

North Dallas Gazette



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SPOTLIGHT

The Residents of Little Elm Have Entertainment in Their Own Backyards



See *LITTLE ELM*, Page 9

Irving Education Coalition Address Issues Impacting Minorities within Irving Independent School District



A.D. Jenkins



Owen DeWit



Rick Nolly

BY JACKIE HARDY

The Irving Independent School District (IISD) is 100 years old this year. A lot has changed from 1909 to present day and one of those changes has been the ethnic diversity of its student body.

According to Anthony

Bond, Chairman of the Irving Education Coalition (IEC) and founder of the NAACP Irving Chapter, "The biggest change has been the increase of the student minority population. Minorities make up for 84

See *IRVING*, Page 6

Paul Quinn Pledges to Fight SACS Ruling

BY RUTH FERGUSON

Although on probation for two years, officials, students and alumni were disappointed last week when Paul Quinn College President Michael Sorrell was notified by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) that Paul Quinn would be removed from their member-

ship and thereby lose their accreditation status. This decision places a cloud over the future of the college and the nearly 400 students currently enrolled.

Reviewing the recent improvements the college has made, particularly in the financial arena, some are asking why did the SACS take this extraordi-

nary step now?

Contacted by phone on Wednesday, Belle Wheelan, PhD, President of the Commission on Colleges indicated Paul Quinn's two-year probation is the maximum time period allowed by federal government rules. As a result, the SACS had two options: the college could be removed



See *RULING*, Page 12



Former Dallas Mayor Pro Tem Don Hill's Trial is Underway

For more information see pg. 11 www.northdallasgazette.com

COMMENTARY

Peace, Be Still - Thoughts for and About Michael

BY JULIANNE MALVEAUX

(NNPA) It seems redundant to add my thought to the many that have chimed in about the death of the icon of pop music, and at the same time, it seems so very necessary to offer the public wish that Michael Jackson has finally found peace. Without knowing the man (in the mirror) at all, my observation is that peace eluded Michael Jackson. He changed his appearance, lightened his

skin, engaged in public drama, and apparently earned and lost a fortune. And, maintained a spirit of innocence and a soul of service. Wow!

Certainly Jackson's family drama, often publicly disclosed, led to some of his angst. How much more of the drama was fueled by the context of our nation's racism? Why did he feel compelled to get lighter, lighter, lighter? To get his nose thinner, thinner,

See *MICHAEL*, Page 10

Second in Two Part Series

McKinney Green Hopes to Remove Lead Pipes

BY LAKRISHIA ARMOUR

The City of McKinney is working to become one of the first energy efficient cities in the U.S. through its McKinney Green Initiative.

The program, which focuses on bringing in new developments, like the Pat

Lobb Toyota, where 75 percent of the building was made from recycled materials. Also the Roy Lee Walker Elementary, which was the first environmentally sound school built in Texas.

Another goal of the ini-

tiative is to educate residents on the benefits of living green.

A supporter of the Green Initiative is A. James Tutson, a candidate in the city council election held in May. Tutson has crusaded for more than 15 years to

educate residents living in East McKinney about the dangers of lead pipes. The pipes are prevalent in the District 1 area, the oldest area of McKinney.

"I've been involved with this for at least 15 years. I've

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People In The News...



Derrick Barnes



Jamila Hunter



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Derrick Barnes

Editor Note: Tulisoma South Dallas Book Fair and Arts Festival Featured Author; see www.tulisoma.com for more info. Below is Derrick Barnes in his own words.

Where I come from, no one dreams of becoming an author.

I didn't know any famous African American male authors. I didn't actually meet one until I attended college. I wanted to be a football player, the next Sean Combs, or a rapper; anything that

would instantly provide me with the riches I would need to "move my mama off of the block". I was raised in a single parent household by my mother, the lovely Miss Catherine Barnes, along with my big brother, Anthony, in Kansas City, MO. My first attempt at writing a real story was in the fifth grade. After that I wrote songs, poems, plays, and short stories. I also read like crazy. My brother thought I was the weirdest kid ever, but that was my

way of traveling, of flying, and dreaming.

I received an Associate of Arts degree in Business Administration. I went on to Jackson State University, a historically black college in Jackson, Mississippi, where I obtained Bachelor of Arts degree in Marketing. I also became a campus newspaper advice columnist. The column, entitled *Brown Sugar*, gave me the confidence to write with purpose. I also felt like, for the first time, that I had something to say and that people would listen. Who wouldn't listen to a guy

with the pen name "Hershey Brown"?

Upon graduation, I moved back to Kansas City with no intentions of using my brand new, shiny Marketing degree in a drab, corporate environment. With the urging of my wife, I sent a writing portfolio to Hallmark Cards, and was hired as the first African-American man in the history of the company as a staff copywriter in 1999. I worked there for three years. I learned so much about crafting my words, about editing, and about constructive criticism.

I landed a deal with Simon Pulse for my first novel, *The Making of Dr. Truelove*. Later, I landed a four-book deal with Scholastic for the ultra popular hit series, *Ruby and the Booker Boys*.

Some days, when I read to my sons or go to schools and read to kids, I can still see that little boy reading encyclopedias by flashlight. Hopefully, a child will meet me and say to themselves, "You know what, it's possible. I can become an author! I've met, and have seen with my very own eyes, a living, breathing author. It's

definitely possible for me."

It most certainly is.



Jamila Hunter

(NDG Wire) Jamila Hunt-er has been named Head of Programming for OWN: The Oprah Winfrey Network, it was announced today by Christina Norman, Chief Executive Officer of OWN, to whom she will report.

A seasoned programming executive who has launched numerous series for NBC, 20th Century Fox Television and Bravo,



Ms. Hunter is one of the industry's most successful non-fiction development

executives. Hunter will oversee all aspects of programming development for the network. She began her new role in June.

Ms. Hunter was an integral part of the team that re-branded Bravo when they launched seminal shows such as *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* and *Project Runway*.

She was also instrumental in the creation of NBC's alternative strategy when the network unveiled iconic reality series like

Fear Factor, *Last Comic Standing* and *The Apprentice*.

"Jamila shares my passion for programming that breaks new ground and speaks to audiences in new ways," said Ms. Norman. "She has the perfect blend of experience to lead the development and creation of unique and innovative non-fiction programming worthy of our aspirations."

"This is an exciting opportunity that any programming executive would love to have,"

added Ms. Hunter.

Ms. Hunter added, "OWN is setting a new standard in non-fiction programming, and I am so pleased that I have been asked to lead this team as we work together to develop programming that will inspire, enlighten and entertain."

Most recently, Ms. Hunter served as Senior Vice President, Alternative & Digital Programming for NBC Entertainment, capping a tenure there that dates back to the network's

coverage of the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

Since returning to NBC, she's been responsible for prestigious projects such as Jerry Seinfeld's upcoming series *The Marriage Ref* the U.S. adaptation of the BBC series *Have I Got News For You*, and the comedic summer series *Great American Road Trip*.

Ms. Hunter is a graduate of Spelman College in Atlanta, from which she holds a B.A. degree in English.

Starlene Stringer

Starlene Stringer is the Morning Show Co-Host and News and Public Affairs Director at 94.9fm KLTU in Dallas/Fort Worth where she also hosts the weekly talk show, *DFW Perspectives with Starlene*. She hosts the syndicated television talk show *Even Greater with Reinhard Bonnke*, she's a regular on-air

fundraising host for KERA-TV, an Anchor/Producer/Reporter for ICTN, a best-selling author, an actress/model signed to the prestigious Campbell Agency.

Stringer is a certified fitness instructor for two national fitness chains. She is a caring volunteer and an inspirational motivational speaker sought after to share her life experiences while encouraging others to live their dreams!

After surviving a helicopter crash while working as a Traffic Anchor for CBS11-TV, she knows each day is a gift and Stringer does her best to convey that message through her words and actions.



Among her many volunteer commitments, Stringer served as a weekly volunteer reader to the blind and visual impaired at North Texas Taping and Radio for the Blind (Reading and Radio Resource) for more than 10 years, she's entertained kids at Children's Medical Center Dallas for three years and she has traveled as far away as Kingston, Jamaica with Food For the Poor.

Her first book release, *Speak Through Me: The Diary of a Military Brat* is a national best-seller.

In her latest, *I Am Her... and It's Actually Okay!*, Stringer inspires readers to reflect on our lives and the lives of those who helped shape us into who we are. *I Am Her... and It's Actually Okay!* is a collection of short sto-

ries about 10 diverse women.

By sharing their inspirational stories of struggle, success, heartache and love, the author brilliantly illustrates how there are lessons to be learned through the lives of others. It's a unique way to keep readers on the right spiritual path while reminding them that they're never alone.

The faith-based book is laced with scriptures and inspirational quotes. Those who read *I Am Her... and It's Actually Okay!* will better appreciate the relationships they have with everyone who passes through their lives and grow to learn from each of their journeys.

Stringer said, "Everyone who is a mother, knows a mother or has a mother, needs to read this

book!"

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Blackonomics

Hold the Apology: Give Us Our 40 Acres

BY JAMES CLINGMAN (NNPA) Are Black folks special or what? The U.S. Senate, and maybe soon to be followed by the U.S. House of Representatives, issued an apology for the enslavement of Black people in this country.

Wow! How cool is that? After a couple of centuries of being enslaved and 145 years after we were so-called "freed," we finally get a formal apology. Despite Congressman Thaddeus Stevens' 1867 resolution for reparations to Africans in America, we have finally reached the pinnacle of respect: An apology.

