 16 until Sunday, August 15. Sessions start at 12 p.m. on Fridays and 12

p.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. For more information about the Wii Games: Summer 2010 competition, including details on how to participate, visit: www.wiigames2010.com.



Environmental Award Recognizes Public Education Excellence at Live Green Expo

The City of Plano's Live Green Expo has been selected to receive the 2010 Silver Public Education Excellence Award by Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA).

"You should be very proud of this successful effort in achieving the highest level of excellence in solid waste management," said Pamela Wike, training program manager, SWANA. "This is no small accomplishment given the excellent quality of this year's nominations and the challenges faced by many of the programs and operations in the solid waste industry."

The award selection is based on established criteria which includes; research and planning, identifying and meeting specific goals, project implementation, and quantifiable success measures which show attendance, behavior changes and positive environmental outcomes.

The 2010 Silver Public Education Excellence Award will be presented on Sunday, Aug. 15 at SWANA's Awards Brunch in conjunction with WASTECON 2010 in Boston, Mass.

The 2011 Live Green Expo will be held on Saturday, April 16 at Plano Centre. The event is a fun, free, family-friendly experience which offers resources and information to help residents live a greener, cleaner lifestyle.

Awards Brunch in conjunction with WASTECON 2010 in Boston, Mass.

The 2011 Live Green Expo will be held on Saturday, April 16 at Plano Centre. The event is a fun, free, family-friendly experience which offers resources and information to help residents live a greener, cleaner lifestyle.

For more information, visit livegreenexpo.net and discover ways to get involved through partnership, as an exhibitor, or by attending the Expo.

Charity package includes meeting with 2010 "American Idols" Lee DeWyze and Crystal Bowersox

Two lucky fans will get the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to get up close & personal with this year's "American Idol" champion Lee DeWyze and runner-up Crystal Bowersox at one of 48 cities featured on

the 2010 American Idols Live Tour!

This fantastic concert package include two (2) VIP floor tickets and meet-and-greets with DeWyze and the entire American Idol Top 10 (including fa-

vorites Bowersox and Casey James)! The proceeds will benefit the ACLU of Southern California. Visit www.charity-folks.com/americanidol to learn more and for a list of cities.

LUNCHEON, continued from Page 1



Darrel Dunn



Demosthenes Sherman

the Year; Shonjia Hairston, EDGE Female Student of the Year; Amber Chalmers, Volunteer of the Year; A'Deana Thomas and Perry Jones, Outstanding Achiever; and Amber Chambers, Volunteer of the Year.

A highlight of the Luncheon was the presenta-

tion of laptops by Verizon to the winners of the Verizon HTML/Web Design Awards for best website designs. Brianna Hamilton won 1st Place; Darrel Dunn placed 2nd; and Demosthenes Sherman won 3rd Place. Other participants who completed three classes also received I-

Pods by Verizon. The program provided students with a platform to learn, develop, and implement real-life technology projects. The Verizon HTML Web Design course also offered students the fundamental concepts of HTML coding which allowed them to deliver a basic website including media content.

The keynote speaker for the event was Anthony Kyles, Director of Sales for the Southwest, Frito Lay's largest region. He is responsible for the sales, marketing and customer initiatives that generate over \$1 billion dollars annually. State Farm employees were volunteers for the event.

Youth Weekend 2010 at 'The Light'

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Every Tuesday

The Irving Public Library invites families to enjoy stories and music in both English and Spanish. **Family bilingual storytimes** are offered at 11 a.m. Tuesdays at the East Branch Library, 440 S. Nursery Road, and at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd. For more information, call 972-721-2458.

Ongoing

African American Republican Club of Collin County meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm. (Doors open at 6:30 pm.) Collin County Republican Party HQ, 8416 Stacy Rd., McKinney. Call Linda Wynn Drain, 214-498-7574 or website www.aarcc.com

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

DFW Financially Empowered Women meet monthly for lunch or dinner and a fun, informative seminar on various financial topics. Info: 469-942-0809 or meeetup.com/378.

Group Business Seminars at 4907 Spring Avenue, Dallas, (214) 11:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.; 3rd Friday of the month 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for those interested in starting your own business, it is a Brown Bag Lunch with Free Parking

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch 1st Thursday at 1 pm in Plano Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com

LimitNetwork.com or 972-898-5882.

The National Business Women Enterprise Network (NBWEN) Learning Over Lunch Series: 4th Saturdays, 11am-1pm, Remarkable Affairs Cafe, 2727 LBJ Fwy., Suite 140, Dallas. \$20 for members; \$35 for non-members, \$5 off for early bird registration. <http://nbwenorg.ning.com>.

North Dallas Texas Democratic Women Regular Meetings 4th Thursday, 6:45 p.m. Northaven United Methodist Church, 11211 Preston Rd (between Forest & Royal Lanes).

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

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

Business Empowerment Sessions. Learn to grow a successful small business. 1st Thursday of each month at Christian Chapel Temple of Faith, 14120 Noel Rd., Dallas. Call 214-942-6698 for details.

How to start a business. Free sessions on getting started the right way. Sessions held the last Monday of each month. Call The PLAN Fund for details 214-942-6698.

Thru Jul. 18

Spring Thoroughbred Horse Racing The horses are ready, are you? Come join us at Lone Star Park in Grand Prairie when the live Spring Thoroughbred Horse Racing begins. For more details,

schedules and ticket information, please visit www.lonestarpark.com

Thru Aug. 28

Mesquite Championship Rodeo Every Friday and Saturday night in 2010 (June 4th – August 28th) thousands of visitors will witness the thrills of the original western sport: the rodeo! We work hard to provide an exciting place where children and adults can be safe and still get close to the action: crazy clowns, brave cowboys, talented cowgirls, fast horses and big bulls. Many of our guests are coming to see their first professional rodeo so you may see people from many nationalities and countries. Families with children can enjoy face painting, cowboy autographs, visit the western store, eat at the BBQ pavillion or experience either a pony ride or petting zoo. The rodeo will open with an exciting new laser show followed by all the rodeo events you've come to expect at a championship rodeo: Bull Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Bareback Riding, Barrel Racing, Tie-Down Roping, Steer Wrestling, and Team Roping. Visit www.mesquite rodeo.com for more information.

