



FFLA "Empowering Youth To Pursue Their Gifts And Talents"

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Protests Highlight Racial Tensions In Paris, Texas

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Terence Howard Keeps Head Above Water In "Pride"

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People In The News

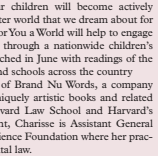


After a year of controversy, the Miss USA contest has selected an African American woman to wear the title of Miss USA 2007. On Friday, a star-studded panel of judges chose Miss Tennessee, Rachel Smith as Miss USA. Ms. Smith received a full tuition scholarship to Belmont University, graduated with a degree in Journalism and interned last year for the production company behind "The Oprah Winfrey Show." The 21-year-old Clarksville native is highly involved in community volunteering for numerous organizations and has traveled to South Africa to assist young women from less advantaged backgrounds. Throughout the live two-hour primetime event hosted by "Access Hollywood" Nancy O'Dell and Tim Vincent, the contestants competed in three categories: swimsuit, evening gown and interview. Tara Conner, Miss USA 2006, crowned her successor before an estimated worldwide viewing audience of more than 250 million. The Miss USA prize package includes: A year-long salary as Miss USA, two-year Scholarship from The NY Film Academy, National and International multi-media advertising from XMJ Jeanswear, one year contract with Trunzo Model Management; and a New York City apartment for the year of her reign including living expenses.

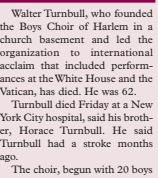
Charise Carney-Nunes, freelance writer and attorney will sign copies of her book, I Dream for You a World on Saturday, March 31, 2007 1:00 p.m. at Books-A-Million, 3000 Grapevine Mills Parkway, Grapevine, Texas. The book is the children's companion to the NY Times bestselling book, The Covenant with Black America. Using poetry and brilliant collage, it takes you and your child on a brief journey to better understand the values and principles set forth in the Covenant, so that our children will become actively engaged in creating the better world that we dream about for their tomorrow. I Dream for You a World will help to engage children in a new initiative through a nationwide children's book club that will be launched in June with readings of the book in homes, libraries, and schools across the country. Charise is the founder of Brand Nu Words, a company dedicated to publishing uniquely artistic books and related media. A graduate of Harvard Law School and Harvard's JFK School of Government, Charise is Assistant General Counsel at the National Science Foundation where her practice focuses on environmental law.



Walter Turnbull, who founded the Boys Choir of Harlem in a church basement and led the organization to international acclaim that included performances at the White House and the Vatican, has died. He was 62. Turnbull died Friday at a New York City hospital, said his brother, Horace Turnbull. He said Turnbull had a stroke months ago. The choir, begun with 20 boys in 1968, has performed at the White House, at the United Nations and for Pope John Paul II. It has released albums and been heard on the soundtracks of movies such as "Jungle Fever," "Malcolm X" and "Glory." Beyond its musical training, the choir provides educational and personal counseling to hundreds of inner-city young people ages 9 to 19 each year. A native of Greenville, Miss., Turnbull intended to become an opera singer. He earned a bachelor's degree from Tougaloo College in Mississippi in 1966 and a master's from the Manhattan School of Music in 1968. He performed as a tenor soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic and made ends meet by teaching and driving a taxi.



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Two Republicans Reject Urban League Invitation

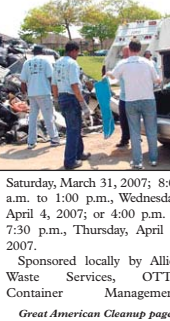


Republican presidential candidates Rudolph Giuliani and Mitt Romney are skipping the National Urban League's annual conference this summer, and league president Marc Morial wants them to know he's not happy about it. "We're sending notice, not just to the Republicans, but to all the candidates, that you're not going to ignore us," said Morial, former New Orleans mayor who has led the black civil rights organization since 2003. Speaking with The Politico to make clear his displeasure, Morial said he found it puzzling that the former New York mayor and former Massachusetts governor would not address his organization in July. "It's an opportunity for them to speak to a very influential audience before a nonpartisan organization that has a history of being fair and balanced," Morial noted. "It sends an incredible message that you're not even going to go to the Urban League," which will convene in St. Louis. Considered to be more

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Plano's "Great American Cleanup" Online Registration Through April 4

Spring cleaning takes on a community meaning with the 2007 Great American Cleanup. Keep Plano Beautiful (KPB) needs volunteers on Saturday, April 14, 2007 to create a cleaner, greener Plano through community-wide litter abatement and special improvement projects such as painting and planting. Pre-registration is required for the event and t-shirts will be given to volunteers while supplies last. Online registration is available at the KPB Web site with the online registration deadline being 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 4, 2007. Registration packets for cleanup volunteers will include t-shirts, trash bags, forms and a map of the cleanup location (for assigned locations only). Packets must be picked up at the KPB office located at 4200 W. Plano Pkwy. at one of the following scheduled times: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Saturday, March 31, 2007; 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 4, 2007; or 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 5, 2007. Sponsored locally by Allied Waste Services, OTTO Container Management,



Collin Is Fastest-Growing Large Urban County In Texas; Among Top 10 In Nation

Collin County's rapid expansion rate makes it the fastest-growing county in the state among those counties with populations over 100,000, according to U.S. Census Bureau numbers released today. Population growth estimates from April 2000 to July 2006 show that Collin County grew at a rate of more than 42 percent by last summer. That translates into an estimated 207,079 more people who moved into the county, and swelled the area's population to 698,851. In sheer numbers alone, the six-year growth spurt shows Collin County ranked 8th in the nation for numerical increases among counties with populations of 10,000 or more. For counties with populations over 500,000, Collin's growth rate outpaced other similarly sized locales in the U.S. Based on the new growth estimates, Collin County's population today is approximately 730,000. Collin County Judge Keith Self says the numbers released today are not a surprise, given the dramatic transformations of sleepy towns into bustling suburbs over the last 20 years. Fastest Growing County Page 5

"This incredible growth underscores just how vital it has become for us to expand a transportation system that can keep pace with these numbers," says Judge Self. "Our ability to continue to grow and to better our quality of life here is linked directly to finding ways to expand our roadways now." "One of the major challenges facing the Commissioners Court is always the growth issue and our responsibility is to plan for that growth," says Collin County Commissioner Phyllis Cole, Precinct 1. "With this movement, it becomes more important for us to have a transportation infrastructure that accommodates the increasing number of commuters," says Collin County Commissioner Joe Jaynes, Precinct 3. "Chances are for every person who moves into

Freddie Mac, Media And Criminal Justice/Prison Experts Headline Second Faith Summit On Poverty



West Conference Center, 2020 W. Wheatland Road; Dallas. The central theme and goal is to enlighten and equip citizens to mobilize their state, local and federal politicians toward a meaningful, updated and earnest War on Poverty!! The Texas House of

Texas Pressed To Apologize For Slavery

week's bitter debate over Confederate statues on state property. Both Democrats say they want to get bipartisan support for a resolution of formal apology and recognition of contributions made by black Americans in Texas. Texas would join legislatures in seven other states that are considering similar measures. Last month lawmakers in Richmond, Va. — the capital of the Confederacy — unanimously passed a resolution expressing "profound regret" over that state's role in slavery and the segregation of black Americans after slavery. On the congressional level, a Tennessee Democrat has introduced a resolution for a national apology. "It does seem to be a movement. It's interesting to see this spread," said Larry Sabato, Texas Slavery Page 8

Zimbabwean Defiant After Police Beating

Mugabe foe Sees Resistance Growing Zimbabwean opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai relaxed in the lush garden of his home Friday, a 5-month-old grandson on his knee. But for the five blue stitches on Tsvangirai's head or the bandage covering his broken left hand, there were few clues that he had spent the three previous days in intensive care, or the two before that in prison cells, bloodied and dazed by vicious beatings from police. Despite the arrests and police assaults on nearly 50 top opposition activists, he said, the movement had been strengthened by an experience that has left many wounds but also a new determination to confront President Robert Mugabe's nearly 27-year-old government. "This incident has just heightened the stakes," said Tsvangirai, 55, a former Police Beating Page 6



Future Fashion Leaders Of America "Empowering Youth To Pursue Their Gifts And Talents"



Future Fashion Leaders of America Banner.

Photos By: Antwan Edwards  
Future Fashion Leaders of America held a daylong event at the Dallas Convention Center entitled "Empowering Youth to Pursue Their Gifts and Talents". The event featured workshops on Hair Styling, Image Consulting



Special Guest MC from Peculiar Records, Gospel label

Fashion Design, and Etiquette and Life Skills. Participants were also treated to youth roundtable discussion and motivational presentations. Speakers for the event were Pastor Rickie Rush and Pastor Everett Gilmore. The FFLA Executive Youth Board members include



Young men putting tips from the Image Consulting Workshop to work.

President Lauren Bradford, Vice-President Tayoya Oliver, Secretary Desiree Thomas, Treasurer Ladyrian Cole, Publicist Curtis Turner and Web Designer Angelica Holden. Event entertainment was provided by C.H.R.O.S.S. - Carver Heights Redeemed Obedient



Sold Out - Youth ministry founded by Peculiar Records.

are still being taught good Christian values and will be the positive leaders of the future. Event sponsors included H.Y.P.E. (Helping Youth Pursue



Dooney "The Priest of the Streets" - local Gospel Hip Hop Artist.

Excellence), Melody's Reflection, Delia's, Al's Formal Wear, Dillard's Department Store, and Talula's Boutique.



FFA Models pose for the camera after the fashion show.



Carver Heights Baptist Church Youth Men Step Team. (Left to Right) Reggie McCoy, Brandon Johnson, Terrence Thomas, Thomas McCoy, Stanton Lawrence, Quendon Calhoun, Ryan Galloway, Quincy Bradley, Andreu Calhoun, Brian Fulton; Mr. Darius Starr - Team Director.



Participants of the 1st annual Future Fashion Leaders of America fashion show.

Eastfield College Hosts Garland City Council Candidate Forum

Eastfield College is hosting a forum for candidates running for Garland Mayor and City Council in districts 3,6,7 and 8. Dr. Carol Brown, president of Eastfield College, will moderate the forum. The forum is scheduled for Thursday, April 5 at 7 p.m. in the Garland City Council Chamber at City Hall, 200 N. Fifth Street. The forum will also be broadcast live on CGTV, the City's government

access cable channel. CGTV is available on Time Warner Cable channel 16 and on Verizon FiOS TV channel 44. Garland citizens are invited to submit questions to be used during the forum. Questions may be submitted by April 1, 2007 by email to scook@dcedd.edu, by fax to 972-860-8324, or by mail to: Sharon Cook, Director of Marketing & Communications Eastfield College

3737 Motley Mesquite, TX 75150 Attn: Garland Council Forum Please include "Garland Council Forum" in the subject line of email and fax submissions. Submitted questions may be directed to the candidates in a specific race. That designation must be clearly stated. Eastfield College personnel

will evaluate the validity of the submitted questions and have the option of combining similar questions or eliminating questions that are inappropriate in nature (i.e., personal attacks on individuals or questions that are vulgar in nature). Eastfield College, one of the seven Dallas County Community Colleges, is located at 3737 Motley Drive in Mesquite, just north of I-30.