The timing of this apology is obviously suspect. It comes at a time in our history when we are constantly being made to believe that everything is fair now, that relationships between the races have reached the ideal point of "equality," and Black people have nothing more to complain about when it comes to our progress in this nation. After all, we have Black President.

In my opinion, apologies are highly overrated, especially those given to Black people for slavery. Here's why: Jews got apologies and reparations. Japanese got apologies and reparations. Native Americans got apologies and reparations. And now, Filipino veterans are scheduled to get "reparations"

from the Stimulus Package to the tune of \$15,000 for residents of the U.S. and \$9,000 for non-residents.

Want a parallel? Check this out: Speaking on behalf of the stimulus for Filipino soldiers, Senator Daniel Inouye said, "It's a matter of honor and the good name of the United States." He noted that in 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt promised the benefits, but Congress reneged on the pledge in 1946."

That sounds similar to General Sherman's field orders that called for 40 acres of land to be given to formerly enslaved Africans, which was revoked by President Andrew Johnson. That was in 1865.

The latest case taken to the U.S. Supreme Court for reparations for the survivors of the Tulsa Riot, petitioned by Professor Charles Ogletree and his team of lawyers, was turned down by the Court. Everybody else gets reparations; Black folks get apologies. They get substance; we get symbolism.

Suggestion to the U.S. Senate: Don't stop with an apology; that does absolutely nothing, in and of itself, for the economic empowerment of Black people. If you ask me, it is insulting.

Did it take you hundreds of years to figure out that slavery was wrong? Did it take that long for your conscience to be pricked? Did it take centuries to bring you to this

latest point of contrition?

With all of the precedents for reparations for people who were abused in some form or fashion, not only should an apology have been issued long ago, somebody should have been picked up where the U.S. Congress, during Thaddeus Stevens' time, left off.

Imagine how things would be for Black people now if someone with a backbone, someone with a conscience, someone with a moral and ethical foundation, would have insisted and acted upon the appropriate response to the aftermath of slavery.

We would not have had the "noneconomic liberalism" from the so-called dogooders, the White liberals who "helped" Black people by giving us programs, projects, and everything except those 40 acres promised by General Sherman - everything except a way for Black people to become economically empowered.

And we would not have the so-called White conservatives (nor the Black ones either, I suppose) wringing their hands and whining about the lack of self-help and personal responsibility among Black people; and conservatives' blame-the-victim tirades would not even be an argument now.

It would have been great if someone would have just paid Black people, given them some land and then followed Frederick Douglass' advice

when he responded to the lingering question of his time: What to do with the Negro.

Douglass simply said, "Do nothing with us," leave us alone and we will make it for ourselves.

He intimated that Black people, without interference, terrorism, racist laws and Black Codes, and equal opportunity, would be all right; we would economically empower ourselves by supporting one another and advancing in our individual fields of endeavor.

We demonstrated that acumen in Tulsa on Black Wall Street, but angry White folks burned it down.

Douglass was really on to something, but even after 250 years of enslavement, Black folks still suffered under the latest racist *act du jour*, whether it was in the form of negative public policy, private sector exclusion, Klan nightriders, voter intimidation, criminal injustice, prejudice, and discrimination.

After all of the trauma, the torture, the maiming, the lynching, the racism, and exclusion, don't you think a mere apology to Black people is way too little and much too late, that is, unless that apology is followed by some form of reparations?

Get a clue, U.S. Senate. And you too, House of Representatives. You can keep your apology. Where do we sign up for our 40 acres?

Money & Relationships: Is your Bailout Plan Working for You?

(NDG Wire) Helping metroplex residents to end hard money conversations with their significant other, credit mismanagement, and economic disparity, the Dallas - Fort Worth Chapter of the National Black MBA Association presents Money & Relationships: Is your Bailout Plan Working for You? This informative financial literacy workshop and book signing with The Money Lady, Marilyn Logan will be held at the SMU-Cox School of Business located at 6212 Bishop Blvd in Dallas, Texas from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

With the tightening of the lending and hiring belts, an

individual's personal finance situation can lead to the success or failure of a relationship, business funding and the acquisition of property, insurance and employment."

Now more than ever, this is the right time to look at money and relationships," stated Kathleen Valentine, the President of the local chapter of the National Black MBA Association.

"This deep economic recession is causing everyone to consider their financial choices very carefully. This is even more critical when couples and families are considering joining two paychecks together."

AIDS Activist Phill Wilson Works Tirelessly for a Better World

BY GEORGE E CURRY (NNPA) Phill Wilson watched painfully as HIV/AIDS was dismissed by African-Americans in the early 1980s as a disease primarily afflicting White gay men. Now, a quarter of a century later, African-Americans, who are 12 percent of the U.S. population, account for nearly half of all new HIV infections, a rate seven times that of Whites.

Wilson, CEO of the Black AIDS Institute, the only national HIV/AIDS think tank in the United States focused exclusively on African-Americans, says there were several reasons Blacks were so slow to grasp the severity of the threat to Black America.

"We started in a bad place," Wilson said in an interview before addressing the annual convention of the National Newspapers Publishers Association (NNPA). "We started with the conventional wisdom that AIDS was about White gay men. So we got a free get out of jail card - it was about White people. If I am honest, I was included in that group.

"Secondly, it was about gay people and for most African-Americans, that means that it was not about us. Thirdly, we already had a full plate. AIDS really hit

in 1980 to 1982 and we were dealing with unemployment, we were dealing with poverty, we were about to deal with welfare reform. There were all these issues that we were busy with. So this was an issue that we didn't want to be a part of and we could make the excuse that all these other issues were more important."

In the early 1980s, there were no Hollywood celebrities adopting HIV/AIDS as their pet project. For Blacks, confronting the issue of HIV/AIDS, there were also other considerations.

"There is an increased reluctance to take on any other possibility to be further stigmatized," Wilson explained. "So, 'I'm not willing to take on the banner of homosexuality and I'm not willing to take on the banner of drug use and I'm not willing to take on the banner of having a deadly disease.'"

Wilson began taking up those banners when he helped organize a candlelight vigil for AIDS victims in Los Angeles during the early stages of the epidemic. The issue became personal when Wilson, who is openly gay, learned in 1980 that he was HIV positive. His partner died of AIDS nine years later.

Unlike many Blacks, Wilson does not believe that homophobia is any worse among African-Americans than Whites. However, he says, the rejection is much more painful.

"For Black and gay lesbians, we need our community to protect us against the bias of racism. Where do I go when I am called a nigger? I go to our church. I go to my mama and pappa - that's where I go.

"But when I'm called a faggot, I don't got anywhere



Phil Wilson

else to go," Wilson said, intentionally selecting his words for impact. "And particularly if the people who are calling me a faggot are my mommy, my daddy and my church."

Wilson said White gay men have a different reality.

"When you are a White gay man, you're still a White man and all of the privileges that go with being a White man are delivered to you," he explained. "When I am a Black gay man, at the end of the day, I still have to be a Black man in America."

Wilson not only lives with the marginalization of being gay, he also has to live with being HIV positive. That means taking powerful drugs every day with powerful side effects, including making him feel tired and nauseous.

"There are challenges you have to address and it's not a matter of taking a pill and going on with your life," Wilson explained. "You don't go on with your life, you manage life. There is something profound about knowing that this disease is going to be with you forever."

"AIDS doesn't just happen to an individual," Wilson stated. "It happens to me, it happens to my mother, it happens to my father, it happens to my aunt who's in the missionary society, it happens to my other aunt who's on the nursing board, it happens to my uncle who's a minister and it happens to my cousin who's a choir director. It happens to all of us."

That includes other segments of the Black community as well. Black women, for example, represent 61 percent of all new HIV infections. According to the CDC, 80 percent were infected while having sex with men and 20 percent through injected drug use.

Blacks 13-19 years old represent only 16 percent of teens in the U.S., but account for 69 percent of new AIDS cases.

Still, Wilson remains optimistic.

"I'm more optimistic now around mobilizing Black folks around HIV than every before," he said. "I think we've made tremendous stride and our institutions across the board are at a different place than they were. They are not where we need them to be, but I think in many ways, we're poised to really dramatically change the trajectory of the AIDS epidemic in America.

"Black institutions were accused of not caring and what I discovered was that isn't true," Wilson said. "What was true is that Black institutions didn't know - part of it was because they didn't want to know - but nevertheless, they didn't know. Number 2, they didn't know how to respond and No. 3, they didn't have the

resources to respond."

Wilson organized Black AIDS activists and they urged the CDC to provide additional funding to African-American groups eager to educate and mobilize their community around HIV/AIDS issues. The result was the announcement of a 5-year domestic "Act Against AIDS" campaign that resulted in 14 Black organizations, including the NNPA, being awarded grants to hire an AIDS coordinator to expand their work.

Wilson realizes that he has already established a legacy and knows how he wants to be remembered.

"I think that I would want people to remember that I never gave up," he said softly. "Everyone has their trigger. That's what I am most fearful of, they will give up."

Not only has Wilson not given up, he doesn't waste time feeling sorry for himself.

"I am glad that I have purpose and focus," he reflected, with tears welling in his eyes. "A lot of folks go through their entire life without purpose or focus. I'm grateful for that. I'm glad that I get to try every single day to make the world a better place.

Local podiatrist discusses how people can help their feet this summer

(NDG Wire) When it comes to summer health hazards, we've all heard of too much sun, too much fun, and even nasty bug bites. Believe it or not, too much time on your flip-flops can cause just as many problems. These innocent-looking slabs of polyurethane may be the season's fun footwear of choice, but they often lead to an array of foot injuries.