Thru September 5

Constructive Spirit: Abstract Art in South and North America, 1920s–1950s at the AMon Carter Museum of Art www.cartermuseum.org/exhibitions

Thru Sept. 6

Gaylord Texan Summer-Fest Wonderland Adventure brings to life author Lewis Carroll's original vision of the magical place called Wonderland. Guests will enjoy fun-filled exhibits, performances and games for both the young and the young at heart! Journey Down The Rabbit Hole 3-D Black Light Maze, PHOTO with ALICE and the Cheshire Cat, Rock Band

Bar Nights, wine and cheese tastings, family dive in movies, fireworks and more. Visit www.gaylordhotels.com for more information.

Thru November 7

Amon Carter Museum's Ansel Adams: Eloquent Light features 40 photographs by the artist. Admission to the Carter is free.

July 9

Join Garland Chamber of Commerce for their new/prospective member orientation. Come out to discuss your business needs/concerns 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Garland Chamber of Commerce, 520 N. Glenbrook - Garland, TX 75040

July 10

Dallas Reggae Festival 2010 at The Band Shell at Fair Park. Tickets: \$27. Kids under 12 FREE. Ages 12-17 \$5 and over 60 \$5. There will be food vendors, arts & crafts, face painting, kids activities and senior discounts.

July 12-16

ROBOTS - 4 - U Summer Camp. Five days of fun with robots. Robots, science, design, building, programming and playing. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. Admission: \$275.00. Info: 972-782-2503, 972-782-2503 or visit www.robots-4-u.com

July 13

Networking Business Luncheon "Unarmed but Dangerous" Speaker - Tawana Williams Sponsored by GLS Labor Systems on 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Action C, TR4212, Trinity Building 4th Floor, Tarrant County College - Trinity River Campus, 300 Trinity Campus Circle, Fort Worth, TX 76102. \$20. "Unarmed but Dangerous on sale - \$20. Garage parking pass will be emailed upon RSVP. Info: receptionist@austincompany.com

July 15-16

Grant Writing Training at the Dallas VA Medical Center, Community Center Building 75 by the Governor's Institute for technical support in completing VA Grant Per Diem applications to provide transitional housing for homeless veterans with VA funding. Info: www1.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD.asp

July 15-17

Friends of the Plano Public Library 27th Annual Book Sale First Nighter Sale, July 15, 6 - 10pm, Entry fees: \$5 Ind., \$10 Family. Free Friday, July 16, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. and July 17, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. No sales tax! Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. Info: 972-941-7193 or www.friendsofplanopubliclibrary.org/.

July 15

A Beka Book Home School A home school curriculum and text book sale. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. Info: Mickey Pierce, 800-613-3222 ext. 67 or visit our website at www.abeka.org

July 16

Enjoy a fun-filled Happy Hour with live music and a buffet at the **Hot Day, Cool Event! Dallas Margarita Society's Happy Hour** to Benefit Dallas Children's Charities 5:30-9 p.m. at The Londoner, 14930 Midway Road. All donations of \$10 will benefit the Dallas Children's Charities. Info: info@londoneraddison.com

July 17-25

National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs 75th National Convention at Hyatt Regency Hotel D/FW

July 20

Jim Austin Online.com Networking Mixer presents **Mix & Mingle with Fort Worth's Leading Business Professionals!** Free Admission

and Free Food & Door Prizes. Tuesday, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. at The Vault, 525 Taylor Street, Ft. Worth, TX 76102

July 21-24

Life Enrichment Boot Camp: www.lifeenrichmentbootcamp.com Designed for singles, divorcees and couples. \$200 per person. Marriage Boot Camp: www.marriagebootcamp.com Designed for all couples. \$800 per couple. Info: David Bishop at 214-736-9991. LEBC Program Times: Wednesday - Friday 6pm - 11pm. and Saturday, 10am. - 10pm. MBC Program Times: Wednesday - Friday 10am - 11pm. and Saturday, 10am. - 10pm. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway.

July 28 – August 8

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® at the American Airlines Center

August 14

Career Fair at the 6th annual No Limit Women's Expo 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Richardson Civic Center, 411 W. Arapaho Rd, Richardson. Admission to the Career Fair is free for job seekers. General admission to the other activities at the expo is \$5 or \$3 with a canned food donation benefiting the North Texas Food Bank.

October 2 – January 2, 2011

American Modern: Abbott, Evans, Bourke-White at the AMon Carter Museum of Art www.cartermuseum.org/exhibitions

October 23

2010 C.C. Rousseau Scholarship Black and Gold Gala at 7 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel (Downtown Dallas). Tickets are \$65.00 per person or \$650 per table. This is a Black Tie event. : DallasAlphas.com or : jabari156@gmail.com

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Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community

Martha Endum Teke

A 17-Year-Old Registered Nurse

BY SISTER TARPLEY

In April 2010, I received an invitation from Martha 2 inviting me to The Texas A & M University System Health Science Center College of Nursing Commencement in College Station, Texas in the Frymire Auditorium at the Annenberg Presidential Conference Center.

The invitation stated that Martha 2 was graduating Magna Cum Laude

On May 21, 2010 as a Registered Nurse (RN); and as a 17-year-old Honor Graduate she was a 2010 College of Nursing Honor Society inductee.

In 2008, Martha 2 was a cover story for *North Dallas Gazette (NDG)* because she was a 15-year-old student entering Texas A & M College of Nursing as a junior student. At the time *NDG* stated that Martha 2's

true passion was 'patient care' therefore, her desire was to be a RN first, but her ultimate goal is to be a doctor.