**\$69\* DIVORCE**

Criminal Defense	Family Cases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DWI / Suspended License</li> <li>WARRANTS Removed*</li> <li>24 Hour Jail Release*</li> <li>Occupational license, felonies</li> <li>Protective Order</li> <li>Misdemeanor/Felonies*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Divorce / Annulment</li> <li>Child Support / Paternity</li> <li>Custody Modification</li> <li>Restraining Order</li> <li>Protective Order</li> <li>Name Change / Adoption</li> <li>Domestic Violence</li> </ul>

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**817-277-0196 (Metro)**  
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Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization if you qualify. \*Fees quoted above are minimum down payment needed to begin processing your case.

Around The Town

**Ongoing**  
**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 Douglas Community Center, 1111 Ave. H in Plano. Call 972-941-7174.  
**Alpha Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi** a social service cultural sorority meets the second Monday of each month in members home in Frisco, McKinney, and the Plano area. Call 972-473-9089.  
**Assistance League of Greater Collin County** meets the third Wednesday of the month. Visit [www.assistance-league-gcc.org](http://www.assistance-league-gcc.org).  
**"EVOLVE"** a social networking opportunity for women, meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the northwest corner of Park Boulevard and Coit Road, Suite 202. Call 972-267-4452.  
**A free legal clinic** is offered for residents who meet low-income guidelines, 6:00 p.m., second Thursday of each month, First United Methodist Church, 601 S. Greenville Ave. Applicants must be Collin County residents and income eligible. Call 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 assistance to 22 eligible families and individuals for rental housing in Frisco. Call 972-377-3031 for information.  
**Kansas African Ensemble Dance Classes** from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. West African dance classes held every Saturday at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. For more info call S-Anth Kasa at 214-298-5858.  
**Late Night at the Dallas Museum of Art** Join us on the third Friday of each month at 1717 N. Harwood. \$10 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens and \$5 for students with current school I.D. 214-922-1200, publicprograms@DallasMuseumofArt.org.  
**Dallas Baptist University-North Leadership Empowerment Luncheon Series** is from 11:30 a.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.  
**The Yundras Show** taped live every Tuesday @ The Historical Rose Marine Theater, 1440 N. Main St. Fort Worth. Doors open at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$10 pre-sale online [www.TheYundrasShow.com](http://www.TheYundrasShow.com), 877-840-0457. Tickets are \$20 at the door.  
**March 29**  
**Plano 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, Southwest Airlines. For more info, call 972-424-7547.  
**North Texas Jazz Festival** (March 29-31) Intercontinental Hotel, 15201 Dallas Parkway in Addison Town of Addison and the University of North Texas Department of Jazz Studies. Visit [www.addisontexas.net](http://www.addisontexas.net) for more info.  
**Estate Planning Seminar** at

10:00am and 7:00pm. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway Spring Creek & Jupiter. Are you concerned about Probate and Estate Taxes? Free 90-minute program. This educational program will be presented by Dallas Estate Planning Attorney, Richard P. Johnson who is Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Admissions is FREE. For reservations call: Karen at (972) 497-1010 or email Karen@RichardJohnsonLaw.com  
**March 30**  
**A live DVD recording of The Truth Behind Hip Hop 4: The Curse of the Culture** Event is Free. The Full Gospel Holy Temple church located at 39727 West LBJ Freeway (near I-20 and Wheatland Road) in Dallas, Texas. For group seating and travel information, please call 817-764-3025 or email [info@gemministries.com](mailto:info@gemministries.com). Learn more about Elder G. Craig Lewis and EX Ministries at [www.exministries.com](http://www.exministries.com).  
**March for Respect-2007 Walk** to increase awareness of people with developmental disabilities Dallas West End The Developmental Disabilities Network of North Texas begin @ 9am, swacasey@ardallas.org 214-634-9810, visit [www.marchforrespect.org](http://www.marchforrespect.org)  
**The Lancaster Education Foundation "Children's First" Breakfast**, 7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Attendees will hear from Lancaster Athletic Director and Lady Tigers 6x State Champion Track Coach Beverly Humphrey. Please call the Education Foundation Office for more information, at 972-218-1415.  
**March 31**  
**Stephanie Ward Art Gallery Grand Opening and Jazz Concert** featuring Joseph Vincelli, 2-9 p.m., 920 18th St., Plano. The opening is a fundraiser for the Summer Urban

Artist Program. The gallery is giving 30% of all art sales during the grand opening to provide scholarships for underprivileged youth who show talent in visual arts. Vincelli performs from 7-9 pm. For more information call 469 229-0024 or stephaniegallery@aol.com  
**August Wilson's Fences** at the Dallas Theater Center, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd., at Blackburn Street. August Wilson's Tony- and Pulitzer Prize-winning play portrays the life and family struggles of a former Negro League star. The play runs through Sunday, and a Negro League exhibit is in the lobby. Tickets are \$15-\$60. Call 214-522-8499 or visit [www.dallas-theater.org](http://www.dallas-theater.org).  
**Official Don Hill For Mayor Kick Off Party**, 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm 621 South R. L. Thornton Freeway (next to Drivers Select) Dallas, Texas 75203 P (214) 943-5710 F (214) 943-5458, visit [www.donhillformayor.org](http://www.donhillformayor.org) or [www.myspace.com/donhillformayor.org](http://www.myspace.com/donhillformayor.org)  
**Charisse Carney-Nunes Booksigning** of the New York Times bestselling book, The Covenant with Black America at the Books-A-Million, 3000 Grapevine Mills Parkway. For more information, call 972-539-0636.  
**Gifts Performance** to help the Rev. Averil Royal, pastor of Emmanuel Fellowship Baptist Church, who needs a marrow transplant. The event will be at 7 p.m. at Friendship West Baptist Church. Tickets are \$25 and available at the church and at [www.friendshipwest.org](http://www.friendshipwest.org).  
**The Methodist Health System Diabetes Self-Management Education Program** will host a free diabetes technology fair to share information on the latest technologies for people with diabetes. The technology fair will be held in the Hitt audi-

torium of Methodist Dallas Medical Center from 1 to 3 p.m., 214-947-7289.  
**April 1**  
**The Silent Partner Presents ...Cedric The Entertainer**, Nokia at 8pm  
To purchase tickets, contact Ticketmaster online at [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com) or by phone at 214.373.8000, metro 972.647.5700.  
**April 2**  
**19th Annual Taste of Plano** from 5pm to 8:30pm, Plano Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway Spring Creek & Jupiter. Eat at 40 restaurants, enjoy live music, see a performance by Ronald McDonald himself, play in the kids' fun zone, and participate in the live auction. Proceeds go towards scholarships funding the continuing education of PISD graduates. Parking is FREE and the whole event is indoors. Advance Tickets: Adults \$15, Grades K-12 \$5, Pre-K and under free. Tickets At The Door: Adults \$20, Grades K-12 \$5, Pre-K and under free. For more information contact: Taste of Plano 214.205.8005 or visit [www.tasteofplano.org](http://www.tasteofplano.org).  
**April 6**  
**Sexual Assault Awareness Month Poetry Read-In**, 7:48 pm, featuring Keith Michael Guinn, 2922 Marlin Luther King, Jr. Blvd Dallas, Texas 75215  
**Founder of the Ft. Worth Poetry Slam**. This event is to highlight Sexual Assault Awareness Month. For more information on the Poetry Read-In or to RSVP please email us at [admin@marianajefferson.org](mailto:admin@marianajefferson.org).  
**12th Annual Sickle Cell Disease Association Golf Tournament** Cedar Crest Golf Course 1800 Southerland Ave. Dallas, Texas. Help Us Raise \$100,000 to fund going sickle cell screening and testing, education, outreach, and genetic counseling

to individuals with sickle cell disease and their families. Register now at [www.sicklecelldallas.org](http://www.sicklecelldallas.org), or contact Mary Griffin at 214 942-1262.  
**April 12**  
**General meeting of Stoneyale Democrats** of Collin County will be held on, 6:30-8:30 pm at the Grano Bakery & Cafe 5966 West Parker Rd #210, Plano TX, 6:30-7pm social, 7pm business meeting followed by guest speaker Meredith Fisherman, Outreach & Activism Chair, Texas Democratic Women of Collin County.  
**April 13**  
**The Silent Partner Presents...O'Jays** Nokia Theatre At Grand Prairie, 8:00 pm.  
To purchase tickets, contact Ticketmaster online at [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com) or by phone at 214.373.8000, metro 972.647.5700.  
**The Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce Tenth Annual Excellence in Education Scholarship Luncheon** Recognizing Outstanding Performance in Education 2007 Registration: 11:00am Program & Luncheon: 12:00 noon Dallas Convention Center - Ballroom A, 650 South Griffin Street. For more information, contact the Dallas Black Chamber office at (214) 421-5200 or log onto [www.dbcc.org](http://www.dbcc.org).  
April 28, 2007  
**Senior Achievement Award Ceremony** at Dallas City Hall Plaza hosted by deputy Mayor Don Hill and Cleo-Glenn Johnson of Black United Funds of Texas. For more info, call 214-651-7065 e-mail [blm104@yahoo.com](mailto:blm104@yahoo.com).

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**Paul Hailey**

I don't have any political or social commentary this week, no witty words about some news event. This week I want to talk about two words that handcuff each and every one of us at one time or another in our lives. Two words that stop us from making progress in the areas of our lives that need progress the most.

I can't.  
My grandmother forbid me and my siblings from saying those words in her presence, she called them evidence of a "weak character." I found myself thinking about those words this week as I listened to one of my co-workers complain about how tough he had it and why he couldn't do anything about a particular problem that was negatively affecting his life. It wore on me until his voice started sounding like so many fingernails on a chalkboard.

That conversation got me thinking about how differently each of us deal with issues in our lives; why we think the way we do about what's in front of us. Some of us, like my co-worker, feel like powerless pawns, subject to the whims of chance and luck. Others attack the problem in front of them and literally "will" a positive solution to that problem. It took me a long time to finally figure it out, but the way we think about what is happening to us determines our level of success. The difference between successful and non-successful people is often just a matter of what we think we can or cannot do.

We are all guilty of spitting out "I can't" to things that we think are too difficult to accomplish. All too many times the "I can't" becomes interchangeable with "we can't". We've all heard it used, usually in the third person: "black people can't unite", "we can't do anything about teen pregnancy", "black men can't get it together", "we can't educate

## What Is It That You Cannot Do?

our children in public schools". Those words help to form a collective mindset of helplessness, of whining and looking for someone else to address our issues without us having to be accountable or responsible for change.

As trite as it sounds our progress as a people is dependent on our progress as individuals. And our individual progress is tied to our attitudes. When you address a negative situation with the words "I can't", the odds are that you most likely won't.

