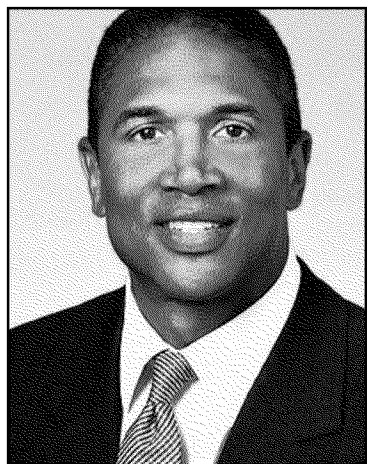


## PG&E Engages Minority-Owned Bank to Help Lead \$250 Million Bond Sale

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) selected The Williams Capital Group, L.P., an African-American owned investment bank headquartered in New York, to be one of three joint lead managers, along with Morgan Stanley and Citigroup, for a \$250 million offering of 10-year senior notes that closed yesterday. This represents the second bond transaction that PG&E has completed with a minority-owned investment bank as a lead manager.

"We are proud to partner with Williams Capital in this offering," said Kent Harvey, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of PG&E Corporation. "Through its Supplier Diversity Program, PG&E has been working for 30 years to bring diverse business enterprises and small businesses into its supply chain. This transaction reflects PG&E's ongoing commitment to supplier diversity throughout its business operations."

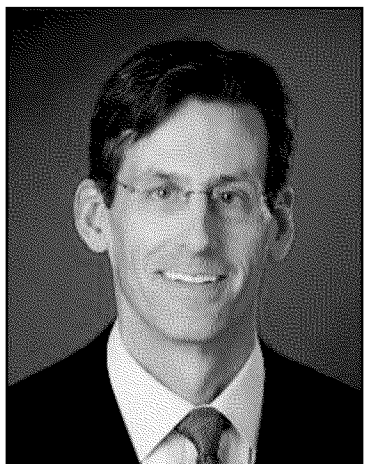
The bonds mature on September 15, 2021 and bear an interest rate of 3.25 percent, which represents the lowest long-term taxable debt coupon ever for PG&E. The bonds are rated "A3" by Moody's Investors Service and "BBB+" by Standard & Poor's. Proceeds from the bonds will be used primarily to redeem \$200 million in principal amount for a pollution control bond.



Christopher J. Williams, CEO of Williams Capital Group.

PG&E has raised the bar for sustainable business partnerships between utilities and women-, minority- and disabled veteran-owned business enterprises in California," said Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon of the California Public Utilities Commission. "We are very pleased by PG&E's work in fostering financial relationships with minority-owned investment banks and other underrepresented suppliers. We will continue to work with California utilities to assure that diverse businesses fully participate in our state's economic gains."

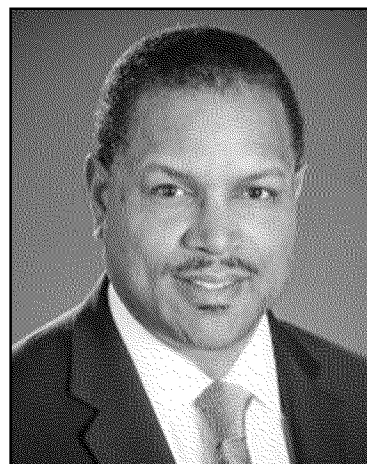
"We are honored that The Williams Capital Group was selected by PG&E to serve as a book-runner on its recent and very successful bond offering. Through our selection as a book-runner, PG&E demonstrates that one can pursue a policy of meaningful inclusion without compromising the quality of execution," said Christopher Williams, Chairman and



Kent Harvey, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of PG&E.

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Rev. Kevin Barnes (left) visits Augusta Lee Collins at Pizza Pazza. He once fed Collins while homeless. Photo by Adam L. Turner

## "Love Will Find A Way"

By Paul Cobb

Singer, songwriter, guitarist Augusta Lee Collins says he'll never forget where he came from as he sang a song he wrote called 'A Thousand Miles From Nowhere'.

"I felt so proud when Rev. Kevin Barnes came to see me play last Friday night at Pizza Pazza. When I was homeless he fed me in his church just 8 blocks from where I now play."