Knowing that Martha 2 was only 17, I was truly amazed that she was graduating Magna Cum Laude as a RN in College Station; so, I called the school and asked for the Dean of Students. The call was routed to Ms. Sharon A. Wilkerson, PH.D., R.N. Dean. After introductions I told Dean Wilkerson that I was doing a follow-up story on Martha 2.

I expressed pleasure, joy, excitement, and pride that Martha 2 is only 17 and graduating Magna Cum Laude from the College of Nursing. I asked Dean Wilkerson if Martha 2 was the youngest RN graduating from Texas A & M in College Station. She told me

that Martha 2 is the youngest in Texas A & M Systems all over Texas, not just in College Station and that she would more likely than not, will forever hold that distinction.

Dean Wilkerson stated that Martha 2 was too young to live on campus when she enrolled in 2008; and the college had to get special permission for Martha 2 to take the RN Board Exam in June 2010 because one of the requirements states that the student must be 18-years-old (the age that is considered an adult in Texas.)

The apartments where Martha 2 lives is near the church (Parkway Baptist Church, Pastor & Mrs. Chris Snidow and members) where she attends as a student in College Station; they hosted a graduation party on the afternoon of Commencement and invited all of Martha 2's family and friends.

Martha 2 produced a video of various family members, church members, friends and classmates, to thank all persons who had a part in helping her to reach this milestone in her life. The pastor and church members have taken Martha 2 under their watchful care, they are doing such a marvelous job of caring for her that her mother no longer feel the need to go to College Station weekly.

I am extremely honored to say that Martha 2 passed the Board Exam on the first try on June 17, 2010. It took her less than an hour and a half to finish the exam. When I was congratulating her; in her most humble way (as she always does) she gave God all the credit (we should all do that) because He had blessed her once more to do

well on an exam.

Born September 4, 1992 in Erie, PA, Martha 2 is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Mathia's Tekwe (Martha Akwa) Teke; both parents were born in Africa. Martha 2, her parents and her 6-year-old brother, Mathias Tekwe Teke II currently reside in Frisco, Texas.

At a younger age, Martha 2 parents moved to Texas and enrolled her in a private Christian school in Carrollton where she excelled academically and completed the third grade before being "skipped" to middle school. She mastered every test that was administered to her.

In 2001, Mr. & Mrs. (a RN also) Teke decided to send their daughter to an all girl Boarding School in Africa to complete middle and high school. Martha 2 was enrolled in Africa's



also an alumnus of Saker Baptist College; and she featured Martha 2 in her magazine as an inspirational role model for young girls. Ms. Loader said, "All I can say is she (Martha 2) is a young African girl with big dreams...and hooray for that!"

After graduating from Saker Baptist College, Martha 2 was offered a scholarship from the University of Texas at Dallas to study Pre Med and Bio-Tech. However, she turned the scholarship down and applied at Texas A&M University in College Station because their College of Nursing curriculum had everything that she needed and wanted on her quest to become a very success doctor.

Martha 2 believes that she has experienced the better of two countries in her short life because her parents have lived in both Africa and the United States. Her paternal grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Mesack Teke (Martha Endum) Fon and her maternal grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Victor Akwa (Sally Ameg) Ndom still reside in Africa and she visits them from time to

time, when her schedule allows.

However, neither set of grandparents were able to attend her graduation, but there were plenty of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends from all over the United States and Africa that attended, proving once again the African proverb, 'it takes a village to raise a child'.

Martha 2's namesake is her paternal grandmother, Mrs. Martha Endum Fon. Martha 2's parents and grandparents taught her that if you appreciate the little things in life, you will appreciate the big things in life; she has tried to live by their proven wisdom. Martha 2 greatly appreciates, values, and is very grateful for the education that she received in Africa and at Texas A & M University.

She said, "It was an enormous blessing for me." "By God's Grace I was given a wonderful opportunity and was guided, through my parents, to Saker Baptist College." "I soon learned that an individual must be responsible for their own learning." She believes that what you get out of an education is equal to what you are willing to invest in it.

She said the level of discipline and respect is very important in Africa, more so than they are in the United



school system because her parents had a desire for her to reach her highest potential. She registered at the Saker Baptist College in Limbe, Cameroon.

At the age of 12 Martha 2 caught the attention of Mrs. Celine Loader, Editorial Director of *ASPIRE Magazine*, a magazine "For Women of Colour" worldwide, this is headquartered in England. Ms. Loader is

See TEKE, Page 16

7TH STAGE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS THE FIRST ANNUAL "STAGE BLACK: A FESTIVAL OF NEW PLAYS"

Summers Hottest Theater Festival produced by Jiles R. King, II July 23rd and 24th, 2010 - Tickets on Sale Now

(NDG Wire) 7th Stage Productions, an emerging theater company dedicated to personifying the African American experience on-stage, presents STAGE BLACK: A Festival of New Plays. The 5 plays selected for the festival were chosen to reveal the depth and range of the human experience from an African American viewpoint. STAGE BLACK, opens Friday, July 23 at 8:00 p.m. and runs through Saturday, July 24 at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. nightly.

"STAGE BLACK is a platform for several dynamic playwrights to share their voice and vision with the world," exclaims 7th Stage Artistic Director Jiles R. King, II. "We are excited to present this 1st Festival of New Plays with subjects varying from modern biblical retellings, classic love stories, political pieces and a hearty colloquial comedy."

2010 STAGE BLACK: A FESTIVAL OF NEW PLAYS

Black Love

By LaToya Guy

Can love exist in a relationship where she makes more money than him? Should income be a factor?

Black Jack Love takes a gamble with this same issue. Does love truly conquer all?