"People are not aware," said podiatrist Dr. Gene Reister (Rice-TERR). "They are following a fashion trend and not thinking about potential foot problems. Without wearing a shoe that provides proper support and protection, people are at risk

of developing multiple foot problems."

Dr. Reister has been practicing podiatry in Dallas for 31 years, and says this is the time of year when you can prevent foot injuries.

"The number one reason adults come to my office is heel and arch pain, which is usually due to excess stress in the plantar fascia ligament in the arch of the foot," he said. "Next to going barefoot, flip-flops offer the least amount of support."

When the foot hits the ground, it rolls inward. Wearing flip-flops allows the foot to roll even more than usual. This "overpronation" causes pain in the heel, arch,

toes, and forefoot.

"There's an increased risk of ankle sprains, stubbed toes, and exposure to falling objects," said Reister. "It's also not a great idea for pregnant women to be wearing them. It's just too easy to trip."

Anyone with existing, foot, ankle, or knee problems can exacerbate their injuries. Furthermore, diabetics are more susceptible to sunburns, minor cuts and infection. Like many fun summer activities, moderation is the key.

"If you just wear flip-flops around the pool, or for a limited amount of walking, people run a low risk of foot

problems," said Reister. "Children are going have fewer problems, because they put less pressure on their feet than full grown adults. We have an expression: 'Big people have bad feet.' If you are not overweight or not going to be engaged in strenuous activities, you should be fine."

While foot health is rarely on the forefront of the typical flip-flopper's mind, happy feet do equal happy people.

"It affects the quality of life," said Reister. "If your feet hurt, it limits your physical activities. Summer should be about outdoor fun without foot pain."

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Dr. Pepper Snapple Group Fair Park Fourth Moves to the Newly Renovated Cotton Bowl

(NDG Wire) The Dr Pepper Snapple Group FAIR PARK FOURTH will return to Fair Park with a bang and will feature a spectacular national-class Grucci fireworks display at the newly renovated Cotton Bowl on Saturday, July 4, 2009. Stamped as Dallas' official Independence Day celebration, the fireworks will rank as North Texas' top show with even bigger and higher fireworks this year. Admission is free and open to the public.

Presented by Friends of Fair Park (www.fairpark.org), the festivities will be held throughout Dallas' Fair Park from 4:30 - 10 p.m. and will feature FREE admission to a majority of the Fair Park museums from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.. A patriotic program

featuring the Dallas Wind Symphony, the famed Hell Cats of the U.S. Military



Alvy Powell

Academy (West Point) and powerful baritone Alvy Powell begins at 8:15 p.m., followed by the fireworks display at 9:30 p.m.

Fireworks by Grucci, has produced some of the world's most unforgettable fireworks programs for the

Olympic Games, Statue of Liberty Centennial, New Year's Eve Celebrations in New York City, World Fairs and six consecutive Presidential Inaugurations.

The Grucci fireworks will be synchronized to choreographed music with live broadcast on WRR 101.1 FM. Viewing areas with sound will be located inside the Cotton Bowl.

Plenty of Fourth-of-July favorites including corn dogs, funnel cakes, hot dogs, hamburgers, snow cones, nachos, Dr Pepper products, and beer products will be available for sale at concession stands.

The newly renovated Cotton Bowl Stadium (upper and lower decks on the North end zone) will be the only area in the park with synchronized sound to

the fireworks. Doors to the Cotton Bowl will open at 7 p.m. Enter at Gate A only.

Visitors can cool off while browsing most of the Fair Park museums, which will be open FREE of charge from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. that day. They are The Women's Museum, The Museum of the American Railroad, Museum of Nature & Science (the Science of Spying exhibit and the IMAX Theater are NOT free), The African American Museum and Texas Discovery Gardens.

The Texas Discovery Gardens will host a FREE live-music stage from 4 - 7p.m.

For an aerial view of Fair Park, the Texas Skyway Gondola Ride will be operating for \$5 per person or \$20 per carload (cash only). For an aquatic expe-

rience, the Swan Rides will be available for \$10 per boat (up to 3 people per boat).

The Dr Pepper Club 23 traveling exhibition will be loaded with free samples and coupons, video games, a deejay and dance floor, plasma TVs and more, at the Cotton Bowl Plaza. The ESPN 103.3 FM and ESPN Deportes street team will be on site with sports and interactive media games.

A musical patriotic program will get underway at 8:15 p.m. in the Cotton Bowl and will feature the Dallas Wind Symphony and the famed Hell Cats (founded 220 years ago during the American Revolution). Also appearing is the powerful baritone Alvy Powell, who sang at President Ford's funeral and has

performed the role of Porgy in the Gershwin opera *Porgy & Bess* over 1,100 times at the world's elite opera houses.

The *Fireworks by Grucci* program will begin at approximately 9:30 p.m. The event will close at 10 p.m.

Another highlight of the day will be the Dallas Summer Musicals' special discounted offer for both Saturday performances (July 4th only!) of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. A minimum of two tickets must be purchased to receive the special 50%-off pricing. Go to www.dallassummermusicals.org for ticket and show information.

Parking will be \$8 and available at Gates 5, 6, 13 and 14. Handicap parking will be available at Gates 5 and 6.

Garland Cancels Fireworks But Celebrations Still Available

BY RUTH FERGUSON

Thanks to budget cuts for the first time in 20 years there will be no Star Spangled Fourth Celebration or city provided fireworks. However Fire-wheel Town Center is hosting several events in hopes of filling

the void and attracting customers.

Firewheel is hosting a display of over 500 American Flags July 3 - 5, presented by the Garland Noon Exchange Club. The display is located near World Market.

Their schedule for July 4 includes several live performances, with on location broadcast by Radio Disney beginning at 2:00 p.m., the Rockwall Community Band is performing at 3:00 p.m., followed by the Garland Chorale at 4:00 p.m.

and the Dallas Praise Orchestra at 5:00 p.m. Closing out their music celebration

is the local band Ken Savage and the Best Kept Secret. You can visit

www.myspace.com/ken-savageandthebestkeptsecret.

Frisco Freedom Fest

The City of Frisco's 8th Annual Frisco Freedom Fest happens this year on Saturday, July 4 beginning at 4 p.m. Admission to Party in the Plaza activities are free.

The Children's Expo will feature jump houses, face painting, strolling entertainers, a 25 foot rock wall, games and a chance to write a letter to U.S. troops.

The Hometown Heroes Exhibit showcases the men and women of our Frisco Police and Fire Departments along with all the equipment they use to help keep our community safe.

Come hungry because

Taste of Frisco also returns featuring food from local restaurants with a variety of choices to satisfy your taste



buds.

The July 4th fun continues across Main Street at Pizza Hut Park. Watch the soccer match featuring hometown hoops, FC Dallas vs. the New York Red Bulls beginning at 8:00 p.m.

The night is topped off with the Fireworks Extravaganza. No Independence Day is complete without an amazing show of color in the night sky. Frisco's fireworks display is the biggest in North Texas. The extravaganza is FREE and viewable from the area around Pizza Hut Park & Simpson Plaza at City Hall.

LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will be closing soon:

TEXAS LOTTERY

GAME #	GAME NAME / ODDS	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1146	Dazzlin' Diamond 7's Overall Odds are 1 in 3.32	\$7	07/06/09	01/02/10
1046	Fun \$50's Overall Odds are 1 in 4.46	\$2	07/11/09	01/07/10
1132	Stacks of Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 3.75	\$10	07/31/09	01/27/10
843	Break the Bank Overall Odds are 1 in 4.99	\$2	09/02/09	03/01/10
1035	2 Times Lucky Overall Odds are 1 in 4.32	\$2	09/02/09	03/01/10
1063	Loteria® Texas Overall Odds are 1 in 3.87	\$3	09/02/09	03/01/10
1080	Super Match 3 Overall Odds are 1 in 5.00	\$1	09/02/09	03/01/10
1089	Triple Dough Overall Odds are 1 in 4.83	\$1	09/02/09	03/01/10
1091	Big Money Bingo Overall Odds are 1 in 3.61	\$5	09/02/09	03/01/10
1095	Set for Life Overall Odds are 1 in 3.47	\$10	09/02/09	03/01/10
1096	Instant Bingo Overall Odds are 1 in 4.20	\$2	09/02/09	03/01/10
1137	3's a Charm Overall Odds are 1 in 4.43	\$1	09/02/09	03/01/10
1149	Armadillo Dollars Overall Odds are 1 in 4.49	\$1	09/02/09	03/01/10

For detailed odds and game information, visit www.texaslottery.com or call 1-800-377-OTTO. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas Education. © 2009 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.

IRVING, continued from Page 1

percent of the IISD student body." In the Irving Public School System, the days where being a minority might suggest you are the single person of color in your classroom, are over.

The hallways of the IISD reflect the very essence of the words "melting pot." Irving ISD educates over 33,000 students and of those students there are 4.2 percent Asian, 68 percent Hispanic, 0.3 percent American Indian, and 12.7 percent African American.

In 1995, Bond recognized the need to bring various diverse groups together with unique interest, professional and ethnic backgrounds to share ideas resulting in positive solutions for the Irving Public School System.

"Diversity is necessary because it is important the students are seeing and interfacing with individuals from the school's front office to the classrooms that look like them. Minority students feel more comfortable and learn better when they are in an environment where they feel their differences are celebrated and embraced. IEC plays a vital role in ensuring the school district is constantly being sensitive to those minority students' needs," states Bond.