Recalling more desperate times while on the streets playing for survival money, he sang "I'm out here in the rain, with my guitar in my hand, writing you this letter, and I hope you understand that I am standing up, waking up..." at that point Rev. Barnes encouraged him to continue to stand up in a traditional Baptist call and

response acknowledgement. Collins responded with "Love will find a way" another song he dedicated to Barnes and his Abyssinian Baptist Church family. Collins says he was formally a professional meal seeker. "I knew where all the places were that served meals but Abyssinian was the best because his members showed each of us the utmost respect. We were made to feel as if we were a family member," said Collins.

Collins says he's recognizable because of the series in the Post Newspapers chronicling his journey from homelessness. "People come to Pizza Pazza to hear me. I earn money too, but now I am standing up. Now I don't feel like I am a thousand miles from nowhere."

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## Free Financial Planning Day

Oakland Mayor Jean Quan, State Senator Loni Hancock, State Assemblymember Sandre Swanson and the Bay Area Financial Planning Association will host a one-day workshop providing local residents with free financial planning advice and guidance on Saturday, October 1 from 9 am to 4 pm at Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza. The Oakland event is the first of a series of similar events organized by the national Financial Planning Days Initiative.

"Given the ongoing recession, many Oaklanders could use professional guidance on how to handle their financial challenges. This is an important public service and we are honored to be joining the Financial Planning Association and its partners in making



Jean Quan



Loni Hancock

these services available to our residents," said Oakland Mayor Jean Quan.

The workshop features experts from the Financial Planning Association® and highly qualified Certified Financial Planner™ professionals, all volunteering their time and expertise to work with local residents one-on-one to address important financial issues. Spanish translation will be available.

Financial planners will meet one-on-one with attendees to answer questions on getting

out of debt, retirement planning, investment strategies, income taxes, insurance, mortgages and foreclosures, among many other topics. The advice will be offered on a "no strings attached" basis and planners will not give out business cards or sell financial products or services.

Free online registration for the Oakland Financial Planning Day is available at [www.FinancialPlanningDays.org/Oakland](http://www.FinancialPlanningDays.org/Oakland) or by calling toll free at 877-86-78126. Walk-ins also welcome

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## Who Owns the Federal Reserve? Stop the Foreclosure Madness Now!



Banksters Part 9  
By Tanya Dennis

"The Federal Reserve System is not federal, has no reserves and is not a system", and it is candescently clear that whoever owns the Federal Reserve also owns the media. Last week a Federal Reserve audit revealed the Reserve loaned 16 Trillion dollars to national and foreign banks and that revelation did not make primetime news.

In the early 1900's the banking and business world was dominated by the Warburgs, the Morgans, the Rothchilds and the Rockefeller, and these powerful families, who had been pushing for a central bank, with the help of JP Morgan, created "the panic of 1907," fueling a rumor that the New York bank was insolvent which caused massive bankruptcy throughout the nation. "Fear" is what allowed a central bank to come to fruition, and since then many people believe that the Federal Reserve has been at the root of, "every financial crisis and war we have had since the Fed's existence." It is also widely be-



Will Chase CEO Jamie Dimon be the next Secretary of the Treasury?

lieved that the Federal Reserve "has single handedly been responsible for every inflationary period, every economic recession and every depression that has occurred during their entire unconstitutional existence."\*

Why do many feel that the Federal Reserve is unconstitutional? Perhaps because as former Thomas Jefferson said "The central bank is an institution of the most deadly hostility existing against the principles and form of our constitution. I am an enemy to all banks, discounting bills or notes for anything but coin. If the American people allow private banks to control the issuance of their currency, first by inflation and then by deflation, the banks and corporations

that will grow up around them will deprive the people of all their property until their children will wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered."

The Federal Reserve System's structure is composed of the presidentially appointed Board of Governors (or Federal Reserve Board), the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC), twelve regional Fed-

eral Reserve Banks located in major cities throughout the nation, numerous privately owned U.S. member banks and various advisory councils.

So who owns the Federal Reserve? Wells Fargo, Bank of America, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan Chase and other private banks. Approximately 38% of U.S. banks are mem-

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## Legislature Passes State Bank Study Bill

In the Post "Banksters" series, it was proposed that the most sensible solution to thwarting the fraudulent activity of the Big Banks is for the people to take back the power that was originally bestowed upon us by our founding fathers.