What is the thing in your life that you think you cannot do?

I'm not trying to sound like a page out of a self-help book here but consider these statements:

- Success in life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you respond to what happens to you.

- Change the way you look at things and the things you look at change.

- As a man thinks in his heart so he is.

A very wise man I know shared some words with me that taught me a lesson that I will take with me for the rest of my life. "You never know what people are going through," he told me. "And everybody is going through something." I find inspiration in people who are determined to succeed in spite of what they are going through.

One of my dearest friends is going to school to be a nurse, while working a grueling job in the rehab unit at a hospital and raising five children (3 of them teenagers) as a single mom. She doesn't seek pity or sympathy about her situation, and even though things sometime seem overwhelming to her, I've never

heard her use the words "I can't". Another one of my friends is finishing her degree at a college in Fort Worth. She decided to go back to school after a long layoff even though several people told her she couldn't. She is 77 years old.

That thing in your life that you think you cannot do? Unacceptable.

One of my favorite things to say is "people ultimately do what they want to do". If you want to do something badly enough you will get it done no matter what. It really is true that we are only limited by what we can conceive in our own minds.

Frequently, I like to use this space to challenge everyone reading these words and this week is no different. Grab the remote control to your mind and change the channel. Eliminate negative thoughts, focus on solutions instead of problems, constantly re-emphasize to yourself that you can do anything you put your mind to if you refuse to quit.

One thing I've discovered about positive attitudes—they are contagious. Once we eliminate the "I can't" attitude individually, we can begin to tackle problems we face as black people in a brand new way. Feelings of helplessness and powerlessness can be replaced with feelings of empowerment and optimism. Whether on our job, in our neighborhood or in our own house, we can believe that things can get better, that things are getting better. And if nothing else, we can at least make progress towards accomplishing the thing we think we cannot do.

Paul Hailey can be reached at phailey@MonTheGazette.com

## Our Children Are Dying For Health Care: Help Them

**By: Marian Wright Edelman**  
NAPW Columnist

Marian Wright Edelman How did America get to the point where Deamonte Driver, a seventh grader in Prince George's County, Maryland, died because he didn't have health insurance to cover an \$80 tooth extraction and his mother couldn't find a dentist to treat him? What happened to Deamonte is a Dickensian horror story that, sadly, is not unique in our rich nation. More than nine million children in our country try to live without health insurance, nearly 90 percent of them in working families. If we are to prevent similar tragedies, Congress and President Bush must enact long overdue legislation this year guaranteeing health and mental health coverage to all children. And every one of you reading this column ought to pick up the phone or e-mail your Senator and Representative and tell them to support the Children's Defense Fund (CDF)'s proposal to cover all children this year so that more children don't have to die unnecessarily.

The inexcusable and unnecessary loss of Deamonte's life started when he complained of a toothache. His mother, who has low-paying jobs, didn't have employer health insurance, and Deamonte's insurance had been cut off. She had difficulty finding a dentist to see Deamonte, so she took him to a hospital emergency room where he was given medicine for a headache, sinusitis, and dental abscess. But he got much sicker and was rushed to surgery where it was discovered that bacteria from his abscessed tooth had spread to his brain. Heroic efforts were made to save him, including two operations and eight weeks of additional care totaling over \$250,000 but it was all too late. The outrage is that Deamonte's life could have been saved by far less costly health insurance, routine dental visits, and by a pool of dentists willing to take Medicaid children.

There are millions of children in our country who are in pain every day with toothaches and chronic illnesses. Like Deamonte, they are at risk of death because they have no health insurance. At CDF we believe that it is unjust and wrong that in the richest nation on earth any child should suffer or die when we have the means but not the will to protect them. As Congress considers renewal of funding for the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) this year, they have both the opportunity and responsibility to take the logical, achievable, and cost-effective step of guaranteeing comprehensive health care to all children and pregnant women. We propose that children's health coverage under Medicaid and SCHIP be consolidated into a single program with a guaranteed, comprehensive benefit package nationwide for children whose family incomes are at or below 300 percent of the federal poverty level (\$61,950 for a family of four in 2007). Benefits would include dental, vision, and mental health care as well as routine doctor visits. Child survival would not depend on the lottery of geography or family income.

Bureaucratic barriers to child coverage would be eliminated. Children currently enrolled in Medicaid, SCHIP, and other means-tested federal programs like school lunch and food stamps would be automatically enrolled. Children would also be automatically enrolled when they are born, start school, or get a Social Security card unless their parents opt out. CDF's proposal also would increase reimbursement rates to health care providers. Deamonte's trouble finding a dentist willing to treat him illustrates this problem. In Maryland, fewer than twenty-five percent of dentists accept Medicaid patients. Bringing Medicaid reimbursement rates up to Medicare levels so children can actually get health services when they need them will

make many more doctors and dentists who currently won't take patients covered by Medicaid and SCHIP available to children.

The United States provides health care to all senior citizens although children are the least expensive and most cost-effective group to cover. Should children have to wait until they are 65 to be insured? Virtually all major industrialized nations provide universal health care to children. Why do we lag so far behind? We certainly don't lag behind in the brain power to figure out how to do this. We certainly don't lack the resources. No other country can match the over \$13 trillion Gross Domestic Product of the United States. The funding needed to expand health coverage to all children and pregnant women would be less than what it costs to give the wealthiest one percent tax cuts averaging \$41,000 a year.

Children are too young to vote, have no voice in Washington's corridors of power, and can't afford to pay powerful lobbyists. So you must fight for their health and lives. Health coverage for all children in America is our moral and practical obligation and now is the time to get it done. All that's needed is the political will to make it happen this year-2007. We must do this because children would be automatically enrolled when they are born, start school, or get a Social Security card unless their parents opt out. CDF's proposal also would increase reimbursement rates to health care providers. Deamonte's trouble finding a dentist willing to treat him illustrates this problem. In Maryland, fewer than twenty-five percent of dentists accept Medicaid patients. Bringing Medicaid reimbursement rates up to Medicare levels so children can actually get health services when they need them will

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund and its Action Council whose Leave No Child Behind mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.



**Where Do You Want To Go Today?**

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## Three Cheers For The NAACP

**By: Ron Walters**  
NAPW Columnist

Let me hasten to add that I don't cheer the NAACP necessarily for throwing out Bruce Gordon, but for doing something they would have been, and have been, criticized for in the past: focusing on their legacy and sticking to it. In the past the Board has been badly criticized as not being clear on its mission, as indicated by this writer and others, and another example was the selection of Gordon. Insofar as the resignation of Bruce Gordon was a sign that he was misaligned with the Board, by his own explanation in numerous recent appearances in the press, his leaving under those circumstances reflects the fact that the organization has some idea of what it is, where it is and where it wants to go.

What it is means that the Board privileges its historic identity and therefore, honors the struggle to achieve full civil rights by a forceful agenda and set of strategies.

This calls into question any attempt to change the organization's mission into a service role. Without question, as Gordon has indicated, there is a huge role for leadership in turning inward and marshaling the strengths of the Black community to do what is necessary to achieve our goal of self-determination. However, the NAACP cannot do both civil rights and social service, effectively. And why should it, there is a fine black social service organization in existence known as the National Urban League, created just one year after the NAACP, such that they were clear then of the difference between the functions of the organizations. We have gotten somewhat confused today.

The organization knows where they are in history. We are faced with a war, costing hundreds of

billions of dollars and a president spending trillions of dollars on tax cuts for the rich, permitting conservative politicians to turn around and ask "Where is the money coming from?" when demands are made for government to fund social programs.

We are faced with urgent social priorities, such as fixing the damage from hurricane Katrina, growing poverty, record home loan foreclosures, failing educational systems and many other problems. What organizations will call into question before the American people the misplaced priorities that disadvantage Black, White and all other people who need government most? I would argue that it is both legislative officials and "civil rights" organizations that need to keep the country's feet to the fire and, yes, even call out the president when he is wrong, and not place that act of accountability lower than appealing for him to show up at annual conventions.

What the NAACP has done suggests that it knows where it has to go. I have received a lot of calls from journalists asking plaintively whether or not the time for the NAACP has passed and whether Gordon was right to demand that it change focus to Blacks. That is a major objective in the right wing agenda. I have answered that there exists a diversity in the leadership of the Black community, rich with not only churches, but civic associations and single-issue policy organizations, working every day on social service related issues from HIV/AIDS to health care gaps and criminal justice issues. Perhaps one way for this agenda to be strengthened is for the NAACP and other civil right organizations as well, to partner more effectively with them and a needed source of strength through better coordination of

resources and mobilization of pressure on policy makers. But they should not take over this agenda and forsake civil rights work. Why?

You don't find many civil rights organizations in the White community, although there are some dedicated to civil liberties, keeping the Bill of Rights viable as a contribution to Democracy for all citizens. But "civil rights" organizations grew out of the absence of rights and the knowledge that they were necessary for a community that had been in slavery, or had been excluded through immigration, or devalued because of gender or religious orientation, to gain access to full citizenship. So these organizations are dedicated to that fight to remove the impediments of racism, sexism, and other barriers that inhibit access to rights and the resources of society.

What we are seeing is that in some ways, the fight to establish civil rights law was easier than its implementation, since all of them have been distorted to a major degree. Thus, the mission to infuse meaning into these laws is essentially one that presupposes a constant confrontation with systemic oppression, and it should do the work of such organizations - even if it continues to make all of us uncomfortable. For, as Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, it is this discomfort that produces the seeds of change.

Dr. Ron Walters is the Distinguished Leadership Scholar, Director of the African American Leadership Institute and professor of Government at the University of Maryland College Park. His latest book is Freedom Is Not Enough (Rowman and Little field Publishers).

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**Is the sky clearest on the day it is most blue?**

While you ponder that thought we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, Inc., formerly a Dallas based renaissance community tabloid, founded in 1991, has relocated to Plano, Texas and changed our name to MON-The Gazette. In addition to moving our offices to Plano, our editorial coverage has also shifted to encompass Dallas' Northern Corridor. The Northern Corridor is clearly the fastest growing region in Texas, if not in America. MON-The Gazette believes that the engine to continue this growth is the airport expansion in McKinney, which is the largest and most viable of many area opportunities. As always, and true to tradition, MON-The Gazette will be there carrying a world of opportunity for those seeking to provide quality services. Should you date to expand your quest for economic parity outside the southern region or just want to know what is going on up north.

**Think of MON-The Gazette as your paper of opportunity!**  
MON-The Gazette formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones

# DCCCD, Parker College Give Students Another Career Option

Dallas County Community College District students who are interested in health careers can add chiropractic to their list of options after officials from both DCCCD and Parker College of Chiropractic signed a transfer agreement creating a seamless transition for students between the two institutions.

Representatives - including Dr. Wright Lassiter, DCCCD's chancellor, and Dr. Fabrizio Mancini, president of Parker College - signed the agreement during a special ceremony on Wed., March 21, at DCCCD's downtown offices.