IEC also played an integral role in the support of the Memorandum of Understanding document (MOU). This document was created to help government entities address perceptions in the community regarding issues of inequality and marginalizing of people of ethnicity, race, color, and gender. The primary issues the MOU document reports and monitors are: Proper consideration and hiring of minorities; Procurement of services and supplies through minority and women contractors and vendors; Implementation of appropriate and fair student discipline of minorities; Effective parental relations and communication between parents of minorities and local schools; and Cross-cultural literature and training for stu-

dents and staff. IEC collaborated with IISD, U.S. Department of Justice, and Community Relation Services to provide a tool that warrants government's attention and resolve within IISD.

The most pressing challenges IEC is working to address the need for more diverse hiring of staff. Bond explains, "The staff within the Irving Public School Districts does not appropriately reflect the student body. IEC hopes through the efforts of the MOU document, IISD will be more committed to following the North Texas Small Business Development Center mission and philosophy regarding equal and fair opportunities for all women and minority businesses.

Recently, two African Americans, Nancy Jones, Place 1 and A. D. Jenkins, Place 2 were elected as members of the Irving Board of Trustee. The election of these two minorities gives hope that change within IISD is on the horizon.

Jenkins is optimistic of the progress they are taking to incorporate the ideas of all minorities, as well as partners within the business, church, and local community.

Jenkins states, "I have seen the steps the IISD has taken toward progress and being more open to innovative ideas and becoming more conscience of the importance of diversity, especially as it relates to the current selection process for Superintendent."

Jenkins knows the importance of community involvement first-hand. He founded the non-profit, Believing In God, Depending On God's Strength (B.I.G.D.O.G.S.) and its sole purpose is to provide a positive outlet for youth through education, mentoring, and athletic programs.

They also provide Math and Reading Programs, Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills Test Preparation (TAKS), and Youth Summits.

"I firmly believe the underlying issue we must overcome is communication

breakdown. We need more minorities represented, but most importantly we need to ensure there are efforts in place that provides an avenue to dialogue and share ideas," explains Jenkins. The belief is when all groups who have a vested interest in the Irving Public School System communicate, half the battle is won.

One battle that has been fought and won is with an IISD school that faced many challenges. Sam Houston Middle School located in northwest Irving is a true model of how well a school can perform when the community gets involved and embrace diversity. Sam Houston has a predominately Hispanic and African American student body and the vast majority of its students came from a low-income demographic.

The Irving Bible Church (IBC), a predominately upper-middle class Caucasian church, saw a need with Sam Houston Middle School three years ago and responded.

Owen DeWitt, former church liaison for IBC Mentor Program states, "We decided to challenge ourselves by going outside the walls and work with a school where we could make a difference and we believe we were able to because we approached it as a partnership rather than a church ministry."

The IBC school outreach program entails a Lunch Buddy Program, Teacher Appreciation Program, and a Campus Beautification Program. Since the church's involvement with Sam Houston Middle School they have adopted over thirty students and have seen the rewarding personal and academic benefits this program has brought to the school, as well as a sense of fulfillment for its members. Rick Nolly, former Principal of Sam Houston Middle School and current Principal of Nimitz High School, says "The partnership of IBC, along with the dedication of our staff is the reason we

were able to improve the overall TAKS test scores and I firmly believe a school cannot be fully successful without the collaboration of the school, parents and the community."

It was once stated that true poverty occurs when one feels there is no hope. Organizations like IEC are dedicated to bringing hope to the minority students of IISD and it knows this hope can only take place when a community of all faiths, backgrounds, and races work together for the common good.

When this collaboration occurs, a community creates a legacy of richness that will continue from one generation to another. Businesses and church leaders who want to know more about the program Irving Bible Church started with Sam Houston Middle School can contact IBC at (972) 560-4600 or visit the website at www.irvingbible.org.

COLLEGE CORNER

NFAA's YoungARTS Scholarship Program

We're looking for talented young artists in all disciplines of the performing, literary, and visual arts. NFAA's youngARTS program is dedicated to nurturing and supporting high school senior-aged artists at this critical point in their professional development.

For more than 25 years, we've sought out the best young artists and provided support in a variety of ways. We are the only organization that recognizes artistic excellence in all art forms: cinematic arts, dance, jazz, music, photography, theater, voice, visual arts, and writing.

youngARTS evaluates students against a standard of excellence for their discipline and age. Approximately 10 percent of the 6-8,000 annual applicants receive scholarships and awards. Of those, up to 150 students are chosen to participate in youngARTS Week, during which they are brought to Miami for an all-expenses-paid week of master classes, showcase performances, exhibitions, interdisciplinary activities, enrichment programs, interviews, and the final auditions.

Award Amount: \$100 - \$10,000

Deadline: October 1, 2009

Website/Contact Info:

www.nfaa.org/Students/index.html

Blackstudents.com

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IT ALL BEGINS HERE.

Zales New Store Opening Honored Autism Speaks; Stephanie's Day

(NDG Wire) On June 11, an estimated 275 attendees turned out for Zales' new store opening at NorthPark Center. The event was highlighted by Zales' sup-

port of Stephanie's Day and Autism Speaks.

To commemorate the new store opening, Zales partnered with Stephanie's Day, a resource fair at

NorthPark Center for children with special needs. Stephanie's Day was created by CBS 11/TXA 21 President and General Manager Steve Mauldin, whose

daughter Stephanie has autism, a brain disorder that inhibits a person's ability to communicate and develop social relationships.

The festive reception was held outside Zales' new location across from Macy's. Guests enjoyed food from La Duni, admired the new Zales store and mingled with the star of the evening, Stephanie Mauldin. Zales raffled off an exclusive diamond and white gold necklace from its exclusive Shared Heart™ collection and raffle proceeds went to the Dallas chapter of Autism Speaks.

In honor of Stephanie Mauldin, Zales donated a portion of sales from June 11 - 14 to the Dallas chap-



Super Bowl XVII Chair Bill Lively and former Dallas Cowboy Everson Walls sign customized Zales footballs that were donated as a door prize at Stephanie's Day.



left to right) Billy Allen, Billie Leigh Rippey, Caroline Rose Hunt, Olive Ann McGlaughlin and Angus Wynne

ter of Autism Speaks.

A portion of proceeds from Zales' Shared Heart collection throughout the country is donated to

Autism Speaks. See the collection at www.Zales.com. To learn more about Autism Speaks, visit www.autismspeaks.org.

Garland Mayor Ronald Jones' Gala

Thursday June 25 at the Atrium in downtown Garland, guests enjoyed music and buffet dinner as Mayor Ronald Jones hosted a gala with supports across the city in attendance. Presentations were made from the offices of Senator John Corona and State Representative Angie Chen Button and a special presentation by Sherma Armstrong.



Granddaughters of Mayor & Mrs. Jones.



At the left, Peggy & Mayor Ronald Jones Below, Mary Whitt, GISD



Below is Matthew Babineaux, Saxophonist



On Sunday, June 14, 2009, Eirene Christian Fellowship celebrated their Pastor, Dr. Terrence Autry who received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA.

On hand to celebrate with the Eirene family were (left-to-right) Rev. Leroy R. Armstrong, Jr., senior pastor, The House of Hope Church, Cedar Hill, TX and his wife Mrs. Cynthia Armstrong; Dr. Terrence Autry (honoree) and his wife Mrs. Lisa Autry; and Rev. Vincent T. Parker, senior pastor, Golden Gate Baptist Church, Dallas, TX and his wife Mrs. Janice Parker.

To learn more about Dr. Autry and Eirene Christian Fellowship, visit www.followpeace.org.

Ongoing

African American Republican Club of Collin County meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm. (Doors will open at 6:30 pm.) Collin County Republican Party Head-quarters. 8416 Stacy Road, McKinney. Call Fred Moses at 972 618 7027 or fred@tes.com for more information.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce: Monthly Lunch & Learn - 2nd Thursday of every month, \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, 11:00am until 1:00pm at the ZEA Woodfire Grill at the Shops at Granite Park, 8100 Dallas Parkway Plano, Reservations & Info: (469) 424-0120.

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

Marriage Prep Class 1st Saturdays monthly 423 West Wheatland Road Suite 101, Duncanville 75116 \$10 fee for materials. For more info call Karen Duval at 972-709-1180.

The No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch 1st Thursday at 11:30 am - 12:30 pm every Thursday at Texas Land & Cattle Steak House 3945 N. Central Expy. Plano 75023 Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com or 972-898-5882.

The National Business Women Enterprise Network (NBWEN) Learning Over Lunch Series: Monthly workshop and networking event giving members and guests the opportunity to network, build relationships, present information on their business and services, and most importantly, learn different ways to improve upon and grow their

business. 4th Saturdays, 11AM-1PM, ReMarkable Affairs Cafe, 2727 LBJ Freeway, Suite 140, Dallas, \$20 for members; \$35 for non-members, \$5 off for early bird registration. Visit <http://nbwenorg.ning.com> for more information. THIS IS A PREPAID EVENT so register early!

Summer Melange: Business, Pleasure & Charity Networking Event Every 2nd and 4th Friday, 5:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. at Prince Bistro, 1201 E. Spring Creek Pkwy, Suite 100, Plano, Texas 75074, Admission is free Info: 972.422.9078 melange@cause360group.com

Summer 2009

Seniors Active in Learning hosting annual summer series including Brown Bag lecture series and a variety of classes and other activities. For a complete list and details of the Summer Learning speakers and events, call 972.985.3788, wjmartin@cccd.edu or www.cccd.edu/sailsite.