Freedom Ballot

By Cherie' Monique Williams

Henry Parker Johnson, an 8th Grade African American student in Wren, GA is running for Class President at the cusp of integration. His opposition happens to be the Caucasian son of his mother's employer. Freedom Ballot explores the elements of integration and how it parallels to the election of America's first black president.

Job 2010

By Jiles R. King, II

The biblical story of Job is a timeless message of faith, strength, perseverance and redemption. How would Job react if he lived in 2010 with our modern technologies and modern distractions? Would Job still persevere in the face of tragedy in 2010?

To You With Love

By Tyler P. Fite

Relationships can be hard, especially when you are a senior in high school with your whole life ahead of you. To You With Love opens the locker and takes a deep look into what is known as puppy love.

'Trees, Please!

By Buster Spiller

The game of dominoes is a tradition that has been passed down from generation to generation. In the African American community, playing dominoes has become a sub-culture of its own, filled with dialect, traditions and plenty of trash talking. 'Trees, Please!' is a hilarious comedy that examines inter-generational male bonding around a fiery game of dominoes.

Tickets for A STAGE BLACK: A Festival of New Plays are priced at \$15. Performances are Friday at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday evenings at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. All performances are in the Clarence Muse Café Theatre of The Black Academy of Arts and Letters (TBAAL) located at 605 S. Griffin, Dallas, TX 75201.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the TBAAL Box Office at 214-743-2400, via the website at www.ticketmaster.com or in person at the box office location located at 650 S. Griffin St, Dallas, TX 75201 (At the corner of Canton and Akard Streets - across the street from Dallas City Hall).

Abraham 'A.B.' McDonald joins Anthony Hamilton and Friends on All-Star Budweiser Superfest Tour

(NDG Wire) Fresh from his recent debut at the House Of Blues on Sunset Strip, Def Soul Classics recording artist Abraham 'A.B.' McDonald, whose debut single "Miracle" jumps to #34-bullet on the Urban AC chart, is gearing up for his biggest role ever - opening this summer's all-star Budweiser Superfest Tour.

A.B. joins an A-list of contemporary R&B's great-

est stylists: Anthony Hamilton, Kem, Jaheim, and Raheem DeVaughn. The one-month, 18-city Budweiser Superfest Tour opens August 5th at the Time Warner Cable Amphitheatre at Tower City in Cleveland, and plays through September 5th at Superpages Amphitheater in Dallas.

"Miracle" is the lead track from A.B.'s debut album, set for September 14th release. "Miracle" was

produced by the successful production team of Sam Watters, Louis Biancaniello (Whitney Houston, Kelly Clarkson, Leona Lewis, and Jessica Simpson, to name a few), Diane Warren, JR Rotem, Paula Gallitano and others. The video for "Miracle" was directed by Clifton Bell, who has worked on clips for Trey Songz, Rev Run, and A.B.'s

See TOUR, Page 12



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M.I.N.G.L.E. and Grow

A unique business growth opportunity for DFW entrepreneurs

BY JACQUINETTE D. MURPHY

About 40 Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex entrepreneurs attended the latest M.I.N.G.L.E. event hosted by The Marketing Lady, Tarsha Polk, at the Monica's Aca Y Alla Restaurant at

2914 Main Street in Dallas. The acronym appropriately stands for Meet, Interact, Network and Grow with Local Entrepreneurs. The lunch-and-learn styled session is an information-rich networking event held dur-

ing the lunch hour to connect business owners with resources designed to help their companies grow.

Polk explained that the unique benefit of this event lies in the instant impact to the entrepreneur. "Our events are interactive and aimed at connecting the entrepreneurs to one another by giving them the opportunity to engage. The selected speakers also provide helpful information to the business owners."

Robbie Douglas, the Director of Business Development for the North Texas Super Bowl XLV Host Committee and the Manager of the Emerging Business Program served as the speaker for event. She

shared information on the local profit-making opportunities and the programming plans that are available for the highly anticipated Super Bowl XLV.

"We are here to prepare small business owners for the Super Bowl," said Douglas. "There are over 3,000 businesses registered on our database and there is a [projected] 600 million dollar economic impact from the Super Bowl." The businesses registered in the Emerging Business program database have the opportunity to bid on the myriad of components needed to deliver projects, produce programs and supporting events. For those not listed on the host committee's



Shane Hefner, Greg Hearn



Tarsha Polk, Robbie Douglas

website, Douglas suggested the creation of strategic alliances.

Tuesday's M.I.N.G.L.E. event was sponsored in part by The Black Business Directory and CAUSE 360 Entertainment Group. For more information on the

business coaching, marketing consulting, personal marketing assistant and public speaking services offered by The Marketing Lady, visit her website www.themarketinglady.com.

LLC vs. S-Corp: Really isn't the question

BY KEDRA WILLIAMS, CPA

One of the most common questions I answer today from business owners is whether they should organize as a Limited Liability Company (LLC) or S Corporation (S-Corp). And all too often they have begun the conversation with another professional or consultant in their network. Unfortunately, the question in itself confirms the confusion that often surround the LLC from a tax standpoint.

There really is no "LLC vs. S-Corp" question at all.

The comparison is invalid.

An LLC is a business organization that allows its owners the limited liability of a corporation with greater ease of operation. There are no restrictions on who can own an LLC and the manager or members may choose the manner by which the profits and losses are distributed. But the source of confusion about this entity is its tax treatment.

In fact, an LLC as a business structure is not a recognized entity for tax

purposes. Though recognized by the state of organization, the LLC as an entity is disregarded by the IRS. Rather, it is automatically classified as either a "sole proprietorship" or "partnership" for tax purposes unless an election is made for alternative tax treatment.

I have met with many business owners who after filing an LLC online and operating well into their second year, are disappointed to find that the expected reduction in self-em-

ployment taxes that prompted them to file the LLC in the first place is not available. Rather, their tax return schedule C is exactly the same as if they hadn't filed the LLC.