"DCCCD continues to seek new partners in higher education so that we can offer our students more options for their educational and professional

growth," said Lassiter. "We welcome Parker College of Chiropractic as a partner with our district, and we look forward to the additional opportunities for our students that this agreement will provide - especially in the allied health fields."

"We also welcome DCCCD students to Parker College's campus family, and we look forward to working with them as they pursue their bachelor's degrees," said Mancini.

"The purpose of the agreement is to enable DCCCD students who transfer to Parker College of Chiropractic to transfer the credit hours they already

have earned for as much relevant study as possible," explained Gregory Williams, DCCCD's



Signers in the photo are (left) Dr. Fabrizio Mancini, president of the Parker College of Chiropractic, and Dr. Wright Lassiter Jr., chancellor of the Dallas County Community College District.

director of transfer services/articulation and university relations. "The agreement provides a structure to achieve

that goal."

Transfers from DCCCD to Parker College will be based on credit hours that students earn in the district, not from individual colleges within DCCCD, which is particularly important for individuals who are enrolled at more than one of the district's institutions.

According to the new partnership agreement, all associate's degrees (Associate in Arts, Associate of Arts in Teaching, Associate in Applied Sciences and Associate in Sciences) will transfer from DCCCD to Parker College of Chiropractic as a block. Completed blocks

will be treated as one transfer of credit hours, and DCCCD students will not have to repeat any lower-division requirements at Parker. DCCCD graduates with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 who meet all other requirements are guaranteed admission to Parker College.

DCCCD graduates who want to transfer to Parker College of Chiropractic must follow that institution's transfer process and meet all applicable requirements and deadlines related to an application for admission, orientation and registration, and payment of tuition and fees. Those students who wish to transfer to Parker; who do not have an associate's degree; and who have a grade of 'C' or better will have

all courses numbered 1000 and above accepted for transfer to Parker's bachelor's degree program as either an elective, general education requirement or an exemption or replacement for a required course.

Additionally, DCCCD students who complete the district's core curriculum will see those credits transferred to Parker College of Chiropractic as a block, which will satisfy the lower-division education requirements at the college. DCCCD's core curriculum can be transferred and accepted as a component of a bachelor's degree or as a stand-alone general education block not associated with a bachelor's degree.

## Career Expo 2007 Opens Doors To Job Fields April 2-5

This year's installment of Collin County Community College District's Career Week is sure to be without restraints.

"Careers Unlimited: Career Expo 2007" is set from Monday-Thursday, April 2-5 and the week of events will prepare attendees toward entering a new and exciting career. These programs are free and open to the public.

The week of events:  
 • Let the Exploration Begin! - Monday, April 2  
 All Campuses

Careers Unlimited! events start with kick-off activities from 9:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. at the Central Park (2200 W. University Dr. in McKinney), Preston Ridge (9700 Wade Blvd. in Frisco) and Spring Creek (2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano) campuses.

• Unlimited Career Options - Tuesday April 3  
 Spring Creek Campus, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano

Kathryn Kelly, president of ExcellerateHRO, will speak from 3:30-4:30 p.m. From 2:15-3:15, the branches of the U.S. armed services will be on hand to

answer questions and provide literature regarding careers in service.

Finally, area employers and career representatives will be on hand from 4-7 p.m. to showcase fields of employment and career areas.

• Unveiling Your Professional Image - Wednesday, April 4  
 Preston Ridge Campus, 9700 Wade Blvd. in Frisco, Founder's Hall Room 148

From 9-10 a.m., Sherree Koehler, executive senior sales director, Mary Kay Corporation, will present "Coffee & Creative Thinking About Professional Image."

• Uncovering Technology: Cutting Edge Careers - Thursday, April 5  
 Spring Creek Campus, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano

The day's activities begin at 8:50 a.m. with Candy Slocum, executive director of InterLink, who will present "He/She Wants to Do What? Ungendering Careers" which addresses ways to move into careers typical of a particular gender. From 10:15-11:15, Slocum will discuss occupations within new emerging technologies. The focus on technology jobs continues

from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with a technology employer panel including representatives from convergence technology, gaming and animation, commercial music and interior design. At 12:50 p.m., a roundtable discussion with students, college faculty and business representatives will be held.

Speaker background  
 Kathryn Kelly, as president of ExcellerateHRO, an EDS/Towers Perrin outsourcing company, is responsible for global sales, strategy and offerings, and marketing and communications. She joined the company from Towers Perrin, where she developed and launched several new businesses over her 18-year career as a principal of the firm. She holds dual master's degrees in community medicine and in biostatistics from the University of Washington. She completed her doctoral studies in epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health.

Career Expo 2007 is hosted by Career Services & Co-op and Student Life at Collin County Community College District.

For more information about the Career Expo, call 972.881.5781.

## National Scholarship Memorializes Accomplishments Of Community Activist

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. and the family of community activist Dorethea N. Hornbuckle today announced the formation of the Dorethea N. Hornbuckle Memorial Scholarship for students.

The Dorethea N. Hornbuckle Memorial Scholarship is a one-year award that provides financial assistance up to \$3,000. Applicants must be a full-time undergraduate or high school student transitioning to college and pursuing a degree in business, business administration, science or engineering; have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale; submit a typed essay; have completed a minimum of 20 hours of active community service within the past 12 months; and show financial need. Applications will be accepted through April 30, 2007.

Hornbuckle, a community activist and businesswoman, was the 16th National

President of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. As president, she exemplified leadership, strength, loyalty, and determination. In the Dallas community, Hornbuckle served as



Dorethea N. Hornbuckle

chairperson of the African American Advisory Committee to Dallas Independent School District during the desegregation years. She also served on numerous boards, including the United Way of Dallas, Dallas Women's Employment

and Education, Inc., Dallas Women's Center, Lone Star Council Camp Fire, and the first board of directors for the Junior Black Academy of Arts & Letters. Hornbuckle was a member of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the National Council of Negro Women, and a lifetime member of National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. is a professional businesswomen's sorority that was founded in Chicago, Illinois in 1929.

For information, to make a donation or to receive an application contact:

Dorethea N. Hornbuckle Memorial Scholarship  
 c/o Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.  
 PO Box 223871  
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## Rapper Jay-Z Sells Clothing Company Rocawear

Rapper/mogul Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter has entered into a deal to sell clothing company Rocawear for \$204 million in cash to the Iconix Brand Group, a company that licenses and markets such popular brands as Candies, Joe Boxer, Mudd, London Fog, Ocean Pacific and others.

The deal, which was announced today, (Mar. 6) could also net Jay-Z \$35 million in Iconix stock, if the Rocawear brand meets certain performance requirements over the next three-five years.

"Iconix is pioneering a new brand management model and

by combining Rocawear with their platform, my team and I can focus on our strengths in design and lifestyle marketing," Jay-Z said. "I'm also looking forward to working with Neil Cole and the Iconix organization on other brand development opportunities."

Jay-Z will continue to be in charge of all product development, marketing and licensing for Rocawear, which boasts annual retail sales of over \$700 million.

The rapper will retain his stake in the operating company that manufactures all of the Rocawear men's apparel line,

and the mogul's two partners, Alex Bize and Norton Cher, will continue to run the manufacturing company.



"This is the largest acquisition Iconix has made and Rocawear is a brand that is increasing in

market share and has extraordinary potential for growth," said Neil Cole, Chairman and CEO of Iconix Brand Group commented. "The leadership team is already in place to fulfill our mission and we will maintain complete continuity within the business by having Jay and his team in charge of all product development, licensing and marketing. Jay and his partners in the operating company that manufactures all of the Rocawear men's apparel, Alex Bize and Norton Cher, will become our licensee for the core business. Iconix will add talent and resources that I believe will help make Rocawear

a billion dollar global brand. This acquisition will be transformative for Iconix in terms of its scale, the diversification it brings to our portfolio of brands as well as having someone as talented as Jay-Z joining our company and the many synergies that could bring."

Iconix is forecasting that Rocawear, which was founded in 1995, will generate almost

\$43 million in royalty revenue during the first 12 months of the agreement.

Iconix and Jay-Z have also reached a deal to form a new brand management/licensing company that will debut a new luxury brand titled The Shawn Carter Collection, which is due in stores in 2008.

The deal is expected to close this month.

## TXU Lowers Rates

TXU Energy says it is slashing its prices by 6 percent.

The company, a unit of Dallas-based TXU Corp. (NYSE: TXU), said the

roughly 1.3 million customers in its traditional service territory will see the reductions in next month's bill.

The reductions amount to a savings of about \$15 a year

for residential customers that use an average of 1,500 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month.

The power company said customers will see an addition-

al 4 percent reduction in prices once the proposed buyout deal with Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. of New York and Fort Worth-based Texas Pacific Group closes.

## TI To Begin Job Cuts

Texas Instruments Inc. will lay off 233 workers at its Dallas campus by the end of the year, the company said in a notice to the Texas Workforce Commission.

The layoffs will take place in waves beginning April 3 and continuing through Dec. 28.

Each employee will be on paid leave of absence for 60 days following his or her release date, Texas Instruments said.

The company said employees that lose jobs will be able to apply for open positions at TI.

The positions affected are from the company's Silicon Technology Development and Foundry Engineering units, as a result of the company's plans

to stop developing advanced digital process technology.

TI said during its fourth-quarter earnings release in January that decreases in orders were down \$411 million for the quarter, primarily because of lower demand for digital signal processing products in the company's semiconductor segment, which makes and sells integrated circuits.

The company said it would implement cost-cutting measures in 2007, including cutting about 500 jobs, mostly in Dallas. TI said the cuts would reduce annual costs by about \$200 million.

The company has about 10,500 employees in Dallas and 31,000 worldwide.

### Fastest Growing County Page 1

Collin County, that person will have a car. That's why we need to look at alternatives to roadways such as mass transit."

According to Census figures, the neighboring counties of Denton and Rockwall have also grown at an incredible rate. According to Collin County Commissioner Jack Hatchell, Precinct 4, this is another reason why Collin County's transportation infrastructure is so important.

"With our astonishing

growth, we are able to bring world-class business and industry to Collin County," says Commissioner Hatchell. "As a result, we are seeing an increasing number of residents of different counties commuting daily to Collin County."

"The Census numbers perfectly line-up with our projections," says Collin County Commissioner Jerry Hoagland, Precinct 2. "Collin County is on the right track in providing services to our citizens that accompany this growth."

### Urban League Page 1

moderate than its contemporary civil rights group, the NAACP, the Urban League has drawn President Bush to its annual conference three times since he was elected in 2000, including in 2004, when Bush appeared a day after his opponent, Democratic presidential nominee John F. Kerry. An Urban League spokesperson pointed out that Bush and former Vice President Al Gore attended the conference in 1999.

While Bush is unpopular among many blacks, Ken Mehlman, Bush's handpicked chairman of the Republican National Committee, made reaching out to black voters a focal point of his two-year tenure.

Morial said he sent invitations in November to allow candidates plenty of lead time. He promised that his intent was "not to set them up in a 'gotcha' environment," but rather to allow candidates to take their case to thousands of black voters. "I can't promise how the audience will react, but I can commit that there will be a mic and an opportunity for them."