March 28 - October 25

The George Washington Carver: An Extraordinary Man With A Mighty Vision Exhibit at The African American Museum, 3536 Grand Avenue, Historic Fair Park, Dallas, TX, 214 565-9026, \$5-Adults, \$2 - Children www.aamdallas.org

July 9

Monster's Keep America Working Career Fair 10AM - 3PM at Westin Galleria, Register at <http://mcf-dal0709.careers.adicio.com/careers/resumes>

July 11

"Killing Me Softly" Irving Arts Center Carpenter Performance Hall 8:00 PM Buy One Ticket, Get One 1/2 off for a limited time June 23-26, 2009.

Walk in Writing Clinic 10AM - 4PM Martin Luther

King Jr. Branch Library, 2922 MLK Blvd, \$2 (per 20-minute session)

Hands on History: Picturing the Past at the A.W. Perry Homestead museum staff invites kids age seven to 12 to learn about the history of photography from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Tour the home and its photos; then create self-portraits and silhouette portraits like those on display. Children will take home their own disposable camera to develop. Register by July 4; \$10 per child. Info: 972-466-6380, cityof-carrollton.com/museum.

July 12

Many Voices, Many Visions inspiring vocal concert by one of Fort Worth's favorite music ensembles at 2pm. Call 817.989.5030 to register; confirmation will be sent.

"Warrior Writer Workshop" 8:45 AM - 6:00 PM Springhill Suites Marriott Boardroom 5800 High Point Drive, 5800 High Point Drive Irving www.bob-mayer.org July 13-17

July 13-17

Summer Jazz Dance Camp at the Spring Creek Campus Dance Studio, Room AA146. Registration costs: \$125. Info: Tiffanee Arnold, 972.881.5830 or tarnold@cccd.edu.

July 18-19

2009 LEGENDS of Kung Fu World Martial Arts Championship & Masters Exhibition Saturday, 9:30am - Nationally and internationally distinguished Masters and Grandmasters from all over the US and overseas will perform their specialties on stage in the Masters Exhibition. Featuring Kung Fu, Tai Chi, acrobatic Lion dancing and a 72-ft Illuminated Dragon Dance. Saturday, 1:00pm - Opening Ceremonies will feature a spectacular Lion dance show, with Chinese Lions dancing to the beat of a

large Chinese drum. There will also be a display of the major styles of Tai Chi. Competition follows with 13 rings of different events and all age groups. Admission: \$15 for General Admission - \$30 for Masters Demonstration Show - VIP seat Info: Jimmy Wong / Patty Sun at 214-878-4598 or us-achinwoo@gmail.com or www.legendsofkungfu.com

July 18

The PLAN Fund is offering "Business Basics for Entrepreneurs" 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Class combines key business concepts, such as Marketing, Forecasting, Cash Flow, Pricing, and Business Planning. Upon completion of the training class, prospective members will receive a certification and become eligible for business loans. Location: 2801 Swiss Ave. Suite 120, Dallas, TX 75204. Cost is \$40.00 if paid in advance, \$45.00 at the door. Register: www.planfund.org or 214-942-6698.

July 19-24

Texas All-Star Jazz Camp Sunday-Friday at the Spring Creek Campus Conference Center, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano. Special guest artists include Bill Holman and Gregg Bissonette. Registration cost is \$265 and \$310 with lunch. Info: Kris Berg at 972.881.5108 or kberg@cccd.edu.

July 21

Sales Career Fair 9AM - 1:30 PM Embassy Suites Dallas - DFW International Airport South, 4650 West Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75062, (972) 790-0093

July 23 - August 2

Les Miserables is at Granville Arts Center 972-485-8884, www.garlandcivictheatre.org

July 23

CareerBuilder Job Fair 10AM - 3PM Renaissance Dallas Richardson Hotel, 900 East Lookout Drive, Richardson, TX

July 28

Putting America Back to Work Job Fair, New Cowboy Stadium, 925 North Collins, Arlington, TX 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

July 30 - August 1

Friends of the Plano Public Library 26th Annual Book Sale First Nighter Sale, Thursday, July 30, 6 - 10pm, Entry fees: \$5 Individual, \$10 Family. Free Admission Friday, July 31, 9am - 9 pm, and Saturday, August 1, 9am - 1pm Over 75,000 new and gently used books. Hard-back books, DVDs and CDs: \$2. Paperback books: \$1. Videocassettes, audiocassettes, and records: 2 for \$1. No sales tax! All proceeds go to Friends of Plano Public Library who reinvest the funds in special collections and a variety of projects and programs for Plano libraries. Info: 972-208-8002.

July 30 - August 9

Ringling Bros & Barnum & Bailey Show The American Airlines Center Thursday, July 30 7:30PM Friday, July 31, 7:30PM Sat., August 1, 11:30AM Sat., August 1, 3:30PM Sat., August 1, 7:30PM Sunday, August 2, 2:30PM Sunday, August 2, 6:30PM Thurs., August 6, 7:30PM Friday, August 7, 7:30PM Sat., August 8, 11:30AM Sat., August 8, 3:30PM Sat., August 8, 7:30PM Sunday, August 9, 2:30PM Sunday, August 9, 6:30PM Information available thru: www.ticketmaster.com

July 30

Diversity/Professional Job Fair 10AM-3PM Westin DFW Airport, 4545 W. John Carpenter Frwy, Irving (972) 929-4500

August 5

Arlington Professional Diversity Career Fair, LaQuinta Inn, 825 N. Watson Road, Arlington, TX 76011,

10-2 p.m.

August 8

The Wiggles! Tour NOKIA Theatre 1:30 & 5:00 PM

August 19

What a Wonderful World fun-filled family day, 1-4pm Amon Carter Museum

August 21-23

"The 3rd Annual Fort Worth MusicFest" featuring legendary billboard-topping bands, Morris Day and the Time, The Bar-Kays and The Zapp Band. This three-day outdoor music event will take place in Fort Worth. Tickets are \$15 per day until August, 14, 2009. Kids under the age of 10 get in free. More info: www.fwmusicfestival.org or 817.923-9300.

August 28-30

Tulisoma South Dallas Book Fair & Arts Festival Tulisoma, Swahili for "we read", is a community based literary festival promoting literacy and the arts. Speakers include Dallas DA Craig Watkins, poet Sonia Sanchez and romance author Evelyn Palfrey. The fair will be hosted at the African American Museum and other venues, visit www.tulisoma.com for more details and registration.

September 5-6

2009 City of Bedford Labor Day Blues & BBQ Festival a feast for the senses. The two-day event re-turns with an entertaining lineup of local talent, blues legends Buddy Guy and The Fabulous Thunderbirds and a \$10,000 barbecue cook-off. Gates open at 2 p.m. each day

September 10

The Plano City Council Neighborhood Roundtable - District 4, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the Plano Sports Authority StarCenter, 6500 Preston Meadow, Plano, Texas 75024

Sponsored By:



Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community

The Residents of Little Elm Have Entertainment in Their Own Backyards

BY JACKIE HARDY

Little Elm is living up to its motto, "A town with a lake attitude." The free summer concerts, "Summer Rhythms by the Lake," have given the residents just that, entertainment with a lakeside view.

For the month of June, residents did not have to

hosted each school year by the Little Elm Independent School District (LEISD).

"The citizens of Little Elm are benefiting because they are seeing their money from the Father and Daughter Dance returned to them through the free summer concerts," states Becky Horn, Little

Elm," states Horn. The music groups that performed for the June Concert Series included a wide-variety of genres. Residents could bring their lawn chairs and listen to sounds that range from classic rock, jazz, and acoustic guitar from eight to ten every Friday evening. The Little Elm Amphitheatre is nicely situated on the northeast side of Lewisville Lake of Denton County.

"We have seen a lot of growth occur within the past seven years of residing here and it is nice to have venues available within our own backyard that are fun for the entire family. We truly enjoyed participating in the summer concerts at the lake," states Allen and Terri Gill, residents of Little Elm.

Horn shares, "There are tentative plans to offer more free events, such as movie in the park, but nothing has been made final." Horn suggests residents to visit the website (www.littleelmchamber.org) and click "Featured Events," to find upcoming events.

The Village of Eldorado is a place residents can go to shop, dine, and also hear free concerts on the plaza lawn. CMC Commercial Realty Group located in Dallas sponsors the free concerts. Residents can come each Friday evening from seven to nine to hear the Rhythm and Blues, Hip Hop, Jazz and Funk sounds of David White-man and The Experience band. The concerts will run for the entire summer months and possible longer, according to Salil Gaitonde, Vice President of CMC Commercial Realty Group.

"Our goal in offering the free concerts is to help



Rhythm By the Lake June concert.

increase customer traffic for the businesses in that area, which have had some challenges due to the economy and the driving inconveniences caused by the road construction on Eldorado Parkway. We also want to generate energy and excitement by creating an atmosphere where residents can go on a Friday night to get good dining and good music without having to leave their local community," states Gaitonde.

Businesses like Firehouse Sub are some of the establishments within the Village of Eldorado who hope to benefit from the free concerts.

James Hulett, Firehouse Sub business owner, states "We are optimistic that increased sales and potential new customers will result from the summer concert series at Eldorado Plaza and I commend CMC Commercial Realty Group for thinking outside of the box and initiating an event to increase traffic flow to the plaza."

"We are looking to de-

velop projects that will impact the lakefront area, as well as a future plans to construct a multi-use development project that will entail retail, apartments, lofts, and restaurants," states Horn. The Lighthouse Grill will be one of the newest restaurants having its grand

opening during the Fourth of July weekend. Little Elm is putting its mark on the map and it is vastly becoming a town that not only offers a lake with an attitude, but a place to experience classy entertainment with an attitude, as well.