Establishment of State Banks is that solution. Last Friday, just hours before the year's deadline, the California legislature passed AB 750, regarding starting a State-owned bank. The idea is to bring our money home from Wall Street, and invest it here in California. The bill is on Governor Brown's desk, waiting for his signature.

Right now, North Dakota is the only state that has its own bank, and it has the lowest unemployment and the lowest foreclosure rates in the country. The California bank will free up credit for small businesses, who will then create the jobs we need so badly.

Calls to the Governor will help get this bank started. His number is 916-445-2841, and his email is <http://govnews.ca.gov/gov39mail/mail.php>



Reverend Mario Howell of the Antioch Church Family before his arrest told Wells Fargo CEO John Stumpf at the Shareholders meeting that "If you believe in the same God as I do, then you will stop the foreclosure madness right now." Photo by Jonathan Nack

By Tanya Dennis

In May, thousands of people gathered in California, New York, Ohio and North Carolina and demanded that the Attorney General not cower under the pressure of the big banks during their multi-state nego-

tiations and hold the banks accountable for their fraudulent loans.

At that time American Banker, a publication read by senior banking and financial services executives, reported that the

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# Ghana 's Trade Mission with Oakland

By Tanya Dennis

Wednesday night's reception at Everett and Jones with high ranking Ghanaian officials marked the beginning of a lucrative opportunity for the City of Oakland.

In 1995 at the Hilton Hotel, shortly before his untimely death as the result of a tragic plane crash, then Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown announced "if African-Americans do not engage Cuba and Africa in trade and allowed "others" to take advantage of the rich opportunities that exist by establishing a relationship with Cuba and Africa, then we'd have no one to blame but ourselves."

Fortunately Oakland's City Council members, Larry Reid, Desley Brooks and Businessmen Geoffrey Pete, Clyde Sodomey, Michael Baines, Kosi Bonner and State of California Board member of Consumer Affairs, Fred Naranjo, the City of Oakland is moving forward with Brown's vision.

Ghana's Minister of Science, Technology and Environment, Honorable Sherry Artitey stated, "Come join with us to build a continent with your skills, your excellence, and your knowledge. Come back home. It is time to transcend the borders of knowledge and



From left to right: Ghanaian delegates, Honorable Sherry Artitey, Minister of Science, Technology and Environment and Chairman Ade Coker. Photo by Gene Hazzard.

come together to produce products here in Oakland to sell to Ghana."

Ghana's top officials were in attendance to support Artitey's invitation. The Deputy Minister of Information, Ghana's Communication Director, members of Parliament and Chairman Ade Coker.

Thursday, the delegation began a week-end of meetings at

the Claremont Hotel with a reception at City Hall Thursday evening.

Businessman Geoffrey Pete said that "This is a trade mission where top high ranking officials are here to meet and plan future economic projects regarding infrastructure, information technology and products in Ghana.

State of California Board

Member of Consumer Affairs, Fred Naranjo said "It is very important, as immigrants come here and get an education that they have an obligation to help their country bring resources they have developed and bring them back to their country. Ghanaian business man Clyde Sodomey, a long time Oakland resident is accomplishing that mission for his country.

## PG&E Engages Minority-Owned Bank

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Chief Executive Officer of The Williams Capital Group. "The PG&E relationship is extraordinarily important to us. The company's track record of inclusion is a true catalyst to the growth and expansion of emerging and diverse firms."

Diversity and inclusion have

long been hallmarks of PG&E's heritage. The company has deepened its commitment in recent years by appointing a chief diversity officer, providing training to all members of its leadership team and increasing its focus on identifying, developing and recruiting diverse talent.

For more information on PG&E's diversity and inclusion commitment or to learn how to apply to become a certified diverse supplier, visit [www.pge.com/about/company/diversity-inclusion/](http://www.pge.com/about/company/diversity-inclusion/).

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation (NYSE:PCG), is one of

the largest combined natural gas and electric utilities in the United States. Based in San Francisco with 20,000 employees, the company delivers some of the nation's cleanest energy to 15 million people in Northern and Central California. For more information, visit <http://www.pge.com/about/newsroom/>.