He conceded that the GOP had "some challenges" with African-Americans but said the black vote is "up for grabs, and nobody can take it for granted."

Giuliani and Romney could face significant obstacles in trying to appeal to black voters. As mayor, Giuliani had a rocky

relationship with many black New Yorkers because of what some saw as his heavy-handed law enforcement policies. Romney, a Mormon, is likely to meet resistance because the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints did not allow blacks into the priesthood until 1978.

Giuliani's camp said they had a previous commitment that conflicts with the conference but wouldn't say what that was.

Giuliani "looks forward to an ongoing dialogue with all those helping to ensure our cities and communities continue to thrive," said spokeswoman Maria Comella.

Asked why Romney's campaign rejected the invitation, spokesman Kevin Madden also cited a scheduling conflict, though he declined to specify what it was.

Morial said Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) has not replied.

"It's something we're certainly considering," was all McCain spokesman Danny Diaz would say.

Morial said he was not picking on the Republican Party, but rather seeking to shine a light on the lip service he said some politicians pay his community. "We're not interested in Democratic or Republican drive-by politics," he said.

None of the major Democratic candidates has sent in an RSVP, a spokesperson for the group said. As for Giuliani and Romney? "I hope they reconsider," Morial said.

## BURIAL PLOTS

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## Ahmad Abdalla

**ATTENTION!!!**

**Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce**

- Meeting: Thursday, April 12, 2007
- Location: McKinney Housing Authority 1200 N Tennessee St McKinney, TX
- Time: 6:30 pm
- Persons Interested In Joining Contact: Jamal Murray 972-838-1316 Terri Thomas 972-548-8000

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# Protests Highlight Racial Tensions In Paris, Texas

**AP**  
 Teenager has been in jail for more than a year for shoving teacher's aide

A teenager has been jailed for more than a year for shoving a teacher's aide at her high school, sparking anger and heightening racial tensions in rural East Texas.

Shaquandra Cotton, now 15, claims the teacher's aide pushed her first and would not let her enter school before the morning bell in 2005. A jury convicted her in March 2006 on a felony count of shoving a public servant, who was not seriously injured.

The girl is in the Ron Jackson Correctional Complex in Brownwood, about 300 miles from her home in Paris. The facility is part of an

embattled juvenile system that is the subject of state and federal investigations into allegations that staff members physically and sexually abused inmates.

Under the sentence handed down by Lamar County Judge Chuck Superville, she will remain at the facility until she meets state rehabilitation standards or reaches her 21st birthday.

But her family and civil rights activists say they want her home now. They are condemning the sentence as unusually harsh and say it shows a justice system that punishes young offenders differently, depending on their race.

Creola Cotton, Shaquandra's mother, and activists argue that while Superville sent Shaquandra to the state's juvenile prison system, he gave a

white 14-year-old arsonist probation.



Creola Cotton comforts her daughter, Shaquandra

As many as 400 people marched and rallied in Paris on Tuesday, the second such protest in as many weeks by civil rights groups.

Meanwhile, the Paris school district fiercely denied claims of racism and chided the girl's mother for "playing a game" to

start controversy.

Creola Cotton says her daughter received an unjust punishment for pushing the Paris High School employee. Her complaints have prompted federal civil rights investigations into the school district.

"My daughter has been (at Brownwood) a year now," Creola Cotton said. "It's time for her to come home."

In an interview with The Paris News, Superville said he chose the sentence because witnesses testified that placing Shaquandra back in her mother's care was not the best decision.

"If Shaquandra had been white, the outcome would have been the same," Superville said. "My decision was based on facts and law, and I am confident this

was the correct decision based on the facts I was presented."

About 41 percent of students are black in Paris, a city of about 26,000 just south of the Oklahoma border. Fewer than 10 percent of the district's teachers are black, according to the most recent audit by the Texas Education Agency.

Dennis Eichelbaum, an attorney for the Paris school district, said the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights has vindicated the district by finding no evidence of discrimination in three cases. Five other investigations remain open.

Creola Cotton is preventing the district from fairly defending itself by refusing to let the school district make her daughter's entire record public,

Eichelbaum said.

"Mrs. Cotton has been wrongfully attacking the character of the district," Eichelbaum said. "She's being disingenuous with regard to her daughter being an innocent child."

Added Eichelbaum: "She's playing a game."

Prosecutors say they offered Shaquandra a plea agreement that would have reduced the felony charge to a misdemeanor and given her two years' probation. But Creola Cotton rejected the plea on behalf of her daughter, prosecutors said.

A spokesman for the U.S. Department of Education said the agency handled nearly 1,000 discrimination complaints last year.

## Faith Summit Page 1

Representatives held a hearing on House Bill 947, the Bill of Rights for the Underprivileged, on March 15, 2007. Rep. Yvonne Davis of Legislative District 111, sponsored the bill which came out of the Faith Summit on Poverty sponsored in 2006 by Dr. Fredrick D. Haynes III and Friendship West Baptist Church. This legislation will institute a policy statement for the State of Texas that reinforces basic rights every Texan including the underprivileged of our society should enjoy.

This multifaceted, three-fold effort will include the following events:

**Workshop Sessions**  
 Friday, March 30, 2007 -

2pm to 4pm

Solution-driven, informational exchanges will be held to develop strategies that will not only eradicate poverty, but also empower the disenfranchised in the following areas and capable moderators and presenters:

• **Media Advocacy in the African American Community**

**Moderators:**  
 State Representative Yvonne Davis; Cheryl Smith, Journalism Professor, Paul Quinn College Editor, Dallas Weekly; Host, Reporter's Roundtable

**Panelists:**  
 Mark Edgar, Dallas Morning News - Deputy Managing Editor  
 Mike Devlin, WFAA Channel 8 - Executive Vice President  
 Gary Daniels, FOX 4 -

Assignment Editor

Scott Diener, KTVT (11) & TXA 21 - Assistant News Director

Stephen Wright - KXASTV5 - Assignment Editor  
 George Curry - National Newspaper Publisher's Association (Washington, DC) - Editor in Chief

Bob Ray Sanders - Columnist, Fort Worth Star Telegram (special guest)

• **Criminal Justice and Societal Re-Entry**

**Moderators:**  
 State Representative Terri Hodge; Robert Ashley - KHVN Heaven 97 News Director

**Panelists:**  
 Craig Watkins - Dallas County District Attorney  
 Dick Gregory - Professor,

Author, Talk Show Host

Vicki Hallman - Regional Director Texas Department of Criminal Justice

John Rupert - Warden, Hutchins State Jail Facility  
 James Reed - Prison Ministry Administrator, Dallas Leadership Foundation  
 Judge Cheryl Shannon - Judge 305th District Court (Family/Juvenile)

• **Economic Empowerment = Home Ownership**

**Moderator:**  
 Reverend Rickey D. Hill, Executive Pastor, Friendship-West Baptist Church

**Panelists:**  
 Vaughn Irons - National Director, Expanding Markets, Freddie Mac  
 Paul Taylor - President, SRP

Development

Dr. Marcus Martin - Director, The J. McDonald Williams Institute

**Town Hall Meeting**  
 Saturday March 31, 2007 - 9 am - 12 p.m.

A panel discussion featuring nationally acclaimed speakers will be moderated by U.S. Representative Maxine Waters and Dr. Haynes. The panel will include: Dick Gregory, Comedian/Activist - Vaughn Irons, National Director, Expanding Markets, Freddie Mac - Brian Collier, Director, Texas Board of Pardons - Dr. Johnny Ray Youngblood, Pastor-St. Paul Community Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY - Texas State Senator Royce West - Craig Watkins, Dallas County

District Attorney - Rickey Smiley, Comedian/Radio Talk Show Host

**AT&T Community Job Expo**

Saturday, 10am - 2pm  
 Running Currently with Town Hall Meeting)

AT&T will lead more than 60 employers and a consortium of Job Training, Trade School and Institutions of Continuing Education to deliver onsite Job Fair and Career Training opportunities. A plus for job seekers is onsite/online application completion. Other sponsors include Comerica Bank, Citibank, KKDA and KRNB Radio Stations.

To register for the conference call: 972-228-5200.

## Police Beating Page 1

mineworker and union organizer. "This has created even more impetus and more determination on the part of Zimbabweans."

Political tension has risen sharply in recent months as years of economic troubles have turned increasingly acute, with

inflation so high -- the official annual rate is 1,730 percent -- that Zimbabweans say they rush to the store whenever they get cash before prices rise yet again. Fees for schooling, transportation and health care have moved beyond the means of many. The few luxuries of Zimbabwean life, such as milk for tea, have been

largely abandoned.

Fueling the recent spate of protests, including Sunday's opposition political meeting that deteriorated into a rock-throwing confrontation with riot police, are growing legions of frustrated, jobless youths who say their only hope for bettering their lives comes from forcing out Mugabe,

the country's leader since 1980.

Zimbabwe's decline dates to the overrunning of white-owned commercial farms in 2000 by black peasants who claimed to be veterans of the nation's war of liberation. Mugabe supported the hectic and often-violent process, saying it righted historical wrongs against Africans whose land was

stolen by European settlers. But it also decimated the most crucial industry and biggest earner of foreign exchange.

The economy has contracted ever since, with unemployment spiking past 80 percent and buying power reaching levels not seen since the 1950s. Once a major exporter of corn,

Zimbabwe is now a chronic recipient of international food aid.

An estimated 3 million Zimbabweans have fled to other countries, while those remaining behind have watched the most basic necessities become unaffordable. The national population is 12 million.

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## Terence Howard Keeps Head Above Water In "Pride"



The way an actor sounds is as important as how he looks, and Terence Howard, given the force and directness of most of his characters, has a way of catching you off guard with what a delicately intense, satin-soft instrument his voice is. His gaze may be steady as a rock, but when he talks, there's a hint of a quaver — almost a shadow memory of tears. In *Hustle & Flow*, he gave that dime-store Memphis pimp a lazy, caressing smokehouse drawl, the kind that could nudge an invitation into a threat (or vice versa). In *Pride*, a strategic garshiff of a movie set in Philadelphia in 1974, he takes on the role of one of those inspirational tough-love sports coaches, and Howard, once again, commands through quiet, summoning the gentle music of a man who is literally trying to find his power as he speaks. (Or maybe

the fact that he's quiet is the real sign of power.) That tremulous baritone isn't weak; it's what makes Howard's strength human. He uses it to invest the film with so much casual discovery and verve that it's as if this sort of role had never been invented before.