Salil Gaitonde



Becky Horn

go far to experience great entertainment thanks to the partnership of the local Chamber of Commerce and town of Little Elm. The cost for the summer concerts were covered by the proceeds made from the Little Elm Father and Daughter Dance, a ball

Elm Chamber of Commerce Executive Director. The concerts have been well-received by the community and it is currently in its eighth year.

"The goal is to incorporate all genres of music because we want to appeal to all the citizens of Little



Terri, Taylor and Allen Gill, Little Elm Residents.



James Hulett of Firehouse Subs.

Metroplex Fans Remember Michael Jackson

Visit www.NorthDallasGazette.com for more reflections and photos

"Michael Jackson really exposed me to R & B music. I was a huge Beatles fan as a kid and liked other acts such as Peter, Paul & Mary. I really didn't listen to much R & B before the Jackson Five. I was nine years old when *I Want You Back* came out. I was immediately hooked by that song and *ABC*. I remember taking Jackson Five 45's to school on the one day a week that we would listen and dance to music in P.E. at my elementary school. *I'll Be There* was the first slow song that I remember liking. I would also watch their cartoon every Saturday morning.

After the Jackson Five came out I became a huge R & B fan. Stevie Wonder became one of my favorites. I also started appreciating songs such as *Freddie's Dead* by Curtis Mayfield, *When Will I See You Again* by the Three Degrees, *Cleanup Woman* by Betty Wright and *Mr. Big Stuff* by Jean Knight. Later

on in my teen years I really developed an appreciation for Marvin Gaye, Aretha Franklin, Al Green, Earth Wind & Fire, the Commodores and others. But the Jackson Five were the first!

During the early 80's I managed a couple of Hast-



ings Records stores. *Thriller* came out shortly after I started working at the Galleria in November, 1982. The Galleria itself had recently opened. Back then just about all of the stores were high end. In fact many of our customers said that the record store was the only

place that they could afford something. We didn't sell a whole lot of R & B at that store but sold more *Thriller* than any other album during the time I worked there. I later transferred to the Hastings at Collin Creek Mall in Plano while *Thriller* was still huge. Plano back then was at least 99% white but we still sold a lot of *Thriller*. With *Thriller*, Michael Jackson exposed R & B to a lot of suburbanite teens and young adults. This was similar to the effect that the Jackson Five had on me a little over a decade before. I believe that he led to a more widespread appreciation of R & B and then later on hip hop artists. Without him I don't know if MTV would have made it as his videos were the most popular among the youth. He truly was the first big crossover act."

Lance Price, Owner of CD Source (www.myspace.com/cdsources) in Old Town Shopping Center at the northeast corner of Greenville and Lovers Lane.



"Whenever Elvis Presley's name is mentioned, I send my mind back to the image of him during his famous dance sequence in the 1957 film *Jailhouse Rock*. That was a time when he was at his best and looked it.

Now that Michael Jackson has died, my mind will have to make similar detours to images more pleasant and befitting of another legendary performer who would be King.

To get to the more pleasant images of the Michael Jackson that I knew and adored, my mind will have to reach way back. It will have to reach back to the days when the so-called King of Pop was beautiful and brown, relatively happy and indisputably nappy.

Back in 1969, as lead singer of The Jackson Five, it was Michael's pure voice and the harmonious backup of his brothers, that charmed millions of viewers during their first appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show. His soul-stirring rendition of *Who's Loving You*, was magnificent.

I choose to remember the Michael whose young voice had an old soul, but was sweet and innocent enough to garner a Golden Globe Award for crooning a love song to a rat.

My memories of Michael Jackson will be selective. Whenever I think of him I will direct my mind to the image of the manchild who was bright-eyed and extremely talented. My mind will see a Michael who had a face that was untainted, unviolated and protectively framed by a natural halo called an Afro.



Michael, I want you back. I want you before you became confused and consumed by demons. The Michael I want back is the Michael who was black.

That is the Michael that I see resting in peace."

Linda Jones

www.nappyhairaffair.com

MICHAEL, continued from Page 1

thinner? Where did that compulsion come from? It could not have been completely internal, something he simply decided on. To what extent did the signals that all of us, black folk (I'm not going African American right now - just black folk), get take hold of his brain and drive some of his decisions?

Did Michael Jackson feel that he needed to buffer his success by looking like what he thought success ought to be - whiter, thinner nose, all that? I'm not trying to get into his head, just raise a question for a group of people who are being asked to reject themselves, even with the cries of "get over it" on slavery, with the call for race neutrality.

There is no such thing as being race neutral. You are who you are. Nothing wrong with it. Just embrace it. At

this moment, embrace it in the name of Michael Jackson.

Every Fourth of July I read Frederick Douglas' *The Meaning of July Fourth for the Negro* just to remind myself of who I am and where I come from.

Rarely will I engage myself in the festivities of the day, the patriotic flag-waving, the consumption of grilled meats, the gatherings. I generally read to anyone who will listen "your freedom is not my freedom, your justice is not my justice, you may rejoice, I must mourn." I read this to others to the point of irritation. Indeed, I have friends and colleagues who will not return my calls on July 4, understanding that they are about to be read to.

I wonder if I will engage in the ritual this year - I haven't decided. It somehow

seems petulant to hold to this tradition with an African American President in the White House.

Part of me actually longs to put my hand over my heart (it won't happen) and sing about "the land of the free and the home of the brave." My lyric has been "the land of the thief and the home of the slave." Is it time to let it go? To embrace that which is good in our country? To shrug off the shackles of oppression in order to embrace the possibilities of a new and exciting America?

If only a shrug of the shoulders could accomplish so much. I bet that Michael Jackson would have, if he could have, shrugged off the images of success that pushed him into transforming his appearance so drastically. I bet he would have, if he

could have, shrugged off all his demons so that he could simply, freely, moonwalk his way across a stage and across his life. I bet he would have chosen peace instead of the turmoil we all witnessed.

The concert tour that Jackson was about to embark on was seen by most as a way for him to earn some money and pay some bills. Might it also have been a cry for peace, a harkening for a simpler time when Michael Jackson was a performer, a pop icon, not a lightning rod for controversy?

I would like to think that Michael Jackson found peace on stage and that his concert tour was a step toward peace. His death suggests that he has moonwalked to peace in another way. Let me add my voice to the many asking for

moments of silence and still, for Michael Jackson, commemoration. Peace, be and for all of us.

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Homeowners & Jobseekers Get Help Through the Urban Leagues

(NDG Wire) Approximately 1,500 individuals from throughout Dallas County joined the Urban League of Greater Dallas and North Central Texas and the National Urban League (NUL) to kick off the 2009 Economic Empowerment Tour.

The event featured a Career Fair and Restore Our Home: Housing Rescue Fairs. Free, on-site health screenings were also available from local hospitals, health agencies and the Walgreen mobile health and education bus.

This event addressed the most pressing issues these participants and others throughout Dallas County face, high unemployment, foreclosure and in some, poor health.

"Unemployment is the underlying factor contribut-

ing to home loss", said Dr. Beverly Mitchell Brooks, President of the Urban League of Greater Dallas. "We partnered with over 60 local companies including Wal-Mart, Federal Express, Parkland Hospital, Bank of America, Career Builders and Adecco who offered available jobs to those seeking employment.

Free home retention services and counseling were provided by Bank of America and a variety of financial institutions as well as certified housing counselors."

Following the event, 17 people were hired by Goodwill Industries and Texas Transportation Institute recruited 20 individuals who will start classes on July 6 at Paul Quinn College and start work on July 20 as Highway Construction Workers. Ex-offenders were included in

these positions.

As a result of the high turnout of individual job seekers, Energy Holding Group (TXU) has volunteered to spearhead an Employer Round Table Meeting and Taskforce which will meet on July 6 to address the needs of prospective employees.

Housing issues remain a major concern not only in Texas but throughout the United States.

In the Dallas Fort Worth area, over 25,000 homeowners are behind on their mortgage payments and in danger of foreclosure. "Economic equality gaps existed long before this crisis, and now, multicultural communities are among the hardest hit by the loss of jobs and homes," said Marc H. Morial, President and CEO, National Urban League.

"The Economic Empowerment Tour is just one example of how the Urban League is helping people through this crisis; providing a combination of real job opportunities and home foreclosure prevention services all in on place at each stop. In Dallas, we helped over 500 people save their homes, and helped job seekers find jobs. It's a tough economy and every bit helps, we hope to offer even more assistance as we travel across the country.

Individuals at the event were offered up to eight hours of expert assistance through one-on-one session with loan specialists, counseling from HUD approved housing counselors and attorneys plus foreclosure prevention workshops with language assistance. Over 500 homeowners received free assistance as part of the

Restore Our Homes: Housing Rescue Fair.

The NUL's Restore Our Homes Housing Rescue Fair is part of the Alliance for Stabilizing Our Communities, a partnership of NUL, NCLR and National Coalition of Asian Pacific American Community Development with the support of National Coalition of Asian Pacific American Community Development with the help of

Bank of America, that provides to provide hands-on home foreclosure prevention efforts for low and moderate income and multicultural families and individuals at risk of foreclosure.

Over 40 events are scheduled this year alone by the Alliance. The next stop on the Economic Empowerment Tour and Restore Our Homes Rescue Fairs is Louisville, KY.

Former Dallas Mayor Pro Tem Don Hill's Trial is Underway

(AP) An FBI agent took the stand Tuesday in the Dallas City Hall corruption trial, telling jurors that a developer went to the FBI in 2004 with allegations that associates of then-Dallas Mayor Pro Tem Don Hill were soliciting bribes from him.

That developer, James R. "Bill" Fisher, became a key witness in the government's case against Hill and others after he agreed to wear a wiretap and become an informant.