A LLC that operates an active business can be a sole proprietorship, a partnership, a C corporation or an S corporation for income tax purposes (depending on the number of members or managers). In other words, you don't ever actually make an "LLC vs. S-Corp" choice. Rather, after setting

up an LLC, you either accept the default tax classification (sole proprietorship for single member LLCs or partnership for multi-member LLCs) or you elect to have the LLC treated as a C or S corporation.

It is relatively easy to go online and buy a LLC startup kit or pay to file your state registration, however, there is a bit more to it than filing with the state. Each of the alternative tax

classifications will have a unique impact on the taxes applicable to the business and its owners. It is crucial to devote adequate time and resources to ensure that your new entity will support your desired business and profit sharing goals as well as provide optimal tax benefits based on your situation. It is prudent to review all the considerations with the help of your trusted business advisor.

Dive into new business solutions for your company

BY IVY N. CARTER, MBA

As a business owner you may take every opportunity to stay current with the latest fashion, the latest gossip, the latest must haves and to do's but as a business owner you may be slow to partake in the latest necessities to ensure your business remains relevant and current to your particular market and industry. You may even feel overwhelmed with what you should do to ensure the growth of your but there is resolution if you are willing to dive into opportunities

which push your company's agenda forward. These growth opportunities include website creation and maintenance, business travel and development, and creating multiple streams of revenue.

Website Creation and Maintenance. Your company cannot be as successful as it can be if you are not willing to be on the Internet. Many businesses do often find success through traditional word of mouth and ground work but your business could reach higher heights if you invest in a

quality website and with easy to do maintenance options. Many web designers offer starter packages with self or company control options. Move away from the cookie cutter web designs for a more professional look.

Business travel and development. Depending on your business, your current market may currently be saturated with more than enough businesses that offer similar products. Many business owners move to less saturated areas where the rent may be higher and

the customer base is nonexistent; therefore, you do the opposite and consider business travel in order to develop relationships and client bases in other markets. Traveling stylist, independent sales persons, etc use this option when looking for new clients.

Creating multiple streams of revenue. Having one business plan model for revenue creation is no longer a smart option for small businesses. Oftentimes

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See SOLUTIONS, Page 13

Lake Highlands residents the latest in Dallas area to oppose placing homeless and ex-inmates nearby

BY KIM HORNER
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Lake Highlands residents are mobilizing against plans to house homeless people and former inmates in 70 units in their neighborhood.

More than 700 people have signed a petition against housing plans at the Woodside Condominiums, 9302 Forest Lane, and Trinity Palms apartments, 9690 Forest Lane, organizers said. The petition drive is ongoing, and residents say they've only begun their grass-roots campaign.

The area is the latest of several neighborhoods to battle housing for the homeless, where tenants include people with serious mental illnesses and addictions, including former inmates. A plan to move 100 formerly homeless to Cliff Manor public housing in west Oak Cliff is on hold after neighborhood opposition.

On Friday, Lake Highlands resident Ashley Livingston distributed fliers on her street about the housing plan. Her neighbor Ashley

Gomez has been giving packets of fliers for others to hand out throughout the area.

"I want to make people aware of what's going on," said Livingston, who went door to door as she pushed her 8-month-old son in his stroller. "I feel like the city was trying to sneak it in without residents who will be affected knowing it."

Residents learned about the project after the Dallas Housing Authority published a public notice showing the plan.

Lake Highlands residents say the area already has too much crime and subsidized housing. They say it does not make sense to place formerly incarcerated people there.

The Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance and DHA want to provide 50 homes for the homeless at Trinity Palms and 20 for formerly incarcerated people at Woodside Condominiums.

DHA officials could not be reached for comment, but MaryAnn Russ, the

housing agency's president and chief executive, said at a recent meeting that the agency wants to work with neighborhood residents. She said the agency has not signed contracts for the housing.

Kathryn Jacob, executive director of the Housing Crisis Center, which would provide social services to homeless residents at Trinity Palms, said her nonprofit group already has a successful program providing short-term housing for five homeless families at the complex.

"Our folks are used to living in very rough places and this is, A, an improvement for them and, B, it pulls them out of whatever their previous peer group was," Jacob said.

The Housing Crisis Center already provides a home at Trinity Palms to Cynthia Lewis and her husband and five children. Lewis said the program has taught her money management and is helping her husband find a job.

"It's a good start for people

who don't know where to go," Lewis said. "It's slowly coming together."

It has been difficult to find neighborhood support for this type of housing, even beyond Lake Highlands and north Oak Cliff. Deep Ellum residents objected to a proposal to build 100 units there. Plans for similar housing have fallen through in South Dallas, the Cedars and at another Lake Highlands site. Meanwhile, several more projects are in the pipeline.

Advocates for the housing say that resident opposi-

tion is making it difficult to achieve the City Council-approved goal of creating 700 units of permanent supportive housing by 2014. Experts say that this type of housing, which includes treatment services, is key to ending chronic homelessness.

Dallas City Council member Jerry Allen, who represents Lake Highlands, has told his constituents that they are being heard. He sent residents an e-mail saying that he and Mayor Tom Leppert are asking the DHA and Metro Dallas Homeless

Alliance to "set aside the month of July for an open, frank and thoughtful discussion with neighborhoods being affected."

Allen said Friday that he hopes to set up a committee to work through the issues. He also wants to investigate whether the Woodside Condominiums property is zoned properly to house people who have been released from prison.

"Unless we come to the table, there will be those unanswered questions," he said. "And we can't allow that to happen."

U.S. Marshals to Host Jewelry Auction (Live and Web Simulcast)

The U.S. Marshals is hosting a jewelry auction of more than 300 lots of diamonds, fine jewelry, watches and coins. The items will be auctioned by Gaston & Sheehan Auc-

tioners. The items is part of the U.S. Marshals Service auction of forfeited assets gained through illegal activity and will begin at 10 a.m. (CST) Saturday, July 10 at the Hilton New

Orleans Riverside, 2 Poydras St., New Orleans.