The actor wears long sideburns, a domesticated guidance-counselor Afro, and the inevitable array of plaid jackets and slacks to play Jim Ellis, a real-life swim coach (the film is based on a true story) who, in the early '70s, founded the Philadelphia Department of Recreation swimming team. After being turned down for a job at a local white high school, Ellis wanders into the Marcus Foster Recreation Center. The place is as junky and useless as something out of *Escape From South Philly* — it's a playground of trashed dreams — and the kids shooting hoops on the netless outdoor court razz him like he's some uptight Negro alien. Inside, there's a swimming pool, but even that's overwhelmed by the clutter of abandonment. The degraded setting is the inner city in limbo, caught between the twilight of the civil rights era and the dawn of hip-hop, and that blasted physi-

cal space works for the movie. *Pride* really is about the audacity of hope. It's not that Ellis has to show these kids with the values of a noble institution. He has to create the institution, building it from the ragged ground up, and that, along with Howard's reflective, almost melancholy performance, makes *Pride* more organic than the usual cookie-cutter sports-montage movie.

As Ellis molds the ghetto kids into a swim team, the film isn't exactly big on showing you the nuts and bolts of how they learn the butterfly stroke. I would have liked more detail, but where the director, Sunu Goneru, is shrewd in its parsing, from every angle, the emotions of the title. When the P.D.R. crew face off against a privileged white team (their coach is played by a convincingly jerky Tom Arnold), they both meet by being around, and you feel the wounded arrogance of their ill-disciplined antics. By the end, of course, they're oozing self-respect. Bernie Mac, as the rec center's janitor, earns laughs by turning gibes into folk wisdom. *Pride* doesn't have much surprise, but it's a formula picture of genuine feeling, with Terence Howard proving once again that he wouldn't know how to keep it less than real. B+

## "Starship" Troopers - Trio Boards Murphy Comedy

Gabrielle Union, Ed Helms and Elizabeth Banks are joining Eddie Murphy's crew in the fish-out-of-water comedy "Starship Dave."

Union will play the chief cultural officer of the mini-

Shooting will begin in the next few weeks. The 20th Century Fox project reteams Murphy with his "Norbit" director, Brian Robbins.



"Starship" centers on a spaceship that takes the form of a human (Murphy). It's operated by 100 human-looking, quarter-inch-tall aliens seeking a way to save their planet. Complications ensue when their captain (also played by Murphy) falls in love with an Earth woman (Banks) who dates losers.

Union was recently in theaters with "Tyler Perry's Daddy's Little Girls." Helms, who plays smarmy salesman Andy on NBC's "The Office," will reunite with "Office" star Steve Carell in "Evan Almighty." Banks, who has a recurring role on NBC's "Scrubs," next appears in "Spider-Man 3."

## HBO To Explore Life Of Bluesman Robert Johnson

HBO Films has tapped "Ray" screenwriter James L. White to pen the screenplay for a movie that will detail the life of blues legend Robert Johnson.

Sources tell the trade that the project will have a structure similar to "Citizen Kane," depicting the life and times of the musician through his eyes and those of others.

1938 at the age of 27 and has been posthumously inducted

The as-yet-untitled film will explore Johnson's life as seen through the eyes of his son Claud, reports Variety. Raised by his religious grandfather, Claud Johnson was taught that his father's music came from the devil. For years, he fought court battles to be acknowledged as the musician's son.

HBO Films hasn't yet decided whether it would release the Johnson movie theatrically or on the pay network.

Born in Mississippi, Robert Johnson was known as King of the Delta Blues for his innovative guitar playing and vocal phrasing. He died in



into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and recognized as the grandfather of many musical genres.

## Mya, Clipse Highlight Seagram's Live Tour



After taking a break in 2006, the Seagram's Live tour is back with R&B singer Mya

and rap duo Clipse for an 11-city spring jaunt that will hit nightclubs in mostly southern states.

Now in its eighth year of existence, the Seagram's Live tour kicks off April 7 in Memphis and wraps about three weeks later in Miami. Its aim is to "showcase hip-hop and R&B's new and established talents at the country's hottest venues, while rais-

ing money for causes important to the urban community," according to the company.

"I am absolutely thrilled to be a part of Seagram's Live 2007," Mya said in a press release. "It's an honor to be part of this tour, especially since Seagram's Gin has long been committed to urban music and to presenting a tour that lets fans experience music in a whole new way by



allowing them to connect with the artists like never before."

gained attention with his 2004 breakout hit, "Fedex," rounds out the performance lineup.

## Nas, Roots, Mos Def Bolster Rock The Bells Lineup

Nas has jumped on the board the traveling Rock The Bells festival this summer, where he will share the stage with the Wu-Tang Clan, Rage Against The Machine, and others.

Nas will co-headline the majority of the trek along with the re-united Clan, who have signed on for the entire festival.

Artists confirmed for exclusive live performances on these three Rock The Bells summer shows include: Rage Against The Machine, The Wu-Tang Clan, Nas, Cypress Hill, The Roots, Mos Def, EPMD, MF Doom, Pharoahe Monch, FELT, Sage Francis, Hieroglyphics, Immortal Technique, Living Legends, Blackalicious, The Coup, Murs, Jedi Mind Tricks, Brother Ali, Cage, Mr. Lif, Grouch & Eligh, Hangar 18, Blueprint and

Lucky I AM, plus very special guests Public Enemy who cele-



brate their monumental 20-year anniversary. DJs on all dates are Mike Realm, C-Minus, Icy Ice and Rocky Rock. THE ROCK THE BELLS festivals will be hosted by Supernatural, Rahzel

and Hi-Tek.

Nas kicks off his own headlining tour next Monday (April 2) at the House of Blues in Cleveland.

Rock The Bells prides itself for producing a spectacular music environment that is exciting, safe, and memorable. Rock The Bells has grown exponentially over the past years and has developed a reputation for keeping true to its core audience. Past Rock The Bells experiences have included a number of world-class Hip Hop acts including, KRS-One, Mos Def, Lauryn Hill, Hieroglyphics, Busta Rhymes, Cypress Hill, Sage Francis, Jaylib, Redman, Jurassic 5, Dilated Peoples, and a host of others. Rock The Bells strives to expose all the elements of Hip Hop culture. Whether it's an emcee battle, turntable exhibition, or b-boy circle, Rock The Bells represents, respects, and

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These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on April 30, 2007. You have until October 27, 2007, to redeem any tickets for these games:

- Game #602 Bonus Break the Bank (\$5) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.23
- Game #604 Monthly Bonus (\$5) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.61
- Game #605 Break the Bank (\$2) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.94
- Game #655 Payday (\$2) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.35
- Game #663 Super Bingo (\$5) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.61
- Game #665 \$250,000 Bonus (\$10) Overall Odds are 1 in 2.96
- Game #668 Club Casino (\$5) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.59
- Game #672 Sizzlin' Sevens (\$7) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.40
- Game #684 Icy Cash (\$2) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.86
- Game #699 Weekly Grand (\$2) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.56
- Game #755 Holiday Treasures (\$10) Overall Odds are 1 in 2.72

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director of the University of Virginia's Center for Politics in Charlottesville, Va., who likened it to the momentum in the late 1990s toward removing Confederate flags from state flags and other official symbols.

In Virginia, the resolution's sponsor worked behind the scenes for four years to gain support from the majority Republican Legislature. Texas legislators, however, are seeking more than a symbolic gesture. They hope to create something tangible in the form of a lasting commission to study the vestiges of slavery.

The potential cost of such an undertaking, which eventually could include the creation of museums and textbook revisions, has yet to be determined.

Lawmakers backing the effort, including Rep. Boris Miles, D-Houston, and Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, emphasized it is not an attempt to seek monetary reparations.

They said they want to be methodical and analytical in their approach. They realize it will be an uphill battle and already are anticipating the kind of push back they will get, including members who will say that they should let "bygones be bygones."

Ellis said his response to that will be that resolution supporters are not seeking a personal apology, but rather an acknowledgment that Texas sanctioned and encouraged slavery.

"Texas played a key role in this 'peculiar institution' called slavery," Ellis said.

News of the Emancipation Proclamation that freed slaves in the Confederate states didn't reach Texas until June of 1865, more than two years after it took effect.

Gov. Rick Perry said Friday that it would be up to lawmakers to sort out what action, if any, the state should take in acknowledging or apologizing for slavery.

"You know I'm a big fan of the preparations for the future, not focusing on reparations for the past," he said.

Thompson and Ellis had planned to proceed slowly, working behind the scenes to seek consensus in the Legislature and counsel from

those developing slavery resolutions elsewhere in the country.

That changed when Rep. Sid Miller, R-Stephenville, sought Wednesday to preserve some Confederate statues by prohibiting the removal or relocation of memorial plaques or statues from state property without approval of the Legislature, Texas Historical Commission or State Preservation Board.

The debate veered into a divisive discussion of slavery and civil rights.

After nearly two hours and several close votes, Miller abandoned his bill.

Thompson said the leadership should not have allowed the bill to make its way to the House floor and "subject the members to such an unnecessary confrontation."

She said the showdown highlighted some House members' "lack of sensitivity, by constantly reopening wounds that have not healed."

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 Additional information, eligibility requirements, and registration packets are available by phoning the hotline at 972-941-7299 or by visiting [www.planopolice.org](http://www.planopolice.org). Registration forms must be received prior to 5:00 PM on Monday, April 16, 2007.

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 NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
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**FOR-DE-REGULATED ELECTRICITY SUPPLY**  
 Proposal number - 02224-NTT-00-GS-MA

The North Texas Tollway Authority invites written proposals from highly qualified de-regulated electricity companies for a two (2) year service contract to provide electricity supply for all eligible facilities within the NTTA system.

Proposals must be received at the North Texas Tollway Authority, Gleneagles office located at 5900 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093; not later than April 26, 2007 at 2:00 pm.

Specifications are available at the North Texas Tollway Authority offices at the address listed on this notice and may also be obtained by contacting Reggie Sanderfer at 214-224-2152.

There will be one **mandatory** pre-proposal meeting on April 12, 2007 at 3:00 pm at the NTTA offices located at 5900 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093. All prospective proposers must attend, firms not attending the pre-proposal meeting will not be permitted to submit a proposal for this solicitation.

**NTTA**  
 NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY

**PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT**

The North Texas Tollway Authority will receive sealed proposals at 5900 W. Plano Pkwy. Suite 100, Plano, TX 75093, (214) 461-2049, until Thursday, April 26, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. for the following projects:

**Project: 02210 - Main Lane, Ramp and Direct Connector Re-stripping and Signing.** Generally consists of re-stripping main-lane and ramp pavement along the President George Bush Turnpike between Midway Road and Brand Road, including the direct connector ramps at IH-35E, Dallas North Tollway and US 75. Approx. Quantities: 440,000 LF Prefabricated Pavement Markings (6 IN), 440,000 LF Eliminating Existing Pavement Markings and Markers (6 IN), 2,100 SF Replace Existing Aluminum Signs and 3,350 EA Linear Delineation System (LDS) panels. Bid packet cost is \$50 and will be available **Monday, April 2nd**. PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE A MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING ON **April 12th AT 11:00 A.M.** AT THE NTTA MAIN OFFICES IN PLANO. Contact Sherry at (214) 461-2049 for more information.