The prosecution said Monday that black leaders solicited bribes from white developers, with black leaders saying it was time for the white developers to pay. In a wiretapped phone call, defendant Darren Reagan says, "The game has done changed."

That call, in which Reagan also talks about how white developers had become wealthy off southern Dallas projects, was played by prosecutor Chad Meacham during the government's opening statement in the case against former Hill and others charged in the largest public corruption trial in Dallas history.

The Dallas Morning News reports that Meacham told jurors that Hill and his right-hand man, former Dallas Plan Commission member D'Angelo Lee, "violated the public trust in return for their official actions." They "postponed votes and denied votes" in exchange for bribe payments.

Attorneys for the remaining five defendants, all of whom are black, assailed the government's menacing interpretation of the tapes as well as the rest of the evidence gathered in the case.

"The evidence will show that Hill wasn't motivated by money," said Hill's lawyer, Ray Jackson, during his opening. "Don walked around with holes in his shoes."

Hill and Lee are accused of funneling hundreds of thousands in bribe payments from developer Brian Potashnik and his wife, Cheryl, through what the government contends are sham contracts with several cohorts.

Meacham told jurors they would hear from Brian Potashnik, the first public admission from the prosecution that the developer and his

wife had signed plea deals. Those deals, which were unsealed Monday, show that Brian Potashnik's sentence is capped at about 3 1/2 years, with his wife's capped at 16 months.

Monday's tapes mostly featured Reagan, who prosecutors say used his Black State Employees Association of Texas to put pressure on white developers, such as Fisher, to pay bribes to Hill and others. Prosecutors contend the group represented no employees but orchestrated protests.

Prosecutors say that on the wiretap recording, Reagan is plotting with Allen McGill - who has already pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit extortion - to get money from Fisher.

"I love to see old Bill sweating like a pig," Reagan says to McGill on the recording, adding that, "The days of offering a few donations are over."

FBI Special Agent Allen Wilson testified Tuesday that at the time Fisher came to the FBI with his allegations, he was already familiar with Fisher because the FBI was investigating whether

Fisher's hiring of a security firm owned by then-City Council member James Fantroy was some sort of payoff for his vote on Fisher's development projects.

Wilson testified he questioned Fisher about his relationship with J.L. Security, Fantroy's firm, but there was no more testimony on the topic Tuesday. Wilson did not say what became of that investigation.

It's unclear whether the FBI began looking at the Fantroy-Fisher connection after former Mayor Laura Miller aired the apparent conflict of interest publicly or if they were tipped off before.

Miller has said in interviews that she did not contact authorities about the matter. She is expected to testify in the current case.

Fantroy, who died last year at 71, was not indicted in the current corruption case, but he was separately convicted of stealing \$20,000 from Paul Quinn College. Before he died, Fantroy turned down an offer of leniency in exchange for his testimony in the main bribery case.

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RULING, continued from Page 1

from probation or SACS membership.

Dr. Wheelan acknowledged, "They made great progress but still had three outstanding issues."

While Dr. Wheelan lauded the improvements Paul Quinn has made during their probationary period, she stated, "making progress is not sufficient, they still have to be in compliance." Paul Quinn is currently not in compliance, therefore the SACS' position is they had no choice but to end the school's membership.

The pending issues listed for the SACS decision includes financial stability. Although Paul Quinn reports they have eliminated over \$800,000 of debt since May of this year, Dr. Wheelan said they are not finan-

cially stable per the SACS definition.

Secondly, financial resources was a reason cited. However, in addition to addressing their debt, Paul Quinn anticipates a budget surplus of nearly \$250,000. Many would consider that a remarkable feat given the economic climate. Sorrell said, "Everyone is impressed except the SACS." The budget surplus comes in light of a reported 90 percent increase in donations to the college.

The final reason Dr. Wheelan referenced is institutional effectiveness, which involves an examination to ensure students are learning.

"They have to identify student learning outcomes, and after the assessment, make changes to make sure

students do learn," Dr. Wheelan stated.

Dr. Wheelan will send a letter to Sorrell in the upcoming week, the school will then have 10 days to file an appeal. The appeals panel will meet in August on an undetermined date.

The grounds for appeal are, "we did not follow appropriate procedure or our decision was somehow unfair and unreasonable," Dr. Wheelan shared.

If Paul Quinn loses the appeal their next option is to sue the SACS, according to Dr. Wheelan.

At a press conference on Friday June 26 and when reached by phone on Wednesday it is very clear Sorrell plans to fight this matter vigorously. "We intend to challenge the ruling

on appeal just as soon as we receive the formal letter."

When asked how the community can assist the school Sorrell stated, "The community can financially support the school by first help send students through here [Paul Quinn] and two, send checks." Both steps will strengthen their argument on appeal.

Sorrell emphasized that it is important for the public to understand, "At no point did SACS say that they have any problem with how school is being run."

Given the troubled history of financial mismanagement of first Bishop College and Paul Quinn College, many view this is a victory for the institution. Sorrell's statement last week highlighted the fact their

"2008 audit produced no findings of non-compliance for the first time in over 10 years. By comparison, the 2007 audit had 23 findings of non-compliance."

Determined but not argumentative, Sorrell said, "They [SACS] have a standard. They have their beliefs. All we are saying is this is not the time to pull the plug on what we are doing."

When asked to identify the key factors in improving the school's financial situation and morale, Sorrell shared, "People need to appreciate how hard we work. We have a strong work ethic." He stated the school's leadership "come out of corporate America." For example the Chief Operating Officer came from

the Boston Consulting Group and Sorrell is a former corporate securities lawyer.

"We practice extreme accountability: you are held responsible for what you are tasked to do, we hold you accountable," Sorrell shared this mandate includes students, faculty and staff.

Sorrell feels the bottom-line is, "We have a much better story to tell now and people want to be a part of it. The reason you support Paul Quinn is not for what it has been, but what it will be."

Confident the institution will successfully resolve this matter, Sorrell closed by saying, "We will push our way past this. We will give this area the great college that it deserves."

PIPES, continued from Page 1

been screaming at the top of my lungs while trying to be respectful," he said.

Tutson's reasoning for warning homeowners is the health risk for children and older adults who consume water containing traces of lead. According to the EPA, children who drink water contaminated with lead are at risk for behavior and learning problems, such as hyperactivity, hearing problems and headaches. The EPA also warns that adults can suffer from high blood pressure and hypertension, memory and concentration problems and muscle and joint pain.

"We need to get rid of all the pipes and change our infrastructure," said Tutson. "They say we're passing EPA standards, but any levels of lead [in your body] are toxic."

Though the Green Initiative focuses on attracting new developments, lead pipes in East McKinney are a problem that newly elected District 1 At-Large City Council Member Don Day hopes the committee can solve through educating homeowners in District 1.

"I want to have neighborhood meetings and we bring [homeowners] up to date on

how they can improve the environment. We can provide the information; some people will benefit, some people won't," Day said.

The biggest problem Day said the city faces with replacing lead pipes are finding out where the lines are located. Day, a commercial developer who has renovated over 20 historic buildings in McKinney, and has replaced pipes in 11 of those businesses downtown while restoring structures in the area.

"We can and we will address lead pipes in East McKinney," said Day. "The problem is that there is no map or utility plan showing where they are." Day added that lead pipes that are in use in District 1 have been there for over 100 years. Older East McKinney community members who worked in construction who knew most about the pipes have passed away taking that knowledge with them. However, for the last eight years, the city has been working on improving infrastructure of the pipe-lines.

"McKinney started an infrastructure initiative and allocated \$60 million, which included replacing all old

pipes and we're about four to five years before it's finished," he said. After that, Day hopes any remaining lead pipes will be "highly remote."

Despite the difficulties in finding the pipes, Day wants to see the Green Initiative

impact the east side of the city.

"The city is doing everything they can to provide a healthy, safe and green city. It takes decades to change things. Some things you just can't help, you have to change it," he said. "Just like

the pipes. A hundred years ago, we didn't know there was a problem and that they were bad. Now that we know better, we're going to change that."

Residents who want their water tested for lead should call the McKinney Waste

Water Department at 972-547-7550, or City Hall at 972-547-7500 to have the city examine the safety of their water.

To find out more about lead contamination from water, log on to www.epa.gov/ogwdw/lead/lead1.html.

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TWC Cautions UI Claimants to Beware of Fee-for-Filing Scams

(NDG Wire) The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) warns Unemployment Insurance (UI) claimants to be aware of unscrupulous business operators who may try to charge a fee to file unemployment claims. Filing for benefits through TWC is and always has been free.

Claimants who sign on for so-called fee-for-filing scams could later discover unemployment claims were never filed on their behalf. They also may have given their Social Security numbers to someone they thought was a TWC employee.

Claimants may receive UI information online through www.texasworkforce.org or by using the e-mail form found on the Web site.

TWC unemployment staff never perform home visits. Claimants should only give personal information when filing for benefits on-

line at www.texasworkforce.org or on the UI Tele-Center phone filing system.

The UI program, funded through employer taxes, provides temporary, partial-income replacement to workers who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own. TWC administers and oversees the collection of taxes from employers and the payment of UI benefits to qualified claimants.

To report possible fraud, call the TWC Fraud and Program Abuse Hotline at (800) 252-3642.

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

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

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Fort Worth

Contract 6195-35-001 for REFLECTORIZED PAVEMENT MARKINGS in TARRANT County, etc will be opened on August 11, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$589,646.96.

Contract 6195-36-001 for REFLECTORIZED PAVEMENT MARKINGS in TARRANT County will be opened on August 12, 2009 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$531,442.28.

