

Community Calendar Op-Ed National Business Service Directory Church Happenings

Minority Opportunity News - The Gazette 1100 Summit, Suite 101 (@ Avenue K) Plano, Texas 75074

out 4.9 systems, the options for

interoperability will increase. At this time, our network will be a closed system in that only

Plano employees will have cess to it. As we progre

Plano's Eyes In The Sky Page

disease.

rains across southern Africa have wreaked havoc for hun-

dreds of thousands of people

in the region over the past month but Cyclone Favio last

Children Displaced Page 8

Around 80,000 children in

of Mozambique have now

been displaced by flooding after Friday's cyclone added to the misery of almost a

southern African country

million. That includes the design costs, hard-

ware purchase, installation, management soft-

ware and make ready costs for various sites. The planned deployment will take approxi-

Public Safety (primarily Police) was the ini-tial target audience. As planning progressed, other departments were incorporated into the

phased deployment. According to Director of

elv two vears.

Iarvis Christian College - Ninth Annual Heritage Scholarship Banquet Jarvis Christian College in con-Annual Heritage Scholarship nction with the Dallas Alumni Banquet at the Fairmont Hotel



Heritage Award Honorees is, Mae Beck, Wynfred C. Watkins, Nancy Williams, Hackett Malone Williams, Ada Marie Evans Willis, Clara Dwberry.

Dallas ISD Students Star In

Dallas Water Utilities Commercial

Dallas ISD students take a break during the commercial shoot with DWU Conservation Manager Carole Davis; students from left to right include Marton Johnson, Jacob DeLeon, Josefina Ruiz, Robyn Lam, Helanna Padgitt, Kristin Barnes, Lauren Adams and Nicole Pinon.

The City of Dallas Water new commercial that delivers the

ning April 2.

importance of water conservation

1-800-906-3045. Free HIV Testing offered by the LaSima Foundation from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. every Thursday at two different locations. For locations and more information, call 214-928-9303.

The Frisco Housing Authority is

offering tenant-based rental assis-tance to 22 eligible families and indi-

viduals for rental housing in Frisco. Call 972-377-3031 for information. Kumaasi African Ensemble Dance Classes from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

to 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month at Dallas Baptist University-North, 3211 Internet Blvd., Suite 100. For more info, call 214-333-5777 or e-mail dbunorth@dbu.edu.

5777 or e-mail dbunorth/g/dbu.edu. The Yundras Show the like televi-sion taping every Thursday. The doors open at 7pm and the show starts at 7:45pm. There are door prizes and giveaways each week. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Check it out at; www.theyundraeshow.com March 9: 2007

March 9, 2007 "Long As You Live In My

"Long As You Live In My House" at 7:30 p.m. Friendship-West Baptist Church, 2020 W. Wheatland, Dallas. For more info, call Mushell Sullivan at 972-228-5200.

DWU C

Winner

Utilities (DWU), students of Sidney Lanier Elementary

Vanguard for the Expressiv

Arts in Dallas ISD, and DWU Cartoon Contest Drawing

teamed up yesterday to shoot a

Ongoing The Allen Public Library will feature films with all black casts or have African-American themes will be featured each Tuesday night during February. On February to thand 20th, guests will be treated to extreme-ly rare viewing of "Bealah" at e1 y rare viewing of "Bealah" at e1 95%. For more info call Tom Keener at 214-509-4911. The Collin County

1950%, For more into call Iom Keener at 21-450-4911. The Collin County Chapter of the American Business Women's Association meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at Eldorado Country Club, 2604 Country Club Drive in McKinney Free Tenant Legal Workshops are at 6 p.m. Tuesdays at Douglass Community Centre, 1111 Ave. H in Plano, Call 972-491-1714. Alpha Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi a social serv-ice cultural sorority meets the second Monday of each month in members home in Frisco. McKinney, and the Plano area. Call 972-473-0898.

Assistance League of Greater Collin County meets the third Wednesday of each month. Visit www.assistance-

gue-gcc.org. "EVOLVE," a social net-

"EVOLVE," a social net-orking opportunity for smen, meets from 7:30 to 9 m. the second and fourth ednesdays of the month at the orthwest corner of Park soulevard and Coit Road, Suite 12. Call 972-267-4452.

02. Call 972-267-4452. **A free legal clinic** is offered or residents who meet low-accome guidelines, 6:00 p.m., ccond Thursday of each nonth, First United Methodist

Call 972-473-9089

Helanna Padgitt



Aichelle Coleman & Rev. Claude O'Dell Maple













Dain Rauscher and TACA s \$760,000 to 37 local arts organ izations. The event was held at the Dallas Museum of Art with Tony Award-winning actress Betty Buckley giving emotional remarks about being an artist.

GK

March 10, 2007 Savor Dallas - An International Experience of Wine, Food, Spirits and the Arts experience dedicated to fab-ulous wine and food from 50 of DFW's top chefs. For more info, call 866-277-7920 or email

The Jazz Swing Era film and dissions at Central Library's

Iamie Foxx with Special Gues

Jamie Foxx with Special Guest Speedy at 7:30 p.m. at the Nokia. To purchase tickets, contact Ticketmaster online at Ticketmaster.com or by phone at 214-373-8000, metro 972.647.5700. Tickets are also avail-able at all Ticketmaster outlets.

Able at all ricketmaster outlets. March 11, 2007 Plano Bridal Show at Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more info call, 972-713-9920, or visit mark bridlebarring areas

www.bridal howsinc.com. March 12, 2007

Eric Roberson "LIVE" at 9:00 p.m. Petrus Lounge (4th floor of Luqa), 1217 Main Street, Dallas. For more info, call 214-264-2904. March 13, 2007

More Italy, 2004-2004.
 March 13, 2007
 New Visions, New Voices a spring playwriting feistival from 8:000 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Southern Methodist University, 6:101 Bishop Bird, For more info, call 214-768-2787.
 Business Development Meeting at the Plano Chamber Office, 1200 E fish Street at 8:00 a.m. for more info call, 972-424-7547.
 Chamber Office, 1200 E fish Street, Andre Street, 200 more info, call 972-424-7547.
 Chamber Office, 1200 E Fish Street, Andre Street, 2014 Fish Street, 2016 Fish Street, 2016 Fish Street, 2016 Fish Street, 2016 Fish Street, 2020 E fish Street, Please RSVP to rsyp@planochamber.org or for more readers and street and stree

info, call 972-424-7547. March 16, 2007 4th Annual Weekend Ferival of Black Dance "Rhythm And Seal Of A People" at Purse Auction Nami Bruton main stage at 8:00 pm. For more info, call 214-743– 2440 or contact Monica Ellington at monica@cmwfinncial.com or call 972-831-880.

Chapter recently held it's Ninth in downtown Dallas.

Valerie's Boutique Do vou want to stand out in the congregation or blend in ...? Ladies-Dressy Suits - Sizes 4-30 Jewelry, Purses & Hats J. Renee Shoes

Exuding

Elegance & Style

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972-831-8866. March 17, 2007 Roundtable Writer's Breakfast with award winning playwright P.J. Gibson from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Event will be held the Black Academy of Arts & Letters in room T203

T203. Dallas Wellness Lifestyle Expo a two day event at Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy, Plano. 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more info, call Adjuvant Expo at 972-504-6358 or visit www.dallaswellnessexpo.com.

March 20, 2007 "My Sweet Potato Pie" runs prough Sunday, 25th. Naomi Bruton

Inrough Sunday, 25th. Naomi Bruton Main Stage. For more info, call 214-743-2400. March 21 2007

March 21, 2007 Disney on Ice Princess Wishes thru Sunday, March 25th, at American Airlines Center, 2500 Victory Avenue, Dallas. For more info, call 214-373-8000.

Mroc cal 214-5/15-8000. March 23, 2007 The Isley Brothers at 8:00 p.m. at The Nokia. To purchase tickets, con-tact Ticketmaster online at Ticketmaster.com or by phone at 214.373.8000, metro 972.647.5700. Tickets are also available at all Ticketmaster outlets. Heart of Texas Arts and Crafts

Show at Plano Centre 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano from 3:00 p.m. 24th, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 25th, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more info, call

50% off

Family Cases

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Selected Stu

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Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Earline Walters at 903-217-8081 or visit www.heartof texasshow.com. March 24.2007 2007 Metaout Festival, a free educational and health screening event featuring speakers, food sampling, and exhibits related to the vegetarian lifestyle, at the Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak Street, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 pm. For more info, call 214-

Street, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 pm. For more info, call 214-331-2812 or 972-578-0370 or visit www.bvstx.org. 5 Men On A Stool Concert at 3:00 pm. and 8:00 pm. A blend of contemporary R & B, Jazz and Spoken Word held at the Clarence Muse Cafe Theatre. March 27, 2007 Betaining Your Workforce.