**Project: 02090 - Mountain Creek Lake Bridge Concrete Surface Finishes.** Generally consists of concrete surface preparation and coating for Mountain Creek Lake Bridge concrete surfaces. Approx. Quantities: 106,848 SF Blast Finish, 5,921 SF Anti-Graffiti Coating (Sacrificial), 55,436 SF Coating Concrete Surface Finish, 106,848 SF Concrete Coating Removal with Asbestos, 180 Day Portable Changeable Message Signs. Bid packet cost is \$50 and will be available **Monday, April 2nd**. PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE A MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING ON **April 12th AT 10:00 A.M.** AT THE NTTA MAIN OFFICES IN PLANO. Contact Sherry at (214) 461-2049 for more information.

Bid packets include plans (if any), specifications, and quantities. Cost of the bid packet is non-refundable. Acceptable methods of payment include cashier's check, money order, company check, or personal check. **Cash will not be accepted.** Bid packets may also be examined at the NTTA offices. In order to bid, you must purchase a bid packet from the NTTA. Bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes marked clearly with the project number, company's name, and bid opening date. No oral, telephoned, or faxed bids will be considered. Late bids will not be considered and will be returned unopened. To register online to do business with the NTTA, go to [www.ntta.org](http://www.ntta.org) click the "Business" link, and then on "Register". All rights reserved.

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## Church News



**Sister Tarpley**

Ellis Baker was a civil rights activist. After graduating as valedictorian from North Carolina's Shaw University she moved to New York City during the depression. A founding member of the Young Negroes Cooperative League, whose members pooled funds to buy products and services at reduced cost. In 1957 Baker and several Southern Black ministers and activists established the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a major force in organizing the civil rights movement.

Miriam Benjamin, the second Black woman in history to receive a patent, it was for a Gong and Signal Chair for motels in 1888. Natalie Love invented a T-Top Roof Cover in 1992. Marjorie Joyner invented a Permanent Wave Machine which could wave the hair of both white and Black people in 1928.

Susie King Taylor, the first Black Army nurse, served Black troops during the Civil War for more than four years; despite the fact that she was never paid. Taylor's male relatives joined the 33rd U.S. Colored Infantry; she stayed with their unit, traveling up and down the Georgia coast as a laundress, cook, and nurse; and she taught classes for the soldiers. Later, Taylor tended the men of the famous Black regiment, the Massachusetts 54th and the Massachusetts 6888 Central Postal Directory with Clara Barton, founder of the Red Cross. After the war, Taylor opened a school for the newly freed Black children of Savannah.

Edith Duvall, she lit up the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo by

## Women's History Month 2007 - The Conclusion

winning three track medals: The gold medal for the 200-meter, setting an Olympic record and surpassing Wilma Rudolph's finish in the event; and she won silver medals in both the 100-meter and 400-meter relay competitions. Duvall had the opportunity to meet Wilma Rudolph who inspired her to pursue an Olympic career which would be an opportunity



**Picture of The Week**  
Sister Tarpley and Dorothy McQuiver, Counselor and creator of "College Entrance 101", a program designed to help students entering college.

ty to obtain a college education while traveling to places such as Russia, Germany and Poland.

Annie Onieta Plummer, in 1992 she noticed that children on their way to school in her Georgia neighborhood were not carrying books. It struck her that children who had a book of their own could be inspired to read and learn. With \$50 she bought thirty dictionaries and handed them out to children on the street corner. In each book she wrote the motto of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), "A mind is a terrible thing to waste."

By 1999, with the help of others, she had given nearly 35,000 dictionaries and her idea spread to other cities like Detroit and Chicago. Her life shows us that anybody can have a good idea to help people. Who knows how many children's lives have been changed for the better by the "Dictionary Lady?"

**THINGS TO PONDER:** As we open our eyes each morning, God sets before us a priceless present. It's unique, fresh, and full of potential. Each day God gives us time. "Rejoice!" the Psalmist says. At times we resent time more than we rejoice over it. We will mourn losing time and we fear running out of time. If impatient with a process, we think that some things just take time. We are stressed over countdowns, frustrated when the clock beats us, and angry that time is against us. But time is a treasure, not a traitor. God has granted you another day? Rejoice and be glad in it!

The road to success is not straight. There is a curve called Failure, a loop called Confusion, speed bumps called Friends, red lights called Enemies, caution lights called Family, and flats called Jobs.

But, if you have a spare called Determination, an engine called Perseverance, insurance called Faith, a driver called JESUS, you will make it to a place called Success.

Email: religion@monthgazette.com  
Office: 972-516-4191  
Voice Mail: 972-606-3878  
Fax: 972-509-9058

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

munities. Groups and individuals will clean locations throughout Plano from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., then bring their bags of litter to the Custer Road United Methodist Church parking lot on the corner of Custer and Legacy. A "mountain of trash" will be built to show the community how much trash

was collected in just one morning. For more information call Ms. Casey Eckert, Education Coordinator, Keep Plano Beautiful, at (972) 769-4216.

To register online through April 4, 2007, 5:00 pm visit [www.plano.gov/Departments/Environmental+Services/KeepPlanoBeautiful](http://www.plano.gov/Departments/Environmental+Services/KeepPlanoBeautiful).

## Church Happenings

### BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH

April 6, 11 am to 2 pm  
The Daughters of Naomi Ministry will host its 6th Annual Good Friday FREE Luncheon and Fellowship; then join us with family, friends, and co-workers for the Word of God at 12 Noon for, "The Crown, The Cross, The Condemnation" with speaker, Rev. Reginald J. Houston; Minister Marion Gilliam, Director. Call 214-375-3624 for more information.

Bethel A.M.E. Church  
Rev. Reginald Houston, Overseer  
1638 Ann Arbor Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75216  
214-375-3624

### COALITION OF CHURCHES IN PRISON MINISTRY

**On-Going Mentor Program**  
True Lee Baptist Church, 3907 Bertrand Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210, 214-421-9435, Rev. Donald Parish, Pastor, is working with a mentor program for children of parents 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 Johnson, Coordinator  
P.O. Box 225863  
Dallas, TX 75222-5863  
972-235-6432 or 214-632-6519

### FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

March, 2007  
FBCA Education Department is providing GED preparation including pre-writing and tutoring. This FREE service is provided every Wednesday @ 6 pm. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please contact the church @ 972-356-9956 for further details.

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

### FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES, INC. (FOBBC)

May 5 @ 6:30 pm  
You are invited to a benefit service for Bishop S.D. Crawford @ 526 Compton Road, Irving, TX where Pastor L. Turpley is the Overseer. Theme: "My Covenant will not break, nor alter the thing that goes out of my lips." (Psalm 89: 34). Please RSVP on or before May 1, 2007. Donations are welcomed.  
For more information call Sis. Joel

Anderson @ 214-321-4663.

Fellowship of Believers Ministries  
Bishop Gregory Crawford  
Founder and Senior Pastor  
801 Wynnewood Village, #423  
Dallas, TX 75224  
214-372-3624

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

April 20-21, 2007  
Daughters of the King, our Women Ministry, will hold its Annual Women's Retreat @ the Marriott Hotel Legacy Town Center, 7120 Dallas Parkway, Plano, TX 75024. The topic: "Women Seeking to Know God More Intimately" Theme Scripture, "... you will be done, not mine." (Matthew 26:39). All women are invited and we ask you to please wear white. Seats will be reserved. Check in and Registration will start Friday, April 20th @ 1 pm with a Midnight Prayer Service after Sessions and Dinner from 5:30-7:30 pm. Saturday's Prayer Service will start @ 7 am, followed by prayer from 8 am to 10 am; lunch from 12 Noon-1:30 pm and the closing session after lunch.

For early and late registration fees, call Pam Williams @ the church, 972-235-4235 or Joi Cross @ 469-330-7035.

First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park  
Dr. Gregory Foster, Senior Pastor  
And Rev. Anthony Foster, Pastor  
300 Phillips Street  
Richardson, TX 75081  
972-235-4235

### FOUNTAIN OF LIFE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH IN PLANO

March 31, 2007  
We will host Women-N-Power Evangelism Ministry as they present, NPower Records and Entertainment with a Label Launch and Concert; and you are invited. This is a FREE event. The agenda will be: "100 Women in Red" Service @ 3 pm; a Label Launch and Concert @ 6 pm; and a VIP Reception immediately following the concert. It will also include 20 DFW Metroplex pastors that will be honored for their service, dedication and commitment to the Body of Christ. Apostle Darrell Yancey will be the MC and Dr. Betty Pace will be the featured artist; with other artists from across the country participating. For more information, please call Pastor Tamara Thomas @ 972-464-9501

Fountain of Life International Church in Plano  
Dr. Richard D. Yancey, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Rocinda Barnor, Pastors  
6905 Avenue K, Suite 211

Plano, TX 75074  
972-578-8490

### RIVERSIDE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

April 14, 2007  
We are having a Fish Fry and Fried Chicken dinner fund-raiser for: "The Lord's Army Drill Team", an award-winning Drill Team for youth, ages 5-19, for their annual competition trip to the National Missionary Baptist General Convention's Sunday School and BTU Congress in Orlando, FL. The fund-raiser helps defray the cost of their trip. They are asking for any donations of food items and paper goods.

For more information and for donations please call sponsors, Yvonne Wilburn or Meva Diane Gardner @ 214-428-3200.

Riverside Missionary B. C.  
Rev. S. T. Tinsion, Jr., Pastor  
3132 Lagow Street  
Dallas, TX 75210

### ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 6 @ 6:30 pm  
We are pleased to announce our collaboration with Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) in presenting "Resurrection, Renewal and Reconciliation," a FREE Easter Sunrise Service please join in the sanctuary of the 133-year-old congregation. Breakfast will be served after the sunrise worship service.

St. Paul UMC  
Rev. Elzie Odum, Jr.  
Senior Pastor  
1816 Routh Street  
Dallas, TX 75201  
972-922-0000

### WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH IN LEWISVILLE

April 8, 2007  
WBC Prayer Ministry presents, "Prayer for Spiritual Breakthrough" Jeremiah 33:3. You are invited to join the Prayer Team as the church consecrates itself for spiritual breakthroughs by committing to 40 Days of Prayer with 40Ways in 40 Days, February 27th through April 7th from 10 am to 11 am, as we prepare to celebrate Resurrection Sunday on April 8th.

For more information and on how you can become actively involved, call Minister Louis Rosenthal @ 214-794-3446.