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

NPO: 30053

State Office

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

Dist/Div Office(s)

Ft. Worth District | District Engineer
2501 Southwest LP820 | Ft. Worth, Texas 76133
Phone: 817-370-6500

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.



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Church Happenings

C. D. DIXON MINISTRIES

July 9 & 10, 7:30 pm

Join us for "The Prophetic Voice Speaks in 2009 with Apostle C. D. Dixon @ God's Tabernacle of Deliverance Event Center, 1020 E. Pleasant Run Road, Desoto, TX 75115.

**Apostle C. D. Dixon
Founder**

**1020 E. Pleasant Run Rd.
Desoto, TX 75115
214-398-0340 (Church)**

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES

July 11, 1:30-3 pm

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

**Apostle Minnie
Hawthorne-Ewing
Senior Pastor**

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July 8, 7 pm

Join us for Wednesday Night Live at our main campus, 200 Belmont Dr. in Allen.

July 11, 2009

Come to our Leadership Conference. Call the church for details.

July 22-24, 2009

We will have our Vacation Bible School, come and bring the children.

July 31, 7 pm-10:30 pm

Calling all youth to our Gen-Ex Youth Explosion "Born to Worship" @ the Allen Civic Auditorium. There will be food, fellowship, fun and worship.

**Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr.
M.Div., Senior Pastor**

**1550 Edelweiss
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Location)**

**200 Belmont Drive
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Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956**

FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES

July 19, 3:30 pm

Join us for "109 Men in Black & Red" with Ministers Stephen Haastrup & Ty Jones; Elders Steve Cornett & Willie Miller; Pastors C.L. Bell & Darven Mamon and Bishop G.D. Crawford. Theme: Men After God's Own Heart.

**Bishop G.D. Crawford
Founder & Pastor
3121 Nandina Drive
Dallas, TX 75241
214-780-7856**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK July 10, 8 am to 9 pm

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July 19, 6 pm

Agape Ministry presents the play "Chains" a play by Cleveland McLeish.

**Dr. Gregory Foster,
Senior Pastor
Rev. Anthony Foster
Pastor**

**300 Phillips Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-235-4235**

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July 10 & 11, 2009

Our Just Between Sisters Women's Ministry invites you to their 4th Annual Women's Retreat at the Marriott Quorum by the Galleria, 14901 Dallas Parkway, Dallas, TX. We have a Silver, Gold and Platinum package. Speakers: Sisters Eleanor Webb from Griggs Chapel B.C. and Loria Thompson from Cedar Crest CME Cathedral; First Lady Linda Joshua from Shiloh MBC and Rev. Patti Moore from Temple of Faith CME. Call 972-423-4090 for details and package fees.

**Rev. Clarence Ford,
Senior Pastor
1113 Avenue I
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-4090**

HOUSE OF REFUGE WORSHIP CENTER

July 5, 3 pm-4 pm

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Senior Pastor
1012 16th Street
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The legacy of the Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church ("The Mark") began in 1879. Wednesday, July 1, 2009 marked 130-days from the 130th Church Anniversary. The Church Anniversary is Sunday, November 8, 2009. Special events are planned throughout the 130-days. On Sunday, July 5, 2009, a kick off celebration will be held during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Services.

The Anniversary Celebration will also include a Musical - Sunday, November 1; Revival-Wednesday, November 4; Banquet-November 7 and Church Anniversary Worship Sunday, November 8.

Senior Pastor Charles S. Wattley and the Saint Mark Family invite you to join "The Mark" in celebrating 130 years of God's blessing as we continue to "Press toward The Mark of the high calling which is in Christ Jesus."

For more information, please call the church at 972-542-6178 or visit us at www.saintmarkbc.com.

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10:45AM: Story Elementary
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Wednesday Night Live
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What Is Your Trademark?



"Faithful is He that calleth you, who als will do it." 1 Thessalonians 5:24

Companies spend millions of dollars making their trademark known in business and to consumers. They want people to recognize their brand of product. When you think of their product they wish you would have positive thoughts in hopes it will influence your next purchasing decision.

What soft drink do you think of for summer months and especially the Thanksgiving and Christmas Seasons of the year? What commercials do you think of and look forward to at the Super Bowl games?

Every individual has a personal "brand" whether they want it or not. Different Cultures have a brand; even Ethnic groups have a brand. A particular brand is defined by the conduct of an individual and by an individual's values in life. If you are always late, you will soon develop a reputation for

being late. Others will more likely than not show up late because they know you will be late. If you are an individual who exaggerates the truth, others will soon fail to take you serious.

However, the opposite can also be true. Your trademark can be incredibly positive. By being a man or woman of your word, who is consistent in dealing fairly and honestly with others, your trademark becomes known as someone who is faithful in all aspects of life.

An example that I can give is about my wonderful and precious friends, Eugene & Phemia Tinner. They are known for their trademark of being on time at every event they attend. They are known for being honest and telling the truth about any situation. Brother Tinner as most people calls him (I call him father) retired from Eastman Kodak Company after 38 years of service and was late to work only one time. The one time that he will tell you was during a winter storm with ice on the streets and everywhere, he left for work two hours early and was only 30 minutes late! I told 'fa-

ther' that I wouldn't tell anyone that I was late to work! But being the honest person that he is, he can't seem to forget those 30 minutes. I believe that Eastman Kodak will tell you that he was never late.

Mr. Tinner got the job by telling his employer that he needed a job; he had one child and Mrs. Tinner was pregnant with a second child. He told his supervisor to allow him to work one week without a salary and if he liked his work, hire him, if he didn't like his work, Eastman Kodak owed him nothing. I believe that Eastman Kodak will tell you they got the best of the deal.

One of God's most important characteristics is His faithfulness. Faithfulness means one is true to fulfilling their promises to others in the time that was committed. God is faithful to fulfill His promises to His children. God will not let you down. Jesus said, "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." (Matthew 5:18)

Moses was also an example of faithfulness to his call. "And Moses verily was faithful in all his

house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after; But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end." (Hebrews 3:5 & 6)

What is your trademark in your neighborhood, in your church and among your peers? Is it a positive brand like Moses in the Bible and the Tinners' in Hamilton Park? Does it need improvement? Allowing God to make you more like Jesus is the only way your trademark becomes trustworthy, a faithful brand others can trust.



Ms. Ebony LaTae Fagan on her way to a dance in a gown made by her grandmother, Mrs. Katherine Cotton from Longview, TX.

TXU Energy Declares Moratorium on Disconnects This Summer

(NDG Wire) TXU Energy announced it has again declared a summer moratorium on disconnects for customers designated as low-income, ill or disabled or who are at least 62 years of age this summer. TXU Energy also announced that more flexible deferred payment plans are available to these customers. This is the third consecutive year the company has offered these

protections to eligible customers.

Customers must contact TXU Energy at (800) 242-9113 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, 2009. 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.

"We know that customers with critical health care needs, low-income families and older adults often need help," said Jim Burke, Chief Executive Officer, TXU Energy. "We want to make sure that our most vulnerable customers have the help they need when they need it most."



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

Early Sunday Morning8:00 am
Sunday Bible Class9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship10:45 am
Evening Worship3:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 pm

Radio Program @ 7:30 am on KHVN 970 AM Sunday Mornings

Ramon Hodridge, Minister



Friendship Baptist Church
4396 Main Street The Colony, Texas 75056
(972) 625-8186
website: www.fbc-online.net

Schedule of Services:
Sunday
Early Morning Worship-8:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes-9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship-11:00 a.m.

Tuesday
Early Bird Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday
Morning Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting and Evening Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

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

Contact Info: Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
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Wednesday Night Bible 7:30pm

Recent drownings prompt area health authorities to call for vigilant pool safety

(NDG Wire) Health authorities are cautioning backyard and public swimming pool owners to take a closer look at water safety measures in the wake of three accidental drowning deaths of young children in the last month.

In a span of three weeks, three children - all age 5 or younger - died in drowning-related incidents. One incident occurred in backyard swimming pool, and two in community or public pools, prompting health officials to call for pool owners and parents across the county to help avoid more poolside tragedies this summer.

"We just can't stress

enough how important it is for everyone to keep a close eye on kids around pools, especially in the summer months," said Brittany Pollard, a health care analyst for Collin County.



Each year, hundreds of Texans die in accidental drowning incidents. About one in four of those incidents claim the life of a child

under age 14. In Collin County last year, the Medical Examiner's Office logged two accidental drownings: one involved an infant in a bathtub; the other a child under 5 in a backyard pool.

Authorities are asking the public to be vigilant around private and public pools, and to review the following water safety and drowning prevention advice:

- Always supervise children closely around any body of water.
- Consider posting a "water watcher" system, with adults who know how to swim and who keep an eye out for kids in and

around the pool in alternating shifts.

- Never swim alone or in unsupervised places. Swim with a buddy or when a life-guard is present.
- Use appropriate personal flotation devices according to child's age, weight, and size. Water wings, noodles, or inner-tubes are toys and are not designed to keep swimmers safe.

Enrolling yourself and your children in swimming classes is helpful, but that's not a guarantee to prevent someone you love from drowning. Close supervision and barriers around pools are still needed even after chil-

dren learn how to swim.

- Learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation. CPR skills can make a difference in the survival of an individual while waiting for paramedics to arrive.
- Install a four-sided, isolation pool-fence with a self-closing and self-latching

gate around home swimming pools.

- Remove toys from the pool immediately after use. This will prevent children from entering the pool to retrieve the toys.
- Lastly, if a child is missing, check the pool first. Seconds count!

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