## Who Owns the Federal Reserve?

Continued from page 1

bers of their regional Federal Reserve Bank and each own about 3% in stock contributing to its combined capital and surplus. The banks cannot sell or trade their stocks and member banks do not control the Federal Reserve Bank as a result of owning their stock, but they can elect members to the Fed-

eral Reserve Board of Directors. That's why many believe that Chase CEO Jamie Dimon, will be the next Secretary of the Treasury.

The Federal Reserve is not what our founding fathers intended. Responsible for signing the Federal Reserve System into existence, President Woodrow Wilson said "I have

unwittingly ruined my country. A great industrial nation is controlled by its system of credit. Our system of credit is concentrated. The growth of the nation, therefore, and all our activities are in the hands of a few men. We have come to be one of the worst ruled, one of the most completely controlled and dominated Gov-

ernments in the civilized world - no longer a Government by free opinion, no longer a Government by conviction and the vote of the majority, but the Government by the opinion and duress of small groups of dominated men." \*Quotes were taken from <http://abolishthefederalreserve.org/>

## Banks Pull Out of Settlement

Continued from page 1

banks had presented a revised draft of the settlement proposal removing principal reduction and instead proposed a "cash for keys" program that would speed up foreclosures. This proposal by the banks would have worsened the housing crisis, further weakening the nation's recovery. It also showed that the banks intended to continue to profit from their illegal activities and not be held accountable.

Unfortunately for Wells Fargo, Bank of America Corp., JP Morgan Chase, Goldman Sachs Group Inc., Citigroup Inc., Barclays Bank, Credit Suisse, the Royal Bank of Scotland, and other large banks that received bailouts from the Federal Reserve, sold the federal government billions of dollars worth of toxic mortgage-back securities and the Fed's are not going to let them get away with it.

The Federal Housing Finance Agency, the agency that oversees Fannie and Freddie, are suing 17 banks for 196 billion dollars and won't say how much it will seek in damages. Right now the government is seeking to cancel securities sales, wants compensation for lost principal, interest pay-

ments and attorney fees. As a result of the Fed's suit all the banks have walked away from the multi-state settlement with the Attorney Generals.

Meanwhile thousands of homeowners, clergy, workers and community leaders are planning a "Week of Action" throughout the nation from September 26 - 30th to hold banks accountable. Their purpose is to keep the pressure on the Attorneys General, the banks and to hold Wall Street accountable while pushing for a "settlement that fits the crime" that includes stiff financial penalties and a mandate for principal reduction.

"The banks are trying to call the AG's bluff. The AGs cannot fold now, they need to ante up and raise the stakes," said Rev. Lucy Kolin of PICO National Network. "If the Attorney Generals are serious about getting to the bottom of this crisis, they need to go toe-to-toe with the banks and make them write down mortgage balances. And if the banks don't want to go along with them, then the AGs need to take them to court, plain and simple."

The Week of Action in the East Bay will include a rally at UC Berkeley against tuition hikes; divestment of money

from Chase, Wells Fargo and Bank of America to consumer friendly banks like the People's Credit Union in West Oakland or Mechanics Bank; a blight clean-up and delivery of the trash to banks that are not keeping up their properties; a "crime scene" action and a culminating action yet to be determined with the demand that corporations and banks pay their fair share and banks reduce principal across

the board for struggling homeowners. The Week of Action is being lead by the Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE), SEIU 1021, University Professional and Technical Employees Local 9119 (UPTe), UAW, Oakland Educators Association (OEA), members of Just Cause and other faith based and grassroots organizations. If you wish to join their "Week of Action" call 510-269-4692 ex. 0

## Jacqueline Hairston Concert "Why Peace is Always a Good Idea" at AfroSolo Arts Festival

Jacqueline Hairston (right), the award-winning ASCAP composer-arranger will preview her Carnegie Hall Concert with bay area singers, Sunday, September 25, at 4:00pm at the African American Art and Culture Complex, 762 Fulton Street, San Francisco. Tickets for the benefit performance are available at 415-771-2376 or afrosolo.org.



## Churches Get Help With Budgeting and Cash Flow

Every faith leader and/or nonprofit executive needs to know how to manage budgeting and cash flow analysis, especially in these tough times. These elements are widely considered as key to building healthy organizations and financial integrity.