March 27, 2007 Retaining Your Workforce for Future Growth from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. For more info, call the Plano Economic Development Board at 972-208-

Weet Your Candidates" Town Hall Meeting and Political Forum 6:50 p.m. at the Women's Activity Center, 713 Austin Street, Garland. For more info, call 972-381-5044. March 29, 2007

info, call 972-381-5044. March 29, 2007 Citizen of the Year Awards Dinner at 6:00 p.m. at the Marriott Dallas/Plano Legacy Town Center. Speaker: Gary Kelly, Vice Chairman and CEO, Southwast Airlinge For more

Ketty, Vice Chairman and CEO, Southwest Airlines. For more info, call 972-424-7547. April 28, 2007 Senior Achievement Award Ceremony at Dallas City Hall Plaza hosted by deputy Mayor Don Hill And Cleo-Glenn Debreon of Plack U. * 2. Plaza hosted by deputy Mayor Don Hill And Cleo-Glenn Johnson of Black United Funds of Texas. For more info, call 214-650, 7065 650-7065 bkm104@vahoo.com



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Around The Town

7547. Ambassadors Meeting at 11:45 a.m. Plano Chamber Office, 1200 East 15th Street, Plano. For more info, call 972-424-7547. Women's Division Deadline at 12:00 noon. Plano Chamber Office, 1200 East 15th Street, Plano. For more info, call 972-424-7547.

savordallas.com

Fine Arts Division, 4th floor Dallas Public Library & Music Library and the Division of Jazz Studies at 2:30 p.m. For more info, email tina.mur-dock@ddluelibraru.cr

through the eyes of Dallas youth. On February 1, TACA-The The new commercial is expect-ed to air on network affiliates and cable stations throughout the Arts Community Alliance continued its 40th anniversary celebration and grant awards pres-Dallas/Fort Worth market beginentation by distributing Church, 601 S. Greenville Ave. Applicants must be Collin County residents and income eligible. Call Plano Business Interchange at 7:30 .m. Chamber Office, 1200 East 15th

Plano. For more info, call 972-424-547

James Gilyard of Sammons Center for the Arts/Sammons Jazz, and Connie Carreker, TACA board member.

inglibrary.org.

email



1200 East 15th Street, Plano. For more info, call 972-424-7547. **Fashion at the Park** a public fash-ion and media event from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. North Park Center, 1030 North Park Center, Dallas. For more info, call 1-888-767-3966. **Job Fair** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Lone Star Park, 1000 Lone Star Parkway, Grand Prairie will host a customer service and hospitality Job Fair. For more info, call 972-237-1177 or visit www.lonestark.com/jobs. **Mother Goose Storytime** from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for four to 18-month-olds. The event will be held at the Central Library, 801 West Priving Blvd, Jrving, For more info, call 972-721-2458 or visit www.irvingibbrary.org. Classes from 1:00 pm. to 3:00 pm. Wet Afrian dance classes held very Saturday at the South Dallas Calural Center, 3400 S. Firzhagh Ave. For more info call S-Ankh Rasa at 214-298-5858. Late Night at the Dallas Museum of Art. Join son the third Friday of each month at 1717 N. Harwood, S10 for adults, 57 for sen-ior citizens and \$5 for students with current school I.D. 214-922-2100, publicprograms@DallasMuseumof Art.org. Dallas Baptist University-North Leadership Empowerment North Leadership Empowerment Luncheon Series is from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of the

I knew it was going to be

trouble as soon as I read the title of the article: "The Manifesto of Ascendancy for the Modern American Nigger". I thought it sounded like an extremely bad propaganda booklet for the Ku Klux Klan. I mean, what would you think if somebody gave you a magazine article to read with that title? itier it's exactly the same thing

I thought when I read it

Writer, director, producer John Ridley recently penned an essay with the above title in Esquire magazine. Forget that have read Esquire every nonth for the past 15 years, or that I too occasionally per essays, Ridley's article pushed me to a point where all I could do is sit quietly and shake my head for about five minutes. I wish I could write something clever or witty about the...words John Ridley used in his essay I wish I had some biting and sarcastic response to the points he made in his arti cle after he sucked me in with his vicious title. But I don't, I'l the opening words of John Ridley's piece speak for them-

selves-you be the judge. "Let me tell you something niggers, the oppressed minority within our minority. Always down. Always out. Always complaining that they can't catch a break. Notoriously poor about doing for them-selves. Constantly in need of a leader but unable to follow in any direction that's navigated by hard work, self-reliance. And though they spliff and drink and procreate their way onto welfare doles and WIC lines, niggers will tell you their state of being is no fault of their own. They are not respon-sible for their nearly 5 percent incarceration rate and their 9.2 percent unemployment rate

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Religious/Marketing Editor

Shirley Demus Tay

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percent rate at which they drop out of high school. For the 69.3 percent of births they create out of wedlock."

This from a black man in herica. But wait, there's more "In the forty years since the New Deal was brokered since the voting rights act was signed there have been successes for blacks But there are still too many blacks in prison, too m aggrandizing the thug life and way too many African-Americans doing far too little with the opportunities others earned for them. That which retards us in the worst of 'us." those who disdain actual ascen dancy gained by way of intellectual expansion and physical toil-who instead value the posture of an 'urban,' a 'street, a 'real' exis tences, no matter that such a culture threatens to render them

extinct. 'Them' being niggers." Wow. Do you see how Ridley's words might be inflammatory to mer

Ridley goes on for another 8000 words about how the highwater mark in "ascendancy" for African Americans came in eleven days in March 2001, when Dr. Condoleeza Rice and General Colin Powell assumed real power" during an interna tional plane incident with China. Condi and Colin were given full control over the incident by President Bush; they alone were in charge of negotiat ing with the Chinese on the release of twenty-four detained crewmen from a U.S. plane that

vas shot down. Ridley's piece went on about how this watershed moment for black ascendancy into real power got overshadowed by rioting "niggers" in the Overthe-Rhine section of Cincinnati on April 9, 2001.

By that time, I didn't care what argument or point Ridley was trying to make. John Ridley's piece was wrong on so many levels it is hard for me to rationally discuss them For starters, black people, (as I

Where Do You Want To Go Today?

eral occasions), are not niggers.] don't like it when white p refer to us niggers and I'm almost equally offended when use the term toward each other I get antsy when anyone starts throwing around stereotypes and generalizations while they usual ly contain a nugget of truth, it is only a nugget. Ridley's words have a dangerous undertone of self-loathing attached to them, or at the very least, outright hatred for a segment of his

own race And that's where I have the biggest problem with John Ridley. I agree there are large numbers of people, both black and white, who possess an unre alistic sense of entitlement and refuse to take responsibility for their own actions. Those people are a drain on all of society, not just black members. But blatant hatred is not going to solve any of those problems.

Ridley confuses a cause with a onsequence. U.S. ghettos pro duce human misery, not "niggers", "Niggers" didn't create slavery or Jim Crow or racism or mandatory minimum sentences. I agree that black people need to find a solution to the current state of drugs, alco-hol, abuse, despair, murder and suicide. But the historical reasons for the current situation are not unclear; the unclear part is the solution. Which is something the Ridley piece never provides, and that makes him suspect.

It's also suspect that the Republican Ridley wrote his piece in December, the month following major Democratic gains in the November elections I like quoting a brother of mine from time to time. His favorite line is "some get it. me don't", which refers to the lunacy of people in understand ing the obvious. For all his blus tering and nastiness, I don't think John Ridley gets it.

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es the right to edit and make ap

Hair Weaves Tangle Self-**Image For Black Women**

oman. After several days of wearing

the wig and interviewing black

with a need to fit into main-

stream social settings. Rather, these long weaves may reflect our desire to try on a different femi-

nine persona that has historically

been appropriated for white

I knew my hair was being mis-

taken for my femininity upon entering the Asian-owned beau-

ty-supply store in my predomi-

Asian sales lady kept saying: "Oh you pretty . . . with the wig."

It became even clearer once I

returned home with the long, black, straight wig in hand and

saw the label name Nikita. Even

the manufacturers figured that by

form myself into another woman.

New York and met an actress and

the University of Texas-Dallas

Venus Opal Reese has inter-viewed hundreds of black

women in researching this hair

During the opening night of

her one-woman play "Split Ends," which takes an in-depth

look at black women and their historical tangle with hair, Reese bombarded a small stage wear-

ing a skimpy dress and a Tina Turner wig just as wild as her flailing arms. Seconds later, the

wig flew off and fell to the floor

As the crowd yelped with laugh-ter, Reese hurried to pick it up

and kept waving the hair in her

hand as if still attached to her

"Being a woman is a perform-

ance," she said in the skit. "It's a

full-time, thankless job." Her point was to show that by

wearing weaves and wigs, black

women are dressing up in their own drag, whereby they can

become the type of woman they

aren't otherwise expected to be

Black women weaving up has so much to do with our need to feel

swirling head.

professor of aesthetic studie

transformation

A few weeks later, I moved to

ring this wig, I was to trans

wig.'

es a

ou pretty . . .