Westside Baptist Church, Lewisville  
Dr. K. W. Blake, Senior Pastor  
900 Bellaire Blvd.  
Lewisville, TX 75067  
972-221-5668

## Church Directory

**Temple of Faith Christian Chapel C.M.E. Church**  
"Where Jesus is the Main Attraction"  
Sunday Worship Experience - 8:00 am & 10:45 am  
Wednesday Bible Study - 12:00 Noon & 7:00 pm  
14120 Noel Road • Dallas, TX 75254  
972-239-1120 (Office) • 972-239-5925 (Fax)  
templeoffaith\_cmc@sbcglobal.net (Email)  
Healthy Beginnings Child Development Center - 972-404-1412

**Avenue F Church of Christ**  
1026 Avenue F • Plano, TX 75074 • 972-423-8833  
"Our Pilgrimage to Heaven in 2007" - Hebrews 11:13-16  
Sunday Bible Class ..... 9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 10:45 am  
Men Bible Class ..... 5:00 pm  
Women Bible Class ..... 5:00 pm  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Bible Class ..... 7:00 pm  
Radio Program @ 7:30 am on KRVN 970 AM Sunday Mornings  
www.avefchurchofchrist.org

**Mt. Olive Church of Plano**  
740 Avenue F Plano, TX 75074 972-633-5511  
WWW.MOCORORG  
Serving the Plano Community for 13 Years  
Sunday Worship 10:00 am  
Wednesday Night 7:15 pm  
Call Pastor Sam on: "Vision & Truth Live"  
Radio Broadcast: KWRD 100.7 FM Sundays 9pm - 10pm  
HEAR PASTOR SAM DAILY ON: "TRUTH MADE SIMPLE" KGRG 1040 AM MONDAY - FRIDAY @ 5:25pm - 5:30pm

**Hill Chapel**  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
1113 Ave. I, Plano, TX 75074 (972) 423-4999  
Rev. Clarence J. Ford, Jr., Pastor  
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.  
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 A.M.  
Wednesday Night-Community Bible Class: 7:30 P.M.

**St. Luke A.M.E. Church (aka - SLAME)**  
"Where we slay dem the devil and serve up Jesus"  
521 W. Avenue E Garland, TX 75040 972.487.9703  
Email: slamechurch@aol.com  
Sunday 8:45 a.m. Church School 9:45 a.m. Praise & Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship Experience  
Thursday 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
Tuesday 7:15 p.m. Bible Study  
Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m. Church School  
Reverend Charles E. Franklin, Pastor

**NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**  
"A Spiritual Oasis for a Thirsty World" Isaiah 55:1  
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:  
8:00 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM  
972-437-3493  
Dr. Leslie W Smith, Senior Pastor  
1010-1020 South Sherman Street • Richardson, TX 75081  
www.ndcbf.org

**Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church**  
920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX  
Pastor Isiah Joshua, Jr.  
FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH  
Sunday Worship Services 8AM & 11AM  
Sunday 9:45AM Sunday School  
Monday 7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission & Young Adult Ministries  
Tuesday 7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir  
Wednesday 7PM Mid-Week Service  
Thursday 7PM Mass Choir  
For more information call (972) 423-6695  
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

**Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church**  
1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX  
Pastor Charles S. Wattlely  
Sunday Education Ministries... 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Celebration... 11:00 am.  
- Nursery Facilities Available -  
Wednesday Family Ministries... 7:00 p.m.  
Friendly Fellowship with a Family Focus  
For More Information Call 972.542.6178  
www.saintmarkbc.com • stmarkmissionary@aol.com

**New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas**  
Sunday Service Morning Worship 7:30 am & 10:30 am 9:00 am Sunday School  
Wednesday Service Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Brotherhood 7:00 pm Missions 7:00 pm Singles Group 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:45 pm  
Dr. Robert E. Price, Senior Pastor  
A Praying Church Family "Watchmen on the Walls"  
214-341-6459 (Phone) • 214-342-8403 (Fax)  
9550 Shepard Road Dallas, TX 75243  
www.nmzb.org (Website) • newmzbc@aol.com (Email)

## Texas Publishers Association 2007 Conference/Expo



(Left to Right) B.J. Williams, Garland NAACP President, Will Hobdy, TPA President and Rev. Dairy Johnson, Publisher of The Corsicana Examiner.



Will Hobdy, TPA President, Sister Turley of Mon-The Gazette, Ronald Jones Garland Mayor candidate and Hattie Kelly, newly elected TPA President.



Ester Davis, media personality and keynote speaker for the Community Youth Luncheon.



Tommy Wyatt, publisher of The Village and one of the original founders of TPA, gives a presentation during a workshop.



Mollie Belt, publisher of the Dallas Examiner takes information during one of the conference workshops.

On March 23 and 24th, members of the Texas Publishers Association (TPA) held their 21st Annual Convention Conference and Expo.

The 2007 convention theme was "The Texas Black Press: Challenging the Past, Creating the Future". The annual Convention took place at the Hilton Garden Inn, Allen.

"The Texas Black Press has always been an important part of the black cultural communications process, both locally and nationally," said Ms. Hattie Kelly, Power Pages Publisher and this year's TPA Conference Chairperson. "The printed

word, amidst all the broadcast innovations, has a place in the communications process that can't be replaced, replicated, or substituted."

This year's convention featured a myriad of events that were open to the public. Activities included a Community Breakfast with Keynote Speaker Mr. B.J. Williams, President, Garland NAACP, and a Business Expo with vendors and networking opportunities. Events also included a Community Youth Luncheon with Keynote Speaker Mr. Craig Watkins, Dallas County District Attorney

and local media personality Ms. Esther Davis.

Entertainment was provided by Praise Dancer T.J. Johnson, Gospel Comedian Miss Vickie, and Gospel Artists The Gray Family.

This year's TPA Convention Conference Co-Chair is Ms. Maxine Sessions, Co-publisher, Cherokee County/Texas Informer. Ms. Sessions offered insight on the role of the black press in Texas. "The black press is fighting a fight that has been ongoing since the publication of the Freedman's Journal," she said. "We are carrying on a legacy from the 1800's and 1900's

by educating and empowering women and minorities."

The Texas Publishers Association is an organization consisting of over twenty African American magazine and newspaper publishers from across the state of Texas. For two decades, the organization has emphasized importance of the newspaper in the African American community and its uniqueness as a vehicle of communication within the culture. The new elected TPA President is Ms. Hattie Kelly, publisher of Power Pages. Mon-The Gazette is proud member of the TPA.



Gordon Jackson, Editor of The Dallas Examiner

## Bishop Charles E. Blake Becomes Interim Presiding Bishop Of Church Of God In Christ

By: Evan Barnes and Nicole Anderson - Special to the NNPA from the Los Angeles Sentinel

As reaction begins to pour in from the passing of Bishop Gilbert E. Patterson, the Presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ (COGIC), the Sentinel has obtained an exclusive interview with Bishop Charles E. Blake of West Angeles Church of God in Christ.

In addition to presiding over his membership of over 24,000, Blake is the Primate of the First Jurisdiction of Southern California, which oversees more than 250 churches, and knew Patterson for over 50 years.

"Bishop Patterson was a great man of God. He was anointed preacher, visionary leader, innovative in his organizational style and approach and he brought a season of positive vitality to the Church of God in Christ," Blake said.

Since November 2000, Patterson, who died Tuesday

from heart failure, has led COGIC, which at 6.5 million members is the largest Pentecostal congregation in the world.

With his death, many are assuming that Blake, the 1st



The late Bishop Gilbert E. Patterson, former Presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ (COGIC)

Assistant Presiding Bishop, would be next in line to become the next Presiding Bishop. He has already received calls all over the world from people looking to him for guidance.

"He and I were young teenage preachers that conducted revivals together occasionally and he was always a very serious young man focused on his ministry," Blake said.

He went on to relate one story about how Patterson gave him his high school graduation picture and wrote on the back "Bishop Patterson," although neither had been ordained yet.

"It gave an indication of his aspiration to ministry and to serve in the life of the church," he said. Bishop Patterson served for over 30 years as the leader of Temple of Deliverance church in Memphis, Tennessee, and he also established Bountiful Blessing Ministries, a popular television ministry that was frequently shown on BET.

"We have a lost a great leader, a man of great vision and motiva-

tion. He promised to take us to greater heights and we shall miss him dearly," said Bishop Wilbur Hamilton, the Secretary on the General Board of COGIC who is the Primate of the Northwest Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of California.

It is unclear at this moment how COGIC, which had been planning its Centennial Celebration, will proceed in the near future.

"COGIC church will now have to pull itself together," said Hamilton, "We've always responded with new leadership equal to the task but we will miss Gilbert E. Patterson greatly."

**Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen**  
200 Belmont • Allen, Texas • 75013  
Phone: 972-359-0956 Fax: 972-359-6048  
www.fbcofallen.org



Pastor W.L. Stafford Sr., M.Div.  
First Lady Tasha Stafford

9:45 am  
Sunday School  
Sunday Morning Worship/  
Children's Church 8:15 am & 11:00 am  
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 pm  
"Youth for Christ" - Every Monday 7:00 pm

Come experience the Worship Atmosphere at Fellowship, you will never be the same!  
If you need a ride to worship with us, please call the church.

*"A Kingdom Building Church"*

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"Each One, Reach One"

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7:30 am and 10:30 am  
Sunday School - 9:30 am  
Wednesday Night Service  
8:00 pm

Dr. Gregory Foster  
Senior Pastor

Mrs. Anthony Foster  
Pastor

**Our Mission**  
To fulfill The Great Commission until Christ comes.

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www.fbcph.org

### Friendship Baptist Church

4396 Main Street  
The Colony, Texas 75056  
(972) 625-8186

website: [www.fbc-online.net](http://www.fbc-online.net)



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  
Evening Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

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Monday, Wednesday - 12pm  
Wednesday - 8am - 12pm

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972-436-2011

"We Choose Love to Nurish and Cherish One Another"  
John 13:34 & Ephesians 5:28-29

www.macedoniaministries.com

T.J. Denson, Pastor

Saturday: Intercessory Prayer @ 7:00 am  
Sunday Services: Sunday School @ 9:30 am • Morning Worship @ 11:00 am  
Monday Services: Men's Group & Women's Group Bible Study @ 6:30 pm  
Wednesday Services: Family Bible Study @ 6:30 pm

**New Life Fellowship Church of Rowlett**  
Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Senior Pastor  
New Worship Home  
7401 Miller Road • Rowlett, TX 75088  
972-463-4964

A Place of New Beginnings... II Corinthians 5:17

Sunday Life Bible School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Life Celebration Worship Service ..... 10:45 a.m.  
First Sunday: Ingredients for Life ..... 4:00 pm  
Wednesdays: Life In The Word Prayer and Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m.

**The Inspiring Body of Christ Church**  
7710 S. Westmoreland Rd.  
Dallas Texas 75237  
Phone: 972-572-4262 Fax: 972-709-3888

Sunday Services: 7:30 am, 10:00 am, 12:30pm.  
Monday School: 7pm  
Men's Fellowships: Friday 7:00pm

Website: [www.ibccjoh.org](http://www.ibccjoh.org)

**Ben Washington Baptist Church, Inc.**  
3901 Prisco Avenue  
Irving, TX 75061  
Church 972-790-8421 Fax 972-986-6390

Email: [church@benwashington.org](mailto:church@benwashington.org)  
Web: [benwashington.org](http://benwashington.org)

**"THE CHURCH WITH AN OPEN BIBLE"**

Sunday Worship Services:  
8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
6:00 p.m. Baptist Training Union

Wednesday:  
12:00 p.m. Bible Study  
7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour  
7:30 p.m. Bible Study