For those unable to attend in person there will be an online bidding via Web simulcast will be available at www.txauction.co

TOUR, continued from Page 10

tour mate Raheem De-vaughn. Stay tuned for news of the video's premiere in the days ahead.

A.B. shot to the stratosphere with his victory on the first annual Oprah Show Karaoke Challenge last November 2009, which re-airs on July 15th (check local

listings). Judges for the Challenge included producer David Foster, songwriter Diane Warren, and Antonio "L.A." Reid, Chairman, Island Def Jam Music Group, who personally signed A.B. to the label.

A.B.'s win on the first Karaoke Challenge (show to

re-air July 15th), which led to live performances on three Oprah shows, was the culmination of a life-long journey to share his musical artistry with the world. It all began when he won the ACT-SO talent contest at age 13 with his version of Oleta Adam's "Get Here."

Years later, the same song won him Oprah's first prize of \$250,000 plus the Def Jam contract. The singer and his mom have moved into a new home in Hawthorne, and he has seen his dreams take legs "in Jesus' Cadillac." A.B. is also driving a new car - and proudly

showed Oprah his "No Phone Zone" certificate on his latest visit, much to her delight.

REFORM, continued from Page 3

crisis that led to the loss of nearly eight million jobs, the same crisis that cost people their homes, their life savings."

Anyone who believes that financial reform is somehow misguided or unnecessary should speak with any of the millions of Americans who have been affected - college graduates financially-burdened with student loans and no job

prospects; the millions of unemployed and under-employed heads of household; the families who lost their homes and are now on the brink of personal bankruptcy; or the hundreds of thousands of small businesses unable to get short-term finance to keep their doors open and their employees working.

For all of these people and others, the economic

crisis is a series of growing challenges and fewer resources with which to manage.

After nearly two years of economic crisis, no one can accurately claim that the process was rushed nor absent of opportunities for all perspectives to be heard.

Retiring Sen. Chris Dodd (CT) one of two leaders for whom the bill is named said on the Senate

floor Wednesday, "I've done everything I know how to do to satisfy my colleagues. I don't know what more I could have done," he said.

"After the July recess, we will vote on the financial reform measure."

Maybe instead of waiting for elected leaders to act, more American people should urge them to act. The nation is waiting. .

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND REQUEST FOR CITIZEN INPUT ON THE CITY OF ALLEN 2010-2014 CONSOLIDATED PLAN 2010 ANNUAL PLAN FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING NEEDS

The City of Allen will receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010. As required by federal regulations, CDBG funds must be used to meet one of three National Objectives: 1) Eliminate slum and blight; 2) Assist low-income citizens; or 3) Urgent need/disaster relief. The Consolidated Plan is the comprehensive 5-year planning document that details how the City will expend its federal funds. The 2010 Annual Plan will detail the proposed usage of the CDBG funds for the next year in accordance with the 5-year priorities and strategies.

In accordance with the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and with 24 CFR, Part 91, and in furtherance of the City of Allen's commitment to facilitating the exchange of information between the City and its citizens, the City has established a series of public hearings and opportunities for citizen input and comments regarding the development of the 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan and 2010 Annual Plan.

The final hearing will be held at the following date, time, and location in Allen:

Dates	Time	Locations	Address
7/27/2010	7:00 pm	City Council Chambers	305 Century Parkway

Written comments regarding the community needs and priorities for affordable housing should be sent to M. Nelda Barrera, Planning and Development Department, City of Allen, 305 Century Parkway Allen, Texas 75013. Written responses will be provided if a name and return address is included. Citizens are encouraged to attend any of the public hearings to offer input.

All public hearings are held in facilities that are wheelchair accessible and provide handicapped parking. Interpretive services for deaf or non-English speaking citizens will be available with an advance notice of 48 hours. Arrangements for such services can be made by calling the City of Allen at 903-531-1303 or TDD at 1-800-735-2989.

The Secret to Reaching Your Goal!

BY VALORIE BURTON

5 questions to narrow your goal and achieve it

What are your goals? Do you have more than one right now? If the answer is yes, you may be sabotaging your success.

Research shows that those who pile on too many goals can experience "goal fatigue." The solution? Pursue one goal at a time. "He who chases after two rabbits, loses both," an old saying goes.

The secret to reaching your most important goals is to not pursue them all at

once.

As a life coach, one of the most common questions I'm asked is, "How do I know which of my ideas or goals to pursue first?"

If that sounds familiar, coach yourself with these questions:

1. Where am I ultimately trying to go?

Before you make a decision about which goal to pursue first, take a deep breath and consider the big picture.

A few years from now, where do you want to be?

What will you wish you had done during this time in your life?

Knowing your vision is a key to know which goal to pursue. Your vision determines your goals. Each goal should help build the vision you are moving toward.

2. Which goal will be most important in helping me get there?

It is often a wise use of your energy to pursue the goal that will have the most impact. It can often lay the foundation for the

goals that will follow it.

3. Which goal inspires me most?

Inspiration moves you to action. Many people never move forward on their goals because their goals are not authentic and therefore, not inspiring.

Don't waste your energy on uninspiring goals. Drop them. Dream big. Get inspired.

4. Which goal am I best equipped to accomplish right now?

Sometimes an attainable goal is the best to pursue because it helps build momentum and confidence.

The goal you are best equipped to accomplish might also lay the foundation for reaching a bigger goal. Don't underestimate the power of reaching a small goal.

5. After answering these last four questions, what do my instincts say about what to pursue first?

You have your answers. Trust your instincts. Be willing to take a risk

and narrow your focus.