Malena

omen, I found that the straight air phenomenon has little to do

By: Malena Amusa, This past winter, I noticed omething very unsettling while was visiting my family in St

Louis Almost all the black women I encountered were sporting lavishly long hair weaves, fake locks that can add length and volum after being sewed or glued to the scalp. Weaves come in straight curly and kinky textures. But most black women with weave wear them to extend and straighten the appearance of their

naturally coiled and nappy hair. Everywhere I turned, from the church to the mall, black women suited up in this straight-hair uni-form. Was I missing something? I thought. Would my close-cut Afro set me too far apart from

other black women? Natural, kinky hair – which is other black most associated with blackness -has also been tied to inferiority in the United States. We can thank entrepreneur Madam C.J. Walker, the late 19th century inventor of the hot pressing comb literally a comb-shaped iron for the subsequent years of black women burning their disobedient hair into submission. Still today among African Americans, there exists a strata between those with "bad hair" and "good hair," the

latter being hair that is most in sync with the dominant culture Walk into any pharmacy an acy and you'll see a deluge of harsh chemical products that promise black women unnappy hair. Many believe this is a demonstration of

self-loathing. This perplexed me because around St. Louis, so many everyday women who have no celebrity stakes to claim were subscribng to this myopic image of beau ty wrapped around these hair weaves that, by the way, can take hours to glue onto the scalp and cost hundreds of dollars.

I wanted to walk in their shoes and understand them, so I decid ed to get a long, straight wig. Without the labor-intensive process, I achieved the luscious locks of a weave so I could learn what the non-celebrity woman had to gain from emulating the straight hair of non-African

Misfiring On 'Why I Hate Blacks' By: Earl Ofari Hutchinson, BlackNews.com Columnist Kenneth Eng has been cruci-They are still more likely to live in segregated neighborhoods, be refused business and home loans, fied for writing in Asian Week that blacks are weak-willed, Asian their children attend failed public schools than any other group, and are more likely to be racially prohating, and were complacent in subjection to slavery. But was he filed on America's urban streets totally wrong? Did he have the These were the issues that the right to say his hurtful words? Did Asian Week have the right to roundtable participants repeated ly said were the things blacks publish them? And was the pas-sion and anger that Eng whipped should get enraged about, and take action on. Those problems would exist and demand outrage up warranted when measured against the big-ticket problems and action even if Eng had never hat hammer blacks daily? A few days after Eng's inflamwritten a word. The racial lethar gy on major social problems matory column sent Asian Week engenders deep frustration publishers back-peddling fast to utter mea culpas, drew denunciaong many blacks. And those at

the roundtable reflected that frustions from politicians and media tration. activists, got his sci-fi book pulled Blacks also have watched and from Amazon.com, and got him banned to writer's Siberia, a listened with mounting fury as a legion of foul mouthed rappers, cross-section of black activists comedians, and entertainers con politicians, and writers at a roundtable in Los Angeles tinue to use and defend the N word, as well as propagate and weighed in on Eng, Asian Week and relations with Asianglory in the most vile and repulstereotypes about black men women in films and in TV Americans. They answered the above questions far differently and wom sitcoms. They are and rightly and surprisingly than those out should be appalled that there is relatively little outcry from other blacks about them. Even worse, raged at Eng's column and him have. The views ranged from, it was much ado about nothing, to judging from the success of the ar defense of him. The rea 7, and degrading Eddie rphy film Norbrit, they still sillv even benign response, aren't hard will pack the theaters to see to find. The week before the Eng them. But when a white politifuror broke the Los Angeles City cian, celebrity, or known public figure slips, deliberately uses the Council debated a resolution that would have put the city on record N word, makes a racial gaffe, or backing a Congressional bill to establish a reparations study when a white gay comedian Shirley Q, Liquor slurs black committee. It passed, and a big women in his act, or Eng bashes argument that swayed the council was the current plight of blacks. them in his column, blacks stam pede the barricades to They continue to have the denounce them. highest rates of poverty, infant nization e victi

Then there's the issue of a writers right to say what they please, even it's idiotic and insulting. More than one participant flatly rates, and health care disparities than any other group in America.

Minority Opportunity News - The Gazette • March 08 - March 14, 2007 • Page 3

eminine and strong at different points in our lives, Reese argued later in a phone inter-

"Hair is a navigator," sh said. "It's a negotiator, it's a deal-breaker "

I'd say. In a world whe black women are constantly blunted by racial and sexual discrimination, it makes sense that we'd begin adopting counter-representations of ourselves.

That's what the wig did for me. It gave me the freedom to be aloof, to flirt and to smile without fear of not receiving smiles in return. I made several outings with

nantly black neighborhood where I went to buy my wig. Perhaps because the elderly the wig. During one trip, I went to a mall. The weave made my confidence soar. Heading there, I drove faster than usual. And every time I reached to pick up my cell phone, I dramatically my cell phone, I drama tossed my hair back and said "Haloh!" roaring and perky like a valley girl. I was ready to explode onto the mall scene and attract all kinds of men.

As I entered the sliding doors, my hair swooshed about my face and I loved it. And after some time. I noticed that I was moving around like a butterfly flighty and irregular. I couldn't stop giggling like a school girl and tossing my hair lightly back as I rolled my eyes sensuously around while talking.

The wig had changed me; with it, I felt excited to become Nikita, who I assumed was a fun-loving white woman.

I believed I could seduce with my hair without thinking men wouldn't return my vibes because I was too black. Whatever that feeling -- call it femininity if you like -- I had more of it. And while I hated the persistent itch of the wig and those fluffy bangs scratching my eyes, for the first time, saw clearly the power of

Malena Amusa is the communications associate at the Oakland-based racial justice Applied Research Center/ Colorlines Magazine in New York. More of her work appears at ARC's blog at Racewire.org.

said that Eng had that right to write his column, and that blacks should defend it. This was not just a rote ACLU protect hate speech no matter what line, though a compelling argument can always be made for that. It's a practical concern

The worst thing that could happen is to censor even the most odious racial slanders that vould make it impossible for them to be publicly challenged, and blow a chance to educate the public on the colossal harm that they do. Eng's column is the best example of that. If the editors at Asian Week had pulled it, the public would not have known how widespread the myths, misconceptions, and negative stereotypes about African-Americans are among some Asian Americans and Asian immigrants. That forced, blacks, Asians, and many others to make the painful admission that the prejudices exist and then confront them. Eng and Asian Week in effect did a valuable service by printing his views

There were many things that the roundtable participants said that they hated about the prob-lems that blacks face, and what blacks often fail do about them Eng's column was not one of the problems that bothered them. They were right.

BlackNews.com columnist Earl Ofari Hutchinson is a political analyst and issues commentator, and the author of The Emerging Black GOP Majority (Middle Passage Press, September 2006), a hard-hitting look at Bush and The GOP's court of black vot-ers. For order information, see www.blackgopbook.com.

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> aterial and r Is the sky clearest on the day it is most blue?

Patrick "P7" Johnson

Laquisha Hosley Ronald Coleman

While you ponder that thought we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, Inc. formerly a Dallas based remainsance community tabloid, founded in 1991, has relocated to Plano, or and changed our name to MON-The Gazette. In addition to mov-ing our offices to Plano, our editorial coverage has also shifted to encorpass Dallas' Northern Cerridor. The Northern Corridor is chearly the fastest growing region in Texas, if no in America this MON-The Gazette believes that the engine to continue this wth is the airport expansion in McKins ex, which is the largest and most visible of many area opportunities. As always, and true are the second second



d hely 1001 her line



National US Renews Effort To Solve Civil Rights Era Murder Cases

By: Jim Malone The U.S government is forming a partnership with some prominent civil rights groups to identify and investigate unsolved murders committed during the U.S. civil rights era of the 1950's and 1960's, VOA National correspondent Jim Malone has more from Washington.

The partnership involves the Justice Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and civil rights groups like the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Urban League and the Southern

The announcement came at a Washington news conference where Attorney General Alberto Gonzales issued a warning to those who have so far escaped prosecution and punishment for murder and civil rights violations perpetrated decades ago. "And to those individuals who

committed these crimes and who have lived with their guilty consciences for these many years our message should be clear. You have not gotten away with anything. We are still on your trail," he said.