OCCUR and The San Francisco Foundation FAITHS program will hold a workshop entitled, "The Essentials of Budgeting and Cash Flow", Thursday, September 22nd, 2011 from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm at Bay Area Christian Connection, 810 Clay Street, Oakland.

This session will include



Tyrone Cosey

Holly Lofgren

presentations by Holly Lofgren, Principal, Holly Lofgren & Associates, Elaine DeNault, Program Coordinator, Operation HOPE and Tyrone Cosey, Market Vice President, Operation HOPE.

For more information or to RSVP for this event, email [occur@sbcglobal.net](mailto:occur@sbcglobal.net), fax to (510)268-9065 or call (510)839-2440.

## Ruby Bridges' Book Signing at First AME Church



From left to right: Dr. Harold Mayberry, Ruby Bridges, Mary Mayberry (wife of Dr. Mayberry). Photo by Gene Hazzard.

World renown for singularly integrating William Frantz Public School during the 60's, Ruby Bridges was the keynote speaker at First AME Church's 8 a.m. services regarding her experiences at the age of six going to school in New Orleans, Louisiana in

1960. Mrs Bridges was escorted daily to school by U.S. Marshalls as they walked past a coffin held by white protesters with a black doll inside. After service Mrs. Bridges signed her recent book "Through My Eyes".

## "Love Will Find A Way"

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I feel like I am close to all. I am somewhere near the center of good things.

"People know my name and come up to me for autographs. But more importantly, some say my story has inspired them to want to move up from homelessness."

He told Barnes that he changed his teaching schedule so he could attend his church on Wednesday nights for prayer meeting. "Which reminded him of "If we can only learn to live together and not be afraid of tomorrow", another song he wrote while hanging out in Jefferson Park, aka "Old Man's Park".

Collins has been asked to perform in a benefit for the Haiti Emergency Relief Fund, December 3, from 3 to 5pm at Everett and Jones Barbecue, 2nd and Broadway in downtown Oakland. Collins feels that he's revisiting people and places with a renewed spirit. "I am now performing inside of the places where I once stood outside," he said.

Rev. Barnes said "Augusta Lee Collins is living proof that

God can take the lonely, the low, the lost, the least and the left out and bring them up. At our next prayer meeting with him we will thank our homeless ministry volunteers for showing the kind of love that some of us have lost sight of, love from above and from within. The kind of love referred to in the Bible in Galatians 5:22, because God is love."

"Even though I've lived and loved the blues, I can sing love ballads too. Don't you think I have a reason now? I'll be in church Wednesday night because I agree with Rev. Barnes when he says it's time for Oakland to show love to everyone regardless of their condition," Collins said, as he autographed another Post newspaper.

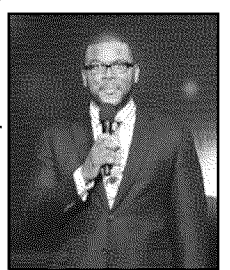
Contact Rev. Barnes at Abyssinian Missionary Baptist, 528 33rd St, Oakland, (510) 653-0315.

Call Collins at 510.695.9339 or visit: [www.augustaleecollins.blogspot.com](http://www.augustaleecollins.blogspot.com) or <http://www.myspace.com/video/vid/34235374> or <http://vimeo.com/17557649>, <http://www.myspace.com/video/shawngonzales/black-rep-guitar-solo/2978569..>

## Tyler Perry, Highest Paid Man in Hollywood

Simon Cowell and Steven Spielberg step aside, the highest paid man in entertainment according to Forbes is writer, actor, producer, director, Tyler Perry, who earned a whopping \$130 million this year with his Medea Movies and two television shows "House of Payne" and "Meet the Browns".

The once homeless Perry, born on September 13, 1969 in New Orleans Louisiana, was also a high school dropout and at one point even attempted suicide. Inspired by an Oprah Winfrey talk show regarding how writing about difficult situations can lead to personal breakthroughs, Perry used these personal letters to himself as the basis of his first musical "I know I've Been Changed." However his famous character Medea, a gun-toting grandma, is the vehicle that catapulted Perry to stardom.



Tyler Perry