You aren't making a decision not to pursue your other goals, but simply a decision to pursue one at a time. Doing so will set you up for success.

Professional life coach and speaker Valorie Burton is the author several books, including What's Really Holding You Back? and Listen to Your Life. Subscribe to her free e-newsletter at ValorieBurton.com.

SOLUTIONS, continued from Page 11

small business owners have to do more than just sell a product or service a client they have to be able to generate additional streams of revenue from one business venture. This may simply mean up selling additional services and products; launching a new service or product or starting a subsidiary company under a parent company. Either way you should carefully consider finding reliable streams of revenue.

You cannot fully succeed in business if you are only willing to sit on the side, watching other business owners move from the shallow end to the deep end of business success. You have to loosen the weight of fear and dive into the multiple opportunities which may await you. Remember if

you start to become fearful you can always put on your flotation devices (a mentor) or wade on the side until you are comfortable with full submersion (take small steps).



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Test Date: 08/14/2010

Application Deadline: 07/30/2010

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Small Community Newspaper looking for a parttime student graphic artist.

Prefer student (intern) that's available on a per project basis.

Must have knowledge of Quark and Indesign software.

Work will be done at company office.

Must be professional and dependable. Fax resumes to: 972-509-9058, or email to:

trj1909@tx.rr.com

**AVENUE F CHURCH
OF CHRIST IN PLANO**
July 15, 12 p.m.

Join us for a "Between Jobs Support Group" meeting at the Christian Works for Children, 6320 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX 75240. Call 972-960-9981 to register.

**July 25,
8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**
Come for our Worship Services and stay for our FREE Blood Pressure Clinic. The clinic is held the last Sunday of every month after morning and evening services.
**Brother Ramon Hodridge,
Minister**
1026 Avenue F
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8833

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9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Visit Helen's House every Monday and Friday to receive, to give, to comfort and most of all to fellowship. The give-a-way of food, love and household items is given freely to all those who could use a little touch.
**Pastor Minnie
Hawthorne-Ewing**
635 W. Campbell Road
Suite 210
Richardson, TX 75080
972-480-0200

**FELLOWSHIP
CHRISTIAN CENTER
CHURCH "THE SHIP"**

On Going, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Monday - Friday
**Prayer Lines for those in
need are 972-649-0566
and 972-649-0567.**

Wednesdays Only
Come get your praise on in the middle of the week at our Wednesday Night Live at our main campus @ 7 p.m.

**Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr.,
M.Div., Senior Pastor**
305 N. Alder Drive in
Allen for Sunday
Morning Worship
Church Address is
200 Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956

**FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST
CHURCH OF
THE COLONY**
July 26-30

Join us for Vacation Bible School. Our theme: Transform Your Life and Get Ready for the Savior. Call Deacon Joe Allmond, Deaconess Takeia Allmond or the church for details.
Dr. C. Paul McBride, Senior Pastor
4396 Main Street
The Colony, TX 75056
972-625-8186

**INSPIRING BODY OF
CHRIST CHURCH**
**Every Sunday,
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You're invited to our Sunday Worship Services.

Every Monday, 7 p.m.
Join us for Monday School.

July 12 - 16, 7 p.m.
Tithing Our Time, Topic: Healing
**Dr. Rickie G. Rush,
Pastor**
7710 S. Westmoreland Rd.
Dallas, TX 75237
972-372-4262

**NEW MOUNT ZION
BAPTIST CHURCH**
On Going

You are invited to visit our Job Resource Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in our Computer Training Room in the Educational Building.

July 5-9
There will be a FREE Math Boot Camp for SAT for the Classes of 2010 and 2012 at RISD Professional Development Center, 701 W. Belt Line Road in Richardson. There are limited slots so register early. Call RISD for details.

July 11, 10:30 a.m.
Scholarship Annual Day for all 2010 NMZ School Graduates and you're invited.

July 18, 10:30 a.m.
Join us for our Women's Annual Day Service.

July 30
The Third Annual Felony and/or Misdemeanor-Friendly Community Career Fair will be held. Job-seekers are required to pre-

register, attend and participate in a series of Pre-Career Fair in job-readiness workshops prior to and in preparation for this event. Call for details.

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

**NORTH DALLAS
COMMUNITY BIBLE
FELLOWSHIP
CHURCH**

July 16, 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Join us for Sisters Night Out for mothers and

daughters featuring games from the past to present day.

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

**SHILOH MBC IN
PLANO**
July 11

You're invited to our Friends and Family Day, our theme: What A Friend We Have in Jesus.
**Dr. Isaiah Joshua, Jr.,
Senior Pastor**
920 E. 14th Street

**Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695**
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**Dr. Gregory Voss,
Senior Pastor**
2765 Trinity Mills Road
Suite 305
Carrollton, TX 75006
214-514-9147

FAIR, continued from Page 5

records)
• Sonograms
• Blood Pressure, Body Mass and Cholesterol Check
• Spinal Screening
• Learn to Manage Your Diabetes
• Vision and Hearing Check

• Give Blood
There will also be community resources available which include the following:

• Sign up for CHIPs (Please bring your child's Social Security Number if US citizen, Alien Registration Card (I-551) if not US citizen, proof of your family's income, proof of

childcare cost, disabled adult care, or child support)
• Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)
• Food Pantries/Plano Free and Reduced Lunch
• Counseling Services Specifically for Plano

ISD Parents are the following:
• Sign up for the lunch program
• Set up a log in for Plano ISD online services
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10:45AM Story Elementary
11:50AM Edgewood - Allen, TX

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**Sister
Tarpley**

Live each day as though you may never see tomorrow; give the advantage, but never ask for it; be kind to all, but kinder to the less fortunate; respect all honest employment; remember always that your life is made easier and better by the service of others; and never forget to be grateful.

Be tolerant and never arrogant; treat all people with equal courtesy; be true to yourself in all things; make as much as you can of your strength and the day's opportunity; and meet disappointment without resentment.