FBI Director Robert Mueller says federal investigators are considering about 100 cases at

sianWeek editor-at-large Ted

New York-based Kenneth

improve race relations in the

they see things a different way," he said. "That misalignment

between the CEO and the board

is unhealthy." Asked about his plans after

leaving the NAACP. Gordon

said: "I'm going to catch my

what I've clearly learned in my tenure here is that all is not well in black America, that's for sure," he said. "I believe I have a

lot to offer. I've got to find a way to be engaged that optimizes what it is I bring to the table. My

"What I've clearly learned in

city

breath

Fang said today at a news con-

branch of the NAACP.

for the paper, Fang said.



the outset, and have reopened 10 to 12 cases that involve suspicious deaths from decades Mueller says he cannot guar-

all the cases will be pr cuted or will result in convic-tions. But he says the government, with help from the civil rights groups, is determined to reopen cases that have been ignored for years. "In too many stances the truth has been hidden for too long. Many indi viduals have, quite literally, gotten away with murder. We cannot turn back the clock. We can-not right these wrongs. But we can bring a measure of justice to those who remain. Justice has been delayed, but we are determined that justice will not be denied. We will do everything we can to close these cases and to close this dark chapter in our

"Racism is very much alive

and well," said Doris Ward, for-

merly a San Francisco supervi-sor and city assessor. "All of us here are responsible for doing

Amos Brown, president of the San Francisco branch of the NAACP, said the incident

should be used as an opportu-nity for the city to do a better job at racial relations.

Eng. an AsianWeek contribu-

The civil rights groups involved in the effort will share information and leads about unsolved murder cases with the government. Organization leaders are urging witnesses who have remained silent for have decades to come forward if they have information regarding a murder or other crime from the civil rights era. Stephanie Jones of the

Stephanie Jones of the National Urban League says the cooperative effort is an impor-tant step in the continuing process of racial healing in the United States. "The history of lynchings and racial violence in the gourter heal he a trin on this country has left a stain on American men in 1964.

two weeks, listed in his column

several "reasons" to discrimi-

Past columns include "Proof

That Whites Inherently Hate

Us" and "Why I Hate Asians." Prominent Asian Americans

immediately condemned the

Feb. 23 column and were later

joined by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, the Board of

Supervisors and Speaker

African

against

nate

Americans.

the fabric of our country. And it is up to all of us to eradicate that stain and one of the ways to do it is to work together to bring justice, both for those who have been harmed by this and those who have perpetrated the harm." she said

Federal and state prosecu tors have had success in recent years in obtaining convictions for murder and civil rights violations in cases that had

remained unsolved for years. In January, a 71-year-old for-mer member of the racist Ku Klux Klan was charged in connection with the kidnapping and murder of two African-

Asianweek Dismisses Author Of Racist Column

something."

San Franciso Chronicle The author of the "Why I Hate Blacks" column pub-lished Friday in AsianWeek has been dismissed, and edi-tors say publication of the piece was "a serious lapse in editorial judgment."

"The failing of our editorial process in allowing this piece to go forward was an insensitive and callous mistake that should never have been made tive bv our publication."

NAACP President Resigns Page 1 told the board at its annual meeting in New York City in mid-February. NAACP leaders were sur-

prised by his decision and engaged in hours of discus-sion, he said.

"They expressed disappoint ment," Gordon said. "W "We attempted to see whether there was a way to continue but that didn't happen.'

Gordon sounded weary as he boarded a flight home to New York City on Sunday.

intention is not to disengage, "I don't view this as I'm right but to find a different way." NAACP spokesman Richard and they're wrong. I view this as I see things one way and

THIS AD VALID WED. MARCH 7 THRE TUPS. MARCH 15, 1987 Cor

McIntire declined to comment

Eng stated in his column that "blacks are easy to coerce," and ference organized by the local that "blacks are weak-willed." He said that those of African descent were "the only race that has been enslaved for 300 Eng will no longer be writing vears. It is unbelievable that it The news conference brought together leaders from took them that long to fight back. various faith-based organiza-tions who condemned the col-umn and also discussed how to

These statements and others have created a huge backlash of criticism against Eng for writing the article and Asian Week for publishing it.

Gordon, 61, was a surprise pick for the NAACP's top post. When he took over on August 1, 2005, he had no track record in traditional civil rights circles. He had spent 35 years in the telecommunications industry and retired in 2003 from his post as president of the Retail Markets Group for Verizon

Corp. Critics said he wouldn't be a old organization. However, he smoothed

strained relations between the NAACP and the White House, meeting with President Bush three times in less than a year.

who wrote roughly every He used his corporate ties to lend quick assistance to black New Orleans residents after Hurricane Katrina. And he hired a number of key national employees whose reputations

Gordon "brought a level of competence that we hadn't

had," Julian Bond, chairman of the board, said last year. Bond also has acknowledged that, with 64 members, the NAACP's board of directors is large and sometimes unwieldy. But he has defended it, saving it allows a wide range of members voices to be heard. Ronald Walters, a University

Nancy Pelosi. of Maryland political science professor who has followed the NAACP closely for years, was surprised at the news, but added that he had suspected that

Gordon may not fit in at the

NAACP "I thought very early on that there might be a cultural conflict," Walters said. "Somebody who came out of a corporate culture and was used to a set of agenda items and management style in one field might not have been able to make the adjustment totally to another field."

Willis Edwards, a board mem-ber from Los Angeles, said, "We tried a certain type of guy, a could have been.'



business guy we didn't h civil rights guy. Maybe he had a different philosophy of what a civil rights organization is about.

Rupert Richardson, a board member from Louisiana, said it was clear Gordon wanted the NAACP to do more social service work, but that was not the decades-old mission of the group.

"I think he saw his job as remaking us to make us more effective, but his job was to do what the board and management wanted," she said. "He was not a good fit for us, but he

and the distant in the second second

desided by her



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Financial Focus To Build Wealth, Look At Both Sides Of Balance Sheet



To achieve your financial goals, you need to be a diligent saver and investor. But you need to do more than just build your assets — you also must do a good job of managing your debts. If you let your debts get out of control, they will eventu-ally erode your savings and investments - and when that happens, the road to financial success can get pretty bumpy. Unfortunately, your fellow

Americans are doing a poor job of saving money and staying out of debt. Here are some telling statistics:

Debt is rising. By September 2006, household

debt had reached 130.9 percent for short-term needs, such as a to your investments. How? For of disposable income, according to the Center for American Progress. In plain English, that is we owe about a third more than we have available to spend after we've paid our taxes

spend anel we've paid out taxes and met our expenses.
Savings have fallen. For most of 2005 and all of 2006, the personal savings rate was negative, according to the U.S. Commerce Department. Commerce Department. Previously, we haven't had a negative savings rate since the Great Depression. In short, we've gotten into the habit of spending more than we save

These grim figures foretell a discouraging financial future for many of us. Every dollar you pay for debt is a dollar you can't use to invest. Furthermore, if you have too little in savings, you may well be forced to din into your existing investments to pay car repair or an expensive new appliance. And the more you take from your investments today, the less you will have available tomorrow — when you might need the money to help pay for retirement or your chil-dren's college tuition.

So what can you do to protect your savings and investments against the demands of debt? You probably already are familiar with some steps you can take to cut costs: Extend the life of your old car, eat out less often, look for cheaper phone and cable service, etc. In short, review your entire lifestyle, and try to separate the "nice to have" items from the "must have" ones. If you can reduce your expenses, you can start whittling away at your debt While you're taking steps to cut your costs, you can still add

starters, increase your contribu-tions to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan every time you get a raise Until you retire, you generally won't be able to access this money without taking a big tax hit, so you won't be tempted to "raid" your 401(k) to pay off debts. [You can, however, typi-

cally take loans from 401 (k) or similar account.] You also may want to "pay yourself first." Each month, before you pay the mortgage, the utility companies and your other obligations, set aside an amount for your investmen It's easier if you set up a ba It's authorization to move the money directly into the investmoney directly into the invest-ment you choose. By having the money taken out this way, you are less likely to "miss" it and, hopefully, you'll be less

funding for your daily life. By cutting your debts, boosting your 401(k) contributions and paving your 10 f and paying yourself first, you can help yourself get a firmer grip on your financial situation

[Article contributed Marcia Donaldson, a licens Financial Advisor with Edward Jones Investments You can contact her at (972) 542-1530.]



One, two or three lots for sale at Restland in North Dallas; located in the beautiful and peaceful Serenity Gardens Section (Southeast corner of Greenville Avenue & Restland Road.) Market value \$3450 each, but selling price negotiable. View plots by appointment only. Call 972-606-3878, 972-416-6109, or 469-235-5808.

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Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce Inaugural Pioneers Luncheon Photos Bv: E. Dewayne Gibson Ir



ront Row L to R) Beth Bentley, tck Row L to R) Dewayne Gibson, Dailey, Horace Satisfield.



Comerica To Move Headquarters To Dallas

Comerica Inc., a financial services company with \$58 billion of assets, on Tuesday said it will move its corporate head-quarters to Dallas from Detroit to be closer to most of its mar-

The move is a blow for Detroit, which is reeling from a difficult environment for automakers and a flight that has seen the city lose more than has seen the city lose more than half its population since 1950. Comerica's Detroit roots stretch back to 1849, when the Detroit Savings Fund Institute

Collin County Day Page 1

tioned above, but many of the other chambers in Collin County as well as representa-tives from the Junior League of Plano, Collin County, our state representative's and sen-ator's local staff, the various cities, economic development offices and Collin College

Through the efforts of this strong committee, 318 residents registered for the event and Collin County Day came off without a hitch. We were joined by Governor Rick Perry for the opening luncheon and heard from a panel of experts addressing issues specific to Collin County. Included on that panel was Mary Katherine Stout from the Center for Healthcare Policy at the Texas Public Policy Foundation; Steven Polunsky, the Director of the Texas Senate Committee or Transportation and Homeland Security and Coby Chase Director of

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TxDOT. After the issues panel, he attendees were off to Capitol to visit with all of the elected officials offices to share the Collin County issues papers and make them aware of local issues for Collin County.

The first day's activities ended with a reception at the Austin Club honoring the local Collin County Senate and House deleg tion along with their colleagues We received updates from Senator Shapiro and Representatives McCall, Madden, Laubenberg and Paxton. We even had a sur-prise visit from House Speaker Tom Craddick

The next morning began with breakfast featuring Ross Ramsey, Editor of Texas Weekly, Mr. Ramsey enlightened the audience with facts and humor of the current session and the significant bills that have been filed. Following breakfast, the delegation was off to the capital again to receive recognition in the House and Senate Chamber honoring Collin County Day. Government and Business Enterprises Division for Before going to the respective Chambers, the delegation had



"Moving our corporate head-quarters will give us greater proximity to all of our markets, and the additional resources in these markets will lead to accelerated growth," Chief Executive Ralph Babb said in a statement. "The vibrant and diversified

their picture taken on the capitol steps with another surpris guest, Lt. Governor David Dewhurst. All in all, the entire trip was a great success and the participants look forward to

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pick a site for its headquarters. It would become by far the largest Texas-based banking company, and said it will look for "fill-in" acquisitions in Texas.

acquisitions in Texas. The company said it has 11,270 employees, including 7,539 in Michigan, 2,082 in Arizona and California, 1,351 in Texas, 162 in Florida and 136. returning to Austin in 2009

In the coming months, look

for a new Collin County Day Web site featuring the 2007 visi as well as plans for 2009 includ-ing online registration.







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Minority Opportunity News - The Gazette • March 08 - March 14, 2007 • Page 5

Mrs. Jewel L

of H

Education

DCCCD Students Meet U.S. Rep. Jeb Hensarling



(Left to Right); Joseph Balancier of Mesquite, who attends Eastfield College; U.S. Rep. Jeb Hensarling, District 5; Jeffrey Econs of Cedar Hill, who attends El Centro College; Jacqueyn Gonzales of Gran Prairie, who attends Mountain Fixe College; Roshym Almas of Dalas who attends Brookhaven College; DCCCD Truster Mouther 5 nttends Brookhaven College; DCCCD Trustee Martha S Metzger; and Dr. Wright Lassiter, DCCCD's chancellor

Four students from the participate in the Dallas County Community

2007 Community College Legislative College District recently traver. Summit, sponsored by the eled to Washington, D.C., to Association of Community

College Trustees and the American Association of Community Colleges. They attended program sessions and also scheduled visits with legis-lators from the Dallas area to share their experiences about being a student at one of DCCCD's seven colleges in Dallas County. The students were accompanied to the conference by Dr. Wright Lassiter, the district's chancellor, plus several members of the DCCCD board of trustees, including Kitty Boyle, who also is currently ACCT's national chair, plus Martha Sanchez Metzger and Charletta

Compton U.S. Rep. Jeb Hensarling, District 5, welcomed the group to his office and spent time talking with the DCCCD students

UT Dallas Chamber Singers, Jazz Band to Perform A Tribute to Manhattan Transfer Concert March 16 & 17

The University of Texas at The University of Texas at Dallas' premier performing ensembles, the UT Dallas Chamber Singers, directed by Kathryn Evans, and the UT Dallas Jazz Band, directed by Kelly Durbin, will appear together in their eight annual concert collaboration on Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17 in the University Theatre at 8 pm. The concerts are free and open to the public. The ensembles will present

works made famous by The Manhattan Transfer. The pro-gram will include Snowfall, Choo Choo Ch'boogie, Operator, A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square, Java Jive, Route 66, Twilight Tone, Tuxedo Junction and Ray's Rockhouse. More information about this



found at icert mav http://ah.utdallas.edu/ 0607/ia zsing ht

For information about the many musical, arts, theatre, dance and other performances and exhibitions held throughout

the year at UT Dallas, pleas call 972-UTD-ARTS (972-883-2787), e-mail utdarts@utdallas.edu, or visit the School of Arts and Humanities' web site at http://ah.utdallas.edu/.

Richardson/Plano Alumni Chapter Guide Right Foundation Scholarship introduced Guide Right. He address P.O. Box 831834, Richardson, TX 75080 by April

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., a college fraternity is comprised of functioning Undergraduate and Alumni Chapters on major college Chapters on major conlege campuses and in cities throughout the country. Founded on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana on Bloomington, Indiana on January 5, 1911, it is the crystallization of a dream

In 1922, the Fraternity adopted Guide Right as the national service program. Brother Leon Steward of the St. Louis Alumni Chapter

proposed a program of guidance to be designated as Guide Right with the purpose of assisting high school seniors to choose and pursue useful careers, consistent with fraterni-ty purpose. The focus of Guide Right from its inception was to provide scholarships to needy and talented students, to train for leadership and to inform young people of professions and career options. The career options. The Richardson/Plano Guide Right Foundation was incorporated in April of 1999 to serve the phil-

Collin College Faculty Named Co-Presidents For State Organization

Collin College prides itself the association, visit their web-for the award-winning and site at www.tccta.org. __Collin involved faculty and staff___it

Elaine employs Boski-Wilkinson department of edu cation chair, or Allen, and Sharor Hirschy, early childhood development professor, of Coppell, were installed as co-presidents of the Child Development Educator's for Association Texas Associate Degree Programs during the annua Texas Community College Teachers Association conference held in Austir in February. __The Texas Community

and independent community, junior and technical colleges in Texas. It is the largest organization of postsecondary educators in the state. The organization's annual conven-tion is the largest gathering of community college faculty in the country For more information about

Naw'lins Jam Page 1

tainment, dancing, dinner, a masked judging contest, fortune telling, casino and silent and live auctions. We are proud that the Dallas

Chapter of the Continental Societies, Inc., has been recognized locally and nationally for its outstanding service to children. Since 1980, our no profit organization has prov our non-as provided scholarships; NASA Space Camp grants; housing assis-tance for homeless women and children; teen mentoring programs; funding for learning and computer centers; arts and humanities programs; and career exploration oppor-tunities. Additionally, Dallas



College Teachers Association is com-prised of educators od de the Child Development on for Texas Associate Degree

from every disci- *Programs during the annual Texas Comm pline in addition to College Teachers Association conferen* counselors, librarians and County Community College administrators from public District (Collin) serves more than 41,000 credit and contin-

uing education students annu ally and offers more than 100 degree and certificate pro-grams. The only public college in the county, Collin is a part-ner to business, government and industry, providing customized training and work force development

Chapter of the Continental Societies, Inc., has devoted thousands of volunteer hours at local schools, hospitals, at-risk programs and other philanthropic agencies and organizations that share a similar mis-

sion and purpose. This year we are involved in serving the children and youth at the Myrtle Davis/Mattie Nash Recreation Center, The Vogel Alcove Day Care for Homeless children and several schools, including Stults Elementary School., Dallas Montessori Academy, Obanino Middle School and Thomas Edison Middle School. Tickets are \$75.00 per person. Please call for ticket information call. Page 6 • March 08 - March 14 • Minority Opportunity News - The Gazette

anthropic arm of the Richardson/Plano Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Richardson/Plano Guide Right Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Requirements Scholarships are granted each year to four high school stu-

dents. Each student is awarded an individual scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. The scholarship is payable to the student in one lump sum, upon verification of enrollment as a full-time stu-dent at an accredited college or university. All material is to be postmarked and sent to this

Selection Criteria: 1. Scholarships are limited to students attending public high schools in the Northern Dallas Area 2. Preference is given to stu-

dents who require financial assistance to achieve their educational goals and who have demonstrated exceptional involvement and service to the community

PSHS Academic Decathlon Team Headed to Honolulu, Hawaii For National Championship, After Winning Texas AcDec Competition

PSHS Academic Decathlon Teammates: Jonathan To-John Thompson, Lorelei Nguyen, Lily Yan, Aron Hughes, Gary Wang, Tracy Huang, Ning Zhang,

Calvin Liu; Coaches: Bill Borowicz and Sheila Kolb



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ior. 5. An eligible candidate must be enrolling as a full-time stu-dent in a two or four-year accredited college or university in the fall semester.