Be friendly and helpful whenever possible; do without display of temper or bitterness in all that fair conduct demands and keep

your money free from cunning or the shame of a hard bargain; govern your actions so that you may fear neither reproach or misunderstanding, nor words of malice or envy; and maintain, at whatever temporary cost, your own self-respect.

You will fail often and shall fail many times again; but by these things above and with God's help you can live to the best of your ability; love and laugh often because at times you will suffer, grieve, find consolation and prosper. By friendships you will be enriched and the life you build will be happy.

True friends are hard to find today, because trusting a friend is something you have to work at. Not many people will say, "I will stick it out through thick and thin."

There are plenty of peo-

ple that prepare for "a wedding" but few people prepare for "the marriage." Be reminded of this, everything is not going to be like you want it; it's not going as you think it will, but if you will work at trusting God and a friend and value the friendship you will have a friend you trust.

Learn the value of a true friend, count up the cost. If you don't know the value of your friend, you will not treat the friendship with the importance it deserves.

You can easily tell how people value something by the way they take care of it, if you value something, you will treat it with the greatest respect.

Value your friend's time, his/her feelings and the word of the friend.

Learn to have patience with your friend. Put effort into the friendship. Have

confidence in the friend. When you "do the right thing" confidence will come into the friendship.

It's the little things that add up in a friendship. With the little things, you will either build up the friendship or tear it down.

Put some energy in your friendship. Some folks like what is brought into a friendship, but they don't like taking care of what is brought into it. Do special things for the friendship. If you value the friendship you will spend time making it work.

Sacrifice for a true friend. Don't call sacrificing for a friend a burden, because sacrificing is not building a wall.

By love you serve one another. Don't make it a habit of using other people. Whatever you do in word or deed, do it all to the glory


**Minister Raymond Jackson, Sunday School Teacher
at Word of Life C.O.G.I.C in Carrollton, Texas.**

of God. At times it's hard to face reality—but you have to face reality in a friendship. In times like these, some people don't want to take anything off of their friend.

Learn how to communicate with your friend. Learn to tell your friend how you appreciate your friendship.

There are a lot of things you can do to build a friend-

ship—it's not the big things. Think about it.

Build on your friendship by the Word of God because the Word of God will always stand. Walk in God's presence and you won't have trouble building good friendships.

Remember, all of the little things add up to trusting one another and trusting one another is having a true friend.

GULF, continued from Page 5

safety, and to develop proven methods of responding to large-scale oil spills such as the Deepwater Horizon incident. Other nations including the United Kingdom, Norway and Brazil are competing to develop a seafloor testing facility.

Each participating insti-

tution is already involved in significant oil and gas drilling research, and already have the facilities — such as Texas A&M's Off-shore Research Technology Center and Rice's National Corrosion Center — but none is able to test a full drilling system to ensure it can safely operate under all

deep sea conditions. Additionally, the Johnson Space Center is home to facilities that can test the safety and reliability of current and next generation equipment, which could be used as research proceeds.

Texas' energy industry continues to fuel the nation, supplying 20 percent of the

nation's oil production, one-fourth of the nation's natural gas production, a quarter of the nation's refining capacity, and nearly 60 percent of the nation's chemical manufacturing. Additionally, Texas' energy industry employs 200,000 to 300,000 Texans, with \$35 billion in total wages.

Pastor Propnet Arthur & Lady Yashica Felton

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Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday ... 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday Closed

Contact Info

Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
11811 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229
Office: 972-241-6151
Email: info@mtpisgah.org
Website: www.dallasmtpisgah.org

Ramon Hodridge, Minister

Avenue F Church of Christ
1026 Avenue F • Plano, TX 75074
972-423-8833
www.avefchurchofchrist.org

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Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 am
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Wednesday Bible Class 7:00 pm

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Wednesday Night Bible 7:30pm

TEKE, continued from Page 9



States. In Africa you are not only taught how to succeed in your studies but how to live your life after receiving your degrees. You are also taught how to organize and how to manage your time, your life; and how to prioritize the important things that affect your life and future plans.

At Saker Baptist College there is strong competition among classmates that is helpful to all students and very friendly. This strong competition helps all students to strive for the best and reach beyond their

comfort zone.

Martha 2 is currently working at St. Joseph Regional Health Center as a RN to help finance her quest for a physicians' license and will take classes in the fall to become the best doctor that she can be.

She continues to encourage students attending any school to do his or her best to reach their full potential, she believes, as she was taught, that ones education is ultimately their own responsibility.

Lead Pastor: Timothy Jones

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Serve and grow
with us!

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LIVE ON TBS

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SUNDAY: 7:30 AM, 10:30 AM
MONDAY SCHOOL: 7:00 PM
WEDNESDAY: 7:00 PM
MUSIC FELLOWSHIP: 7:00 PM

JACKIE G. JONES, PASTOR

INVITED BY: _____

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
"A Spiritual Oasis for a Thriving World" Isaiah 55:1

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:
7:30 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM

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Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Mid-week: Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Children's and Youth Worship Service: Every 3rd, 4th, and 5th, Sunday at 10:45 a.m.
AWANA: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
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www.smbcplano.org

Worship Services 7:30am & 10:30am
Sunday School 9:30 am
Wednesday Night Service 8:00 pm

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

Dr. Gregory Foster Senior Pastor
Rev. Anthony Foster Pastor

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To fulfill The Great Commission until Christ comes.

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9:00 am Sunday School

Monday Service
Men's Ministry 7:00 pm
Women's Ministry 7:00 pm
Young Adult Ministry 7:00 pm

Wednesday Service
Intercessory Prayer 6:15 pm
Bible Study 7:00 pm

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Charles S. Watley Senior Pastor

SUNDAY
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Worship Celebration 10:45 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
Family Ministries 7:00 p.m.

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