6. Students must complete a scholarship application and send in five (5) copies of all requested materials, including official high school tran

3. To be eligible for the scholscript, standardized test scores arship, the student must have a typed essay of 250 words or 2.50 grade point average or betless, a detailed listing of all ter. 4. An eligible candidate must extracurricular activities and volunteer work, and at least two letters of recommenda-

tion. 7. All applications are weighed as follows:

• Transcript/Test Scores 10%
 • Letters of
Recommendation 10%

- Extracurricular Activities/ Volunteer Work 15%
 Essay 20%
- Interview 20% • Need 25%





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21, 2007. If you have questions please contact Gary Freeman at 469-360-0016.



Legendary Isley Brothers Perform At Nokia Grand Prairie

Shout" earned greater commer-

'50s, the Isley Brothers enjoyed one of the longest, most influential, and most diverse careers in the pantheon of popular music,

The first generation of Isley siblings was born and raised in Cincinnati, OH, where they were encouraged to begin a singing career by their father himself a professional vocalist and their mother, a church pianist who provided musical accompaniment at their early performances. Initially a gospel quartet, the group was com-prised of Ronald, Rudolph, O'Kelly, and Vernon Isley; after Vernon's 1955 death in a bicvcling accident, tenor Ronald was tapped as the remaining trio's lead vocalist. I

In 1957, the brothers went to New York City to record a string of failed doo wop singles; while performing a spirit-ed reading of the song "Lonely Teardrops" in Washington, D.C. The call-and-response D.C. The call-and-response classic "Shout" failed to reach the pop Top 40 on its initial release, it eventually became a frequently covered classic.

Still, success eluded the Isleys, and only after they left RCA in 1962 did they again have another hit, this time with their seminal cover of the Top Notes' "Twist and Shout. Like so many of the brothers'

Rap mogul Jay-Z has been

chosen to induct hip hop pio-

neers Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame during

its ceremony in New York on

Also, the legendary Aretha

Franklin has agreed to per-form in honor of the late Ahmet Ertegun, who served as

the Chairman of the Rock and

Roll Hall of Fame Foundation and spoke during the opening

March 12.



the Beatles, During a 1964 tour, they recruited a young guitarist named Jimmy James to play in their backing band; James -- who later shot to fame James -- who later shot to fame under his given name, Jimi Hendrix -- made his first recordings with the Isleys, including the single "Testify," issued on the brothers' own T-Neck label. In 1973, the Isleys scored a

massive hit with their rock-funk fusion cover of their own earlier single "Who's That Lady," reti-tled "That Lady, Pt. 1"; the album 3 + 3 also proved highly successful, as did 1975's The Heat Is On, which spawned the smash "Fight the Power, Pt. 1.

First formed in the early early R&B records, "Twist and group again altered its sound to fit into the booming disco mar-ket; while their success on pop March explodes with dance radio ran dry, they frequently topped the R&B charts with singles like 1977's "The Pride,"

they released the album Mission

to Please. Ronald and Ernie

hooked up several years later for Eternal (2001), a brand-new

selection of R&B cuts featuring

collaborative efforts with Jill Scott, Jimmy Jam and Terry

Lewis, and Raphael Saadiq, On

that particular release, Ronald also introduced the alter ego

Mr. Biggs. Body Kiss (2003)

and Baby Makin' Music (2006)

followed. ~ Jason Ankeny, All Music Guide

The Silent Partner Presents

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metro

1978's "Take Me to the Next Phase, Pt. 1. On March 31, 1986, O'Kelly died of a heart attack; Rudolph soon left to join the ministry, but the group reunited in 1990. Although the individual members continued with solo work and side projects, the Isley Brothers forged on in one form or another throughout the decade; in 1996, now consisting of Ronald, Marvin, and Ernie,

If industry professionals in theatre, film, television and arts administration are looking for vouth with promise, take a journey to Dallas, March 14-17, 2007 as TBAAL hosts the 71st National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts (NADSA) Conference. NADSA is one of the country's only predominantly African American educational theatre conferences that showcase some of the brightest students from more than thirty African-American institutions. Students compete in various theatrical competitions critiqued by industry professionals. Noted celebrities who are slated to serve as guest judges and lectur-ers include Ervkah Badu, ers include Erykah Badu, Meshach Taylor and Tonea



West Africa's Amazones Women Master rummers And Dance Company of Guinea

Saturday, March 17, 2007, 8 R&B/Jazz ensemble accompa nied by a touch of the spoken word. The group consists of four tremendously talented individuals with an All-Star rhythm section representing the "fifth" man.

Closing out March with riotous laughter is P. Diddy's Bad Boys of Comedy and BET's ComicView star, Muhammad. Comedy Night at the Muse is a night of side-splitting laughter, Friday, March 30, 2007 and Saturday, March 31, 2007 at 9 p.m. nightly on The Black Academy of Arts and Letters Clarence Muse Café Theatre stage.

For ticket information to any of these breathtaking programs, please call TBAAL's Box Office (214) 743-2400 Ticketmaster (214) 373-8000 or visit website www.TBAAL.org.

The Isley Brothers, March 23rd , 8:00 PM at The Nokia. To purchase tio Ticketmaster Ticketmaster.com or by phone smash "Fight the Power, Pt. 1." at 214.373 As the decade wore on, the 972.647.5700. 214.373.8000, Jay-Z, Aretha Tapped For Rock Hall Ceremony of each induction ceremony. For the first time ever, VH1 will air the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame ceremony live. Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder will induct

R.E.M. and the Rolling Stones' Keith Richards will usher in the Ronettes. Patti Smith will be Against The Machine vocalist Zach de la Rocha. Also, Velvet Revolver will their summer tour with original vocalist David Lee Roth was scrapped. The group's camp has yet to make any statement about which members, if any, introduce Van Halen, who made headlines last week after

will attend the event.

Dallas Theater Center Announces **Opening Night Of Fences**

Dallas Theater Center Dallas Theater Center announces the opening night of August Wilson's Fences on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 at 7:30pm, Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. at Blackburn.

A modern masterpiece by one of America's finest contemporary playwrights, Fences is the best of August Wilson's epic cycle of plays chronicling the African-American experi ence in the 20th century. Wilson zeroes in on Troy Maxson, a former star of the Negro Baseball Leagues who is coming to terms with his own lost dreams while struggling to



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The Road Home program is designed to help residents of Louisiana affected by Hurricane Katrina or Rita get back into their homes as quickly and fairly as possible. If you owned a home in Louisiana and were affected by one of the hurricanes, you may be eligible to receive up to \$150,000 for your losses.

The Road Home Mobile Center is coming to Dallas/Fort Worth from March 12th to 21st.

Schedule your appointment now

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fsit www.road2tA.org or call 1.888.ROAD.2.LA (1.888.762.3252) TTY callers use 711 reliey or 1.800.846.5277.



Dru

music, literature and comedy at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters (TBAAL). With vibrant programs including TBAAL hosting the 71st National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts Conference, the 3rd Annual Weekend Festival of Black Dance, Roundtable Writers Breakfast with P.J. Gibson, Five Men on a Stool, and Comedy Night at the Muse featuring BET's ComicView Star, Muhammad, March will jump with excitement at TBAAL.

p.m. nightly on The Black Academy of Arts and Letter's Naomi Bruton Main Stage. Stewart.

The 3rd Weekend Festival of Black Dance kicks the month of March into overdrive under the theme "Rhythm and Soul of a People", Friday, March 16 and

Noted playwright, author, poet and laureate, P.J. Gibson, joins TBAAL in its extremely popular Literary Voices Series -Roundtable Writes Breakfast, March 17, 2007 from 10 a.m. – Noon in TBAAL's Room T-203. A powerful voice in black and A powerful voice in black and American theatre, she will talk about her works and lead a provocative discussion on the state of black playwrights and their presence in American and World theatre.

If you enjoyed the musical genius of 3-Mo Tenors, then wait until you see 5 Men on a Stool, Saturday, March 24, 2007 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. in TBAAL's Clarence Muse Café Theatre. This Atlanta based phenomenon is a contemporary





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News And Events to

Plano's Eyes In The Sky Page 1

along, we will investigate processes for allowing others to gain access to critical information

Through the MotoMesh network police officers will be able to take laptops into the field to access important crime data and to generate and submit reports from the field. The system also enables them to use onboard cameras to send instant video footage back to the dispatch center during traffic stops. The system is expandable, secure and flexi-ble. It also includes cameras to perform surveillance on areas with increased incidents of criminal mischief. These cameras can be monitored remotely from the field via lapton equipped with a special PC network card. The in-vehicle camera can maintain connectivity at speeds up to 150 mph. The system also allows for positioning and resource tracking without the use of GPS Children Displaced Page 1

"It is rare for a country to

data for patients in route to the hospital. The ability to transmit video to the hospital from the ambulances will enable better diagnosis of a patient's condition and provide an additional level of service. Future plans include the ability to download blueprints for a facility prior to arrival at the scene, so the responders know whether there

Satellites in much quicker time.

using the network to transmit

The Fire department will be

flooding, but there is no quick fix, and all our problems around water and sanitation, shelter, health, and education week, which killed at least two children in Mozambique, also severely damaged the central hospital at Vilanculos, as well are now exacerbated by this as an estimated 220 classevere cyclone." The next week is "absolutely

critical" for children who have "It is rare for a country to be hit by two massive and simultaneous emergencies within such a short period of time," said the Head of UNICEF in Mozambique responded quickly to the lost homes, schools and are in danger of contracting diseases. "The response has been express and effective, but it must be stressed that this can only con-tinue while resources and actions on the ground are

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Attn: Publisher

working on what we call 'Phase 2.' This encompasses the design and deployment of access points to cover all major arterial streets in Plano. The final phase will be to locate access points to 'fill-in' the neighborhoods we can have seamless coverage throughout Plano." The system consists of four maintained

(HazMat) issues.

menting mobility corridors.

and the use of the MotoMesh network will expand. The instal-lation of the system has occurred

over the last year in phases. Nineteen "hot spots" were installed and became opera-tional in mid December. Stephens said, "Currently we are

are mitigating circumstances, radios inside a box with two of such as hazardous material the radios set up for proprietary data, one radio is used for the backhaul transport and the remaining radio could be avail-The first of the mobility corri-lors will be put in place in the spring along 15th Street and Coit Road for field reporting. The City will continue impleable for public usage, mounted in various locations throughout the City. Public Wi-Fi access will be offered through an inde-As applications become avail-able, other departments will be able to mobilize their workforce, pendent vendor in the near iture.

Plano joins a handful of U.S. cities deploying mesh systems, including Philadelphia, PA and Anaheim, CA. In November 2006, Motorola brought its wares to Plano Centre for a gov ernment exposition, allowing Plano city personnel as well as other communities and agencies in north Texas to view up close this emerging technology. Many cities are watching to see how Plano utilizes the new technolo gy to decide whether they step forward into this new frontier Plano continues to live and thrive by the promise it made its community to be "A city of excellence" through Technology.

lar by responding to the growing needs of populations now shel-tered in camps, with such assis-tance as 500 tarpaulin sheets to build shelters, 10,000 cans and buckets for fresh water and other emergency supplies.

UNICEF is the lead partner for nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene and is co-leader with Save the Children in education and protection. It also



munity Newspaper seeking Freelance Writers to cover munity Events. Familiarty with AP style a plus. Please send your resume along with a writing sample.

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Page 8 • March 08 - March 14, 2007 • Minority Opportunity News - The Gazette

Current priorities for the Government, UN agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are to ensure water facilities are clean and serviceable, temporary health structures are functioning, children are back in school, and drugs and health equip-ment are delivered to all affected areas UNICEF has already spent \$3 million on helping the flood and cyclone victims, in particu-Career Opp ortunities = nity section 972-606-7498 areer opportunity section 058; Email: opportunity@ Fax or Email copy for quote: Fax: 972-509

works in health, which is led by the UN World Health Organization (WHO).

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Again, I thank God for wonder-ful Black women that have been a great part in who I am and what I have done with my life. Each lady is very precious and dearly loved by

me. Mrs. Cedella Baker Demus, my mother for being a great mother and the glorious memories that she left behind. Mrs. Jessie she left behind. Mrs. Jessie Baker Green, my aunt in Clovis, NM. Minister Sheila Tarpley Lott, my daughter; Mrs. Jewel Price McKenzie, my teacher and mentor; Mrs. Phemia Tinner, my precious friend; First Lady Elizabeth White of Lense, Chergel COVIC of Love Chapel COGIC; my sisters: Nurse Eloyd Demus Avery; Beautician & Hair Stylist Billie Iveree Demus Daye; Evangelist Ida Demus Eggins; and Teacher Rose Demus Fielding; they

Feacher Kose Demus Fielding; they are the greatest. Some friends over the years (in alphabetic order): Doris Bonner, Veola Bryant, Vivian Evans, Stella Johnson, Eloise Joiner, Doris King, Barbara Lewis, Frankie McFadden, Shirley Moore, Theresa Simpson, Ora Watson, Pat Wesley, Annie Pearl Williams, and Judy Williams. Black Women Postage Stamp Honorees: Abolitionist Harrier Tubman in 1978; the first wom to be honored on a U.S. stamp, and the first honoree in the Black Heritage series; she organized the Underground Railroad. Mary McLeod Bethune in 1985, a noted educator and social activist,

she was an advisor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Sojourner

AARP Rallies For Electric Page 1 tion of electric disconnections during the intense summer heat, and a provision to guaran-tee a rate based on the cost of providing electricity. Some of the participants were also recognized in the Senate and a large number of them got to visit with their legislators and



Church News

Bessie Coleman in 1995, the first woman to earn an international aviation license and the first licensed defended her right to speak against Black aviator. Madam C. J. Walker slavery; Mae Jemison, M. D., the



Picture of The Week ational Speaker Angle Clay (right); sl d a copy of her CD, "Experiencing G in The Midst of ..." for Sister Tarpley graphed o

in 1998, she was one of the nation's

st female millionaires and an adve cate of women's economic independence and empowerment. Patricia Roberts Harris in 2000, she was a committed public servant and chan committed public servant and cham-pion of civil rights, the first Black woman to holds a U. S. Ambassadorship and serve as a member of a Presidential Cabinet. Singer Marian Anderson in 2005, as invited to sing the "open" at In Memorial Park in Lincoln Lincoln Memorial Park Washington which drew 75.000 pe ple; this was the largest crowd at the time to assemble at the Memorial. Hattie McDaniel in 2006, she was Autor McDanier in 2000, site was the first Black to win an Academy Award (the Oscar); and for 2007, Jazz Singer Ella Fitzgerald. Log on www.usps.com for more informa-

staff. This was generally regard-ed as AARP's most successful rally ever in Texas and the first one of its kind in nearly a decade AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization that helps people 50+ have inde-pendence, choice and control in ways that are beneficial and affordable to them and society as

Di inguished Black Woman Phillis Wheatley, an internationally known poet during the Revolutionary Period (1753-1784); Maria Stewart, outspoken Abolitionist, the first Black woman to speak in public and leave texts of her addresses, her farewell speech "What If I Am A Woman,"



Institute, is probably well-known as a speaker and dramatic reader; she recited the works of Paul Laurence Dunbar in Germany, France, Switzerland and Great Britain, where she appeared before Oueen Victoria. Jean Blackwell Hutson a curator of the prestigious Schomburg Collection of Negro Life and History, a special -circulating library and search division within mous n the NY Public Library system

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Let MON-The Gazette help y church accomplish the Prayer of Jabez, "Enlarge our territory to expand opportuni-ties that may impact in such a way that we touch more lives for God's glory. Let us do more for Him."

a whole. They produce AARP The Magazine, published Magazi The Magazine, published bimonthly; AARP Bulletin, our monthly newspaper; AARP Segunda Juventud, our bimonthlv magazine in Spanish and English: NRTA Live & Learn our quarterly newsletter for 50+ educators; and our website, AARP.org

AVENUE F CHURCH OF CHRIST March 18-21, 2007

9:45 am & 2:30 pm You are cordially invited to our Spring Revival; this meeting has been tailored to rejuvenate, revitalbeen tailored to rejuvenate, revital-ize and recharge each of us; mind, body and soul. Brother Rodney Dulin of the Central Pointe Church of Christ and Brother Thomas Fitzgerald, Jr. of the East Side Church of Christ in Forney will proclaim God's plan and purpose for our lives

extant

Sunday Morning Bible Class will Sunday Morning Bible Class will begin at 9:45 am; Morning Worship at 10:45; and Sunday afternoon program begins at 2:30 pm; we will honor Brother Oscar Bailey for his dedication and love toward this congregation for over 45 years. All services through the week will begin at 7 pm. Please come and get refu alad with us

Avenue F Church of Christ Brother Ramon Hodridge, Minister 1026 Avenue F

Plano, TX 75074 972-423-8833

COALITION OF CHURCHES

On-Going Mentor Program True Lee Baptist Church, 3907 Bertrand Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210, 214-421-9435, Rev. Donald 75210, 214-421-9435, Rev. Donald Parish, Pastor, is working with a mentor program for children of par-ents that are incarcerated. Come or call to find out how to get involved. For more information, donations, and volunteering, please call Carolyn Johnson @ 972-235-6432.

Coalition of Churches In Prison Ministry

Rev. Isaac John P. O. Box 225863 Dallas, TX 75222-5863 972-235-6432 or 214-632-6519

DIVINE GRACE FAMILY INSTITUTE

FAMILY INSTITUTE Every Saturday in 2007 9 am - 11 am or 4 pm - 6 pm A Division of DGIM, Inc. 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization; we are, "Helping to raise families that will hear God's voice and do His will."



Church Happenings

Divine Grace Family Institute Pastor Marshall Eromonsele Executive Director P.O. Box 165103 Irving, TX 75016-5103

972-602-3035

DENTON FULL GOSPEL HOLY TEMPLE CHURCH Last Two Nights March 8 & 9 @ 8 pm Please join us for the last two nights of our Harvest Time Crusade 2007 @ the UNT GateWay Center, 801 North Texas Gateway Center, 801 North Jexas Blvd, with guest speakers Supt. Corby Bush, Dr. Dorinda Clark-Cole, and Dr. Marvin Sapp. There will be a great move of God; you don't want to miss this event. For more information, please call 940-484-0963.

Denton Full Gospel Holy Temple

Church Elder F. H. Daniels, III, Pastor 529 Bolivar Street Denton, TX 76202

940-484-0963 FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN March, 2007 FBCA Education Department is providing GED preparation including pre-testing and tutoring, this FREE service is provided every Wednesday @ 6 pm. If you every Wednesday @ 6 pm. If you or someone you know needs assis-tance, please contact the church @ 972-356-9956 for further details *March* 23 @ 7 pm Please join us as our Men Empowered by Christ presents "2007 — Trenseformericine

"2007 Transformation Conference" with Pastor Eric Brown, The Living Revelation Center

March 24 @ 8.30 an March 24 @ 8:30 am Our Saturday's Seminar will fea-ture Pastor A. A. Todd from Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church who will speak on "Men of God-Men of Purpose, Peace, Promise and Prosperity." Rev. Dwight Harris from FBCA will speak on "Transformation into the Likeness of Christ." Pastor Charles Malone from The Little Bethel Baptist Church will speak on "Transformation into a Better Husband and a Better Father." Husband and a Better Fath Pastor Perry from True Im Ministry will provide "Ministry of Music." March 25 @ 11 am

March 25 @ 11 am You don't want to miss Pastor Darrell Ferguson from Shiloh Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC as he speaks on "Ministry of the Word."

For more information and registration fees about the above 2007 Transformation Conference please call Deacon Michael Polk @ 469-667-3068

Fellowshin B. C. of Allen Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr., M. Div Rev. W. L. Stafford Senior Pastor 200 Belmont Driv Allen, TX 75013 972-359-9956

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF ROWLETT

March 18th @ 4 pm Please join us for our Church Celebration in 2007. This year's theme is, "Getting Ready for the Abundant Harvest," Amos 9:15. The dynamic and anointed The dynamic and anointed speaker of the hour will be Pastor W. L. Stafford, Sr., M. Div, Senior Pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen, TX and his congregation. Also, special guest, Bishop Eric Henderson, Pastor of New Life Ministry in Dellas and this concreased in New Dallas and his congregation We are expecting a Spirit-Filled Worship Service with you as we

Worship Service with you as we give praises to God for 17 years of ministry! For more information, please call New Life Fellowship Church @ 972-463-4964.

New Life Fellowship Church of Rowlett Bishop M. E. Johnson, Jr., Senior Pastor Pastor Bobby J. Hill, Jr., Co-Pastor 7401 Miler Road Rowlett, TX 75088 972-463-4964



Mocha Sisters Inaugural Community Service Award

Dr. C. Paul McBride. Senior Pastor of Friendship Baptist Church of The Colony; was the recipient of the Inaugural Community Service Award of The Mocha Sisters Organization, Inc. (MSO) at their first Annual Scholarship Banquet for the support and contributions his church has made over the years to The Colony and other surrounding communities.

Pastor Paul, as his members and friends call him, has been senior pastor of Friendship Baptist Church for 23 years. He has been married to Sister Ida for 43 years. They have

three children: Paul, Vickie, and Chris. They have nine grand-children, and two great grand children. Pastor Paul's awards and degrees are many: Associate Degree in Computer Science

Child Development, and Money Management. He is a Certified Marriage Counselor and Deacon

Trainer. He has served on various committees with the Dallas Baptist Association (DBA) and the Baptist General Convention of Texas (BGCT), including President and First Vice President of He was chosen by the Baptist England. As Pastor of FBC, World Alliance for a Mission they completed three building Trip to Africa. Pastor Paul and programs. Out of all of his

Ms. Candace Watson, TV host/

producer, author, founder and

CEO of Hype and Humble, host-

motivational speeches

words: Dream, Believe, Pursue,

topic "12 Things the Negro Must

was written over 100 years ago

Hype and Humble has future

plans for a day of pampering for women in homeless and domes-

tic violence shelters; celebrity auc-

awards and accolades, the Mocha Sisters Organization, Inc. Inaugural Community Service Award is among his proudest. He is quick to say, "My church 4 believes in service to peo-ple and communities; this is a great part in what God commands us to do. We don't do community

ervice to be seen or get a Sister Ida also attended Oxford pat on the back; we are honored Round Table Religious and grateful that God has Discussions held in Oxford, blessed us to be noticed by oth-

ers and to be an example for others to see. We pray that they emulate God's love and His concerns.'

MSO, a 501© (3) non-profit organization stated, "We proudly elected you as the recipient of one of our 2006 Service Awards." "Since the majority of our members' time is spent in community service; we believe the community service, we believe friendship Baptist Church mirror those of our organization, which is why we have chosen you as a recipient." MSO's mission is, "To articu-

late and promote community awareness (community service); Hype And Humble Empowerment Breakfast

bring unity among women teach networking skills with other influential and innovative women of color; provide scholarships and a mentoring program for African-American females." View them online: www.mochasisters.org or www.mochasisters.com. Mr. Tim Brown, Heisman

Trophy winner and a 17-year NFL veteran was the Master of Ceremony. The event was held at Paul Ouinn College in Dallas. There was excellent food, wonderful music, great entertainment, raffles, a silent auction and a salute to Black History Month

Collin County Gospel Explosion

fact, it seemed that the prais

ing and honoring God was just

getting started. Pastor Stafford predicted that God will take future events to the

next level; and with the recep-

tion that the gospel explosion received, the 2nd Collin County Gospel Explosion in

2008 will be highly anticipat-ed. Start making your plans for

a great time in the Lord in

The Gospel Explosion began

with an opening prayer by Reverend Dwight Harris, fol-

Reverend Dwight Harris, fol-lowed with Holy praises to God by the Voices of Inspiration, the FBCA Praise

Team. The True Praize Music Group brought the audience

to their feet as they added their voices. Soloist, Pastor

Charles Lasiter, II, didn't

leave a stone unturned when

he was on the stage. The FBCA Choir under the direction of Sister Evelyn Beachum kept the Gospel

Explosion moving in praises to God. They returned to the

stage featuring the dynamic and on-fire-for-God, Elder

Daniel Davis. The au was in for a special treat when

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ercessory Prayer @ 7:00 am l @ 9:30 am • Morning Worship @ 11:00 a o & Women's Group Bible Study @ 6:30 pm



BCGT.

Daniel Davis leading FBCA S ary Choir in songs and praise

2008

If the first is an example of what's to come, citizens in Collin County and surrounding counties can look forward to bigger and better things in the future

Pastor Wayne L. Stafford, Sr. M Div of Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen (FBCA) was energized and very enthusiastic when he came on the stage; and with the line-up of entertainment yet to come, it became clear why he was excited about what was in store for the audience. The 1st Annual Collin

County Gospel Explosion was a rousing success. If any-one left un-inspired and unmotivated they were there in physical presence only

Pastor Stafford stated that God had given him this vision to uplift and encourage adults and young people alike. This great event had to be God-Inspired

As the Master of Ceremony, Pastor Stafford was on fire for God the entire concert and when time was up, members in the audience were not ready to leave, in

day Life Bible School . . day Life Celebration Wor

y: Ingredients for Life . s: Life In The Word Prayer

Pastor Davis joined the choir; everyone was on their feet clapping and praising God to

the highest. If you ever have an opportunity to hear Pastor Niyi Adam play his saxophone or get one of his CD's don't miss the opportunity. He was absolute-ly wonderful. He took the audience to Heaven and back.

Pastor Stafford personally thanked Pastor Nosa of Arise and Shine Ministries introducing FBCA to his Sons in the Gospel, Pastor Daniel Davis and Pastor Niyi Adams.



Pastor Nosa of Arise and Shine Ministries with Pastor WL. Stafford, Sr. of FBCA @ the 1st Annual Collin County Gospel Explosion.

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Friendship Baptist Church Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor



Schedule of Services: Sunday Early Morning Worship 8:00 a.m. Sunday School Classes 9.30 a m Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Evening Worship (1st Sunday) 6:00 p.m.

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

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

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website: www.fbc-online.net "The Church with a Vision"

Minority Opportunity News - The Gazette 1100 Summit, Suite 101 (@ Avenue K) Plano, Texas 75074 Phone: 972.516.2992 Fax: 972.509.9058 Email: Religion@monthegazette.com

THE CHURCH WITH AN OPEN RIRLE-

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90 p.m. Baptist Training Union

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